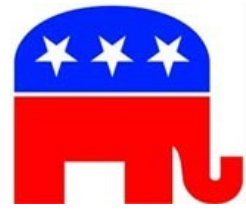


Republicans of River City



Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

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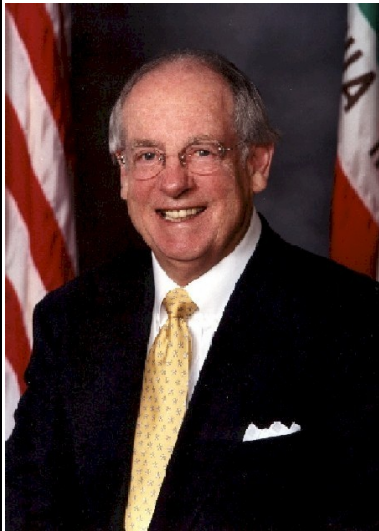
OUR MEETING FOR JULY IS CANCELLED!

OUR MEETING FOR JULY IS CANCELLED.

**THE BOARD OF REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY CANCELLED THE JULY MEETING
BECAUSE IT WOULD FALL DURING THE RUN OF THE STATE FAIR**

IN MEMORIAM—SENATOR DAVE COX, 1938-2010

By Fred Hildebrand



Senator Dave Cox passed away on Tuesday, July 13th. He was a very special friend of Republicans of River City. He has been eulogized by many prominent California officials and mass media outlets. That is only fitting and proper. However, not to be forgotten are the hundreds of volunteer supporters who stood with him from the very beginning of his political career to his final day in the California State Senate. We, at River City, can be proud to have been with him all the way.

Dave Cox was a member of River City from its founding to the present. He supported and helped to build our organization. He appeared at our podium on numerous occasions. He was our favorite speaker – always on target and full of surprises, always humorous. And he never left any doubt as to where he stood on an issue. He made it fun to be a Republican!

Dave began his political career at SMUD. River City endorsed him for the SMUD Board of Directors and provided the volunteer base for his campaign. He won a seat and became Chairman of the Board.

Next, he ran for a seat on the Sacramento County Board. We repeated our participation. He won a seat and became Chairman of the Board. Then he ran for the California State Assembly. We repeated our participation. He was elected and soon became the Republican California Assembly Leader. Finally, Dave ran for the California State Senate. We repeated our participation. He was elected and became very important in the Senate Republican Caucus. River City and Dave Cox have been wonderful partners in advancing Republican causes over the years.

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Assemblyman Niello On The Passing Of Senator Dave Cox

My thoughts and prayers go out to the family of my good friend Senator Dave

Cox. California has lost a truly great representative and public servant. He will be missed. Rest in peace, my friend.

Assemblyman Niello Honors Colonel Ross Davidson During Veteran's Recognition Event

Assemblyman Roger Niello has recognized World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veteran Col. Ross Davidson during a Legislative Veterans' Recognition event held June 23rd at the Sacramento Convention Center.

Members of the Legislature were invited to nominate a veteran and Col. Davidson was selected by Assemblyman Niello to represent the 5th Assembly District.

Col. Ross Davidson served as a pilot in the Air Force throughout three wars: World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He survived 34 missions in World War II alone and was awarded 51 medals throughout his military career; including two Distinguished Flying Crosses, one of the highest honors in the Air Force.

During the 1950's, along with Col Bernt Balchen, he landed a C-47 onto Taku Glacier in Alaska in order to deliver supplies to a group of stranded scientist. They achieved two historic landing and

takeoffs on the glacier. Col Bernt and he were nicknamed the "Lewis and Clark" of the Arctic due to their efforts.

After the Vietnam War, Col. Davidson settled down in Carmichael with his family and became a businessman. Today Ross is still a businessman and community activist. He has donated one of his dress uniforms to the veteran's Memorial Museum in Branson, Missouri.

