

Fowler doctor named to Valley, Calif. air boards

By Mark Grossi, staff writer

The Fresno Bee, Monday, Nov. 21, 2011

Dr. Alex Sherriffs, a Fowler family practitioner and clean-air advocate, has been named to the governing board for both the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District and the California Air Resources Board.

Gov. Jerry Brown on Monday announced the appointments for Sherriffs, a 60-year-old Democrat. He replaces Dr. John Telles, who resigned in June.

On the Valley air district board, Sherriffs fills a seat dedicated to a health professional. On the state board, he will be the Valley air district's representative.

His appointments must be approved by the state Senate. There is no compensation for either position, state officials said.

The announcement of Sherriffs' appointments pleased environmental, health and community activists.

"We commend the governor for an excellent choice," said Kevin Hall, executive director of the Central Valley Air Quality Coalition, representing more than 70 organizations. "With the appointment of Dr. Sherriffs, the governor has demonstrated real concern for the health of all Valley residents."

Sherriffs has been a physician in private practice in Fowler since the 1980s. He also has been a clinical professor at the Fresno campus of the University of California at San Francisco.

Navy test ship for biofuel completes first trip

Associated Press

In the Business Journal Fri., Nov. 18, 2011

(AP) — The U.S. Navy says its largest test of alternative fuel use was a success with the safe arrival of a destroyer powered by a mix of algae-based fuel and petroleum.

The Paul F. Foster ship arrived Thursday morning to the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Port Hueneme in Southern California after traveling for 17 hours on a maiden trip from San Diego.

Officials say the test on the decommissioned destroyer was a major milestone for the Navy aiming to cut its fossil fuel use in half over the next decade. The Navy plans to incorporate what it calls a "Great Green Fleet," entirely run on alternative fuels by 2016.

The Navy says the destroyer performed the same as when it runs on fossil fuel.