

GREAT VALLEY

NEWS

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Office Expansions Across the Valley

The Great Valley Center has always been dedicated to serving the entire Central Valley, but the region is incredibly vast. Stretching 450 miles long and 50 miles wide and encompassing 19 counties from Shasta to Kern— that's a lot of area for a Modesto-based organization to engage and serve. That's why it is so exciting that the Great Valley Center has opened two new satellite offices in the past year. One of the offices is located in the Sacramento Valley in the City of Chico and one is located in the Southern San Joaquin Valley in the City of Bakersfield.

Both the Sacramento Valley office and the Southern San Joaquin Valley office are staffed by representatives of the Great Valley Center Energy Program, a program dedicated to informing and educating leaders of Valley communities about the potentials of energy independence.

"Energy can be a complicated subject and people want to learn about it from those who understand the regional context," said Tim Fisher energy program manager. "The Valley is one region but what you learn quickly is different areas have different social and political environments, that's why

it's so necessary for us to have staff members based in the northern and southern areas of the Valley."

The Great Valley Center's Sacramento Valley office opened less than a year ago. It's located in downtown Chico, in Butte County, an ideal central location in terms of proximity to Sacramento Valley counties such as Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Shasta, and Tehama. The office is staffed by Lindsay Buckley and located at 630 Salem Street Suite 110, in Chico.

The most recent Great Valley Center satellite office to open is the Southern San Joaquin Valley office, which opened this past May. The office is located at the UC Merced, Bakersfield Center. Coming onboard to staff the Bakersfield office is Stacey Shephard, a former environmental reporter with the Bakersfield Californian who is looking forward to working on issues related to energy independence. The office is located at 2000 K Street, Suite 300, in Bakersfield.

The northern and southern offices will allow the Great Valley Center more opportunities to serve the region better.



A picture of the Great Central Valley from space, with depictions of the three GVC office locations.



President's Message: We are Taking our Leadership Programs to the Next Level



*Great Valley Center
President and ALF
Senior Fellow
David Hosley*

A new chapter of the American Leadership Forum (ALF) in the northern San Joaquin Valley presents a special opportunity to create better lives for the people who live in the counties of San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced.

This network of leaders is being formed, and will pay dividends across city and county lines, but also social, economic and political boundaries. Through a year of hard work, facilitated by nationally-known experts, each ALF class member will be better able to address challenges for the region, workplace and personal life. The inaugural class will establish relationships that build trust and cooperation, and will be armed with new skills for taking on difficult issues, appreciating diverse views, and identifying resources to turn dialogue into action.

After that first year, ALFers become Senior Fellows and a part of a wide network of leaders who come together to improve the quality of life for others. Senior Fellows come together to respond to emergent problems, but also work in sub-groups based on their professional and personal interests. They hear from thought-leaders and they lend their expertise to organizations in the region.

I'm confident about these outcomes because I've seen the impact ALF has had, both as a Senior Fellow of the Mountain-Valley chapter in the Sacramento area, but also through observation of the Silicon Valley chapter and others across the country.

Because of the ALF network in the In the Capitol region, the pace of positive change accelerated, because of what we had learned together, and the strong bonds that developed over time. I believe this new chapter in the northern San Joaquin Valley can have a similar impact, and the Great Valley Center is a good partner to join community members in getting things underway. I look forward to this new program, and welcome both our founding Board members and our inaugural class of Fellows.

Energy Program Educates on SB375

The Great Valley Center Energy Program has been hard at work spreading the word on how Senate Bill 375 relates and impacts local governments. The Energy



Christine Tien from the City of Stockton gives a presentation in Merced about her city's implementation of green practices.

Program has been holding regional trainings up and down the Valley to inform leaders on strategies for local government compliance, economic benefits, and how to take advantage of the new CEQA rules and exemptions.

Regional and local experts have showcased some of the best and most innovative steps that local governments throughout the state are taking, providing specific examples as models for others to follow.

Featured speakers at these trainings have included staff from the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the California Air Resources Board, and the Local Government Commission.

The next training will be held in the Northern Sacramento Valley in August. Look for an announcement with more information or visit www.gvc-energy.org for presentations, handouts, and additional workshop dates.



