

December 5, 2005

Message From the Chair Emeritus—Dick Johanson

This year's performance of the Fresno State Bulldog football team contains a lesson for each of us opinion. While the season is not quite over, we have watched them scale utopian peaks and descend into barren valleys. We have heard a crescendo of resounding "yeas" transformed into a few scattered and muted "boos". All of this reminds me of something I heard not too long ago. Each of us is provided with a supply of stones in our lives. It is our decision to either throw them about as missiles of destruction or to collaboratively amass them as cornerstones of construction. Regardless of what happens to the Bulldogs on New Year's Eve in Memphis, they have raised our sense of regional self-esteem in significant areas. For that we owe them a deep debt of gratitude. In the words of our:

Thought for the week:

"The World Is Round and the Place Which May Seem Like the End May Also Be Only the Beginning

Keeping Tabs on Outcomes—Community Report Card II Taking Shape

Remember when you picked up your morning newspaper a couple of years ago and had a Rip Van Winkle moment when you looked at the date—January 27, 2015. Thanks to the Fresno Bee, a host of volunteers and a lot of business sponsors you were looking at The New Valley Times, a newspaper from the future that told the story of how a beleaguered community came together to cast a vision, set goals and create an amazing future. The project is back. This time it will check in on progress and tell some exciting stories. Innovators and early adapters are what social marketers call the "let's go for it folks" who dream big and jump on early. Thank you to Vince Correll (Valley Oak Executive Suites), Dan Doyle (Central Valley Community Bank), Larry Johanson (Johanson Transportation Service), Cathy Frost (BennettFrost Personnel Services, Inc.) and James Hallowell for your sponsorships of this vital project. If you would like to join in contact Marty at 434.2230 or email at martyfadalac@aol.com. Special thanks to Dan Doyle, Debbie Cohen and Suzanne Bertz-Rosa who are the key drivers behind the project.

On Top of It—THE PULSE Offers an Easy Way to Stay Informed

Put together the wit and insights of Tom Jones, the creativity of Tim Stearns and the thoughtful wisdom of Lee Lockhart and add an eclectic parade of guests and you get radio at its best. Given the overwhelming amount of data and information coming at us from all directions, it is helpful to stop and listen to folks who are paying attention to global, national and local changes and trying to make sense of it. All three are deeply involved in collaborative efforts to transform our community and insure global competitiveness. Tune in to The PULSE, KFSR's Business Roundtable on Saturday at noon on at 90.7 FM or listen any time on the net at www.kfsr.org. If you are interested in being on the program, contact Joe Moore, Station Manger at 278-2598.

The Campaign for College Opportunity Comes to Fresno December 12

By the time an issue breaks through to public awareness, there are typically people already at work on solutions. Education and a prepared workforce determine the future of an individual, a community, a region and a nation. Insuring that our collective resources and intentions are aligned to prepare our children for a life that requires life long learning and adaptability is the challenge of the global economy. The Campaign for College Opportunity, backed by business, academia, labor and countless civic groups, aims at ensuring access to college and a workforce to meet the state's needs. Mas Masomoto and Fred Ruiz serve on the governing board. To join in the dialogue, the Fresno event is slated for Monday, December 12 at 4:00 p.m. at the University of California Center at 550 E. Shaw just east of 41. To RSVP call 213.817.6034 or email Maricela@collegecampaign.org For more information go to www.collegecampaign.org.

Kudos to Fresno Metro Ministry

To celebrate 35 years of "Working Together to Build a Better Community," Fresno Metro Ministry held a special event last week to honor extraordinary community servants. The organizations and individuals honored helped to explain why the Fresno Area has such a rich history and positive future in store for it. The honorees included Margaret Hudson, David "Mas" Masumoto, Champions for Better Air Quality and The People of Fresno Metro Ministry. As all speakers noted...it is about community.

A Business Basic-- Managing Payroll

The Central Valley Business Incubator is about starting, strengthening and expanding businesses so that our region can become prosperous and produce high quality jobs. To that end, the Incubator offers a variety of workshops. Coming up Thursday, December 15 from 8:30 to noon is a workshop entitled “Using QuickBooks to Manage Payroll” presented by Tami Fisher. Payroll laws and liability information will also be covered. To register call the Incubator at 292-9033 go online at www.cvbi.org. If you would like to offer a workshop or have a suggestion for one, contact the Incubator.