

Republicans of River City

Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

TOP TEAM MEMBERS KICK OFF GOVERNOR'S REELECTION CAMPAIGN

by Fred Hildebrand

Mindy Tucker-Fletcher, Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, revisits River City together with Jeff Randle, President/CEO of Randle Communications, a key member of the governor's political team, also a former speaker and member of River City, on April 18th.. Both recently assisted Steve Schmidt, campaign director for the governor, in launching the actual campaign.

River City is privileged to have these outstanding members of the governor's reelection campaign appear together. Both will take questions from the floor. Please craft your questions carefully.

River City will convene at 6:00 P.M. on April 18th at Channel 6, KVIE for a Social Hour. At 7:00 P.M. the General Meeting will commence and our speakers will appear. This is a meeting you will not want to miss, an unusual opportunity, indeed.

Mindy Tucker-Fletcher joined the California state administration as Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's deputy chief of staff in May 2005. Identifying her main concern as "constituent outreach," Tucker-Fletcher said her position "is really an extension of the governor and his relationship with a lot of groups outside state government and outside the state Legislature."

Previous to joining the Schwarzenegger administration, Tucker-Fletcher was Senior Vice President of Public Affairs with Ogilvy PR's Sacramento, California office, from January 2004 to May 2005.

Tucker-Fletcher has a long history of activism with the Republican Party, including:

* Advising the Bush-Cheney '04 campaign, "on issues related to California and assisted the state Republican Party with communications and coalition strategy, including coordinating and strengthening the women's coalition within

the party apparatus," including as "co-chair of the National Steering Committee of W Stands for Women"

* Serving as Communications Director of the Republican National Committee in 2002 - 2003;

* Serving as Director of Public Affairs for the U.S. Department of Justice, "where she managed communications efforts on many high-profile issues, including the September 11 attacks";

* Serving as National Press Secretary of the "Bush for President" campaign in 2000;

* Serving as Senior Spokesperson during the Florida recount effort;

* Working for then-Governor George W. Bush's successful 1998 reelection campaign in Texas;

* Working in the Washington office of Rep. Sam Johnson (R-TX), for five years.

Jeff Randle has two decades of political, media and communications expertise, and is considered one of the state's leading public relations strategists by lawmakers, business leaders and the media. Randle perfected his skills with experience as deputy chief of staff to a Governor of California, as an entrepreneur and as a native Californian. Today, he is a key member of Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's political team; Randle served as political director during the Governor's 2003 recall election campaign and in 2004 and 2005 directed all statewide grassroots political efforts on behalf of Schwarzenegger's initiative campaigns.

As President/CEO, Randle oversees the strategy and communications activities for all clients. For example, he has crafted statewide public relations and media relations campaigns for prominent organizations including the University of Phoenix, California Association of Mortgage Brokers, California Association of REALTORS®, California Building Industry Association, Pardee Homes and General Growth Properties Inc. Additionally, he masterminded a 2004 strategy on behalf of California's business community to prevent the destruction of Proposition 13 commercial property tax protections through the development of a

statewide media and grassroots communications program.

Previously Randle was Executive Vice President of Stoorza Communications, California's largest independent public relations firm, where he also served as general manager of the Sacramento Office.

Randle earned a bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1986. He lives in Sacramento with his wife, Kellie, and their three children

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT 2

By Robert Evans

In February, I asked members of Republicans of River City to step forward and run for the Sacramento County Central Committee. I am proud to see that many of you did step up and we have members running in every district:

District 1-
Richard La Fontaine
Tim King

District 2-
Richard Eigeneer
William Chan
Jeffrey Scott

District 3-
Robert Evans
Mary Pearson
Kenneth Weddle
Norm Jachens

Carl Burton
Betty Axup

District 4-
Craig MacGlashan
Larry Masuoka

District 5-
John Madriz
Sirgute Morgan
Walter Morgan
Brian Villanueva
George Bradshaw

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Honorable Dave Cox

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION AND STATE GOVERNMENT

by Dave Cox

My offices have been contacted by many constituents calling and writing about the debate going on in the United States Senate regarding illegal immigration and what to do with the over 12 million illegal immigrants in our country

After helping a few of these people understand that I am a State Senator who has no direct control over our nation's immigration laws, people tell us how frustrated they are with the current debate over whether to allow illegal immigrants to apply for citizenship and how so many of them are being allowed to come into the United States illegally.

