

October 2, 2006

Leadership Awards Luncheon Set for October 12—Radisson

The culture of an organization, a community and a business is determined by the leaders. Nearly ten years ago, Jim Boren wrote an editorial honoring the ethical leadership of **Senator Rose Ann Vuich** and challenging others to follow her example. To inspire and support this type of leadership, The Fresno Bee, the Fresno Business Council and The Maddy Institute at Fresno State created The Rose Ann Vuich Ethical Leadership Award. The award honors elected officials who have demonstrated “integrity, strength of character, exemplary ethical behavior, the ability to build consensus, serve the public interest and sustain a vision for enhancing their community.”

A group of community leaders serve on a judges’ panel to review nominations and select the recipient. This year **Margaret Foley**, Vice President of the Board of Directors at Kaweah Delta Health Care District, was selected for the award.

In 1995, the Fresno Business Council created the **Excellence in Public Service Award** to honor **Judge Gary Hoff** for his outstanding leadership in addressing juvenile crime. It can be very difficult for public servants to step beyond their positional roles and provide the innovative style of leadership needed to solve difficult challenges that require boundary crossing and transformational change. This year, the board of the Business Council selected **Sunne Wright McPeak**, Secretary of Business Transportation and Housing. Tapped by Governor Schwarzenegger to lead the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, Sunne has done an outstanding job of uniting her colleagues and key leaders across our wide geography to fashion a plan that has the potential to transform our region economically, environmentally and socially.

Both awards will be given a luncheon on Thursday, October 12 from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the Robert A. Schoettler Conference Center in the Radisson Hotel. For more information contact the Maddy Institute at 559-294-9119.

State Bonds/Regional Needs—Preparing for Our Future

Infrastructure, its creation and maintenance, will largely determine the quality of our future. This year’s ballot has a number of large bonds designed to overcome years of neglect and to prepare our state for a healthy and prosperous future. Insuring that resources are invested wisely across the state’s many regions is a local challenge and responsibility. To find out more about the bonds and what we can do to secure critical resources, come to the October 19 Forum at Fresno State entitled ***Preparing for the Future—State Bonds and Regional Needs***. State experts and local leaders will be available to lay out the opportunities and facilitate a discussion about possibilities. The event will be at Peters Auditorium in the University Business Center at Fresno State on Thursday, October 19 from 9:15 to 11:45. Please RSVP to Ashley Swearengin at ashleys@csufresno.edu or 559.278.8460.