

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE ON MOONEY IN THE FUTURE?: Voice your vision this Saturday, June 26 at the Visalia Mall in the Fashion Court (between Macy's and the food court) from 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Consultants Quad Knopf is working with the City to identify practical zoning measures that can be implemented to encourage more appropriate, practical development along the Mooney Corridor. Saturday's outreach session is designed to seek input from business owners, property owners and the general public. For more information, contact Steve Brandt at Quad Knopf, 733-0440.

WANT TO DO BUSINESS WITH THE CITY?: Businesses throughout Tulare County are encouraged to register with the City of Visalia. The City wants to know what type of products and services local firms can provide. To register on a website the City and other Central Valley agencies use to contact businesses about purchasing and contracting needs, go to www.govbids.com/scripts/CCA/public/home1.asp. At Monday night's meeting, as part of a local purchasing preference, the Council discussed outreach to local businesses. Local businesses will have an opportunity to match pricing with state or national contracts, and under certain circumstances, will allow a local vendor who is within 5% of the low bid from an outside firm to match the bid. The City will also work with local business organizations to offer information on how to submit competitive bids for government business. For more information contact Purchasing at 713-4334.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET DECLINES FOR THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR: The City Council received the proposed 2010-11 and 11-12 budgets this week. While the total budget is one of the largest in the history of the City, \$191 million for 2010-11, that figure comprises all funds including capital projects such as the upcoming waste water treatment plant upgrade, and enterprise funds such as solid waste and airport which have designated revenues sources separate from the General Fund (GF). The General Fund Budget is down \$4.3 million from just two years ago. The proposed GF budget is \$55,854,740, which is a \$3.8 million shortfall from expected revenues. To balance the budget, the Council is looking at using reserves (\$1.2 million), increasing revenues through a tow service franchise fee (\$100,000), reducing non-profit organization grants (\$60,000) and employee compensation concessions or use of further reserves (\$2.4 million). The Council will consider the budget on Monday, June 28 at the Convention Center.

LOOK FOR CHANGES IN BUS SERVICE: The Transit Committee will host a public meeting on July 7 at 5:30 p.m. at the Transit Center to discuss the changes to bus and trolley service that will be implemented in August. The changes address, among other things, the expansion of Route 7 (north/east Visalia) north on Dinuba to include the Orchard Walk shopping center. To offset this increased cost, the Green Trolley line will be eliminated due to the fact that it duplicates service already provided by the larger fixed route buses. In addition, the Blue and Gold Trolley Routes will change. Rather than operating on Main and Center as they do now, they will operate on Main and Acequia as to provide more readily available service to high traffic generators such as the hospital, the two parking structures, two hotels and the Convention Center.

POOL WATCH: It's that time of year again where we need to be aware of three pool related issues. The law requires all pools be secured with a 5-foot fence. Pools that are not properly maintained tend to attract mosquito breeding which can promote the spread of West Nile Virus. If you know of any unprotected or improperly maintained pools in your neighborhood, notify the City's Neighborhood Preservation Division at 713-4534. Provide the address of the property, whether there is water in the pool, and if there is secured fencing around the pool. If you need to report an unsecured pool during the weekend, contact the Visalia Fire Department at 734-8117.

NO CHANGE IN REFUSE SERVICE OVER HOLIDAY: City of Visalia business offices will be closed on Monday July 5 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday. There will be no change in either residential or commercial refuse service.

VICE MAYOR HOLDS OFFICE HOURS JULY 7: Vice Mayor Amy Shuklian will hold her regular monthly office hours on Wednesday, July 7, to allow the public an opportunity to meet and discuss issues one-on-one. Her monthly office hours are from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the large conference room at City Hall, 707 W. Acequia Ave. The first hour (4:30 to 5:30 p.m.) will be a time for drop-in visits. Meetings during the second hour (5:30 to 6:30 p.m.) will be reserved by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, contact Office Assistant Gladys Ramirez at 713-4314. Shuklian can be reached through 713-4400, then enter 8313, or by email at ashuklian@ci.visalia.ca.us.

FIREWORKS CELEBRATION: Join Visalia's star spangled spectacular on the 4th of July! The annual City of Visalia Independence Day Freedom Celebration will be held on July 4 at Giant Chevrolet Mineral King Bowl. Gates open at 6 p.m., and the program begins at 6:30. The event includes performances by the Long Riders, Willow Station, and a fly-over by the U.S. Military. The event is free to the public but a donation of \$3 per person is requested to help defray costs to the Foundation. Food concessions will be available.

FAMILY FUN: Summer Saturday nights in Visalia will now include movie swim nights at Mt. Whitney pool. The swim session runs from 6:30 to 8:30 and costs just \$2 per person. The movie is free and begins at dusk. Bring a chair and blanket and join the fun. For a schedule of movies and more information, go to http://www.ci.visalia.ca.us/depts/parks_n_recreation/news/family_swim_n_movie_night.asp.

VACANCIES FOR CITY COMMITTEES, COMMISSION: The City of Visalia is accepting applications from interested citizens for its City committees. The following committees currently have vacancies:

- **Citizen's Advisory Committee** – Acts as a liaison between the general public and the City Council concerning community issues. The Committee has openings for three alternate members.
- **Disability Advocacy Committee** – advises the City on the needs of disabled people. The committee promotes physical, social, communication and attitudinal access for every citizen of Visalia. The Committee currently has three regular member vacancies and two alternate member vacancies.
- **Environmental Committee** – heightens environmental awareness and conservation in Visalia. Issues addressed include air quality, hazardous waste, recycling, water conservation and all other natural resources. The Committee currently has two regular member vacancies and one alternate member vacancy.
- **Historic Preservation Committee** – administers and carries out the standards and specifications of the Historic Preservation Ordinance and promotes historic preservation including encouraging building owners to initiate preservation efforts. The committee currently has one alternate member vacancy.
- **North Visalia Neighborhood Advisory Committee** – serves as a liaison between the City and the North Visalia community. The Committee has openings for two regular members.
- **Parks & Recreation Commission** – advises the City Council and City staff in matters pertaining to parks, playgrounds and recreation centers. The Commission currently has one alternate vacancy.
- **Transit Advisory Committee** – researches and analyzes the community's continuing transit needs, reviews operations, markets the transit program and makes recommendations about the business affairs of the transit system. The Committee currently has one vacancy for a regular member and two vacancies as alternate members.

Applications are accepted on a continuous basis and kept for a period of two years. If you have further questions, you may visit our website www.ci.visalia.ca.us, "Committees/Commissions" to view the informational handbook and application or you may contact the City Clerk's Office at 713-4512.

