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## Maddy Events

**2010 Maddy Tribune** – Join us in honoring three distinguished Maddy Institute board members as they leave the California Legislature – Sen. Dave Cogdill and Assemblymembers Juan Arambula and Mike Villines – at the Fresno Convention Center on Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. Willie Brown, former San Francisco Mayor and former Speaker of the California State Assembly, will join Congressman Jim Costa to emcee the 2010 Maddy Tribute. A portion of your ticket price is **tax-deductible**. All net proceeds will go to support the on-going programs of the Maddy Institute, including the Legislative Intern Scholar Program. **Thank you to Foster Farms and Comcast Cable for their Platinum Sponsorships of the 2010 Maddy Tribute event. We sincerely appreciate their generosity and commitment to the programs of the Maddy Institute.** More information: [www.maddyinstitute.org](http://www.maddyinstitute.org) or call (559) 278-1133.

**Maddy Forum:** “Ag Tourism: City/County Efforts” -- Host Elliott Balch talks with Layla Forstedt, interim CEO for the Fresno Convention & Visitors Bureau, and Penny Leff, agritourism coordinator for the UC Small Farm Program, about efforts to promote agritourism in the Valley. The show is available on the [90.7 KFSR website](http://www.kfsr.com) and on iTunes.

**Maddy Political Insider** – Diana Dooley, a member of the Maddy Institute board of directors, is the next guest on The Maddy Political Insider, which can be heard on the Alan Autry Show on KYNO Radio 940 Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. If you missed the program, you can hear it again by logging on to the "Audio" link for the Alan Autry Show at: <http://www.940kyno.com>.

**Maddy Institute on Facebook and Twitter** – To learn about Maddy Institute activities (e.g. *The Maddy Report* tv show, *The Maddy Forum* FM radio/podcast, *The Maddy Political Insider* AM radio show, *The Maddy Associates' Luncheons*, the *Maddy Legislative Intern Program*), become a fan of the Maddy Institute on Facebook or log on to <http://twitter.com/MaddyInstitute>. And if you have a Facebook or Twitter account, please add us and follow us!

**Maddy Report** – View past *Maddy Report* programs (e.g., interviews with Mac Taylor, California's LAO, Sacramento Reporters John Myers from KQED and Anthony York from Capitol Weekly and the LA Times, Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearingin) on our YouTube Channel: <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheMaddyInstitute#p/u>

**Maddy Challenge: *How Would You Balance the State and Federal Budgets?*** Try your hand at setting priorities:

**State Budget:** <http://www.next10.org/budgettool/site/thesim/flashcheck.html>.

**Federal Budget:** <http://crfb.org/stabilizethedebt/>

## Political Briefs

### Top stories

**What to expect in today's budget votes** – Both houses will vote Tuesday on competing budget plans, and neither proposal is expected to get the two-thirds vote necessary to pass. Here's what else to expect.

[Capitol Alert](#); [LA Times article](#); [HealthyCal.org article](#)

**Legislators raise more than \$380,000 in days before session closes** -- Sitting members of the California Legislature have raised more than \$380,000 during the last five days, as lobbyists and special interest groups scramble to push their bills through the Assembly and Senate before this year's legislative session draws to a close. [California Watch article](#)

### State budget

**Day care providers left hanging by impasse in Sacramento** – Dina Gonzalez, owner of Dina's Daycare in Merced, said her livelihood hinges on when the state budget gets signed. If the budget isn't signed by Oct. 1, Gonzalez won't receive payment for the 14 children she looks after during the month of September and up until the budget gets passed. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

### Prop 8

**Meet Chris and Jennifer** – While Jennifer Ajinga and Chris Osborne still are considering "indoor ceremony or outdoor," the deeper question on their minds - and on the minds of many throughout California and the nation - is whether that ceremony between the two Stockton women will constitute a legally valid marriage. [Stockton Record article](#)

### Governor's race

**Meg Whitman serves jury duty for a day** – Republican gubernatorial candidate [Meg Whitman](#) took a short break from the campaign trail Monday to clock in some [jury duty](#) at the [Superior Court](#) in [Redwood City](#), according to her campaign. [Capitol Alert](#); [LA Times article](#)