Check it out at
www.greatvalley.org

Great Valley News: Our New Blog

Take a look at the Great Valley Center's newest way to keep you updated on what's happening at the Center and in the region. At the Great Valley Center's new electronic information and news center you will find information on events, programs, and additional Valley resources. Remember to check Great Valley News often as new content is posted weekly. You can also sign up to receive e-mail notifications when Great Valley News is updated.

The Great Valley Energy Primer

GVC's Energy Program has recently published this resource intended to familiarize Valley leaders and decision makers with the basics of energy related issues and legislation. Topics covered in the Primer include the built environment, renewable energy, transportation, climate action, and energy legislation. More information on energy is always available at www.gvc-energy.org.

Find Out Other Ways to Connect to GVC

Just head to our homepage to link to other ways we are connecting with people and keeping you in touch with what's happening in the Valley.



How about becoming a fan on **Facebook**?



Or checking out our photo stream on **Flickr**?



Or linking with us on **LinkedIn**?

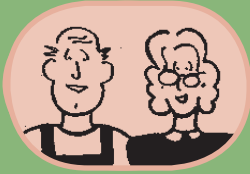


Or following us on **Twitter**?



Or subscribing to our **Youtube** video feed?

Gus & Velma's Column



Dear Gus and Velma,

I am a student, and I have been looking forward to our upcoming FFA project of maintaining our own orchard and farm animals. Unfortunately, the program has been put on hold because of the lack of water and fish. What's the big deal?

Frustrated Future Farmer

Dear Frustrated,

Gus: The big deal is a little fish called the delta smelt.

Velma: Technically, it's fishes; the delta smelt and the longfin smelt, they both reside in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The courts have voted in favor of the fish and allowed special protection under the California Endangered Species Act. Access to water has been cut short because of forced reductions in water pumped out of the Delta to be shipped to San Joaquin Valley and Southern California.

Gus: Wait, wait, this is because of a fish?

Velma: Well if you were a little fish wouldn't you want some protection against powerful pumps the size of a bus?

Gus: Well I'm not a fish, I'm a person and I think my water needs should come first.

Velma: Well, if the smelt go, other fish which are not native to the Delta will get bigger, and we will never be able to go back to our native ecosystem— it will be lost forever.

Gus: All I'm sure of is that they better hurry up to make a decision about what they are going to do because I can't wait ten more years in this "regulatory drought."

Daily Publications Get Valley Connected

Each day thousands of people throughout the Valley are receiving and reading their Sacramento or San Joaquin Valley Connects in order to know what's happening throughout their region. These daily electronic e-mails are the Great Valley Center's way of keeping people up-to-date with what's happening in their region.

Each newsletter focuses on news and happenings throughout the two Valley subregions, the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley. They give just enough information for the reader to be informed without having to read every local media publication in the region.

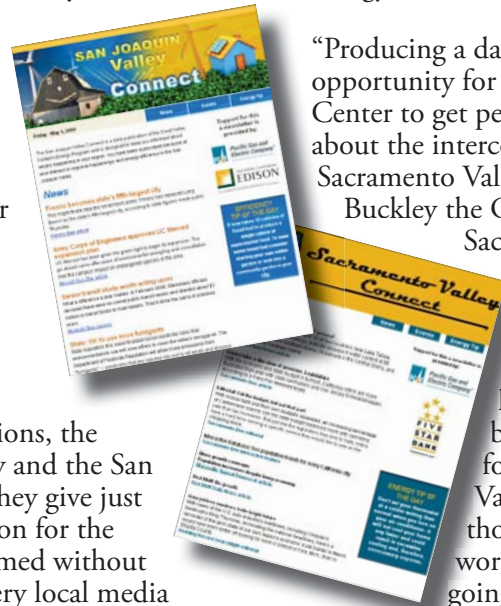
The daily newsletters are designed to give an overview of what's happening with planning, environmental trends, and energy policy throughout the

regions. Every day the Connects provide links and a brief summary of 6-12 relevant news articles that have local significance. The newsletter also features an events section and a daily energy conservation tips.

"Producing a daily newsletter is an opportunity for the Great Valley Center to get people thinking about the interconnectedness of the Sacramento Valley," said Lindsay Buckley the Great Valley Center's Sacramento Valley

Energy Program Representative and Connect Editor.

