

# 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!

ASSEMBLYMAN ROGER NIELLO COMES TO REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY COME SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN AUGUST AT RIVER CITY August 17, 2010 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.



# ASSEMBLYMAN ROGER NIELLO TO SPEAK:

#### By Fred Hildebrand

Assemblyman Roger Niello will be our featured speaker at our next General Meeting, scheduled for August 17th, 2010. In the past, he has addressed our group on numerous occasions, always with humility, humor and insightfulness. In fact, in his first run for public office, he announced his candidacy from our podium, just as the late Senator Dave Cox did before him. We have been honored that Roger

has announced his subsequent successful campaigns at River City General Meetings. Since Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has called for a November 2nd, 2010 Primary Election to fill the vacant seat of our beloved late Senator Dave Cox, we will await Assemblyman Roger Niello's presentation with great anticipation.

As usual, we will meet on August 17th at Channel 6, KVIE, at 6:30 P. M. for a Social Hour. We will commence our General Meeting promptly at 7:15 P.M. There is no charge. All Republicans are welcome.

Born in San Francisco, Assemblyman Roger Niello has lived in Sacramento nearly all of his life. After graduating from Sacramento's Encina High School, Roger attended the University of California at Berkeley for his undergraduate studies, then (Please Go To Pg. 1)

#### Col. Ed Gorre To Speak

#### By Fred Hildebrand

As one of our most outstanding and loyal members, Col Ed Gorre will provide us with insight and intimate familiarity with the present nominee for the position of the Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court. She is his niece, Tani Gorre Cantil-Sakauye, an associate justice for the 3rd District Court of Appeal.

When Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger nominated her at the behest of the present Chief Justice Ron George, the colonel, his family and all his friends were absolutely thrilled. And proud!

It will be interesting to hear a family take on the next California Supreme Court Chief Justice! And, at River City.

### **ROGER NIELLO (Cont.)**

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.

In 1995, Roger served as the President of the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, and was a member of the Capital Area Political Action Committee. As a member of the community, he was an active volunteer.

Roger was elected to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors in a special election in February of 1999. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, he served Sacramento County on numerous boards and commissions.

In 2004, Roger was elected to the California State Assembly and was immediately appointed Vice Chair of the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee and also served in positions on the Assembly Budget, and Transportation Committees. In addition, he served for a brief time on the Assembly Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. In late 2006, Roger was named vice-chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, and served as the key negotiator on budget issues for the Assembly Republican Caucus.

Since being reelected to a third and final term in the Assembly, Niello now serves on the Transportation, Insurance, and Business and Professions Committees as well as the Joint Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security and the Select Committee on Foster Care. Additionally he is Vice-Chair of the Banking Committee.

Among Assemblyman Niello's legislative accomplishments include legislation to allow individuals to remove racially charged language from a homeowner's CC&Rs, a measure to assist local governments in cracking down on illegal dumping, and a bill to ban the unscrupulous practice of "triple-dipping" by county retired annuitants who are collecting unemployment in addition to retirement pension benefits. In addition, Assemblyman Niello's legislation to authorize the state to participate in Public Private Partnerships for infrastructure projects provided a

template for the language in the most recent budget agreement.

Additionally, Assemblyman Niello has introduced legislation to bring about innovative reforms to our method of contracting public infrastructure, as well as measures intended to alleviate the burden of unfunded mandates the state places on local government. Other notable legislative efforts include an overhaul of the state's unclaimed property program, which would return unclaimed property to its rightful owners in a timely manner and provide interest payments on property held by the state, as well as legislation transferring the responsibility for writing initiative ballot titles from the partisan Attorney General's office to the non-partisan Legislative Analyst's Office.

Assemblyman 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.

Roger and his wife Mary reside in Fair Oaks. They have five adult children and four grandchildren.

#### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT:

Pollster John Zogby of Zogby International, in a Newsmax. Interview, made the following points:

"What this most recent poll shows is not only an 8-point [GOP] lead in what we call the congressional generic, but Republicans moving up to 46, Democrats slipping down to 38. That's an ominous number for Democrats, and time is running out."