My position on illegal immigration has always been clear. I do not support efforts by the State Legislature to encourage illegal immigration. I oppose and have repeatedly voted against bills to allow illegal immigrants to obtain state driver's licenses. I have also opposed bills providing for in-state tuition for undocumented students. However, the most effective action against illegal immigration into this country has to come from the Federal Government. That is what the United States Congress is considering now.

The most important thing the Federal government should do is secure the borders. This is best accomplished by increasing the number of Border Patrol officers, building a border fence, improving the technology currently in place to detect illegal entry, and enforcing the current laws on the books. Americans who knowingly employ illegal immigrants should face heavy fines. We must provide

businesses with needed tools to verify the identity and status of job applicants.

There is something that the State of California can do, but it would still require the cooperation of the federal government. We currently incarcerate thousands of illegal immigrants in our state prisons. Those convicted of non-violent offenses should be turned over to the federal authorities for deportation. However, I do not support the release of murderers or sexual predators. Governor Schwarzenegger recently made an effort to secure more federal funds to cover the cost of housing non-violent prison inmates.

For the record, the protests that have been taking place in California and across the country are just irresponsible.

I don't know about you, but when I hear about students walking out of class to march and protest, I want to know why they were allowed to leave campus in the first place. I think that any teacher or principal who encourages their students to become truants should be disciplined, including possible suspension or termination.

Is it any surprise that weekend protests drew much smaller crowds than those on weekdays? Maybe that's because students lost interest in expressing their opinions if it meant giving up their free time. Clearly they're more interested in being out of class.

I share the frustration of the people of the First Senate District over illegal immigration. Unfortunately there is not much a state legislator can do. I applaud the efforts of the President and the Congress to engage in a thoughtful debate and hopefully reach a strong resolution on this very difficult issue.

I am working on a more comprehensive immigration policy statement, which I will share in a future newsletter.

Health Care Working Group

Sacramento has been selected as the site of a community meeting on the nation's health care system. The Citizen's Health Care Working Group was created by the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003 to develop a plan of action that will result in health care that works for all Americans. The plan will be developed after holding open meetings all across the country to receive input from the public about health care benefits and services, and how they should be paid for. When the plan is complete, five different committees of the U.S. Congress are required to hold hearings on the recommendations.

The community meeting will take place on April 19, 2006 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30

p.m. in Downtown Sacramento at The Grand, a meeting room located at 1215 "J" Street. The meeting will feature a short presentation on the health care system followed by focused discussions in small groups to share ideas on how to improve the health care system.

For more information on this meeting and the Citizen's Health Care Working Group you can call (301) 443-1521 or go to their website at "http://www.citizenshealthcare.gov"

ON THIS DATE IN APRIL

April 3, 1944 - U. S. Supreme Court strikes down Texas Democratic Party's "whites only" primary election system.

April 9, 1869 - Republican Ebenezer Bassett is the first African-American presidential appointment, as President Ulysses Grant's Minister to Haiti.

April 8, 1865 - 13th Amendment banning slavery passed by U. S. Senate with 100% Republican support, 63% Democrat opposition.

April 9, 1866 - Republican Congress overrides Democrat President Johnson's veto; Civil Rights Act of 1866, conferring rights of citizenship on African Americans, becomes law.

April 10, 1953 - Oveta Culp Hobby, appointed by President Eisenhower, confirmed as the first woman to be U. S. Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

April 16, 1862 - President Lincoln signs bill abolishing slavery in District of Columbia; in Congress, 99% of Republicans vote yes, 83% of Democrats vote no.

April 18, 1920 - Minnesota's first-in-nation anti-lynching law, promoted by African-American Republican Nellie Francis, is signed by Republican Governor Jacob Preus.

April 20, 1871 - Republican Congress enacts the Ku Klux Klan Act, outlawing Democratic Party-affiliated terrorist groups which oppressed African-Americans.

April 22, 1981 - President Ronald Reagan establishes first annual Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust.



