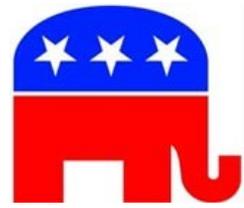


Republicans of River City



Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

Membership Expires:

THIS IS A FREE MEETING; YOU MAY PAY YOUR DUES AT THE DOOR!

**SENATOR GEORGE RUNNER COMES TO REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY
COME SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN JULY AT RIVER CITY**

July 21, 2009 in the Ose Room located at: Channel 6, KVIE

2030 West El Camino Drive

Sacramento, 95833

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



SENATOR RUNNER TO SPEAK

By Fred Hildebrand

Senator George Runner will address River City on July 21st. He previously served as Mayor of Lancaster and as a member of the California State Assembly. He is well known for authoring California's Jessica's Law and California Amber Alert. He is also known for being a member of the only wife-husband team of legislators in California – Sharon Runner served in the California State Assembly.

Now, Senator Runner has been obliged to turn to the people of California to further

some common sense provisions to strengthen voter integrity. He will fully discuss this current crusade. If you want to hear some practical requirements to safeguard the secret ballot you will not miss our meeting. He will take questions.

The River City General Meeting will convene at 7:15 P.M. at Channel 6, KVIE, on July 21st. A Social Hour will begin at 6:30 P.M. If voting integrity issues are of interest to you, this is your opportunity to hear an expert.

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GOVERNMENT HEALTH PLAN

by Robert Evans

The Democrats have proposed a small business surtax to pay for their health "plan."

An analysis by the non-partisan Tax Foundation says this plan will result in tax rates of over 50% for many small businesses.

Through this surtax, small business owners will be paying more than half of every dollar earned to the government.

This tax hurts small business owners and it threatens more than 28% of the private-sector workforce - the 33.5 million workers employed by small businesses.

What good is a health care reform plan if it puts people out of work?

SENATOR RUNNER (Cont.)

George Runner was elected to the State Senate in 2004 after serving in the State Assembly and as Mayor of Lancaster.

Along with his wife, former Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, George Runner authored California's Jessica's Law – creating one of the toughest and most comprehensive sex offender laws in the nation.

He also authored the well-known California Amber Alert, which has resulted in more than a hundred successful reunions of children with their parents.

Recently, Senator Runner introduced legislation that would strengthen the integrity of California's voting process by, among other provisions, requiring voters to show identification at voting polls. Unfortunately, the Democrat-controlled Legislature believes California's voting system is just fine as it opposed Runner's common-sense measure.

But Runner, not a man to take no for an answer, is taking the voter integrity measure to the June 2010 primary ballot to let the people decide. Known as Vote: Secure And Fair Elections Act (Vote SAFE Act), the ballot initiative will do the following: Extend the time that an absentee ballot of a U.S. Armed Forces member who is stationed outside of the United States can be counted by the county Registrar of Voters. Vote SAFE would allow 15 days after Election Day.

Runner will spearhead a grassroots organization with volunteers from many of

California's communities to begin gathering signatures in late June to qualify Vote SAFE for the ballot.

In the meantime, people can visit the Vote SAFE website at www.VoteSAFEnow.com.



BUDGET CRISIS FORCES US TO LOOK BEYOND GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS

By Assemblyman Roger Niello

California's budget situation is a shaky bridge with a weak foundation, distorted by structural deficit and buckling under ongoing obligations; just one crisis away from collapse. Enter the recent national financial meltdown.

Such was the backdrop as I sat through the testimony as a member of the Budget Conference Committee this past month. The writing should have been on the wall: deep cuts had to be made, priorities had to be set. Yet throughout the conference committee meetings, the conversation centered less on priorities, and more on "either government does it, or it doesn't get done. Members of the conference committee were wringing their hands at the thought of having to make budget cuts and scaling back the size of government.

