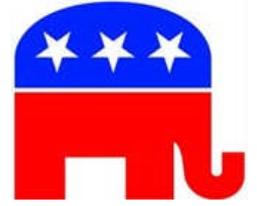


Republicans of River City



Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

Membership Expires:

THIS IS A FREE MEETING; WE WILL NOT COLLECT ANY MONEY AT THE DOOR!

**TOM ROSS COMES TO REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY
COME SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN MAY AT RIVER CITY
May 20, 2008 in the Ose Room located at: Channel 6, KVIE
2595 Capitol Oaks Drive
Sacramento**

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

TOM ROSS TO SPEAK

BY: Fred Hildebrand

Tom Ross will be our featured speaker at our next River City General Meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 20th. As is our custom, we will convene at 6:30 P.M. in the Ose Room at Channel 6, KVIE, (insert street address), for a Social Hour. The General Meeting will begin at 7:15 P.M.

Tom Ross is familiar to many River City members. He has addressed our group from time to time and wears several hats. At our next meeting he will appear as a Field Coordinator with Americans for Prosperity.



Tom is helping lead an effort that is encouraging the legislature and the Governor to pass a budget without raising taxes. Called Californians -- Already Taxed to the Max (ATM), the goal is to collect 15,000 signatures. He will be touring the state with a 15 foot inflatable ATM machine!

Tom is actually one of three partners in Meridian Pacific, a major political consulting firm. Partners Matt Rexroad and John Peschong are also familiar to many of us. John is currently in charge of Hawaii, Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona and New Mexico for the McCain Campaign. Matt Rexroad serves as a supervisor for Yolo County (having finished a stint as mayor of Woodland. All are very energetic and wear many hats. Tom will take questions. This is your opportunity get the answers you seek.

Please go to page 2, column 1.

LAST MONTH AT RIVER CITY

By Robert Evans

Republicans of River City invited the four announced candidates for Guy Houston's term out seat in the 15th Assembly District. Two of the four came before our members to explain why they should be the next member of the Republican caucus in the state Assembly.

The district includes the cities of Livermore, San Ramon, Alamo, Walnut Creek, Danville, Brentwood, Discovery Bay, and a part of Pleasanton, as well as portions of the Sacramento Delta communities of Stockton, Galt, and Elk Grove. Voter registration is 38.82 percent Republican, 38.72 percent Democrat and 18.68 percent Decline to State, which makes it a competitive district and no longer a safe seat.

Please go to page 2, column 2.

TOM ROSS TO SPEAK

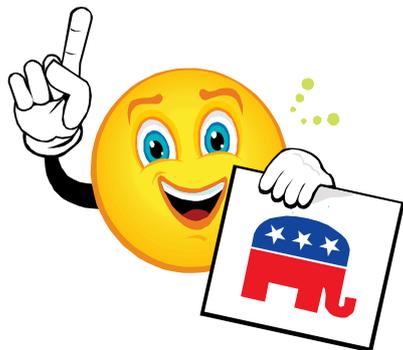
Tom Ross is a partner at Meridian Pacific, Inc.

With more than 15 years of combined legislative, political and public relations experience, Tom has transformed his status as a skilled Republican operative into one of California’s leading political strategists. He specializes in coalition building, campaign and issue management, creative development and strategic planning.

Prior to becoming a partner at Meridian Pacific, Tom ran his own successful political consulting firm that helped steer a statewide voting modernization bond to victory as well as defeating an anti-business ballot measure in San Francisco. Simultaneously, he successfully managed several local and regional campaigns.

While at Meridian Pacific, he’s been responsible for major statewide coalition building efforts for numerous propositions, developing winning strategies for local ballot measures and coordinating message development for pro-business issues. He continues to work with federal, state and local candidates.

Tom is a graduate of Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. He and his wife Shannon live in Sacramento with their two daughters, Fiona and Amelia.



LAST MONTH AT RIVER CITY

The two candidates who spoke to our members were Judy Lloyd, who co-owns Altamont Solutions, a Pleasanton-based custom software company and Robert Rao, a Livermore rancher and businessman.

