

Republicans of River City

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Membership Expires:

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

**ROGER NIELLO COMES TO REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY
COME SOCIALIZE WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN JANUARY AT RIVER CITY
January 15, 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.**



**ASSEMBLYMAN ROGER NIELLO TO SPEAK
by
Fred Hildebrand**

We will begin the new year Speakers' Series with a presentation by an old friend of River City, Assemblyman Roger Niello. Roger actually announced that he would run for the California State Assembly from our podium. He is one of our favorite members. And because of his background as a CPA/Businessman and his position as the Vice Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, he is probably one of the best informed Californians with respect to our current budget crisis. If you are as concerned

about the state of California state finances as other Republicans, you cannot afford to miss Assemblyman Niello's current analysis. We will meet, as usual, at KVIE, Channel 6 on Tuesday, January 15th at 6:30 P.M. for a Social Hour and convene at 7:00 P.M. for our General Meeting.

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 completed his graduate studies at the University of California at Los Angeles.

(Please go to Page 2, Col. 1)

FROM "CAPITOL ALERT"

"An ugly year, unfortunately"

That's what Assemblyman Roger Niello predicted following the unveiling of a state budget that make deep cuts across near every department. And judging from reactions on both sides of the aisle, the Fair Oaks Republican's quick analysis sounds spot on."

If you have any interest in how (and why) the budget shortfall will affect you, you will want to come to our January meeting and ask Roger questions. He is prepared to answer all the questions he can regarding how the legislature will handle the cuts requested by Governor Schwarzenegger.

ASSEMBLYMAN ROGER NIELLO TO SPEAK

(Continued from Page 1)

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 November 2006, Roger was elected to a second term in the State Assembly, receiving over 61% of the vote. During his second term, he was named the Vice Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee, serving as the lead negotiator on budget issues for the Assembly Republican Caucus.

Assemblyman Niello also currently serves on the Assembly Elections committee in addition to the Joint Committee on Emergency Services and Homeland Security and the Select Committee on Foster Care.

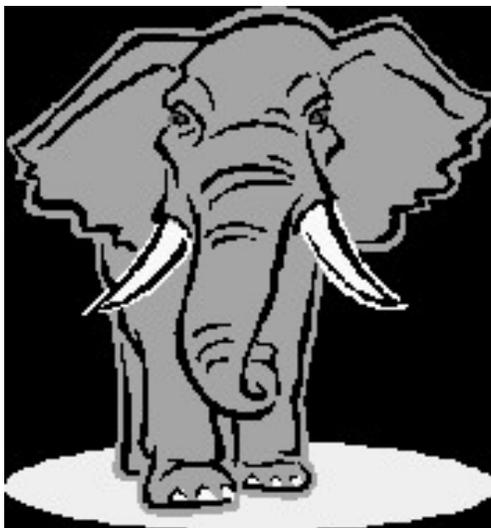
Among Assemblyman Niello's legislative accomplishments include legislation to allow individuals to remove racially charged language from a homeowner's CC&Rs, a measure to assist local governments in cracking down on illegal dumping, and a bill to ban the unscrupulous practice of "triple-dipping" by county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

He has also 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.

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 one grandchild.



HAVE A LAUGH:

Health Care

Japanese doctor says, "Medicine in my country is so advanced that we can take a kidney out of one man, put it in another, and have him out looking for work in six weeks."

A German doctor says, "That is nothing. We can take a lung out of one person, put it in another, and have him out looking for work in four weeks."

A British doctor says, "In my country medicine is so advanced that we can take half a heart out of one person, put it in another, and have both of them out looking for work in two weeks."

The American doctor, not to be outdone, interjected, "You guys are way behind. We are about to take a

woman with no brains, put her in the White House, and then half the country will be out looking for work."

MRS. BRETT FARVE TO START FOR PACKERS

The Green Bay Packers delivered a shocking announcement today. Their starting quarterback this Sunday will be Mrs. Brett Favre, who will play for Brett during the first quarter. Fans in Green Bay were shocked when this announcement was made, but Mrs. Favre assured the fans that, "Hey, I know this game.

I live with Brett. I have taken several road trips on the team plane. I've gone to the pre-game meal. I know a lot of the Packers. I've played around with a lot of the Packers in the back yard. I've tossed the football with them, and I know what a slot right 60-Prevent-Slot-Hook-And-Go is and I know how to avoid a corner blitz."

So they polled the people in Green Bay, 50% of Packers fans are excited, motivated, and looking forward to the big game.

All right, you think that's ridiculous? Let me reread this. In a shocking announcement today, Mrs. Hillary Clinton announced that she is running for president of the United States because she knows Bill Clinton and has lived with him, and she was there on a lot of trips to China and around the world, and she really cared about kids for 35 years. She's fought and she stood up for kids, and she's tried to fix health care, and she knows fifty percent of the American people say, "That's good enough for us."