"It is important that we recognize veterans and it is extraordinary to see individuals who have dedicated their lives to service in times of war and peace. We need to occasionally stop and reflect on their service and sacrifice for our country. I was honored to be with all the veterans at the ceremony and proud to recognize Colonel Davidson," said Assemblyman Niello.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: From the Legislative Analyst's Office Regarding the Governor's Revised Budget

Large Budget Problem Little Changed Since January. In the May Revision, the administration estimates that California must address a \$17.9 billion gap between current-law resources and expenditures in the 2010-11 General Fund budget. In our view, the administration's estimate is reasonable. While our tax revenue estimates are slightly higher than the Governor's: \$400 million in 2009-10 and \$1 billion in 2010-11—overall, our view of the budget problem is similar.

Governor's Proposal Relies Heavily on Spending Reductions. The Governor's May budget package proposes \$19.1 billion of solutions—enough to close the

\$17.9 billion shortfall and leave the General Fund with a \$1.2 billion reserve. Program spending reductions make up two-thirds of the solutions proposed by the Governor. Compared to his January proposal, the May Revision assumes a more reasonable level of increased federal aid (\$3.4 billion), although receipt of even that amount remains uncertain. Borrowing and fund shifts total about 10 percent of the Governor's solutions. New revenues make up under 5 percent of the Governor's package.

Significant New Spending Reduction Proposals. The May Revision includes major spending reduction proposals that were not included in the Governor's base budget package in January. In particular, the Governor proposes eliminating the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program, which provides cash grants and welfare-to-work services to over 1 million Californians in low-income families. He also would eliminate state funding for need-based, subsidized child care thereby eliminating slots for more than 200,000 children. The cuts mainly would be ongoing in nature. Still, even if the Legislature approved all these painful cuts and realized the savings assumed by their passage, a stubborn multibillion dollar operating deficit would persist in the years to come.



IN MY OPINION:

**THE TROUBLESOME
SUPREME COURT
(TIME FOR SERIOUS JUDICIAL
REFORM???)**

by Chris Angle

On Monday, June 28, the Supreme Court handed down its' verdict on the case of McDonald vs. Chicago, which upheld the Second Amendment and affirmed on a practical level the right to self defense (through gun ownership) that even states and cities cannot abridge. While a victory for the American people, what is so disturbing about this case is that the final decision was only approved by a 5-4 margin. In joining the dissent, Justice Stephen Breyer stated that 'nothing in 18th, 19th, 20th, or 21st century history shows a consensus that the right to private armed self defense....is deeply rooted in this nation's history or tradition or is otherwise fundamental'. Apparently, three other justices agreed with him. While the liberal/conservative split on the Court (and in the judiciary at large) has been well known for decades, Justice Breyer's historically illiterate comment would justify one at least questioning whether the Supreme Court can still be considered a reliable guarantor of the Constitution and the freedom of the American people.

Over the last two generations, America has watched as activist judges have used their rulings to effectively amend state constitutions, pass laws from the bench, and amend the Constitution. Over time, it has become clear that judges and justices of a certain ideological persuasion are destroying the

system that the American Founders set up. A free society that the Founder's envisioned requires a judicial system that views itself as a caretaker of the laws and the Constitution. What we now appear to have is a Supreme Court that barely (5-4) fulfills this role. The Founder's idea that a handful of truly public-spirited, loyal, non-ideological people would constrain themselves to, in the words of one justice, "calling balls and strikes" is an idea that cannot be said to be solidly entrenched in this Court. The Supreme Court, a fraction of whose members don't see the right of self-defense as fundamental and basic, begins to run the danger of losing the respect of a significant fraction of the populace. In order to effectively execute its' function in society, the Court needs to be seen as consisting of 9 individuals interested in nothing more than the maintenance of the Constitution and legal system as opposed to 5 disinterested justices and 4 liberal voters with law degrees.

It is unfortunate that a significant fraction of the individuals currently populating the judicial system have the view, similar to Breyer, that they should grab any ideological tool at their disposal (including historical illiteracy) to obtain a desired judicial outcome. In acting as he has, Justice Breyer reminds us again of the major weakness in the American system of government, namely that there is no effective check on judicial power such as exists in the balance between Congress and the President. While constitutional purists might argue that the check is in the judicial appointment process (advise and consent) or a constitutional amendment, this has not proven to be effective. The fact is, one

major political faction in this country expects its' justices to use their power to amend the Constitution from the bench without going through the normal amendment process. The constitutional amendment process is too cumbersome (and rightly so) to effectively counter the sheer numbers of questionable decisions enacted by an activist judiciary.