This budgetary crisis has provided us with an opportunity to help people understand that we don't have to be so reliant on government. As this crisis has taught us, government can't be all things to all people. Surely, certain obligations are the province of government and a

safety net must exist, but I have always insisted that the private sector must play a strong role in any real recovery.

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend a conference on workforce development where I met Barry Hathaway, CEO of the STRIDE Center, (<http://stridecenter.org/>) located in the SF Bay Area.

The STRIDE Center is a computer training center with a steady focus on employment. STRIDE focuses on the importance of the goal at the end, the job itself, not abstract skills, but what employers are asking for as a pre-requisite to employment. So often the State funnels money into programs that tend to keep people on a perpetual runway... never taking off, never translating their skills into a lasting career.

For this reason, the employment-centric STRIDE Center model is compelling. It instills real skills for careers that are hiring right now. I left feeling optimistic about the ability of motivated community based organizations to help turn this economy around by training the jobless or underemployed for this new economy with good, high-paying jobs. Developing skill sets that not just anyone can do, providing real, transferable certificates. It is conceivable that organization such as STRIDE could connect with the State's CalWORKS program to transition those who are down on their luck into sustaining, fulfilling employment.

Community based organizations like STRIDE prove that it doesn't always have to be a choice between what government does and what is left undone.

IN MY OPINION:

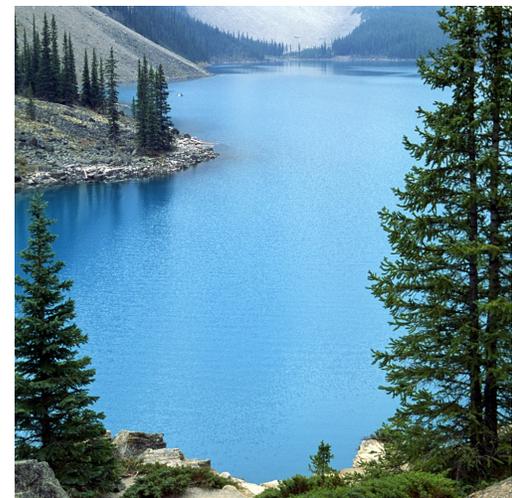
by Chris Angle

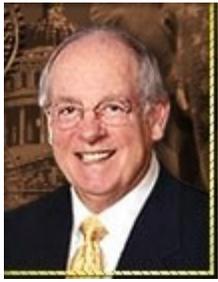
CALIFORNIA DREAMING

Despite the fact that California has been forced to issue IOU's to keep the lights on, it does not appear that certain factions have begun questioning or rethinking their views regarding the role of government and government spending. While California voters said 'no' to higher taxes in the special election held in May, these factions continue to pretend that the voters did not mean what they said (despite polls showing that the vast majority of Californians who did not bother to vote agreed with the outcome). While the Democrats have offered some spending cuts, they are still insisting on trying to paper over the underlying problem with tax increases, borrowing, and assorted accounting gimmicks. Meanwhile, Schwarzenegger and the Republicans are holding the line on spending and insisting that the Democrat-dominated legislature actually face-up to reality and do what needs to be done (i.e. balance the budget by cutting spending). The difficulty that Democrats are having engaging in what are effectively common sense fiscal practices is a testament to the dysfunction and fantasy world that some parts of the California political culture have become. Over the past 40 years that the Democrats have dominated the legislature, California has gone from being a model for the country (with a world class public education system) to a poster child for dysfunction (with decaying infrastructure and one of the worst public education systems in the country). Furthermore, this breakdown has