IN MY OPINION:

The Second Amendment: Misinterpreted for 200 years? by Christopher Angle

Recently, the public was informed that the Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments as to whether or not Washington D.C.'s 30 year old ban on the private ownership of handguns is unconstitutional. While a verdict upholding the ban will not automatically result in government agents going door to door confiscating private firearms, it will open the door to potential gun bans in certain liberal areas of the country (i.e. perhaps California). The question before the Supreme Court is whether or not the 2nd Amendment guarantees the right to private gun ownership, or whether one must be part of a state militia to be able to privately own a gun.

The arguments will partly focus on a 1939 case that was heard before the Supreme Court. In that case, which focused primarily on the legality of a specific sawed-off shotgun, the court decided that since a sawed-off shotgun (defined to have a barrel less than 18 inches in length) had never been used in any organized state militia, people had no constitutional right to own one. Although the courts decision seemed to support the view that only members of organized state militias can own guns (as many proponents of gun bans would like to show), the court also looked at what historically had constituted a militia. In its decision, the court stated the following:

The signification attributed to the term Militia appears from the debates in the Convention, the history and legislation of Colonies and States, and the writings of approved commentators. These show plainly enough that the Militia

comprised all males physically capable of acting in concert for the common defense. 'A body of citizens enrolled for military discipline.' And further, that ordinarily when called for service these men were expected to appear bearing arms supplied by themselves and of the kind in common use at the time.

This statement leads to some interesting implications.

The court states that the militia was historically comprised of "all physically capable males", which would imply all physically capable citizens today.

These men were expected to appear bearing arms supplied by themselves, which implies direct private ownership of the weapons.

They were to have weapons, "of the kind in common use at the time", which would imply that citizens have the right to weapons commonly used by military bodies. In our own time, this would imply assault rifles, in addition to various rifles, shotguns and handguns.

Simply put, the court upheld the assertion that private citizens can own guns, because the citizens could be called up to act as a militia in times of state or national crisis. The view that only current card-carrying members of an organized military body can own guns supplied by that military body is a view that has never been an interpretation of the 2nd amendment. If the Supreme Court upholds the gun ban and endorses this view, it will be turning its back on 200 years of constitutional interpretation. In effect, it will be stating that we have been misinterpreting the Constitution from the founding of the republic until now. It is worth noting that the

decision in the 1939 case was unanimous. Let's hope that this court will be equally emphatic in upholding this basic constitutional right.

VOTER REGISTRATION

By Carl Burton

You're already tired and apathetic about doing voter registration.

I know, I know: You're, tired, apathetic and maybe even hung over about national politics (who isn't).

So I won't waste time listing all the reasons why it's still a good idea to get your act together and do voter registration.

I'll just give you one good reason: Voting is a legitimate excuse to be a little late for work on Super Tuesday (February 5th, 2008).

And even though it will really only take a few minutes to do it--go to your local polling place and vote then roll into the office or class at 11am and proceed to tell your boss or teacher that it was chaos, and there was a long line so it took forever. And bingo, you just participated in national politics AND got an extra hour of sleep.

No matter who your Republican candidate is, all California residents who want to vote in the upcoming presidential primary should know that January 22, 2008, is the final deadline to postmark voter a registration card, which means that if you have not already done so, you can access a California registration form on the Republicans of River City website, fill it out, print it out, sign it and drop it in the mail.

Hey, we may still end up with a Democrat in the White House next year, but if you help register Republicans, at least it won't be your fault.



THE GOVERNOR'S CORNER

“Governor's Message
January 10, 2008

TO THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY OF THE LEGISLATURE OF CALIFORNIA:

In accordance with Article IV, Section 12 of the California Constitution, I submit to you the Governor's Budget for 2008-2009.

Two challenges require our immediate attention as we begin 2008. First, we must close a shortfall of \$3.3 billion in the current fiscal year, which will grow to \$14.5 billion next year without swift and decisive action. And second, we must take steps to avoid a potential shortfall in the state's cash reserves this July and August, and potentially in March.

These problems are not the result of a fundamental crisis in California's economy. Indeed, we remain a diverse and dynamic economic powerhouse that will continue to grow and lead the world in innovation. These problems are the result of a budget system where there continues to be no linkage between revenues and spending. If we are to avoid these kinds of fiscal crises in the future, and if we truly want to bring fiscal health to this state for the long term, we must resolve to

fundamentally fix the budget system this year - once and for all.

In order to close the gap, my budget proposes two actions.

First, I propose to reduce spending by implementing a 10-percent across-the-board reduction to nearly every General Fund program, and to have those reductions take effect on March 1st. While these reductions are unquestionably difficult and challenging, this across-the-board reduction approach is designed to protect essential services by spreading reductions as evenly as possible, so that no individual program is singled out for severe reductions. I am today proclaiming a fiscal emergency and calling for a special session of the Legislature to begin early implementation of these necessary budget reductions.

Second, I am using the authority given to me under Proposition 58 to suspend next year's pre-payments for the Economic Recovery Bonds and to sell the remaining bonds to rebuild this year's budget reserve.