In summary, it is difficult to see a justice like Breyer, who would deny that Americans possess a fundamental right to self defense, as anything less than a threat to traditional American liberty and freedom. Were Breyer simply one judge standing alone in his opinions, he would not be much of a threat. Unfortunately however, the fact is that there are many judges and justices who sympathize with Breyer and who believe that their role is to legislate and amend from the bench. The numerous high-handed actions of many unelected activist judges over the years indicates that some sort of effective democratic check on their power may be necessary if the U.S. is not to evolve into a state effectively ruled by judges. While subjecting judges to political pressure is not ideal and could actually even be considered dangerous, Breyer-like justices are bringing us to the point where some sort of reform needs to at least begin to be considered. While subjecting judges to elections and judicial decisions to plebecites would likely result in legal anarchy and confusion, allowing 70 Senators (for example) to vacate a particularly controversial decision by the Court would not be unreasonable. While a Court of 9 disinterested souls would be the best solution,

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IN MEMORIAM—SENATOR DAVE COX, 1938-2010 (Cont)

Many of us can relate anecdotes relating to Dave. It is a tribute to him that he maintained such close ties to so many volunteers. He did not change as he moved up the ladder of political success as so many elected officials do. If one wished, he would see a volunteer in his office. He actually gave out his personal phone number and announced it from our very podium. Dave was generous with his help for constituents and volunteers. Many wish they could thank him. I personally will be forever grateful that he appointed me to represent him at the CRP and at the Sacramento County Central Committee. He helped in so many ways that it would be impossible to list them.

Dave was a family man. His wife, Maggie, his children and grandchildren are saddened. We, at River City, feel like extended family. May God rest his Soul.



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Betty Axup, 1st Vice President
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ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

July 2, 1862 - Rep. Justin Morrill (R-VT) wins passage of the Land Grant Act, establishing colleges open to African-Americans, including such students as George Washington Carver.

July 6, 1854 - First state Republican Party officially organized in Jackson, Michigan, to oppose Democrats' pro-slavery policies.

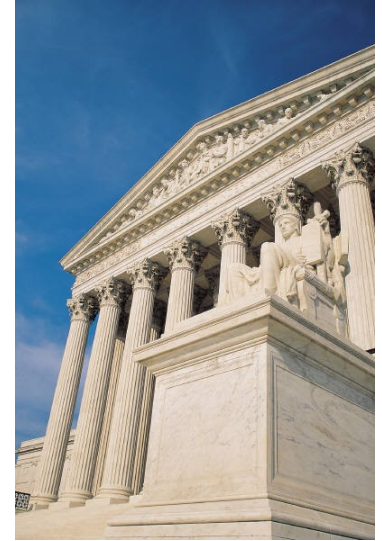
July 12, 1974 - Republican National Chairman George H. W. Bush establishes Republican national Hispanic Assembly.

July 16, 1866 - Republican Congress overrides Democrat President Andrew Johnson's veto of Freedman's Bureau Act, which protected former slaves from "black codes" denying their rights.

July 17, 1862 - Over unanimous Democrat opposition, the Republican Congress passes the Confiscation Act, stating that slaves of the Confederacy "shall be forever free."

July 19, 1867 - Republican Congress overrides Democrat President Andrew Johnson's veto of legislation protecting the voting rights of African-Americans.

THE TROUBLESOME SUPREME COURT (Cont): the last two generations have seen America move far away from this ideal. The current philosophical make up of the judiciary demands that some sort of effective check on judicial power needs to begin to be studied. Breyer's comments are as good a point as any to begin the discussion.



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

Governor Schwarzenegger Hosts Pension Roundtable-Gathers Academics, Elected Officials, Opinion

Leaders to Discuss Comprehensive Pension Reform (7/8/2010)

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger hosted a pension reform roundtable with academics, elected officials, students and opinion leaders to discuss California's pension crisis and the need for comprehensive reform. The Governor has been pushing for pension reform since coming into office, and recent studies by Stanford and the University of Chicago and Northwestern have reinforced the immediacy with which the legislature must act to reign in rising costs. The Governor has promised not to sign a budget that does not include pension reform and is calling for lower benefits for new employees, increased employee contributions, truthful financial disclosure and honest funding.