### U.S. Senate race

**Looming tax cut debate already ripples through Boxer-Fiorina race** – A looming debate in Congress over whether to continue income tax cuts for the wealthy is already unfolding in California's Senate race, highlighting a stark ideological contrast between Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer and the Republican trying to unseat her, former Hewlett-Packard CEO Carly Fiorina. [San Jose Mercury News article](#)

### Valley politics

**CD 18: Merced County Farm Bureau endorses Mike Berryhill** – The Merced County Farm Bureau board voted Thursday with a 2/3 majority to endorse Mike Berryhill in his bid to unseat Congressman Dennis Cardoza, D-Merced. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

**Livingston: Now it's up to voters to decide who stays, goes** – The polls open today for the recall election of Mayor Daniel Varela Sr. and Councilwoman Martha Nateras. Because of past Livingston elections, the county is taking extra precautions to prevent voting fraud. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

**Disclosure bill dead on arrival?** – Assemblywoman Alyson Huber, D-El Dorado Hills, will no doubt know sometime in mid-September whether her quest is quixotic. Among other things, her legislation, AB2064, would compel public officials at all levels to post their salaries. State lawmakers support such transparency

at the local level but have balked at revealing their own pay or that of their staffs. [Stockton Record article](#)

**White makes Riverbank council meeting** – Councilman Jesse James White made it to his first council meeting in a month Monday night. Sort of. He attended the regular session but then boycotted the closed session, in which he and Mayor Virginia Madueño and Councilwoman Sandy Benitez were set to discuss promoting a city employee. [Modesto Bee article](#)

**Hughson council starts a new chapter** – A 20-minute meeting marked the end of nine months of infighting and accusations, which culminated with a recall election. [Modesto Bee article](#)

**Melancon ends bid for Hanford council seat** -- The list of finalists seeking to be the next Hanford City Council member for District E has dwindled by one name. Bryce Melancon, a 48-year-old pastor of the Word of Truth Church, cited family and spiritual reasons for his decision to drop out of the race. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

### Statewide politics

**Schwarzenegger: Politicians, political parties no interested in political reform** – Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said Monday that many politicians and the state's political parties have little interest in political reform, though the Republican governor said he does. [Capitol Alert](#)

### Other areas

**'Chelsea's Law' given final legislative approval** – Legislation that would ramp up penalties for sex crimes, dubbed "Chelsea's Law" for a 17-year-old high school senior who was murdered earlier this year, won final approval in the [Legislature](#) Monday. [Capitol Alert](#)

**Anti-human trafficking bill goes to Schwarzenegger** – Large California companies would have to tell consumers what, if anything, they are doing to eliminate human trafficking in their supply chains under legislation sent to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Monday. [Capitol Alert](#)

**California Senate rejects open-carry gun ban** – The [California Senate](#) rejected a bill Monday that would have made it illegal to carry unloaded guns in public, but lawmakers will give the vote one more try. [AP article](#)

**Lawmakers approve bill aimed at cutting motorcycle noise** – [California's](#) motorcycles may get a bit quieter if Gov. [Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) - a dedicated two-wheeler himself - signs a bill that was sent to his desk Monday. [Capitol Alert](#)

## News Briefs

### Top Stories

**Valley counties rank high in new obesity, diabetes study** -- Despite pulling sodas out of school vending machines and adding farmers markets in communities, San Joaquin Valley residents and Californians statewide continue to gain weight -- and more people are sick with diabetes as a result, a new study shows. [Fresno Bee article](#)

**City of Merced considers taxes to build revenue** -- The Merced City Council has authorized city staff to further research various taxes to alleviate about a \$5 million gap between revenues and expenditures in the city's general fund budget. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

### Agriculture/Water

**Melon Fruit Fly quarantine likely to expand** – The discovery of two more Melon Fruit Flies may lengthen the time frame and physical boundaries of an agricultural quarantine around where six flies were found earlier this month. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

