

### **Reflections From Dan Doyle (Central Valley Committee Bank)**

As I put fingers to keyboard, I am honored with this opportunity to reflect on the many exciting community activities and events I enjoy, all with the purpose of making Fresno a better place for my extended family (my employees) to raise their families, grow in their careers and enjoy the amenities of the Valley. It is clear to me, in order for these “better things” to take place in our community; all of our businesses must grow and prosper. This will allow my business to grow, which will create the opportunities for my employees to grow in their career and monetarily, and will reward our shareholders. But to start this chain of dominoes falling in the right direction and to make this a more prosperous community, it takes strong and viable private, public and non-profit sectors working together. I believe as a businessperson in our community it is my responsibility and obligation to work collaboratively with all of the sectors to help move our community forward and not settle for the status quo, or worse. I have had the opportunity to serve as a volunteer in other communities (Seattle, Portland and Sacramento) and I have seen the results of how these communities have moved forward and provided a better environment for all its people. But this self improvement and creating opportunities does not just happen, it takes members of all sectors of the community engaging to start the momentum of the dominoes falling. Together, we can make them fall in the correct direction.

### **Report Cards, Progress Reports, Results**

First, on February 21, the annual meeting of the Regional Jobs Initiative will be held at the Convention Center from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. (Flyer attached). Then, on February 28 you will receive the second edition of the New Valley Times along with your Fresno Bee to tell you where we stand on key social and economic indicators. Anyone involved with the RJI, ReadFresno, the Lyles Center, the Maddy Institute, FCASH, Fresno Unified and many other portals in the network know that we are all interconnected and leveraging resources like never before. While once a community fragmented by single interests and lack of a common vision, thanks to the Community Values and a host of courageous boundary crossers we are changing expectations, raising standards and moving the needle. [www.fresnorji.org](http://www.fresnorji.org)

### **Thank You to the Core Team of New Valley Times**

Most of the amazing things happening in our community we could not afford. The fair market value of the talent and skills contributed by a host of people is well beyond our capacity. Volunteers make things happen. The New Valley Times became reality when Dr. Alan Pierrot decided we needed to cast a vision of where we would be in 2015 if we pulled together behind a common agenda. The second edition, a real time assessment of where we are, was led by Dan Doyle (Community Bank) Debbie Cohen (Cohen Communications), and Suzanne Bertz-Rosa (Bertz-Rosa Design). Marty Fadala and Allyson Robison also played extensive roles in the research, design and production. Behind the scenes loaned staff from a number of organizations helped write and edit the articles in their areas of work. Thank you, all.

### **Thank You to the Sponsors**

Sharing vital information requires resources. A number of visionary leaders stepped up to insure the NVT happened. First and foremost, thank you to The Fresno Bee. Without its support and distribution networks, the NVT would not reach its audience. Thank you to the businesses and individuals who helped make NVT possible—Central Valley Community Bank, Generation Homes, , De Young Communities, McCormick Barstow, Deloitte, NIE, Sequoia Investments, Bennett-Frost, Valley Oak Executive Suites, Johanson Transportation, Facility Designs, Wawona Frozen Foods, Granville Management, Vie Del Company, Inline Services, Comerica Bank, , James & Coke Hallowell, Merrill Lynch, Patton Air Conditioning. Thank you also to our public and nonprofit partners: Fresno State, State Center, Fresno County Transportation Authority, Fresno Pacific, City of Clovis, Central Valley Business Incubator, WIB, Fresno County Office of Education and UCSF Fresno Medical Education Program.

### **Reaching the Tipping Point—Business Journal’s Breakfast—3.8.06**

The 8<sup>th</sup> annual Business Executive Breakfast will feature Sunne Wright McPeak discussing “Strategies for Sustainable Economic Development in the San Joaquin Valley.” Secretary McPeak’s agency---Business, Transportation & Housing—leads the new California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. This regional effort has task forces addressing every vital social and economic issue. Linked to the Federal Interagency Task Force, it is our opportunity to insure custom-made solutions to unique Valley issues. For information, contact Connie McNeely at 559.490.3441.