occurred at the same time that California has become one of the most heavily taxed states in the country. The fundamental reason for this seemingly contradictory outcome (heavy tax burden/sub-par public services), is that certain center-left factions do not appear to understand that government spending/activity is not subject to competition and the efficiency-inducing impacts of it. Consequently, an increase in government spending on a specific activity does not necessarily lead to an improved level of public service, as the money can often be diverted into various pet projects or initiatives that don't really add any value. While some government spending/regulation is necessary, many people forget that these activities play the same role that overhead expenses play for a business. Just as a business needs phone lines, electricity, computing power, etc. to effectively conduct the activities that eventually produce a good or a service, society needs roads, infrastructure, and a stable legal system to conduct commerce effectively. However, beyond some point, increased overhead spending no longer adds value to a business, and instead acts as a drag on profitability rather than helping the business to function more effectively. In California, the Democrats have spent the better part of their time in power adding to "overhead expense". Not only have they taken productive resources that might have been used to expand the economy and diverted them into areas of questionable societal utility (such as allowing some public employees to retire at 55), but they have also allowed state government to effectively become little more than a mechanism whereby the public employee unions and other

special interests extract tax dollars from Californians and funnel them into their own bank accounts. The result has been a California public sector that has more labor protections, more job security, better health benefits, and more generous pension benefits than are available in the private sector, while at the same time producing sub-par public services. Currently, Democrats appear to believe that requiring already highly-taxed Californians to pay more to protect public employees/special interests from the effects of the current economic downturn is a viable and fair policy prescription. However, such a position can rather be seen as an indication that they have been in power for too long. While a society can always tolerate some unproductive economic activity, there comes a point at which moving additional resources into unproductive activity is no longer a viable choice. California's public spending has been on an unsustainable path for a long time. California Democrats have yet to fully wake up to this reality.





SENATOR DAVE COX CAPITOL REPORT

As the Governor and legislative leaders continue to negotiate revisions

to the budget, the Senate took up a feel-good measure to help about 6 percent of gas stations that need regulatory relief to stay in business.

Assembly Bill 96 applies \$8 million to assist 120 gas stations, while over 2,000 stations actually need relief from the Air Resources Board requirement to change their nozzles.

The more comprehensive answer would have been to provide a one-year extension of the regulation.

Small businesses have not asked for financial help from our financially crippled state.

They are asking government to get out of the way so they can operate their businesses and keep their workers employed.

In spite of a bipartisan appeal to Members of the Senate, this measure passed after much lobbying by the Democrat leadership.

The measure now goes back to the Assembly for a final vote and is expected to move onto the Governor's desk.

It is my hope that he rejects this inadequate bill and provides leadership for a more complete solution.



SUMMER HEALTH TIPS

No matter what summertime activity you choose to participate in,

these hot days can take a toll on you physically as well as present some hidden dangers. Here are some tips on how you can manage the heat and keep cool during the dog days of summer.

Heat illnesses occur when the body's cooling mechanism becomes overloaded so - slow down. Regardless of your activity level, drink more fluids - your body needs water to prevent dehydration and stay away from liquids that contain caffeine, alcohol, or large amounts of sugar. Limit your outdoor activity to morning or evening hours when it is cooler outside.

Remember that heat stroke is a life-threatening situation and can

occur within 10-15 minutes of the first symptoms. Signs of heat stroke include: very high body temperature (above 103 degrees); hot, dry, red skin; no sweating; nausea; dizziness; confusion, disorientation, hallucinations; or loss of consciousness. Heat Stroke is a medical emergency - have someone call for immediate medical assistance while you begin cooling the victim. Get the person to a shaded area; cool him/her rapidly using whatever methods you can (immerse in a tub of cool water, place in a cold shower, spray with cool water from a garden hose); do not give fluids; if convulsions occur, keep the victim from injuring themselves; call the hospital emergency room for further instructions if medical assistance is delayed in responding.

DID YOU KNOW

Did you know you can now pay your River City dues on line?

It's easy. Just set your computer browser to REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY, click on JOIN, and fill out the form. Then click on the SUBMIT button and fill in the credit card information.

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THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Calls Legislature into Prop 58 Special Session, Issues Executive Order to Impose Three Furloughs per Month

Arnold Schwarzenegger

Following the legislature's inability to pass a comprehensive solution to solve California's entire \$24.3 billion deficit, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proclaimed a fiscal emergency and called a Proposition 58 legislative special session to address this emergency. Additionally, the Governor exercised his executive authority to save cash for vital state functions and services by ordering three furlough days every month.

