



# Republicans of River City



Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

**IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO, PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES!**

**REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR A DISCUSSION OF  
HOW REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY CAN BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE ON**

**April 21, 2015 at Mimi's Restaurant, located at:**

**2029 Alta Arden Way**

**Sacramento, 95825**

**The social hour starts at 6:30 PM and the general meeting starts at 7:15 PM.**

## **REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

**By Carl Burton**

As part of our evaluation for 2015 -16 election cycle Republicans of River City will have the April meeting devoted to a discussion among our members and Republicans present on how the Republicans of River City volunteer club can become more effective in our community.

I will make a short presentation on what we have been doing. Then the floor will then be open for a discussion on what we can do better in fulfilling our goals of electing more Republicans to public office.

I want everyone to come and be eager to share your ideas on what our club can do to increase voter registration, recruit candidates for local and statewide offices and how we can increase voter turnout on election day.

PS. If you can't make the April meeting be sure and send us your ideas so they can be incorporated into future meetings to  
[carl@carlburton.com](mailto:carl@carlburton.com)



## **MAKING SURE YOUR VOTE COUNTS**

**By Carl Burton**

Last October at the UC Center in Sacramento, Sacramento County registrar of voters, Jill La Vine took part in a panel discussion dealing with voting by mail with Kim Alexander, President of the California Voter Foundation and UC Davis researcher Mindy Romero.

Voting by mail may be more convenient for a number of voters, but there is no statewide standard for how signatures are verified.

The conference was on why your vote may have not counted in the last election. First it was

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## VOTE COUNTS

pointed out that over 50% of California voters vote by mail.

But even when you take the time to fill out your ballot and mail it, that ballot could end up not being counted.

Up-to-date information shows that 2.9 percent of the vote-by-mail ballots cast in the June 2014 primary went uncounted. That amounts to 91,000 ballots. In the 2012 election, 1 percent of the mailed-in ballots went uncounted. That equated to 69,000 ballots.

The problem of uncounted mail-in ballots is particularly perplexing simply because far more than half of the electorate in California now chooses to vote by mail; 51 percent in November 2012, and 69 percent in June 2014.

The price of vote-by-mail ballots that do not get counted is larger in California than in any other state, says the Pew Center on the States' Election Functionality.

The reasons, according to a study that was released in September of 2014, for the majority of California ballot rejections are:

1. Nearly half of the ballots (48 percent) were discarded because they arrived late.

2. Almost one quarter (23 percent) were not counted because the signature did not match the signature on record for that voter. The rejected ballots came from either a rejected match to the existing voter registration record or from the Department of Motor Vehicles record. (The way this works in larger counties is first the ballot envelope is sent through an optical character recognition algorithm and if accepted the

ballot is counted; if rejected the ballot is sent to an operator for a visual check using either a computer screen or perhaps a signature card and if that operator thinks the signatures are close enough, the ballot is accepted and counted and if the operator thinks not close enough the ballot is rejected. In small counties, the check is by an operator who either brings the signature on file up on a computer screen or may look at a physical signature card to see if the ballot and the signature are a match.)

3. Failure to sign the ballot accounted for 17 percent of rejections.

Last year Gov. Brown signed into law Senate Bill 29 which states that ballots received up to three days after an election, if postmark on election day before the polls close, will be counted in all future elections.

But there is no standardized statewide computer system or manual signatures verification system in place. And current state law does not require counties to contact voters to inform them that their ballots were not counted.

Now that a majority of California voters use vote by mail ballots and it is increasing in use we need to make sure every vote is counted to help ensure confidence in our election process.

How to do this? First, if you registered several years (or many years) ago, and your signature has changed (mine sure has) re-register to make sure your signature on file is up to date. And, second, give your mail-in ballot envelope a second look to make sure you have signed it in the appropriate place. All Republican voters must make sure ALL our ballots are counted.

## SOMETIMES A YOUTUBE VIDEO IS INSTRUCTIVE

By Robert Evans

A YouTube video of a parent confrontinh a high school principal over the confiscation of his child's iPhone 6 is drawing rave reviews.

The daughter had her iPhone taken away because she had, like many adults, been paying more attention to her telephone than to her teachers.

The child was told she could have her telephone returned in a few weeks. She complained to her parent.

The parent went to the school and while complaining to the school principal also recorded the conversation. The principal told the parent that, according to the school handbook that is given to every student, the telephone is held to the end of the school quarter. The principal then offers the parent a "flip phone" that the child can use if the parent wants to contact the child in an emergency.

The parent continues to complain that he had paid for the iPhone 6 and insists he wants it given back to him. The principal says no, he can have the flip cell telephone and that the parent can have any rules he wants in his home regarding use of a cell telephone but will have to abide by the rules of the school on this issue.

Personally I agree with the school on this issue. Why the child needs an iPhone 6 (the latest Apple cell telephone) is never revealed and why the "flip phone" is not adequate for the child to use in an emergency is not good enough is also never expressed by the parent. Perhaps now the child will pay attention to the teachers and get good grades (right).