Judy Lloyd said she would fight to ensure our tax dollars are spent wisely and that our state government lives within its means. She said she will only vote for balanced budgets. In addition, Judy said she’d demand every student learn to read, write, speak English and do basic math before they graduate and that school should be free of crime, drugs, and gangs while holding everyone in the education system accountable. Principals and school administrators need to prove they can lead and get results. She plans to continue the effort of Assembly Members Lynne Leach and Guy Houston’s multi-year effort to fight for fair funding for the schools in the 15th. She has a plan to get the transportation dollars the 15th needs to end gridlock. Judy said she wants to secure the border, get more law enforcement services for the district, encourage innovation and small business by fighting against attempts to over regulate technology and small businesses and will uphold the Reagan legacy and restore fiscal discipline in California.

Robert Rao said he will work to stop spending and cut the waste out of government by balancing the budget, cut wasteful, pork-barrel spending, focus on priorities, including highways, public safety, schools, and a secure border without tax increases. To accomplish all this, he wants the legislature to justify spending and to require every government program to be audited for efficiency and effectiveness in order to end programs that provide little or no benefit to taxpayers. He opposes raising taxes and wants legislators to exercise fiscal restraint. Robert also

wants to improve education by eliminating complex, conflicting or obsolete laws, to strengthen local control and to require the State to provide full funding for any additional mandates it puts on local schools and to retain English as the primary language of the State. As a businessman, Robert said small businesses are under constant threat of increased taxes and fees, predatory lawsuits, and bureaucratic regulations. He will oppose raising taxes, end lawsuit abuse, end red tape and reduce regulations and protect and further Governor Schwarzenegger’s Workers’ Compensation reforms. Finally, Robert spoke about transportation, where he wants to fix Highway 4, end the gridlock at the 580/680 interchange, extend Vasco Road to four lanes with a solid barrier the full length, extend BART into Livermore and Brentwood and improve and widen the C Street overpass in Galt.

Mayor Abram Wilson and Dr. Scott Kamena did not attend our meeting.

At the close of the meeting, it was moved and seconded to endorse Judy Lloyd for the 15th Assembly seat. The members attending voted unanimously to endorse Judy.

HERE ARE SOME STATISTICS THAT YOU MAY NOT HAVE SEEN

By Robert Evans

U.S. Active Duty Military Deaths, by cause of death:

2001
Total: 891; Accident: 437; Hostile Action: 3; Homicide: 49; Illness: 185; Self Inflicted: 140; Terrorist Attack: 55; Undetermined: 22.

2006
Total: 1,858; Accident: 465; Hostile Action: 753; Homicide: 30; Illness: 205; Self Inflicted: 155; Terrorist Attack: 0; Undetermined: 250.

IN MY OPINION:

RESTORING PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

by Christopher Angle

On June 3, the voters in California will go to the polls and cast a vote as to whether or not to restore private property rights in this state.

This issue is far more important than who will be the next President, because it goes to the heart of what America is all about. Since the infamous Kelo v. City of New London decision, the private property owner has been at the mercy of local political winds, as to whether or not his property would be able to be obtained by another private entity through government coercion. Prior to Kelo, the government’s power of eminent domain could only be used to take property for public use such as roads, libraries, etc.

The idea that government can seize private property for the benefit of politically connected people echoes of feudalism, where the peasants were at the mercy of the lords.

After the Kelo decision, government (local, state, and federal) has become the lord who can take your property and give it to various supporters. The fact that the government must give the property owner some compensation does not mitigate the fact that one can be forced to give up property involuntarily. This does not even take into account the fact that government compensation can often fall below the true market value of the property.

The fact that government uses eminent domain to clear up blighted areas and provide other benefits is not the point. Government decisions always provide benefits to somebody. The question is whether or not we want government to have

the power to force private citizens to part with their property involuntarily for something other true public purposes.

It is clear that the California Legislature will not do its duty and correct this problem. Proposition 98, “The California Property Owners & Farmland Protection Act”, deserves your support.

(Editor Note: Republicans of River City has endorsed Prop 98.)



IN MEMORIUM TO VIOLET MOBERLY

By Robert Evans

Violet Moberly

Last month, our “raffle lady” Violet Moberly passed away after suffering a massive stoke at her home.

We all loved and, more importantly, we all respected Vi for her commitment to this Nation, this State, and to Republicans of River City.

We could ALWAYS count on Vi to come to our meetings, prepared, and willing to do whatever was needed to make the meetings a success. I know that all of our members will miss Vi. She was, not to put too fine a point on it, a GREAT GAL.