**Poultry waste to power French Camp ranch** -- Olivera Egg Ranch in French Camp plans to install a 1.4-megawatt fuel cell electrical plant, powered by methane from more than 1 million pounds of poultry waste per week, reducing both its electric bills and waste disposal costs. [Stockton Record article](#)

### *Economy*

**Dan Walters: California pension overhaul up in the air** – [Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) has been beating the drums for public [pension reform](#) for months, and the governor insists he won't sign a [budget package](#) that doesn't include it. [Walters column in Sacramento Bee](#)

**Update on Fresno's new downtown PBID** -- Things are moving fast for Fresno's new downtown property-based improvement district -- called a PBID. Jan Minami, executive director of the Downtown Association of Fresno, said Monday that two groups of downtown supporters are meeting regularly to lay a strong foundation so the PBID can hit the ground running when it begins operation on Jan. 1. [Fresno Bee news blog](#)

**Al Smith: A sorry end to consolidation** – The president and CEO of the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce writes that it was pretty evident that Fresno County officials never really wanted to look for ways to save taxpayer money or provide more efficient services to the public. They were more concerned with protecting their own turf. [Smith op-ed in Fresno Bee](#)

**Sacramento County plans to cut jobs, shift funds to fix deficit** -- [Sacramento County](#) officials are proposing to cut more than a dozen [county](#) health and social service workers and dip into one-time funds to balance the budget in response to court orders blocking other cuts the Board of Supervisors tried to make in June. [Sacramento Bee article](#)

### *Education*

**Valley students get help buying college books** -- College students shouldn't have to dig as deep to pay for textbooks thanks to new federal rules giving them more time to shop around -- and greater access to textbook prices. [Fresno Bee article](#)

**UC retirement funds face a shortfall of more than \$20 billion, report says** – The [University of California](#) retirement system faces a shortfall of more than \$20 billion, according to a new report, and a task force of administrators and employees is recommending changes to help fix the problem. [LA Times article](#)

**Scholars: Don't judge teachers on test scores** – The same day that the Los Angeles Times went public with an [online database](#) rating teachers' effectiveness based on test scores, a Washington-based nonpartisan think tank released a paper strongly cautioning against such a use. [Educatedguess.org article](#)

**California bill targets parents whose kids are truants** – Parents whose children perpetually skip school could be penalized under a [California](#) bill that is one step away from the governor's desk. [AP article](#)

**College of the Sequoias Tulare farm still developing** – Tulare high school agriculture officials met with College of the Sequoias administrators last week to discuss the future of a long-proposed farm partnership. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

**Rare insurance change worries Delano teachers, staff** -- An insurance provider switch by the Delano Union School District has some employees in the district fuming. The district board of trustees in a special meeting last week approved a switch from Self-Insured Schools of California, or SISC, an insurance provider that contracts with every Kern County school district, to brokerage firm Gallagher and Associates. [Bakersfield Californian article](#)

## Environment/Energy

**Air district proposes \$10 vehicle registration fee to reduce air quality fines for businesses** – The Valley's largest businesses could be slapped with nearly \$29 million in federal-government fines because of last week's soaring temperatures. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

**Lois Henry: PG&E finally pays Oildale woman for burning her house** – Will wonders never cease? PG&E paid Barbara Ray the full amount requested in her claim after the utility's power lines snapped and severely burned the elderly Oildale woman's house. [Henry column in Bakersfield Californian](#)

**New California law expands carpool lane use** – [Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger](#) signed a measure Monday allowing tens of thousands more Californians with environmentally friendly cars to drive solo in carpool lanes, while state lawmakers moved closer to approving reforms inspired by the eye-popping salaries of [Bell](#) city officials. [LA Times article](#)

**Bill McEwen: Fresno service club revitalizes nature trail** – Forty preschool kids will have a blast Wednesday morning. They'll learn about salmon, field mice, eagles and killdeer. They'll probably see a few ducks and signs of beaver. If they're lucky, a red-tailed hawk will soar overhead. [McEwen column in Fresno Bee](#)