## DEAR SACRAMENTO COUNTY REPUBLICANS

By Carl Burton

Isn't it time for you to apply and become a member of one of many county board or commission openings in Sacramento County government.

You start the appointment process by visiting the Sacramento County web site at <http://www.sccob.saccounty.net> or you write to the Board Clerk (or visit their office at Sacramento County Administration Center, 700 H Street, Suite 2450, Sacramento, CA 95814).

Review the 70 page document that lists all of the board and commission positions in county government. You can find out the responsibilities of each board or commission and even attend one or two of their meetings in order to make a decision on the one you would like to join.

Set up an appointment with your county supervisor and discuss your background and your interest in serving the community.

Then fill out an application to apply. I know if you are appointed you will do a great job and sometime in the future it may lead to serving on a state board or commission. Or better yet, your entry into elective office.

## PROPOSED WATER MANDATES

The State Water Resources Control Board proposed a series of regulations that mandate water conservation. The mandate:

1. Requires urban water agencies statewide to reduce water usage by an average of 25 percent over 2013, with communities that use more water per person targeted for the heftiest cuts.
2. Prohibits landscape irrigation that causes runoff onto sidewalks and streets.
3. Prohibits landscape irrigation for 48 hours after rainfall.
4. Prohibits the use of potable water to wash down sidewalks and driveways.
5. Prohibits using a hose to wash cars and trucks unless the hose has a shut-off nozzle.
6. Prohibits irrigation outside newly constructed homes and buildings that is not delivered by drip or micro-spray systems.
7. Prohibits irrigation of ornamental landscape on public medians.
8. Prohibits restaurants from serving water unless customers ask.

## WHAT REPUBLICANS THINK OF HILLARY

By Robert Evans

Hillary isn't viewed as a particularly honest politician, but she is regarded as a strong electable leader

Perceptions of Hillary is narrowly in the positive direction: 51 percent of all respondents are favorable towards her, while 60 percent of Republicans have a very unfavorable view of Hillary.

Is Hillary honest? Two-thirds of Republicans say Hillary is not honest.

Is Hillary a strong leader? 42 percent of Republicans in this poll say she is a strong leader.

Hillary is viewed as qualified for the job of President. Among Republicans, 32 percent say she is qualified to be President while 60 percent say no, not qualified..

Finally, nearly two in three Americans surveyed say Hillary is likely to be elected. Among Republicans, 44 percent of poll respondents say she will be elected and 44 percent say she will not be elected in November 2016.

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**P**ublished by the  
**Republicans of  
River City:**

Volume 2015, Issue 4  
P. O. Box 1776  
Carmichael, CA 95609-1776

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SOME NEWS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED

By Robert Evans

“J. M. W. Turner: Painting Set Free”

At the DeYoung, San Francisco

June 20, 2015 – September 20, 2015

Herbst Exhibition Galleries

Joseph Mallord William Turner (1775–1851) was one of the greatest British artists of the nineteenth century. His paintings are revered for their spectacular effects of light and color, and have influenced generations of artists. His late work, created between 1835 and 1850, articulated a radical vision that was heedless of public reaction, and explored such themes as the

rise and fall of civilizations, the natural and industrial worlds, and religious and cultural mythology.

Bringing together more than sixty oil paintings and watercolors from a host of international lenders, J. M. W. Turner: Painting Set Free is the first major exhibition devoted to Turner’s achievements during his final period of productivity, when some of his most iconic works were created. Challenging myths, assumptions, and interpretations that have grown around his later work, this show reveals a painter distinguished by the broad scope of his knowledge and imagination, as well as his experimental techniques, processes, and use of materials. It will also provide the unique opportunity for San Francisco audiences to experience firsthand some of the masterpieces featured this year in Mike Leigh’s critically acclaimed film Mr. Turner (Sony Classics, 2014).

Highlights of the exhibition include such renowned works as Snow Storm—Steam-Boat off a Harbor’s Mouth (1842, Tate, London); The Burning of the Houses of Lords and Commons, October 16, 1834 (1834–1835, Philadelphia Museum of Art), alongside newly identified watercolors of a fire at the Tower of London in 1841 (Tate, London); and two paintings conceived as a pair but rarely united since their first exhibition in 1839, Ancient Rome; Agrippina Landing with the Ashes of Germanicus (1839, Tate, London) and Modern Rome—Campo Vaccino (1839, J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles). The show will conclude with the last works shown during Turner’s lifetime, a suite of paintings depicting the classical lovers Dido and Aeneas dating from 1850, the year of his last exhibits at the Royal Academy in London.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Your membership in Republicans of River City provides you a monthly newsletter, speakers, and an outstanding opportunity to meet your elected officials and California’s finest political strategists. River City is also a great way to network and make new friends.

I am a registered Republican and would like to join Republicans of River City.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yearly Membership:

\_\_\_\_\_ Regular Membership: enclosed is my check for \$25  
(Young Professionals 18-25 \$15 per person)

\_\_\_\_\_ Couples Membership: enclosed is our check for \$40

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check to: **Republicans of River City**  
**P. O. Box 1776,**  
**Carmichael, CA 95609-1776**