The Honorable Roger Niello

New Approach to State Mandates Problem

By Assemblyman Roger Niello

Having served nearly a year and a half in the California State Assembly, many of my expectations about the institution have been realized, but one of the most striking is the aspect of the State Legislature being overly concerned with administrative detail. Rather than setting policy that focuses on the outcomes of the agencies involved, too often the legislature dictates operational detail. Bills have been written to tell Caltrans how much crumb rubber to put in their asphalt mixes, and to tell our schools how many pages should be in our kid's school books. But my biggest concern, as a former member of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, is when the state legislature directs procedure for those in local government who are already charged with providing the bulk of services to our citizens.

They're called state mandates, and while theoretically, there is a system in place to reimburse local agencies for the costs to comply with the mandates, the process can be painfully long and arduous to navigate. Often, it is years before a city or county ever sees a dime of reimbursement from the state for these state-imposed requirements, and many times the payment is never made. According to the Legislative Analyst, the backlog of unpaid non-education mandates currently stands at about \$1.1 billion.

According to the Commission on State Mandates, the concept of state reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for state mandated activities originated with the Property Tax Relief Act of 1972, known as SB 90. The primary purpose of the Act was to limit the ability of local agencies and school districts to levy taxes. To offset these limitations, the Legislature declared its

intent to reimburse local agencies and school districts for the costs of new programs or increased levels of service mandated by state government. When this process wasn't working so well on its own, the Commission on State Mandates was formed in 1985 to act as a quasi-judicial body to hear and decide test mandate claims from local governments who alleged that the state had imposed a financial obligation.

One problem is that ultimately, the legislature must approve the payment of the mandate claim in the budget each year, and in lean budgetary years, it has been easy for the legislature to decide to just not pay the claim. As a solution to this problem, Proposition 1A, passed by the voters in November of 2004, generally requires that the legislature pay for all mandates, or suspend or repeal that mandate for the coming fiscal year.

But some in the legislature have found an even more creative solution. Lately, a common practice is the removal of mandate identifying language in the legislation and instead, adding the assertion that a local government has "fee authority." Basically, it's a way for the legislature to tell local agencies to *go find the money yourself and do it through the imposition of new fees*. This fee authority disclaimer is attached so haphazardly however, that it is often unclear to local governments on whom this fee is expected to be levied and whether or not a "market" truly exists to recoup the expense of compliance.

In response to this new practice, I have introduced AB 2176, legislation that will require that any new legislation with these fee authority disclaimers to include an analysis of who it is they expect the fee to be levied on, and whether or not a market exists for the local government to recoup their costs of complying with the new law.

AB 2176 is not a comprehensive solution to the problem. Other legislators before me have tackled mandate reform on a grander scale, only to lose to the Legislature's institutional philosophy that Sacramento knows best.

Ideally, I believe the legislature should spend more time deciding what local agencies and school districts ought to accomplish and much less time dictating exactly how to do it. But since we can legislate anything a majority of us wants, we should at least take responsibility for the consequences of any micromanagement we hoist upon others. The State Legislature should pay for the costs of the mandates it places on local government.

CARL'S WASHINGTON (AND SACRAMENTO) BUZZ

by Carl Burton

"If the path to the White House is paved with money and political favors, then 2004 Democratic nominee Sen. John Kerry is on the fast track to repeat in 2008. We hear that his political action committee, Keeping America's Promise, will soon report raising \$1.1 million from 11,000 donors in the past three months. And Kerry will reveal that he gave over 60 percent of that to Democratic congressional candidates." Reports Taegan Goddard

California Congress of Republicans candidate Brian Bilbray Appears Headed back to Congress after winning the Republican nomination special election on April 11, a seat vacated by former Rep. "Duke" Cunningham. Bilbray will face off against the Democratic Party nomination Busby in the June Runoff

Orange County special election (April 11) saw California Congress of Republican candidate winning as we go to press. Assemblyman Tom Harman is running ahead of Diane Harkey by 39% to 38% of vote with the lone Democrat, public school teacher Larry Caballero, was in third place with nearly 24 percent of the vote. If one candidate gets more than 50 percent of the vote in the all-on-the-ballot format, that person wins outright. That prospect seemed increasingly less likely, however, as the results trickled in.

