

Fresno Business Council - Weekly Bulletin

Monday, August 21, 2000

Bulletin & Other Information Available on Website at www.fresnobc.org
For Information call 449-6398 or 291-9137--E-mail dnankivell@aol.com or Barbara.Steck@fresnobc.org

Message from the President—Dick Johanson

Our shower drain really hasn't been working too well for a while. The other day, with a little coaxing from a plunger, it started to drain a bit better when all of a sudden whatever was whatever was causing the clogging gave way. Now the water just swishes through the system. Sort of makes one see an analogy to all the good stuff that is beginning to happen in this area, doesn't it? We're becoming unclogged!

China Trade 2000—Live Market Briefing

China has a huge domestic market with a high economic growth rate of over 8%. In 1999, China imported \$166 billion worth of goods from the world market. Permanent Normal Trade Relations and China's accession to the World Trade Organization will dramatically change the landscape for U.S. companies with an interest in opportunities in the China market. On Wednesday, August 23 from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m., the U.S. Department of Commerce and local export support organizations will provide a marketing briefing for interested businesses at CSUF Fresno. Topics will include an overview of China's market, market access & compliance, new business opportunities, remedies for problems and WTO overview & update. Call The Export Center for more information at 323-4689.

November Ballot Pamphlet Available On Line

Secretary of State **Bill Jones** has placed a draft of the November ballot pamphlet on-line until August 14th. The "Public Display Copy of the Voter Information Guide" can be found at <http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/bp/>

Growth Alternatives Alliance Encourages Infill Development

Many community members have expressed concern at public hearings about the way that growth has taken place over the past several decades. The *Growth Alternatives Alliance* believes that it is precisely this concern that has led to the enthusiasm with which "A Landscape of Choice" has been received. Using land efficiently, developing pedestrian friendly and transit oriented neighborhoods, and protecting agricultural land are all principles worth promoting. Smart Growth is a way to accomplish these goals and create sustainable communities that will enhance the quality of life for all who live here. Infill development can help in this pursuit. Infill will build homes, businesses and public facilities on unused and underutilized land within the existing urban area. It will keep resources where people already live and allow rebuilding to occur. Infill development is a viable method to accommodate growth and revitalize our inner city. We are encouraged that the Fresno City Council is open to hearing proposals for infill development and look forward to seeing innovative projects evolve.

McLane High School and McCormick Barstow Form School-to-Business Partnership

Business Council Education Committee Chair **Mike Wilhelm** and his colleagues at *McCormick Barstow* law firm have approached McLane High School with a proposal to form a school-to-business partnership. The goal of the business partners in this program is to have a positive impact on as many students as they can. Some of the activities that they are proposing include: teacher job shadowing; student job shadowing; mentoring students; reading with students; helping McLane with a mock trial program; conducting mini-seminars; Saturday enrichment programs; internship program for seniors; providing classroom speakers; campus club sponsor; assisting with the character education program; involving students in civic activities; arranging to have students attend a trial; tutoring; and assisting students learn presentation skills. The partnership concept evolved from meetings between McLane and McCormick Barstow staff. It would serve well as a model for others interested in pursuing such partnerships.

Candidate Forum For County Board of Supervisors District 2 is Scheduled for August 23rd

Candidates for Supervisorial District 2, **Linda Calandra** and **Brian Calhoun**, will participate in a candidate forum at a luncheon on Wednesday August 23rd at Grand Occasions. To make reservations, call the Fresno Chamber of Commerce at 495-4800.

Activities & Events

Tuesday, August 22 at 7:30 a.m.—Executive Committee (Deloitte & Touche)

Wednesday, September 6 at 7:30 a.m.—Education Committee (McCormick Barstow)

Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 a.m.—Public Safety Committee (Manco Abbot)

Wednesday, September 13 at 4:00 p.m.—Public Affairs Committee (Baker, Manock & Jensen)

Invited Guests: Rich Rodriguez & Cal Dooley

Thursday, September 14 at 4:00 p.m.—Board of Directors (Fresno Business Council office)

September 17 through September 19—Civic Entrepreneur Conference—Office Closed