"Our pension crisis is a real problem that gets worse every day. California has \$500 billion in unfunded pension debt that, without reform, will continue to grow and crowd out funding for programs and services Californians hold dear such as higher education, parks and environmental protection," said Governor Schwarzenegger. "This roundtable is designed to expose the depths of the pension problem and to alert Californians of the even worse consequences should their leaders continue to ignore it. The state has a duty to ensure taxpayer dollars go to

things the taxpayers care about, and that's why I will not sign a budget that does not include pension reform."

California has long provided generous pension benefits to its employees, but in 1999, the legislature and Governor Gray Davis significantly and retroactively boosted benefits after being assured by the California Public Employee's Retirement System (CalPERS) that doing so would not cost "a dime of additional taxpayer money." But since the passage of that legislation, taxpayer spending on pension benefits has skyrocketed by more than 2000 percent (nearly 3000 percent in the General Fund) while spending on University of California and California State University, parks and recreation and environmental protection has either declined or failed to keep up with inflation. This year, taxpayers are being required to divert nearly \$3.8 billion from state programs and services to pay for retiree benefits provided by CalPERS, five times more than CalPERS projected in 1999. Over the past ten years, CalPERS's projections were off by \$20 billion, and now CalPERS predicts state costs will total \$270 billion over the next thirty years and still leave pensions only 75 percent funded. Worse, that projection assumes the stock market will double every ten years – if not, the costs will be higher.

The Governor's Administration has recently negotiated contract agreements with six state employee unions that include elements of pension reform that will help control costs going forward and ensure support for legislation requiring full disclosure from state pension funds and honest funding of pension promises as and when they are

made. The six unions – the California Association of Highway Patrolmen, California Department of Forestry Firefighters, California Association of Psychiatric Technicians, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, the Union of American Physicians and Dentists and the International Union of Operating Engineers – represent 40,000 of the state's public employees. If ratified, these agreements will save the state nearly \$1.4 billion in FY 2010-11, and, if similar agreements are reached with the state's six other employee unions, state savings in FY 2010-11 would total \$2.2 billion, with \$1.2 billion from the General Fund.

The Governor's Administration will continue to negotiate in good faith with all of the employee unions on all aspects of the pension reform measures. However, Governor Schwarzenegger will not sign a budget without four elements of pension reform that must be done legislatively, separate and apart from any memorandums of understanding. They include:

1. Rolling back the expansion of pension benefits adopted in 1999 as Senate Bill 400 (Chapter 555, Statutes of 1999).
2. Requiring a permanent five percentage-point increase in employee pre-tax contribution toward retirement benefits.
3. Calculating the retirement rate based on the highest three years of wages during employment instead of the highest single year.
4. Requiring full disclosure by state pension funds and honest funding of pension promises as and when those promises are made.



CAN YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Over the years I have come to believe that one person can make a difference in

**Carl Burton,
President**

any community or political campaign.

2010 is an election year and there are thousands of opportunities for our members to volunteer in political campaigns in Sacramento.

You can learn more than you can imagine by helping a candidate or cause to win this year. Pick a candidate or issue whose ideas you believe in at the national, state or local level and become a volunteer in his or her campaign.

By visiting Republicans of River City web site (www.rrcgop.org) you can find a list of national and state candidate web sites where you can volunteer to help. By the end of next month you will also find on our River City web site a list of local candidates that need your help this election year.

For example, a local campaign that you may want to help is one that is attempting to roll back the utility fee increase instituted by the city of Sacramento. You can find out more about this campaign by visiting their web site at <http://www.rollbackfees.org/>

Or maybe you would like to help create a new city in Sacramento County called Arden-Arcade. To find out more about this issue and what it would mean to the residents of Arden-Arcade and

our county, read the article in the Sacramento News and Review at <http://www.newsreview.com/sacramento/content?oid=1447274>

at 916-485-5741 or emailing me at carl@rrcgop.org.

I come back to the question—can you make a difference? The answer is YES; just volunteer. If you would like more information about how you can volunteer, please let me know by calling me



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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