

Republicans of River City

Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

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Assemblyman Roger Niello

ASSEMBLYMAN NIELLO TO SPEAK

By Fred Hildebrand

Assemblyman Roger Niello will be our guest speaker at our next General Meeting on August 15th. The assemblyman has been a friend and staunch supporter of River City for years. We have endorsed him in his successful races for Sacramento County Supervisor and for the California State Assembly.

In fact, it was from River City's podium that he first announced his candidacy for the California State Assembly. That honor will long be remembered by Republicans of River City.

As a C.P.A., Roger brings unusual expertise to his office in the California State Assembly. Budget matters are his forte. He will discuss the recently-enacted budget as well as other important developments. Assemblyman Niello prefers inter-active presentations and will be happy to take our questions. Do not miss this opportunity.

As usual, we will begin with a Social Hour at 6:00 P.M., with the General Meeting starting promptly at 7:00 P.M. As always, we will meet at KVIE, Channel 6, in the Ose Room.

Assemblyman Roger Niello represents the 5th district in the California State Assembly, which includes the Sacramento County communities of Arden Arcade, Carmichael, the City of Citrus Heights, Fair Oaks, the City of Folsom, North Highlands, McClellan Park, Orangevale, Natomas, Sacramento and the Placer County community of Granite Bay.

Born in San Francisco, Roger has lived in Sacramento nearly all of his life. After graduating from Sacramento's Encina High School, Roger Niello attended the University of California at Berkeley for his undergraduate studies, then completed his graduate studies at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Roger worked as a Certified Public accountant until he joined his family's business at Niello Auto Group in 1974 and spent the next 25 years running retail automobile dealerships with his family partners.

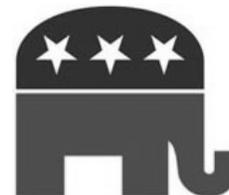
Roger was elected to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in a special election in February of 1999. He has

served Sacramento County in numerous capacities, serving on the Boards of the Criminal Justice Cabinet, Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, the Sacramento Transportation Authority (2002 Chair), the Sacramento Cable Commission, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA), the Sacramento County Water Agency, the Sacramento County Sanitation District, the Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District, the Regional Transit Board, the Sacramento Library Authority (2003 Chair), the Folsom-Sacramento-El Dorado Transportation Corridor Joint Powers Authority, the Sacramento Solid Waste Authority and the Yolo-Sacramento Port Commission.

He has served as President of the Sacramento, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of the Capital Area Political Action Committee. Prior to becoming an elected official, Roger was very active as a volunteer in the Sacramento community.

In the California State Assembly, Assemblyman Niello has been appointed Vice Chairman of the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee and has also been appointed to positions on the Assembly Budget and Transportation Committees, and served for a brief time on the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee. In addition, Assemblyman Niello was recently appointed to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. He was also recently appointed as a member of the Assembly Republican Caucus leadership team, being named a Republican Whip. His legislative priorities include infrastructure, including both transportation and water, and education.

He and his wife Mary reside in Fair Oaks. They have five adult children: Matthew, Eric, Kevin, Lisa, and Patrick.



VOTE ON THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY TAX FOR A NEW SPORTS ARENA

The board of Republicans of River City voted at their regular meeting on August 2, 2006 to place before the members of RRC the pro's and con's of the proposed Sacramento County sales tax increase of ¼ percent which is, among other things, to be used to build a new sports arena for the Sacramento Kings.

The board voted unanimously that the membership body take a position - support or oppose - on this additional tax.

At our regular membership meeting on August 15, fifteen minutes will be set aside for arguments from the Yes side and fifteen minutes from the No side.

Please come to this meeting prepared to ask questions and to take a vote on this proposed tax increase.



SOME SCENES FROM OUR JULY MEETING

Joe Shumate was our guest speaker at our General Meeting on July 18th and true to form, Joe gave us a insight into the upcoming general election that was invaluable.

Among other insights Joe gave us chapter and verse regarding how he views the outcome for the constitutional races (Governor Schwarzenegger in good position, others close) and how he thinks the

election will unfold over the next few months.

Here are a few pictures from our July meeting:



Joe addresses us



and tells us about his experiences with Russian President Boris Yelstin's reelection campaign in 1996. When he began that campaign Mr. Yelstin was behind and the Communist candidate was the odds on favorite to win. When Joe finished, Mr. Yelstin was the winner.



