



Republicans of River City

Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans



If you have not already done so, please send a check for your dues. If there are changes in name and/or address please fill out the application on the back page.

Republicans of River City meeting for August is **CANCELLED**.

The board hopes you have a wonderful and restful August and we look forward to seeing you at our meeting on September 17.

PART TIME RECOVERY

By Carl Burton

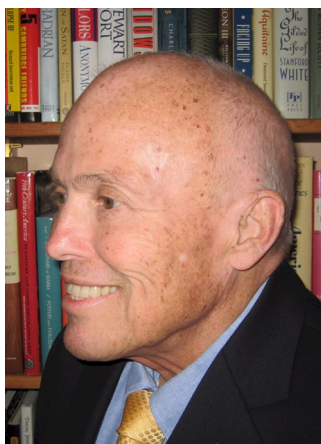
The July government employment report released last Friday showed that part time workers accounted for almost all the job growth that's been reported over the past six months.

I remember last month watching President Obama's Press Secretary Jay Carney deny that employers have begun to avoid full time employees and use more part time employees, due to Obamacare.

Even as the number of people working has grown by 2.2 million, or about 1.6% over the past year, the number clocking 30 or 34 hours a week has shrunk, while the number of people working 25-29 hours per week on their primary job has increased.

Could this be because the ObamaCare employer mandate applies only to full time workers, which by law is defined as 30 hours per week?

President Obama has been handing out waivers to people that he wants to reward, including unions, big business and people working for



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TIDBITS

By Robert Evans

According to the Department of Labor, in July, only 92,000 (35 percent) of the 266,000 jobs created were full-time.

Starting in 2016, Russia will charge NASA \$71 million to transport each American astronaut to the International Space Station. This is three times what Russia charged in 2006. So much for that "reset" of US Russian relations trumpeted by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

According to energy and environment writer James Taylor in an article for Forbes.com, President Obama's global warming plan will kill

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TIDBITS

hundreds of millions of birds and bats "while doing little if anything to reduce global temperatures." According to the study published in the Wildlife Society Bulletin, even if no new wind turbines are built, turbine blades will kill 14 million birds and bats during the next decade. Yet, according to a May article on Fox News, the Obama administration has never fined or prosecuted a wind farm for killing eagles and other protected bird species, although each death is a federal crime and the administration has prosecuted oil companies when birds drown in their waste pits and power companies when birds are electrocuted by their power lines.

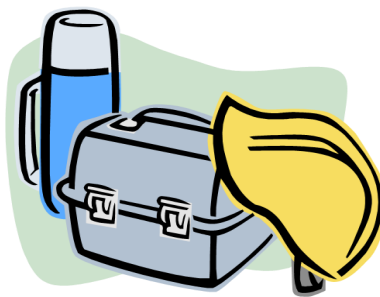
According to The Hollywood Reporter, since late last year major Hollywood studios have not been paid their share for high-grossing films in China, with the unpaid amounts running into tens of millions of dollars. The China Film Group stopped payments pending resolution of a dispute over a new 2 percent value-added tax. The Chinese want the studios to pay the tax, but the studios claim the payment would violate a World Trade Organization agreement reached last year by the United States and China.

According to the Pew Research Center, in 2012, 36 percent of young adults in the United States were living in their parents' home, which represents the highest share in at least four decades. A record total of 21.6 million Americans ages 18 to 31 were living in a home with one or both parents, up from 18.5 million in 2007. Among those 18 to 24, 56 percent were living in their parents' home. Males were more likely than females to live in their parents' home, 40 percent to 32 percent.

PART TIME RECOVERY

your local congressman.

In giving Congress a pass Obama is using a political ploy to protect the governing class (Congresswomen Pelosi and her friends Feinstein and Boxer) from a law they created, an unconscionable move in my opinion, and this from the administration that pushed this unpopular law called Obamacare upon the backs of the American people.



JOBS AND THE MINIMUM WAGE

By Carl Burton

Calculations by some economists indicate that 40 percent of American workers who receive minimum wage are earning less than they did in 1968 in real money terms do to inflation, making these workers eligible to receive food stamps.

Last week, a Friday Fox News one hour program on food stamps reported there are nearly four times the number of Americans receiving Food Stamps now than did so in 1979 at the height of the Carter recession.

Where do we go from here?

Most Democrats say the answer is simple; "increase the minimum wage." And although it might make life a bit better for some low paid workers for a short period of time, in the long range it would mean higher prices at retail stores and restaurants.

Raising the minimum wage will not solve our problems. It will only redistribute our problems and long range more Americans will lose their jobs, especially young people just entering the labor market.

What America needs is Economic Patriots. We need to return to an America where we actually have a free market system and everyone knows what the rules are we have to live under and where regulations and red tape are kept to a minimum.

Today, sadly, we have become a nation where we have literally millions of laws, rules and regulations and government control freaks (legislators and bureaucrats) seem to run everything.

