

# Fresno Business Council - Weekly Bulletin

## Monday, December 25, 2000

Bulletin & Other Information Available on Website at [www.fresnobc.org](http://www.fresnobc.org)

For Information call 449-6398 or 490-0014--E-mail [Deborah.Nankivell@fresnobc.org](mailto:Deborah.Nankivell@fresnobc.org) [Barbara.Steck@fresnobc.org](mailto:Barbara.Steck@fresnobc.org)

### **Message from the President—Dick Johanson**

This is not only the last Bulletin of this year but also my last as your President. Let me once again thank you for the privilege you given me for the past six years. I extend to our membership and all others who read this Weekly Bulletin best wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season.

Finally, I would like to share with you a thought as we prepare to enter the real new millennium. All of us have historically been taught that no task is complete until all of the "I's" have been dotted and all of the "T's" crossed. I believe that we are seeing the dawn of the acceptance that our future success will depend upon our common ability to erase "I's" and substitute "We's". This is the path of the Fresno Business Council. We welcome all to join us in our journey. Happy New Year.

### **Business Forecast Breakfasts Have a History of Provocative, Timely Speakers**

Since it's launch three years ago, the *Business Journal's* Business Forecast Breakfasts have provided critical information on key issues. The first breakfast focused on land use, quality of life and sustainable communities. The second breakfast coincided with the release of "Economic Future of the San Joaquin Valley" written by Collaborative Economics and spotlighted the primary author, **Doug Henton**. This year's event will focus on our regional identity (or lack thereof.) The keynote speaker, **Alf Nucifora**, has an extensive background in marketing and has helped many cities attract people and industry through a regional marketing strategy. Mr. Nucifora has spent months studying our area and will share his insights into our strengths and our weaknesses. Call Taryn Shillings at 490-3445 for information.

### **New Valley Connexions Project Issues Final Report**

The final NVC report, "Producing a Competitive Advantage: Agri Tech in the San Joaquin Valley", is complete and online at [http://www.greatvalley.org/nvc/agri\\_tech.htm](http://www.greatvalley.org/nvc/agri_tech.htm). This report joins the four others of the project that focus on our economic future, telecommunications, land use, and bridging the digital divide. In sum, the project's impressive work product has enhanced local awareness of critical issues and provided a guide to making decisions and taking action. With a foundation upon which to develop a broad-based community agenda, the next year promises to be one of focus and fruition.

### **Committee Schedule for Upcoming Year**

All members of the Business Council are encouraged to join any of the Council's standing committees. The Committees address issues of importance to the organization and often formulate policy recommendations for Board approval. The following is a list of the regularly scheduled committee meetings:

Education – Mike Wilhelm, Chair – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday - 7:30 AM - McCormick Barstow

Public Safety – Ralph Goldbeck, Chair – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 7:00 AM – Manco Abbott

Public Affairs – Jim Shekoyan, Chair – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 4:00 PM – Baker Manock & Jensen

We are also in the process of forming additional special task forces on key issues such as the new economy, ongoing web site development, and communications. More information on these new initiatives will be forthcoming as they develop.

### **Design Professionals to Hear Presentation on Murals by Well-Known Landscape Architect**

For over a year now, members of local professional organizations have been meeting to determine the potential of infill as an urban design strategy in the Fresno inner city area. The group includes members of the American Planning Association, American Society of Landscape Architects and American Institute of Architects. A component of one of the projects they are considering involves the use of murals as a focal point in neighborhood centers. They have invited **Dan Veyna**, a landscape architect from Visalia, to discuss the mural program he facilitated in Exeter. Dan will be presenting to the group on Tuesday evening, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. A limited number of seats are available. If you're interested in attending, contact **Barbara Steck** at 490-0014.

### **Surface Transportation Policy Project Planning Pedestrian Safety Summit in Fresno**

Participants of several local agencies and organizations met this past week to begin planning a Pedestrian Safety Summit that will take place in Fresno early in March 2001. The event will feature **Dan Burden**, a national expert on walkable communities, traffic calming and street design. A portion of Dan's time will be spent meeting with local community groups and professionals to conduct pedestrian audits. For more information on the event, contact Trinh Nguyen of SSTP at 916-447-8880 or at [tnguyen@transact.org](mailto:tnguyen@transact.org).

### **Upcoming Activities and Events:**

Wednesday, January 3 from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.—Education Committee (McCormick Barstow)

Business Council Offices will be closed December 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>

**"Happy Holidays"**