As you can see from this picture, our members were very interested in everything that Joe has to tell us that evening.

In addition to listening to Joe Shumate, Republicans of River City also celebrated the birthday of Governor Schwarzenegger.



Here you see much of the cake that Mary Pearson made for the celebration, and believe me it was a very good cake.

Speaking of Mary, here is a picture of Mary and her granddaughter. Both enjoyed the birthday party for Governor Schwarzenegger as did the rest of us. Thank you, Mary!



And finally, here is a picture of Joe Shumate, Carl Burton, Fred and Patty Hildebrand (as you know, Fred is our Speakers Chairman and he has brought us many quality speakers over the past several years; take a bow, Fred. You deserve a big round of applause from all the members of RRC!



DEBUNKING MYTHS ABOUT WHO IS IN PRISON IN CALIFORNIA

by Senator Chuck Poochigian

Over 85% of Inmates Convicted of Crimes against Persons, Serious and Violent Felonies, or Prior Felonies

“Prisoner rights advocates have argued that California's prison system is full of non-violent, non-serious offenders. An objective analysis of the system refutes that argument. California's prisons house some of the most dangerous felons in the nation, and any reform effort must acknowledge that fact.”

Opponents of California's correctional system argue that California's prisons are full of low-level felons, and drug addicts. Furthermore, they overlook the fact that with the advent of tougher sentences for repeat offenders, Californians are safer. Our crime rate dropped from the 4th highest in the nation in 1993 to 29th in the nation by 1999. Additionally, since 1999 our rate of incarceration per capita also dropped significantly.

This document looks at the prison population as it exists compared to the myths. It also breaks down our prison population to show that the vast majority are in for serious or violent crimes, crimes against the person, or crimes aggravated by prior felony convictions.

Breaking Down California's Prison Population:

For every 100 felonies reported, there are 40 adult arrests, leading to 28 convictions that result in only 5 offenders sent to prison. First time offenders are rarely sentenced to prison, except for violent crimes. 80% of all inmates have been convicted of felonies prior to their current commitment offense. 54% of all inmates have had three or more prior convictions, while 12% have 11 or more convictions. Overall, California prisoners have a greater number of prior criminal sentences than inmates in other states.

A 2005 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Census of California's prison inmate

population shows that at least 85.5% of male inmates were convicted of crimes against the person, serious or violent crimes, or crimes aggravated by prior felony convictions. Only 14.5% of offenders were committed for offenses which appear to be non-serious (theft crimes or possession of a controlled substance).

Low Level Commitment Offenses May Understate Criminal History

Approximately 23,000 or 14.5% of male inmates in California's state prisons are identified by a commitment offense of drug possession, commercial burglary, or theft offenses without a prior strike. While these are relatively low level offenses, the commitment offense does not necessarily tell the full picture. Commitment offenses are the offense the offender is in jail for at that point in time. However, a prisoner's sentence is a reflection of their current commitment offense which may also be affected by their past criminal history.

Understatement of Risk Example: Sex Offenders

It is important that any policy changes reflect on the entire criminal history of the offender before making decisions about treatment or community-based options. Commitment offense data on its face may understate the criminal history of the offender. Sex offenders are a good example. The 2005 CDCR report indicates that 14,000 male commitments are for sex offenses. However, the report also indicates that 21,000 inmates would be required to register as sex offenders when released. This means that there are at least 7,000 offenders whose current offense is a non-sex related crime but who have a prior history which includes one or more sex offenses. If the state adopted a policy change that releases so-called low level offenders without consideration of their prior criminal histories, the state could inadvertently release sex offenders back into our community.

Are Proposition 36-Eligible Offenders In State Prison?

It has been suggested that California's prisons are filled with as many as 23,000 Proposition 36-

eligible prisoners. However, given the limitations outlined in Proposition 36, it is unlikely this is the case.

Background:

Proposition 36 was passed in November, 2000 and allows first and second time felons convicted of drug possession the opportunity to receive substance abuse treatment instead of incarceration. Proposition 36 does not apply to felons convicted of drug sales, manufacturing, or possession with intent to sell.

California

Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation indicates that 14,325 prisoners are in state prison for the possession of controlled substances, considerably less than the 23,000 suggested (as of December 31, 2005, only 12,793 male prisoners and 1,532 female prisoners were in prison for the possession of a controlled substance). Moreover, few if any of these inmates are Proposition 36 eligible.