Business doesn't need more rules, we need incentives for small businesses and corporations that will make them want to create more jobs, hire more workers and pay higher wages in America.

STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND TAXPAYERS FIRST; UNIONS LAST (PART 1)

By Matt Reed

"When schoolchildren start paying union dues, that's when I'll start representing the interests of schoolchildren." That quote has been widely attributed to union boss Al Shanker, who headed the United Federation of Teachers and the American Federation of Teachers for over three decades from 1964-1997.

While it's understandable that a teachers union would represent the interests of teachers, the control that unions have on education policy and election outcomes puts them in a uniquely

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powerful position. Unfortunately, teachers unions have stifled innovation and flexibility in our education system; they have let down our students, failed to reward good teachers while protecting bad ones, and done a disservice to American taxpayers. We deserve better.

Stanford University professor and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow, Terry Moe, found that on average, it takes two years, \$200,000, and 15% of a school principal's time to fire one bad teacher. As a result, 99% of teachers receive satisfactory evaluations. However, if just 5% of these teachers are ineffective, that means over two million schoolchildren nationwide are negatively affected. Seniority-based job choice also ensures that school districts remain inflexible, unable to send uniquely qualified teachers to areas where their talents match student needs.

Separate peer-reviewed studies in the American Journal of Political Science and the Quarterly Journal of Economics found that the impact of collective bargaining agreements on student achievement is negative—and parents have noticed that something's awry. The Washington Times reports

that 40% of public school teachers in big cities send their own children to non-unionized charter schools; they see the dysfunction and disappointment of unionized schools every day.

Former U.S. Secretary of Education, Rod Paige, has discussed the political power of teachers unions, noting they spend more than any other interest group to get their allies elected. The salaries, benefits, and pension plans that unions have negotiated on behalf of teachers have not benefited students. Despite more than doubling per-student education spending from \$4,060 in 1970 to \$9,266 in 2005 (in constant 2006-2007 U.S. dollars), National Assessment of Educational Progress test scores have remained stagnant over the last four decades.

Unfortunately, teachers unions are often detrimental to the very teachers they purport to protect. Because of the rigid collective bargaining agreements unions push through, talented young teachers—who should be looking forward to a rewarding career—live in constant fear of a pink slip.

Shortly after receiving the First Year Outstanding Teacher award by the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English, Megan Sampson was laid off because her union's collective bargaining agreement mandated that

teachers be let go based on reverse order of seniority, instead of merit. A school spokesperson confirmed that Sacramento's 2010 Teacher of the Year, Michele Apperson, was also laid off because she lacked seniority. Removing talented teachers from the classroom victimizes students, many of whom are falling behind in inner-city public schools.

As egregious as the teachers unions' impact on students and teachers is, taxpayers should be even more frustrated.

Because the collective bargaining agreement made it nearly impossible to fire a bad teacher in New York City, reassignment centers, or "Rubber Rooms," were created to allow ineffective or even potentially dangerous teachers to dwell indefinitely on the taxpayer doll, with no students in site (thankfully).

NYC teacher Alan Rosenfeld was accused of checking out and making lewd comments to an 8th grade girl, and because it was so hard to fire him, he spent over ten years—earning \$100,049 per year—sitting alone in a rubber room, working on his real estate business (which, by the way, had made him a multimillionaire). After confessing to repeated sexual harassment of his female students, Aryeh Eller—a New

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STUDENTS

York teacher who was protected by his union contract—was sent to the rubber room after just one year on the job. He spent thirteen years there, enjoying automatic salary increases, and “earning” over \$1 million.

American schools need more Megan Sampsons and Michele Appersons, and fewer Alan Rosenfelds and Aryeh Ellers. Students and taxpayers deserve educators that represent the best of who we are—not the worst of what the unions will protect.

As the union boss reminded us, the job of teachers unions is not to look out for students (or taxpayers)—it is to get as lavish of pay and benefits for their members as possible. Unfortunately, this costs taxpayers dearly.

DID YOU KNOW

By Robert Evans

If you have no life and/or nothing to do over the next, say, year, you can go on line and download from the U.S. House of Representatives U.S. Code, Title 26 (Internal Revenue Code). Reading the code reveals that our IRS leaders and employees may be in serious trouble:

- Section 7212 makes it a crime, punishable by up to three years in jail, for whoever corruptly impedes, or endeavors to obstruct or impede, the due administration of the tax law. The term "whoever" is not limited to taxpayers, but also includes IRS personnel. The IRS has always taken an expansive view of conduct that it sees as obstruction or impeding the due administration of the tax law.

- Section 6103, concerning disclosure and confidentiality of tax information, applies to officers and employees of the United States. Violation can result in both criminal and civil liability for government personnel.

The question that jumps into my mind is, will any IRS personnel be prosecuted?

Personally I don't think I'll hold my breath waiting.

Have fun reading the Internal Revenue Code.



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**
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