"Yes, there are county lines and city limits but the opportunity for communities in the Valley to look beyond those and learn and work with each other is going to benefit residents throughout the Valley."



To sign up to begin receiving the Sacramento Valley Connect and the San Joaquin Valley Connect, visit our homepage at www.greatvalley.org.

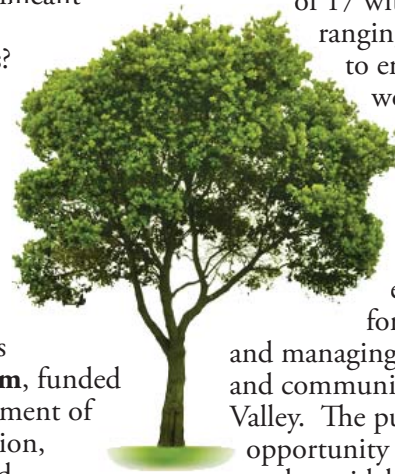
Valley To Get Guidance on Going Green

Here's a riddle for you: What positively impacts air quality, water quality, and provides significant energy savings, all while beautifying communities? Trees! And due to an ongoing Great Valley Center project, those in the San Joaquin Valley may be enjoying more of them in the near future.

The Great Valley Center's **Green Canopies Program**, funded by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, is working to develop and support standards for urban and community forestry programs in the San Joaquin Valley. GVC staff, along with

community partners, stakeholders, and an executive steering committee of 17 with representatives ranging from developers to environmentalists, are working to develop an urban and community forest guide for the San Joaquin Valley.

This guide will encompass best practices for planning, maintaining, and managing tree policies in cities and communities in the San Joaquin Valley. The public will have an opportunity to contribute their input to the guidebook in the fall. For more information or to be notified when the guidebook is available contact project manager Manuel Alvarado at manuel@greatvalley.org.



Welcome American Leadership Fellows



AMERICAN
LEADERSHIP
FORUMSM

NORTHERN SAN JOAQUIN
VALLEY CHAPTER

GVC programs like the Institute for the Development of Emerging Area Leaders (IDEAL) and the Great Valley Leadership Institute (GVLI) have successfully increased the leadership capacity in emerging leaders and elected officials in the Central Valley. This year GVC will

begin its newest leadership program: the American Leadership Forum (ALF). ALF will join and strengthen established leaders from diverse backgrounds to improve the region, specifically the Northern San Joaquin Valley. (See David Hosley's President's Message column for more information.)

The inaugural class features 18 outstanding leaders who have committed to strengthening their leadership skills and networks in the region over the course of the next year. These fellows are:

Steve Arounsack	Ron Foster	Noah Lor
Debra Brady	John Garamendi, Jr.	Virginia Madueno
Debra Brown	Kathy Halsey	Marian Martino
Wendy Byrd	Flip Hassett	Pat Patrick
Ben Duran	Dennis Lee	Robert Santos
Lisa Finer	Linda Lopez	Cynthia Wagner-Weick

New Great Valley Center Publications

Transportation Challenges & Opportunities: Connecting Youth to the Great Outdoors

This practical report, commissioned by the Great Valley Center and the Stewardship Council and funded by PG&E, finds that the greatest road block to connecting youth with the outdoors is challenges associated with transportation. The report assesses the most common problems of cost, availability, and administrative procedures that schools and youth-serving organizations face when arranging transportation that often become limiting factors in the successful implementation of an outdoor venture.

Early Education for the Next Generation: Preschool Readiness for the San Joaquin Valley

This report presents the facts on children in the San Joaquin Valley having severely limited access to quality preschool despite an overwhelming need for early childhood education and the immense benefits the region would reap from increased opportunities for pre-kindergarten education. The report examines the current challenges to preschool education access in the region, specifically a serious lack of spaces for enrollment in current preschool programs, a lack of preschool facilities for children who need preschool the most, and the lack of affordable preschool choices for those in the region that would greatly benefit from pre-kindergarten education. This report was funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.



Both publications, and more, are available at www.greatvalley.org.



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The mission of the Great Valley Center is to support activities and organizations that benefit the economic, social and environmental well-being of California's Central Valley in partnership with the University of California, Merced.