Proposition 36 was designed to ensure that only low level offenders enter the system and excluded felons convicted of drug possession if:

1. The offender committed another crime at the same time he or she was arrested for possession of controlled substances.
2. If the offender had a prior conviction for a serious or violent felony (a “strike”) within the last five years.
3. The felon had three or more possession convictions following the passage of Proposition 36.[i]
4. Individual offenders refused treatment.
5. A person on parole who commits a non-drug possession offense or who violates a non-drug-related condition of parole.

While the CDCR data does not indicate whether the 14,325 offenders fall within these five categories, it stands to reason there are few of the 14,325 inmates, if any, that are Proposition 36 eligible.

Real Data/Real Decisions

The bottom line is that the Legislature must ignore the rhetoric and look at the facts when assessing any prison reform proposal.

GOVERNOR'S CORNER



Arnold Schwarzenegger

GOVERNOR'S INVESTMENT IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION BUILDS OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS AND BUSINESSES

Governor Schwarzenegger visited Salinas High School in Monterey County to discuss the importance of Career Technical Education (CTE) classes for students preparing to enter the workforce and for California companies seeking highly skilled employees.

The Governor highlighted his significant investment in CTE classes and met students who have won national and international awards for projects completed as part of Salinas High School's CTE curriculum.

Governor Schwarzenegger restored funding to CTE classes, revitalizing training that makes high-paying jobs and college degrees possible for more California students.

• Funds for CTE courses in California schools were dramatically reduced in the 1980s and 90s. Recognizing that students and businesses both benefit from CTE, Governor Schwarzenegger reversed this trend, increasing ongoing funding for CTE by \$90 million—or 18 percent—since

taking office.

• The Governor's 2005-06 budget included \$20 million to expand and improve CTE courses at high schools, regional occupational centers and the California Community Colleges (CCCs). The budget specifically funded the "2+2" curriculum, a four-year educational track that provides participating students with their associate of arts degree or certificate in a career field.

The "2+2" focus has successfully improved participating students' success in completing CTE classes and finding jobs after graduation.

The Governor's 2006-07 budget includes an additional \$40 million for CTE equipment and improvements to CTE facilities in middle and high schools. It also includes \$20 million in funding grants for CCC to work with high schools to strengthen career tech programs.

CTE classes, also known as vocational education, have a longstanding and important role in America's K-12 and higher education curricula. Formal CTE coursework has existed since the 19th century, and today includes business and marketing, agricultural, nursing, industrial, culinary and high-tech classes that prepare students for careers and higher education.

The Governor's Strategic Growth Plan education bond will build and improve CTE facilities statewide.

• The Kindergarten-University Public Education Bond Act of 2006, the education portion of the Strategic Growth Plan, will—if approved by voters—authorize \$500 million in grants for new facilities construction and improvements to existing CTE classrooms.

Please go to Page 5, Col 1

FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS, CALL RRC MEMBER SAMUEL R JONES:

Samuel R. Jones
Agent
CA Insurance License #0E10314
An Independent Agent Representing Aflac



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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 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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GOVERNOR'S INVESTMENT IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Cont.)

- These improvements will benefit the more than 1.3 million California high school students who participate in CTE coursework every year.

Approximately 800 students are enrolled in CTE courses at Salinas High School, which is part of the Mission Trails Regional Occupation Program for Monterey County.

CTE classes provide California's businesses with skilled workers, improve student performance and help at-risk students graduate from high school and find a career.

- The California Manufacturers & Technology Association—which includes companies like Intel, Oracle and Verizon—has stated, “we need a technologically trained and highly capable workforce in order to compete in the 21st century global economy.”

- California's students deserve every opportunity to compete for jobs in key state industries. To achieve this, California is implementing an “industry cluster” approach to CTE classes, focusing coursework in skills needed by local industry.

Numerous studies show that CTE programs improve students' academic achievement, and especially benefit those considered at-risk or disadvantaged. CTE programs have been shown to increase graduation rates and college attendance and improve student earning power.

On the record: K-12 education funding in the Governor's 2006-07 budget

**Ongoing Initiatives
School Counselors for Grades 7 – 12**

- \$200 million in ongoing Proposition 98 funding to increase the number of school counselors that serve 7 – 12th grade students.

These funds will reduce the student-to-counselor ratio, bringing it to 500:1 in middle schools and 300:1 in high schools.

Physical Education Grants

\$40 million in Proposition 98 funding for ongoing grants to schools to hire new PE instructors. Grants of \$35,000 will be made available to approximately 1,100 schools serving K-8th grades.