SACRAMENTO BEE EDITORIAL re: TOM DELAY

The Sacramento Bee published an editorial on April 6 called "Fall of the hammer - Tom DeLay leaves toxic legacy for GOP."

In response to their "toxic" editorial, I sent the following letter to the Bee:

Re "Fall of the hammer," editorial, April 6: The Bee condemns former Rep. Tom DeLay's ability to raise money and use it as power. I see no difference between DeLay and the Democrat leader, Rep. Nancy Pelosi. According to the Center for Responsive Politics, a nonprofit organization that tracks campaign finance data, DeLay raised \$2.9 million and Pelosi \$2.8 million. So if DeLay is "the Hammer" then Pelosi must be "The Hammer 2." Robert Evans, Sacramento

I urge all reader of the River City newsletter to write to the Sacramento Bee whenever you see any article or editorial that is clearly over the line.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
(Cont.)

I understand from third parties there seems to be some misinformation going abroad about how the Monterey County Republican Central Committee raises the (in excess of) \$400,000 I mentioned in my column last February.

The first falsehood is, “the guy who runs Monterey is a millionaire and he writes a big check” – not true.

The second falsehood is, “the guy who runs Monterey is a millionaire and he told his golfing buddies who are also millionaires to write big checks” – not true.

What the chairperson of Monterey did is, he signed up more than 400 individual Monterey residents who each pledge to write a check for \$1,000 a year.

I hope this clears up any misunderstandings.

THE BIG EASY AND YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK

It's amazing what you can learn with some simple division

Louisiana Senator, Mary Landrieu (D), is presently asking the Congress for \$250 BILLION to rebuild New Orleans.

Interesting number, what does it mean?

Well, if you are one of 484,674 residents of New Orleans (every man, woman, child), you each get \$516, 528.

Or, if you have one of the 188,251 homes in New Orleans, your home gets \$1,329,787.

Or, if you are a family of four, your family gets \$2,066,012.

Politicians in Washington, D.C., are all your calculators broken?

Maybe everyone should just flood their houses, then we can all be on the “big easy” street for the rest of our lives, and forget about working, and paying taxes and all that useless stuff.



CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE BRUCE MCPHERSON AT RIVER CITY

by Robert Evans

Last month Secretary of State Bruce McPherson addressed our members. Below are a few pictures from that meeting:



We welcomed Secretary McPherson, who spoke to us regarding the upcoming election and his (and his staff's) efforts to make sure the election is fair and that everybody who wants to vote will vote.



Republicans of River City welcomed Secretary McPherson and pledged to help the secretary in any way we can.



Bruce, Richard LaFontaine and Richard's daughter had the pleasure of meeting.

HAVE A LAUGH OR TWO

The Monks

A new young Monk arrives at the Monastery and as with all new Monks he is assigned to help the other Monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church. He notices, however, that all of the Monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new Monk goes to the head Abbott to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error, that error would be continued in all of the subsequent copies.

The head Monk says, “We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son.” So, he goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscript is held as archives in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years.

Hours go by and the young Monk gets worried and goes down stairs to look for the head Monk. He sees the head Monk there, banging his head against the wall and wailing, “We forgot the “R”! “We forgot the “R”! “We forgot the “R”!

The head Monk's forehead is all bloody and bruised and he is crying uncontrollably. The young Monk asks the old Abbot, “What's wrong, father?” With a choking voice, the old Abbot replies, “The word is CELEBRATE!”

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by Joshua L. Baker

In June of last summer the United States Supreme Court issued its decision in the much-talked about case *Kelo v. City of New London*. This landmark eminent domain decision arose from a city's use of its condemnation power to take privately owned real property to further a comprehensive redevelopment plan. The Court ultimately held that the city's taking and proposed disposition of the private property qualified as a "public use" within the meaning of the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution. This is the first of a three-part installment discussing the substance of this decision as well as the impact it may have on private property rights. This first installment provides a sketch of the decision and background of the case.