Conservatives aren't the only ones unhappy with the president's job performance. Liberals are complaining he has been too moderate in his reforms. So Obama's policies do not "seem to have really pleased anyone,"

Democratic Sen. Barbara Boxer is in "a danger zone" in her California's Senate showdown against GOP challenger Carly Fiorina. Boxer is winning about 45 percent of the vote in recent polls. But Zogby points out that Fiorina is a well known figure in California as well, and she is only getting about 41 percent of the projected vote. "Generally the challenger does win in a circumstance like that, but Fiorina is going to have to do some heavy campaigning," Zogby says. "She has that mixed blessing of having gotten some tea party support in that effort to defeat Barbara Boxer.

California is not a tea party state."

Long-term GOP prospects for attracting Hispanic voters aren't bright. "When Republicans push on illegal immigrants, that is defined by Hispanic voters as anti-immigrant and therefore anti-Hispanic."

Republicans must be wary that their alliance with grass-roots conservatives doesn't alienate moderates. "The Tea Party appears to be strident, there's a lot of anger out there," says Zogby. "And if Republican candidates tilt too far towards the tea party, the shrillness of some of what the tea party is calling for -- for example, repeal of the 14th Amendment. It may sound good to the base, but it's the sort of thing that really worries the moderate elements that are really looking for problem solving, not problem creating."

Arab approval of the United States, which improved in the months following President Obama's election, has plummeted. "Almost all of that progress is gone and we've reverted back to the low numbers that we had seen following the launching of the war on Iraq."

Sarah Palin will do well in conservative primaries, but questions her ultimate viability. "Does she get nominated? It's hard for me to see that scenario," Zogby says.

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#### IN MY OPINION:

# A DEFINING ELECTION FOR THE CALIFORNIA GOP

By Chris Angle

Now that the primaries are over and election season is upon us, it worth pondering how important this election actually is for the California GOP. While many are predicting massive gains for the GOP nationally, the GOP in California is really facing nothing less than a do or die election. Over the last few years, a debate has raged within the Party over why Republicans have such an appalling electoral record in California. One line of reasoning holds that Republicans choose candidates that are simply too conservative to be competitive statewide, while others contend that moderate/centrist Republicans are merely closet Democrats who don't give voters a real choice and are therefore unsuccessful. Proponents of the first line of reasoning point to the obvious lack of statewide electoral success of conservative candidates, while proponents of the second line of reasoning point to the fact that some conservative initiatives on taxes and social issues (i.e. Prop 8) have been successful in statewide contests.

While both sides have legitimate facts that they can point to, the 'atmospherics' of this election season are shaping up to be as favorable for the GOP in California as anyone can remember. From Meg Whitman to Carly Fiorina and Damon Dunn, the GOP has fielded a strong and diverse slate of statewide candidates. While the wealth of Meg Whitman is difficult for the average voter to identify with, her lack of political experience also makes it difficult to portray her as

a political insider in a year that is shaping up to be a difficult one for political insiders. Furthermore, the Democrats are fielding a slate of candidates led by an unimaginative retread in Jerry Brown, and an always abrasive Barbara Boxer. In addition, it appears that the GOP base is extremely motivated, whereas the Democrat base appears apathetic. Finally, the leading GOP candidate has 'unlimited' access to (her own personal) financial resources to get herself elected.

That being said, it is not at all clear that any of this is going to be enough. Currently, Whitman is running about even with Jerry Brown, despite having outspent him plus the unions by a factor of roughly 5 or 6 to 1 since the end of the primaries. Carly Fiorina is running behind, but within striking distance, of Barbara Boxer. If the California GOP strikes out in statewide offices this election season (or even if Whitman alone squeaks out a win), one will be justified in questioning whether or not the GOP has any relevance in California politics any longer. If it turns out that the California GOP can't win under the current electoral conditions, it is difficult to see under what conditions it could win. While some in the Party will undoubtedly point to this factor or that factor to explain a failure, a defeat in this election cycle will effectively mean that the GOP brand in California has been irreparably damaged. This won't necessarily mean that certain parts of the Republican message (i.e. lower taxes, less government regulation, responsible government spending) don't resonate with a broad swath of the California electorate. However, it will imply that the GOP has built up such a reserve of ill will within the California electorate that for an argument to

be associated with an 'R' is to see that argument dismissed. If such a defeat does occur, centerright voters and activists in California will have a difficult reality to confront and some difficult decisions to make.