In order to ensure long-term balance, I am proposing a Constitutional Amendment to reform the state budget process. The Budget Stabilization Act will prevent over-budgeting based on extraordinary revenue gains, and give the state the tools it needs to quickly reduce spending when necessary to avoid a deficit.

The challenges we face are substantial, and the decisions we face are difficult. But if we fail to address them swiftly, the problem will only get larger and the consequences even more severe. If we can work together, we can solve our immediate budget problems. But more importantly, we can finally give California a budget system that is fiscally responsible and avoids future budget deficits.

Sincerely,
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER”



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MORE ON THE BUDGET CHRISIS

by Michael C. Genest
California Director of Finance

“Director’s Letter
January 10, 2008

DEAR GOVERNOR:

This budget proposes the difficult but necessary steps needed to bring the state’s chronic structural deficit under control, not only for this fiscal year but permanently. This is accomplished by (1) imposing strict spending restraint in the current and budget years while protecting and preserving essential state services and (2) proposing a Constitutional Amendment to reform the budget process, so that state government has the tools to avoid spending more than it has in revenue in the future.

Since you signed the Budget Act of 2007, the budget situation has deteriorated significantly, resulting in a projected \$3.3 billion deficit in the current year that would grow to \$14.5 billion deficit in 2008-09 if left unchecked.

In order to close the \$14.5 billion budget gap, your budget proposes a 10-percent across-the-board reduction to most General Fund departments and programs, including the legislative and judicial branches, the Department of Finance and your own office.

In addition, today you are declaring a fiscal emergency and calling a special session of the Legislature to enact the necessary statutory changes to reduce spending immediately. At your direction, I will commence the process of selling the remaining \$3.3 billion in Economic Recovery Bonds to restore the reserve and avoid a potential cash shortfall.

Despite the necessity of closing the budget gap, the state must still

continue to invest in its infrastructure to maintain and improve its quality of life and continue its economic growth. To accomplish that, the budget proposes to augment the existing Strategic Growth Plan with additional bond measures to be placed on the 2008 and 2010 general election ballots.

In the fall of 2007, California suffered one of its worst disasters in recent history when approximately 23 fires burned in southern California during October and November. This event highlighted the need to improve our fire prevention and suppression system, as indicated in the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Fire Commission Report. Your budget proposes to establish the Wildland Firefighting Initiative to provide an additional \$100 million to fund firefighting efforts at the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Office of Emergency Services, and the California National Guard. This will be funded through a 1.25-percent surcharge on fire insurance policies.

Under your leadership, we can work with the Legislature to establish a responsible budget system that does not return the state to spending beyond its means. Please join me in expressing my sincere thanks to the women and men of the California Department of Finance and their families. Without our staff’s dedication and hard work and the sacrifices of their families, this budget would not have been possible.

Sincerely,
MICHAEL C. GENEST
Director of Finance”



ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

January 1, 1863 - Emancipation Proclamation, implementing the Republicans’ Confiscation Act of 1862, takes effect.

January 5, 1903 - President Theodore Roosevelt nominates African-American physician William D. Crum as Collector of Customs over racist objections from Senate Democrats.

January 8, 1867 - Republicans override Democrat President Andrew Johnson’s veto of law granting voting rights to African-Americans in D.C.

January 10, 1878 - Republican Senator Aaron Sargent (R-CA) introduces Susan B. Anthony amendment for women’s suffrage; Democrat controlled Senate defeated it 4 times before the election of a Republican House and Senate guaranteed its approval in 1919.

January 15, 1901 - Republican Booker T. Washington protests Alabama Democratic Party’s refusal to permit voting by African-Americans.

January 26, 1922 - House passes bill authored by U. S. Rep. Leonidas Dyer (R-MO) making lynching a federal crime; Senate Democrats block it with filibuster.

January 27, 1964 - U. S. Senator Margaret Chase Smith (R-ME), first woman to be considered for nomination by a major party, announces candidacy for President; she finishes second at Republican National Convention.

January 31, 1865 - 13th Amendment banning slavery passed with unanimous Republican support against intense Democrat opposition.



Carl Burton, President

CHANGE IN AMERICA
by Carl Burton

In a year when candidates are telling us to vote for them because they are for “change” in American, ask yourself what changes will they make? And how they will make those changes?

Already:

- America offers more opportunity and social mobility than any other country in the world;
- America has achieved greater social fairness than any other country in the world;
- Americans live longer, fuller lives;
- American has gone further than any other country in establishing equality of rights;
- American has found a solution to the problem of religious and ethnic conflict that continues to divide much of the world;
- American has the kindest, gentlest foreign policy of any great power in world history;
- American has one of best educational systems in the world;
- American provides an amazingly good life for ordinary people; and

- American is the freest nation on earth.

Its true America is not perfect and there is lots of room to make us a better society.

But don't let any candidate or pundit tell you we need to change America without first finding out specifically what changes they want to make.

Don't let them get away with saying they are “for change” and will “make American better” without saying what and how.

Remember in spite of our flaws America is the greatest nation in the history of the world and we should give it our love and be willing to make sacrifices to keep us free.

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 _____

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