In 1998 the pharmaceutical company Pfizer began construction of a major new research facility on the outskirts of New London. Due to a long-declining tax base and shrinking population, New London formed a private development corporation to work under the control of the city and consider plans for the encouragement of new economic activities that could be brought in by the Pfizer project. The private company created a detailed development plan that was approved by the city and which authorized the corporation to acquire property in the neighborhood to be developed. At first the corporation offered to purchase all 115 lots within the neighborhood, but owners of 15 of the lots refused to sell to the corporation. One of these owners, who was the lead petitioner in the case, owned a small home within the development area. Despite the unwillingness of the property owners to give up their rights, New London chose to exercise its power of eminent domain to acquire the remaining holdout lots. The city did this by ordering the development corporation—a private entity acting as the city's agent—to condemn the 15 lots.

On appeal from a decision in favor of New London by the Connecticut Supreme Court, the United States Supreme Court was essentially faced with the issue of whether New London violated the state and federal constitutions when it used its power of eminent domain for the purpose of furthering economic development. In a 5-4 decision, the Court again found in favor of New London and held that the

city's taking and proposed disposition of the property qualified as a "public use" within the meaning of the Fifth Amendment to the federal Constitution. Justice Stevens, who wrote for the majority (Justices Kennedy, Souter, Ginsburg, and Breyer), justified the decision by stating that local governments should be afforded wide latitude in seizing property for land-use decisions of a local nature. Justice O'Connor, who wrote the principal dissent (joined by Chief Justice Rehnquist and Justices Scalia and Thomas), argued that the city's use of eminent domain was a reverse-Robin Hood because it took from the poor and gave to the rich. She warned that the majority's decision eliminates "any distinction between private and public use of property—and thereby effectively [deletes] the words 'for public use' from the Takings Clause of the Fifth Amendment."

Joshua L. Baker is an attorney with the Sacramento law firm of Downey Brand, LLP. Mr. Baker practices natural resources law, including oil and gas, water, land-use, and mining. He can be contacted at jbaker@downeybrand.com.

There is an elephant in our living room.

by Brian Villanueva

We've all seen the elephant. We all know it's there. And we're finally talking about it. After 12 years of stagnation, immigration is once again on the front page and around the water cooler. In 1994, the debate stalemated: one side crying "racism", the other blaming immigrants for "stealing American jobs", and neither actually doing anything.

This is not new though. The same debate raged when the Dutch, the Germans, the Italians and the Irish came here in the 19th century. The next generation of immigrants took jobs at the bottom of the socio-economic ladder. The people who previously had those jobs (often the last wave of immigrants) were always annoyed.

Different groups, but that status quo continues largely unaltered today. Hence, the 10 ton pachyderm in the living room.

Rather than get bogged down in that debate, here is a common-sense plan to rationalize our immigration policy:

1. Shut off the Valve. We must figure out how to control our borders. Put up a fence; triple the Border Patrol; do what is necessary. It's a basic national security issue. We need to know who is bringing what into our country and why.

2. Visa Reform. Waits for US visas run 10-20 years in many countries. Is it any wonder that many immigrants jump the fence? A law-abiding foreigner should be able to get a work visa in a reasonable time period. We can argue about how many should be issued. But if visas are fairly easy to obtain, foreign workers have less incentive to skirt the law.

3. Birthright Citizenship Limits. If you are a permanent resident or have been working legally in the United States for 5 years, your children born here should be US citizens. If you are here illegally, they should not. You don't get to become the parent of an American citizen (and therefore entitled to permanent legal residency) just because you gave birth on the north side of the Rio Grande.

4. Employer Sanctions. Our current I-9 form is a farce. The federal government must establish a system for employers to quickly verify a potential employee's work authorization. 99% of employers would gladly follow the law if given the tools to do so. The 1%, who persists in hiring illegal workers, should be punished criminally.

What do we do about the 12 million workers already here? If they don't go home to apply for a visa, they will risk being displaced by new (legal) visa holders the following year. What employer would risk hiring an illegal if a visa holder was available for similar pay?

This does not solve the infamous issue of "stealing of American jobs." We will still argue about declining wages for drywall installers and whether lettuce will really go to \$5 per head without foreign labor. However, at least we will know who is coming in to our country, where they are working, and whether they leave when they are supposed to.

Or we can all keep walking around the elephant.