However, none of this is to say that the California GOP won't win big on election night. A big election win with two or three statewide offices going to the GOP will likely reinvigorate the Party. While it is clear that Republicans do need some rebranding, an election victory that reconfirms its' relevance in California politics will give the Party something to build on. That being said, no one should underestimate the importance of this election to the California GOP. It is not hyperbole to say that nothing less than the Party's future relevance in California is at stake. The day after this election will be very interesting.



#### **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.

#### ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

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 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.

#### 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."

## DEMOCRATS AT IT AGAIN— TAX THE INTERNET

#### By Robert Evans

Once again, the Democrats, who never met a tax scheme they did not love, are trying to tax Internet purchases.

HR 5660, the "Main Street Fairness Act," which is anything but fair or helpful to main street, is just another attempt to grab your money.

The HR 5660 press release says: "This bill is about fairness and competition. It will help make sure that the store on the corner and the store on the Internet are playing by the same rules."

Just how stupid do these Democrat politicians think we are?

Everyone knows that shipping charges for Internet purchases are generally equal, and sometimes in excess of, any sales tax. It's cost or convenience that drives Internet purchases, not taxes

And how do sales taxes sent to Texas help the "corner store" in California when a person in California makes a purchase from an Internet store located in Texas?

What should you do? Call and write congress and make sure all your friends and neighbors know about this latest Democrat grab for your wallet.

## Republicans of River City Board of Directors:

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Arnold

# THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

## Schwarzenegger Discusses Budget with San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce

"I have been traveling up and down the state talking about the budget, talk about why is the budget late and that's, of course, an easy one to explain. The legislators just haven't done it yet. (Laughter) It's one of those things that happens. Out of the last 20 years there only were three times where they did the budget on time.

"I, as governor, I have my Budget Proposal on January 10th every year; I've never missed that deadline. And on May 14th we have the May Revise; I've never passed or was late with that deadline either.

"But the legislators, like I said, they are always late and I think it is just because they don't start negotiating until the new fiscal year starts. So this year, for instance, again on May 14th I presented my budget and then you didn't hear anything. And then they do the various different hearings and then, when they were finished with the hearings in the end of June, they went on vacation. So they never really negotiated a budget.

"Then, all of a sudden, you know, they started coming down to our office and they start talking a little bit and getting together with the Republicans. And that's what's going on right now. They're back in session now, a month later, after vacation. And now we are getting together regularly, so I think that there's a good shot that we will have a budget within the next two or three weeks.

"But it's a very difficult time, you know, to come to an agreement. When there are a lot of revenues it's easy to come to an agreement. And ... right now, because of the economic decline over the last three years -- worldwide, not just in San Jose or in California -- it's worldwide. Countries are scrambling and struggling all over the world, if it is Ireland, if it is England, if it is Germany, if it is Greece, if it is Spain or Portugal. Everywhere you look they are having difficult times because the whole world, basically, has reduced in value by at least 20 percent. So they are all of a sudden now -- you know, the business

activities are not there, the revenues are not there.

"But the good thing about that is -- and I always look at problems as an opportunity, as a way of seeing new opportunities. And I think, because every state and every city and county is going through this stress test where all of a sudden you have less revenues and then you realize, wait a minute, I think that we are not distributing our money the right way, or we are doing something wrong and that's why we don't have enough revenues right now.

"And that's exactly what's happening also with the state. We now recognize that we need a rainy day fund so when we get hit by an economic slowdown we have a little bit of money left aside. So therefore one of the things that I'm proposing is to have budget reform so that we save money into a rainy day fund and use that money then when our economy goes down and when there are less revenues, so we have enough money for the vulnerable citizens, for education, higher education, kindergarten through 12th and so on and so forth.

"The other thing that we have to recognize is that by having less money there are certain other areas where we are spending too much money and that's why we don't have enough money for the most vulnerable citizens or for education and so on. And that is ... pensions. So that's another thing we recognize. And I think it's very important that we use this opportunity and look at it closely and carefully and say to ourselves, wait a minute, there has been a huge spike in pension costs for the state and also locally.