Targeted Preschool Initiative

- \$100 million, pursuant to future legislation, to expand preschool opportunities to children and their families. This includes an increase of \$50 million in one-time funding to the Child Care Facilities Revolving Fund to address facility needs for preschool expansion.

The Governor intends that this expansion should also include quality reforms designed to promote family literacy.

K-12 High Speed Network

\$15.6 million to support the K-12 High Speed Network, providing high-speed, secure internet access to schools.

One-Time Initiatives

Physical Education Equipment One-Time Grants

Up to \$500 million in one-time Proposition 98 funding is available for the purchase of physical education equipment and supplies.

Instructional Materials One-Time Grants

\$100 million for the purchase of standards-aligned instructional materials, school and classroom library materials and one-time technology costs.

Individualized High School Exit Exam Administration and Preparation

- \$75.1 million for the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) Supplemental Instruction Program to provide additional instruction to

pupils who have failed or are at risk of failing the CAHSEE.

- \$5.5 million for school districts to purchase individual intervention materials for students who have failed or are at risk of failing the CAHSEE. These materials will include customized tools to help students and teachers target remediation efforts.

\$5.1 million to provide two additional administrations of the CAHSEE.

Mathematics Teacher Pilot Program

\$1.8 million from one-time Proposition 98 funding for a pilot program to improve the level of mathematics instruction in California by ensuring quality math instructors in secondary schools, and by encouraging upper-level college math majors to enter the teaching profession in school districts with the greatest need.

Mandate Payments

\$957 million to fund the ongoing cost of state mandated K-12 and Community College programs.

Additional Funding

After School Programs

\$428 million through Proposition 49 funding for comprehensive after school elementary and middle school programs statewide.

School Nutrition

- \$37.8 million in ongoing Proposition 98 funding is set aside to support an increase in the quality of foods served in the School Nutrition Program.

\$3 million in one-time current year Proposition 98 funding for School Breakfast Startup grants.

Oral Health Assessments for Kindergartners

- \$4.4 million for schools to administer a new requirement that children entering Kindergarten have oral health assessments.

GOVERNOR'S INVESTMENT IN CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION (Cont.)

The new requirement will ensure that children access needed dental care and promote good oral health.

Healthy Start

\$10 million for new Healthy Start planning and operations grants.

Williams Settlement

•The budget appropriates \$137 million towards the *Williams vs. California* lawsuit settlement, which helps ensure qualified teachers for every student, an end to shortened school calendars for some of the most over-crowded schools, clean and safe school facilities and up-to-date textbooks for each student in core subjects.

CONGRESSMAN DAN LUNGREN'S TOWN HALL MEETINGS

WHEN:

Wednesday, August 16th
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Galt City Hall
380 Civic Drive
Galt, CA 95632

Saturday, August 19th
10 am - Noon
Jackson Civic Center
33 Broadway
Jackson, CA 95642

Wednesday, August 23rd
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Fair Oaks Community Clubhouse
7997 California Avenue
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Republicans - show support for Dan's hard work and efforts on behalf of the people of Sacramento County, California and the Nation.

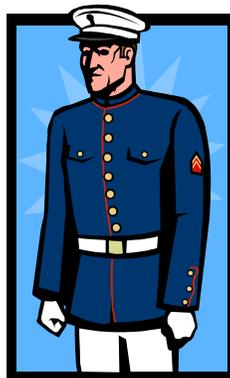
Please attend these Town Halls and show your support for Dan.

A MARINE'S STORY

A United States Marine was attending some college courses between assignments. He had completed missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. One of the courses had a professor who was an avowed atheist and a member of the ACLU.

One day the professor shocked the class when he came in. He looked to the ceiling and flatly stated, "God, if you are real, then I want you to knock me off this platform. I'll give you exactly 15 minutes." The lecture room fell silent. You could hear a pin drop. Ten minutes went by and the professor proclaimed, "Here I am God. I'm still waiting." It got down to the last couple of minutes when the Marine got out of his chair, went up to the professor, and cold-cocked him knocking him off the platform. The professor was out cold. The Marine went back to his seat and sat there, silently. The other students were shocked and stunned and sat there looking on in silence. The professor eventually came to, noticeably shaken, looked at the Marine and asked, "What the hell is the matter with you? Why did you do that?"

The Marine calmly replied, "God was too busy today protecting America's troops who are protecting your right to say stupid things - so He sent me."