GOVERNOR'S CORNER



Arnold Schwarzenegger

Governor Schwarzenegger Hosts Climate Action Summit, Announces Support for a Mandatory Reporting System and Market-Based System to Restrict Emissions

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger took the first steps to put the recommendations from the groundbreaking Climate Action Team Report into action, including supporting a system that requires large companies to report carbon emissions and a market-based system to restrict greenhouse emissions in California.

"We know we cannot reach targets to reduce greenhouse gases unless we measure our progress. So let's work together to create a mandatory reporting system for our carbon emissions," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "We know we cannot reduce emissions unless we have market-based solutions, like trading mechanisms, in addition to our regulatory solutions. So let's work together to create the world's best market-based system to limit and slash emissions."

Continuing his bold leadership on protecting California's environment, the Governor has embraced the broad framework of his Climate Action Team's strategies to achieve unprecedented emissions reduction targets, placing California at the forefront of the fight against global warming.

In June 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger signed Executive Order S-3-05, which established unprecedented targets in reducing greenhouse gases. The executive order directed CalEPA to lead a multi-agency effort to meet the targets and to report on the progress toward those goals every two years.

At today's summit, the Governor speech's was followed by two panels moderated by Schwarzenegger administration officials. The first panel

addressed "Regulation in a Market-Based Economy: How Do We Meet the Governor's Targets?" and the second panel was entitled "Technology Solutions to Reduce Climate Change Emissions and Improve our Economy." The Governor participated in one of the panel discussions to view presentations on potential market-based mechanisms.

The Governor has consistently shown leadership on climate change and the environment, including:

Fighting global warming: Putting California at the forefront in the fight against global warming, the Governor made history by signing an Executive Order setting groundbreaking goals with bold greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets to reduce emissions to 2000 levels in the next five years and to 1990 levels in 15 years.

Getting the dirtiest cars and buses off our streets: The Governor invested more than \$165 million to get gross polluters off our streets. This funding will reduce smog-forming oxides of nitrogen emissions by approximately 7,000 tons annually, equivalent to taking more than 700,000 cars off the road.

Implementing new car emissions standards: Working to clean California's air, the Governor implemented regulations toughening new car standards to reduce emissions by 30 percent in the next 10 years, cutting ozone-forming pollution by five tons per day by 2020 and drastically increasing fuel efficiency.

Promoting the clean power of the sun: To take advantage of the cleanest, most reliable energy source California has, the Governor developed the Million Solar Roofs Initiative to have 1 million solar roofs on residential and commercial buildings by 2018. The Public Utilities Commission has taken action to implementing this plan.

Launching the Breathe Easier campaign: In March of 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger launched the Breathe Easier public awareness campaign to help

educate Californians about the negative effects of vehicle pollution and encourage participation in the state's vehicle retirement program for gross polluters.

Promoting eco-friendly behavior in the workplace: To promote energy and water efficiency and encourage the practice of eco-friendly behaviors, the Governor signed an Executive Order creating the Green Building Initiative for both public and private buildings. This initiative sets goals to reduce electricity use and create more energy-efficient structures throughout the state.

Establishing the Sierra Nevada Conservancy: The Governor placed 25 million acres under conservation management in a region that produces 65 percent of the state's water supply and half of all timber.

Creating the Hydrogen Highway: Governor Schwarzenegger has led the nation in innovative ways to use renewable energy, including creating the Hydrogen Highway. As part of his Hydrogen Highway plan, the Governor invested \$6.5 million to support a network of more than 16 filling stations and a growing fleet of cars and buses that run on this clean fuel of the future.

The Climate Action Report and supporting documents can be viewed online at: www.climatechange.ca.gov.



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- Marko Mlikotin, Director
- Barbara Sullivan, Director

The President's Corner



Carl Burton, President of RRC

by Carl Burton

We have enclosed a copy of the "Transportation Funding Protection" initiative that will be on the November ballot if we help collect enough signatures.