"And that spike is not just like where you say OK, our revenues came in at an increase of 26 percent and our pensions went up by 30 percent or so. No. it's not that. That would be doable. But the pensions went up by 2,500 percent in the last 10 years. So what once was in the budget in general funds a \$150 billion expenditure now is this huge amount of money. Now we're talking about going from \$150 million to \$3.9 billion -- correct me if I'm wrong, David, because David is the expert -- \$3.9 billion just in CalPERS alone. This is not talking about the others, now. Altogether it's \$6.5 billion that we are spending every year.

"So think about that increase in 10 years. Revenues go up by 26 percent and this goes up by 2,500 percent. So that is where the problem lies. Now you're crowding out other programs. If we would not have this kind of an

increase, if we would have had an increase of 26 percent, like our revenues go up, we would be paying \$200 million a year for the pensions rather than, you know, \$4 billion just from the general funds, the general account and then the rest of it in other special funds. So that is really where the problem is.

Then we also have to look at how we are spending our money in education. We know that we need more money in the classroom but we are consistently -- there was a just a report that came out today that talked about that the education spending went up but the funding into the classroom went down. So that means that the kids are not getting the money. It's adults that are fighting in the education community to get that money, that education money, because the state and the federal government and the locals are giving education a certain amount of money and then they make the decision how to spend the money. But it's not going into the classroom, so there's another thing that we have to look at. And it's a good opportunity now to look at how are we funding education and is the money really going to the children.

"I'm sure you read just recently in the L.A. Times that the Robert F. Kennedy Community School was supposed to cost, in 2007 when they started building it, \$300 million. And all of a sudden it ended up costing in 2010 - it's opening now -- \$600 million. Now, how did it go from \$300 million to \$600 when construction costs went down by 25 to 40 percent? It doesn't make any sense. But that's what happens because there are so many people, grownups, that are fighting for education money rather than giving it to the kids and putting it into the classroom.

"So when you have this stress test you're looking at all of the things where you may be making mistakes. You know, it doesn't make sense to point fingers at anybody or to look back. It's always easy to be smart in hindsight; we all know that. But I think we can make certain corrections and that's what we're trying to do. We're trying to do pension reform. We'll try to do budget reform this year.

"And we'll try also to do tax reform. And why tax reform? Because we recognize when there's a dip in the economy that, all of a sudden, even though there's maybe a decline of 2.8 percent in the economic activities, we have a dip in revenues of 30 to 40 percent. Why? Because we are relying so heavily on income tax. And of course, out of that income tax, it's all the rich ... that are paying most of the income tax."

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WHY I'M
RUNNING FOR
THE CITY
COUNCIL/
MAYOR OF
ARDEN
ARCADE THIS
COMING
NOVEMBER

I'm running because Arden Arcade is at a crossroads. Do we stay under county government? Or let the city of Sacramento annex us? Or become our own city?

With a financial crises facing Sacramento County it is no longer able to maintain our area streets or adequately police our neighborhoods.

It's not the time to become part of Sacramento city; Sacramento's City council will take our taxes and invest in the perenellay decrepit K street Mall or maybe in the perenellay stalled downtown rail yard.

If you live within the boundries of the proposed Arden/Arcade city, I'm seeking your vote because of my concern that our community is not maintaining its strengths or laying the groundwork for a better tomorrow.

I believe my community experience and my being a taxpayer's advocate will help revitalize our neighborhoods and refocus our priorities to help build a more crime free and better city.

I believe we must protect our residents and business.

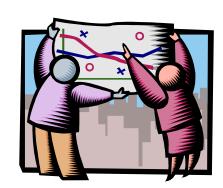
I believe we must protect our quality of life and environment.

I believe it's time for local solutions to our area's problems

and that government should be open and transparent.

I will listen to you and devote my time and energy into making Arden Arcade a better place to live. Feel free to contact me at www.carlburton.com.

If you live within the new city, thank you for your vote.



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
Occupat	ion
Home P	honeWork Phone
E-Mail:	
Yearly N	Membership:
	Regular Membership: enclosed is my check for \$25 Young Professionals 18-25 \$15 per person)
(	Couples Membership: enclosed is our check for \$40
Signatur	e
Date	

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