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.

HAVE A LAUGH

THE LAST OF DISORDER IN THE COURT

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All my autopsies are performed on dead people. Would you like to rephrase that?

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 p.m.

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: No, he was sitting on the table wondering why I was doing an autopsy on him!

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law!

**SOLAR ENERGY FIRMS
LEAVE WASTE BEHIND IN
CHINA (PART 3)**

**By Ariana Eunjung Cha
Washington Post Foreign Service
Sunday, March 9, 2008**

In 2005, when residents of Li's village, Shiniu, heard that a new solar energy company would be building a factory nearby, they celebrated.

The impoverished farming community of roughly 2,300, near the eastern end of the Silk Road, had been left behind during China's recent boom. In a country where the average wage in some areas has climbed to \$200 a month, many of the village's residents make just \$200 a year. They had high hopes their new neighbor would jump-start the local economy and help transform the area into an industrial hub.

The Luoyang Zhonggui factory grew out of an effort by a national research institute to improve on a 50-year-old polysilicon refining technology pioneered by Germany's Siemens. Concerned about intellectual property issues, Siemens has held off on selling its technology to the Chinese. So the Chinese have tried to create their own.

Last year, the Luoyang Zhonggui factory was estimated to have produced less than 300 tons of polysilicon, but it aims to increase that tenfold this year -- making it

China's largest operating plant. It is a key supplier to Suntech Power Holdings, a solar panel company whose founder Shi Zhengrong recently topped the list of the richest people in China.

Made from the Earth's most abundant substance -- sand -- polysilicon is tricky to manufacture. It requires huge amounts of energy, and even a small misstep in the production can introduce impurities and ruin an entire batch. The other main challenge is dealing with the waste. For each ton of polysilicon produced, the process generates at least four tons of silicon tetrachloride liquid waste.

When exposed to humid air, silicon tetrachloride transforms into acids and poisonous hydrogen chloride gas, which can make people who breathe the air dizzy and can make their chests contract.

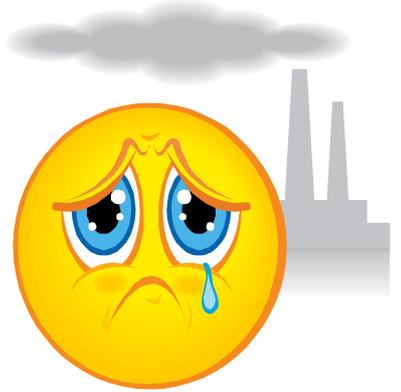
While it typically takes companies two years to get a polysilicon factory up and running properly, many Chinese companies are trying to do it in half that time or less, said Richard Winegarner, president of Sage Concepts, a California-based consulting firm.

As a result, Ren of Hebei Industrial University said, some Chinese plants are stockpiling the hazardous substances in the hopes that they can figure out a way to dispose of it later: "I know these factories began to store

silicon tetrachloride in drums two years ago."

Pro-EnerTech's Shi says other companies -- including Luoyang Zhonggui -- are just dumping wherever they can.

To be continued.



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THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

EXCERPTS OF GOV. SCHWARZENEGGER'S PREPARED REMARKS AT MAY REVISION PRESS CONFERENCE

Arnold Schwarzenegger

"Today I am presenting the Legislature with my revised budget proposal for fiscal year 2008-09." ... "As everyone knows, we are facing an extremely tough budget year."

"With the sub-prime mortgage crisis and the stalled national economy, our revenues have flattened out. And because of our dysfunctional budget system, spending goes up no matter what." ... "On top of that, we don't have a Rainy Day Fund to soften the blow in down years like this one. So, when I proposed my 2008-09 budget in January, we were facing a \$14.5 billion deficit. Had we not done anything about it, with the economy continuing to decline, the deficit would now be \$24.3 billion." ... "I declared a fiscal emergency and the Legislature did a great job making cuts in a special session. But the problem we face today is still \$17.2 billion, so our crisis is real and it is very serious."