"Though the legislature failed to solve our budget problem yesterday, rest assured that solving the entire deficit remains my first and only priority, and I will not rest until we get it done. I will not be a part of pushing this crisis down the road - the road stops here," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

Yesterday, the Governor followed through on his promise to veto any budget bills sent to him by the legislature that failed to solve for the entire deficit. Furthermore, the Governor today announced that he will not sign any legislation until a solution for the entire budget deficit is in place.

Beginning July 10, DPA will direct state offices to be closed the first, second and third Friday of every month through June 2010. This will require state employees to take unpaid furloughs on those Fridays. For employees who work

in critical positions that cannot be furloughed on this schedule, the furlough days can be used at another time. All state hospitals, prisons and other 24-hour care facilities will maintain normal hours of operation, as will the California Highway Patrol and CAL FIRE fire stations. A limited number of state offices also will remain open on these "furlough Fridays." A list of offices that will remain open is posted on the DPA website.

Under Proposition 58, the legislature has 45 days to pass and send a bill or bills to the Governor's desk addressing the state's budget crisis. If the 45 days pass and the legislature have not passed a bill or bills to address the problem, they cannot adjourn or act on other bills until the state's fiscal emergency is addressed. The Controller has said he will begin issuing IOUs instead of payments to state vendors tomorrow.

Just months after the Governor and state lawmakers came together in a bipartisan effort to solve a \$24 billion deficit, the worldwide economic slowdown produced a new multi-billion dollar deficit. To bring the budget back into balance, the Governor unveiled his May Revision budget proposal on May 14, 2009 including a mix of cuts, borrowing and other measures to solve the deficit. He further urged the legislature to take immediate action on the state's fiscal crisis when he addressed a joint session of the legislature on June 2, 2009, noting that even though the state would be forced to take unprecedented actions to bring the budget back into balance - the deficit would only get larger and the decisions more difficult as more time passed.

KNOWLEDGE OF EVERYTHING

By Robert Evans

The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma.

No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven times.

Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes or shark attacks.

Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty (50) years of age or older.

The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.

The King of Hearts is the only king without a moustache.

Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.

Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.

Most dust particles in your house are made from dead skin.

Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

Pearls melt in vinegar.

The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first Marlboro Man.

The three most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser in that order.

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs but, not downstairs.

A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.

So now you know (almost) everything!

SHOULD SACRAMENTO VOTERS VOTE-BY-MAIL?



Carl Burton, President

The Sacramento County Grand Jury, in May, issued a report on how elections are held in our county.

The report said that during the November general election period, members of the Grand Jury visited more than 100 precincts. They discussed with voter Registrar office personnel the cost of elections, the cost of voting by mail and vote-in person procedures.

In the November 2008 election 44.2 per cent of registered voters in the county chose to vote by mail as opposed to going to the polls. And I know as I register voters more and more voters sign up to vote by mail (VBM).

In the Grand Jury report it was noted that two of the least populated counties in the state, Alpine and Mariposa, voted entirely by mail. And of the 58 counties in California, 55 had more than 40% of their voters cast their ballots by mail.

The costs for statewide and national elections (June primary and November general) are borne by the counties, with cities, school districts and special districts paying a share depending on the number of their items on the ballot.

The Bee noted that "vote-by-mail systems are vulnerable to fraud."

Senator George Runner has an initiative that, if passed next June, would require provisional ballots and mail-in ballots be deemed invalid unless the accompanying envelope is marked with the last four digits of a citizen's California driver's license, state identification card or social security number. It prohibits citizens from voting at the polls unless they present a government

-issued photo-identification card. Ballots from absent military personnel are timely if postmarked by election day.

To sign Senator Runner' initiative or to pick up copies so your family members and friends can sign the initiative, come to this month' meeting of Republicans of River City.

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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