ON THIS DATE IN AUGUST:

August 3, 1990 - President George H. W. Bush declares first National American Indian Heritage Month.

August 4, 1965 - Senate Republican Leader Everett Dirksen (R-IL) overcomes Democrat attempts to block 1965 Voting Rights Act; 94% of Republicans vote for landmark civil rights legislation, while 27% of Democrats oppose.

August 5, 1964 - Hispanic American Republican Lt. Everett Alvarez, USN, is shot down in Vietnam, becomes the first U. S. prisoner of North Vietnamese and the longest serving POW in U. S. history.

August 9, 1988 - Lauro Cavazos, the first Hispanic to serve in the ? Cabinet, is nominated by President Ronald Reagan to be Secretary of Education.

August 12, 1982 - Hispanic Republican Faith Evans, the first woman in the nation to serve as U. S. Marshal, is sworn in following appointment by President Ronald Reagan.

August 15, 1988 - President Ronald Reagan addresses the Republican National Convention: "Our Party speaks for human freedom, for the sweep of liberties that are at the core of our existence."

August 18, 1920 - Republican authored 19th Amendment, giving women the vote, becomes part of the Constitution; 26 of the 36 states to ratify had Republican controlled legislatures.

August 29, 1989 - U. S. Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL) becomes first Hispanic woman and first Cuban American in Congress.



Carl Burton, President of RRC

Absentee ballots will prove once again to be critical component in this year election of our Republican team members.

During the last election (2004) Republicans of River City bought and used a list of absentee voters from the county register of voters and in the races where candidates made use of the list they were able to win election.

Along with the County and State party we will secure a list of permanent absentee voters so they can be contact and ask to vote for our candidates for both local and statewide offices.

Next we will retrieve on a daily bases the names and address of voters who apply for an absentee ballot from the Sacramento County register of voters.

We will need volunteer phone callers to call both the permanent absentee voters and those individuals who will be out of town on November 7.

And we also may face the challenge from one or more of our candidates to help them mail information to absentee voters.

In order for our Republican team to succeed we need YOU (members Marian Higdon, Alice and Rob Saunders have already been making phone calls) to volunteer your leadership skills and your time and energy to help make telephone calls, become a precinct representative, register new voters, host a block party, help with a postcard campaign, have a lawn sign in your yard and/or write a letter to the newspaper.

The Victory '06 Headquarters are open and ready for you to volunteer. Sacramento Victory '06 Headquarters (Highway 50 & Watt Ave Headquarters) 8880 Cal Center Drive, #290, Sacramento, CA. 95826

Folsom Victory '06 Headquarters (Serving Amado, El Dorado and Eastern Sacramento Counties) 2545 East Bidwell Street, #140, Folsom, California 95630

If you can volunteer some of your time to help visit the web site <http://www.sacvictory06.com>

Or for more information, please contact me at (916) 485-5741

Carl Burton
Sacramento County Republican Victory '06 Chairman
PS. Your donation of \$25.00, \$50.00 or \$100.00 to Republicans of River City will help us pay for cost of Absentee Ballot file.

Would you like to contribute to the Republicans of River City newsletter? If so, let us know about it!

Send and email to us at editor@sacrrc.com



BE A VOLUNTEER FOR THE GOVERNOR

The election this November may be one of the most critical in the state in many years; we have on the Democrat side a committed liberal who would love to tax and spend like no one in living memory.

You can help. Volunteer to make telephone calls: visit the web site <http://www.sacvictory06.com> and sign up.

This is YOUR chance to make our state a better place; or this is your chance to help U-Haul empty their lots for all those people fleeing from the tax and spend Democrats.

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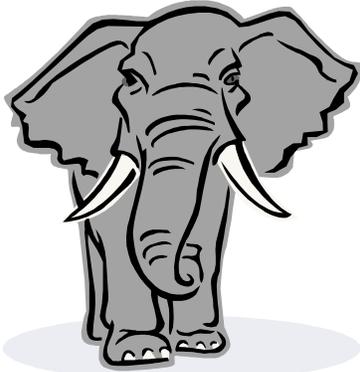
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Published by the
**Republicans of
River City:**

Volume 2006, Issue 8
P. O. Box 1635
Carmichael, CA 95609-1635

Editor: Robert S. Evans
Telephone 359-5741

Assemblyman Roger Niello
will address River City on August 15, 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.



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

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

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