"Now, the other thing you will recall about my January budget proposal is that I included 10 percent across-the-board cuts to balance the books. But as the deficit grew, I knew we could not solve this crisis by cuts alone. I said we had to get creative and find new revenues, without raising taxes and I will explain in a moment exactly how we did that. In the meantime, I also traveled up and down the state to shine a spotlight on the need for budget reform and to hear about the people's ideas and concerns. Because the cold, hard truth is we cannot continue to run our state like this, where there is no

connection between revenues and expenditures." ... "And there was no mistaking what I heard time and time again. It was loud and clear. The people of California want us to live within our means, just as they must in their businesses and families.

"My May Revision reflects some of those concerns. For starters, I am very happy to say that the budget I am releasing today fully funds Proposition 98, at \$56.8 billion, which allows us to raise per pupil spending for the 5th year in a row. This budget also keeps our state parks open. And it does not release inmates early." ... "And once again, also for the 5th year in a row, it holds the line on taxes. By calling for a constitutionally required Rainy Day Fund, it also fixes the systemic problems that are so damaging to our state and our people."

"Now, the critical element to making this budget work, now and into the future, is budget reform. As you all know, over time our revenues grow at a very healthy rate. Over the last decade, for instance, revenues have increased an average of 5 % per year. But in one of those years, revenues shot up 23 percent. Then they went flat. Another year, they grew 14 percent. Then flat again this year. No other big state has such volatile up-and-down revenues. But this roller-coaster revenue problem has a simple solution: If we save money during the above-average years, we will have enough money for the below-average years." ... "The Rainy Day Fund I first called for in January would stop Sacramento from spending all the money that comes in when revenues spike. And when our revenues fall below a rolling 10-year-average we would use the Rainy Day Funds to smooth out revenues, so we would not have to make severe cuts in programs. If this reform had been enacted in 1998, we would not be facing such a massive budget problem today."

"Future governors and Legislatures may still face tough choices, but with a Rainy Day Fund, they should never be this extreme. And Sacramento would not have been able to use one-time spikes in revenues to pump up so many permanent programs.

"But what about this year? We don't even have a mandatory Rainy Day Fund yet, let alone money in it to avoid deep cuts. This is where the California Lottery comes in. We chose the Lottery because it has been an under-performing asset. So we will modernize the Lottery and go to voters in November, asking them to approve both a constitutional amendment establishing the Rainy Day Fund and plans to securitize future Lottery revenues." ... "We believe that would generate \$15 billion over three years, all of which would flow into the new Rainy Day Fund. And from there, the money would be drawn down into the General Fund to stabilize revenues for the 2008-09 budget. Of course, we would do this in a way so education would still get its current level of Lottery proceeds. That allows us to be in the black fully fund Proposition 98 and make other modifications from our January proposal." ... "We are confident that our plan will work. But to be extra prudent, I am also proposing a one-time fail-safe mechanism. An insurance policy we hope to never use. If revenues fall short, or if this doesn't get approved by voters in November, a one-time trigger would temporarily increase the state sales tax by one percent." ... "But in the unlikely event that the trigger is pulled, the tax would be temporary. This is very similar to something former Governor George Deukmejian used in 1983, when he also faced an economic slowdown. And the good thing about this is that after the tax increase ends the money automatically gets rebated to taxpayers."



Carl Burton, President

WHY I'M A REPUBLICAN

By Carl Burton

There have been many excellent descriptions of the Republican philosophy.

From my point of view, however, the Republican philosophy is exemplified by one word: FREEDOM.

I became a Republican at an early age because the Republican Party believes that individual liberty is the hallmark of the American success story.

The freedom of each American to make their own decisions, and to live their own lives, relatively free from governmental or other interference, has caused the United States to become a beacon of hope around the world.

We are so blessed that we sometimes forget what others have suffered, and continue to suffer, in oppressive regimes around the world. In the words of Margaret Thatcher, "Those who know socialism best like it least." We, fortunately, have been spared the more severe strains of such tyrannies.

But socialism and progressive thought generally, sing a siren song that many find difficult to resist. "Helping others" or "helping the little man" are the benign faces often put on progressive ideas by

Democrats. These laudable goals, of course, are fine.

It is the means employed which cause trouble. The means employed are, too often, excessive governmental taxation, governmental control, and plain coercion. It seems, at times, that our friends on the left want virtually every aspect of human life to be either performed by the government or controlled by the government.

This, to put it mildly, is not consistent with the individual liberties our Founding Fathers enshrined in our Constitution.

I know you agree with me because that's why you're a member 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.

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Signature _____

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