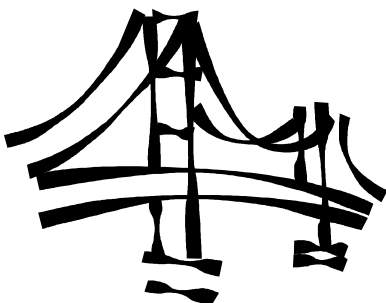
A provision in Proposition 42, passed by voters in 2002, allows the legislature and Governor to divert funds to non-transportation expenses during fiscal emergencies. Nearly \$2.5 billion in gas taxes have been diverted to non-transportation expenses since 2002. Governor Schwarzenegger made sure this year that all of the state gas tax money is being spent for transportation needs, but who knows how the next governor or state legislature will spend our money.

Today our roads are crumbling, our highways are clogged and the most hazardous corridors and bridges remain neglected. The transportation crisis is threatening our economy and the safety and quality of life of every Californian.

If this measure makes it to the voters this November and is passes, the sales taxes paid at the gas pump will used for transportation improvements only.

Bring your signed copy of the included initiative to our next meeting on April 21st or mail it to:

Republicans of River City
P. O. Box 1635
Carmichael, CA 95609-1635



ON THE BORDER WITH THE MINUTEMEN

by George Bradshaw

All of us have seen the illegal aliens crossing our porous national borders on TV and in our newspapers.

Minutemen are helping to dramatically cut back the number of illegal aliens flooding into our country. Minutemen volunteers have proved beyond any doubt that securing our border with Mexico is only a matter of manpower and political will.

After reading the news paper and watching Fox news about the problems we are having on the border with Mexico and lack of manpower for our border patrol, I became fed up with our governments unwillingness to protect our borders. Last October, I decided to volunteer to go to the border with the minutemen. I had a chance to personally make a difference in joining others to improve our national security and protect our national sovereignty.

Our October Border Watch was a huge success with a tremendous showing throughout the month. 300 people showed up in East San Diego County and manned border observation sites numbered after the original 13 US colonies.

The Minutemen and women I worked with on the border where Patriotic American., Retired Police Officers, Military Veterans and Veterans in wheel chairs. Grandmothers, and Hispanics who came to this country legally. None of these brave Americans looked like Vigilantes and in calling them Vigilantes is an insult to Patriotic Americans. None of them that I could see were prejudice. While I was on the border, we reported several Illegal Aliens crossing the border to the border patrol. The border patrol told us they were glad we were there and so did some ranchers.

We worked night operations and helped the border patrol agents apprehend drug runners by reporting their travel direction to the BP. At no time did we confront or detain the illegal's.

MARCH AND APRIL MUSTER IN CA. 2006

The old expression that "March comes in like a Lion" was never more evident for the end of March and beginning of April. As a freak winter storm dumped a record twelve inches of snow on the high desert and the Minuteman Corps CA was there to witness it. Fourteen hearty souls braved the elements and arrived over the course of three days muster to secure the southern border with Mexico. The challenge was not to stop illegal traffic, which the storm did a fairly good job of by itself, but more so to even get to the border fence or for that matter to get out of the campground. Let's just say there was a lot of bonding. The

Minutemen are now in their observation post and are cooperating greatly with the U. S. Border Patrol.

I'll have an update on the Minuteman Border Watch in the next news letter.



Would you be interested in placing an ad for your business, product or service in this newsletter?

The Republicans of River City newsletter is read by more than 750 Republicans and Republican policy supporters.

If you are interested in placing an ad in the Republicans of River City newsletter, contact Carl Burton at 916-359-5741 or send an email to editor@sacrrc.com.

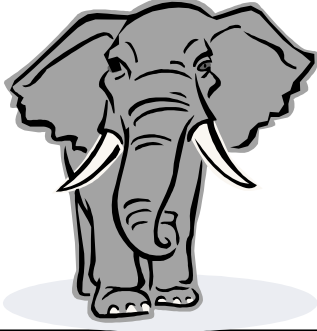
Carl will discuss ad rates and the terms and conditions of advertising in our newsletter with you. We look forward to helping you reach new customers with your ad.

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Telephone 359-5741

**Mindy Tucker-Fletcher, Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and Jeff Randle, President/CEO of Randle Communications, will address River City on April 18, 2006 in the Ose Room located at: Channel 6, KVIE
2595 Capitol Oaks Drive
Sacramento
The social hour starts at 6:00 PM and the general meeting starts at 7:00 PM.**



**Republicans of River City
P. O. Box 1635
Carmichael, CA 95609-1635**

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