## Health/Human Services

**Stockton, county duke it out over deadline** – San Joaquin County officials rejected a city proposal Monday that would extend a disputed Wednesday deadline that could ban Stockton firefighters from acting as paramedics. [Stockton Record article](#)

**Bakersfield Californian: Protecting the elderly** – A recent report by a watchdog organization seems to suggest incidents of elder abuse in California have declined under the watch of Attorney General Jerry Brown. At the same time, enough ambiguity remains to raise the question of whether the state has simply shrugged off its responsibility to deal with crimes against seniors. We hope this is not the case. [Bakersfield Californian editorial](#)

**Insurance oversight advances but rate regulation stalls** – The Assembly on Monday approved legislation to toughen oversight of health insurance rate hikes but the Senate rejected, at least for now, a measure to require state approval before companies can increase their premiums. [HealthyCal.org article](#)

**Corcoran hospital pushes new law** – Corcoran District Hospital is seeking a new law through Sen. Dean Florez after finding out from federal officials that its design-build approach for the proposed outpatient center wasn't proper under state law. [Hanford Sentinel article](#)

## Land Use/Housing

**Laguna San Luis developers want rules in place before revisions** -- In just over two weeks the Merced County Board of Supervisors will vote on an agreement with developers which could exempt a 1,700-acre Westside development from having to play by planning rules that are under revision. [Merced Sun-Star article](#)

## Transportation

**Fresno airport to host Boeing 747 testing** -- Boeing has selected Fresno Yosemite International Airport to host one of several component flight tests for the new Boeing 747-8 Freighter, an airport spokeswoman said Monday. [Fresno Bee article](#)

## Other Areas

**Authorities: Cutler-Orosi gang injunction successful** -- A gang injunction for the Cutler-Orosi area is

keeping gang members off the streets, according to some residents and Tulare County Sheriff's Department officials. [Visalia Times-Delta article](#)

**Fraud unit work said 'harassment'** -- Aggressive uniformed agents in bulletproof vests have terrorized disabled and elderly people in Stanislaus County, say people expected to stage a protest this morning. Officials contend that investigators are saving public money by exposing people abusing government payouts for in-home services, a \$60 million industry in this county. [Modesto Bee article](#)

## Editorial Roundup

**Bakersfield Californian** – Enough ambiguity remains to raise the question of whether the state has simply [shrugged off its responsibility](#) to deal with crimes against seniors. We hope this is not the case.

**Fresno Bee** – State voters should be able to [register online](#); Lawmakers take advantage of [per diem pay](#).

**Merced Sun-Star** – Palin saga shows [need for openness](#).

**Sacramento Bee** – Sacramento has a [standard for green space](#), but many neighborhoods fall short.

**Stockton Record** – [Short takes](#) on K-5 Primary Years Academy, health insurance rates and other issues.

**Visalia Times-Delta** – [Restrain expression](#) in times of tragedy.

## Upcoming Events

- The 2010 Maddy Tribute to honor three distinguished Maddy Institute board members as they leave the state Legislature – Sen. Dave Cogdill and Assemblymembers Juan Arambula and Mike Villines – will be held at the Fresno Convention Center on Thursday, Sept. 9, at 7 p.m. More information: [www.maddyinstitute.org](http://www.maddyinstitute.org) or call (559) 278-1133.
- Sen. Dave Cogdill and Assemblymember Mike Villines will host the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Community Renewal Summit at the New Covenant Community Church in Fresno on Friday, Sep.10, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. More information for the free event is available by calling (559) 446-2029 or e-mailing [janene.flad@asm.ca.gov](mailto:janene.flad@asm.ca.gov). Registration is available at <http://www.communityrenewal.net/index.asp?mainblock>.

**The Kenneth L. Maddy Institute at California State University, Fresno was established to honor the legacy of one of California's most principled and effective legislative leaders of the last half of the 20th Century by engaging, preparing and inspiring a new generation of governmental leaders for the 21st Century. Its mission is to inspire citizen participation, elevate government performance, provide non-partisan analysis and assist in providing solutions for public policy issues important to the region, state and nation.**

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