



Republicans of River City



Chartered by the California Congress of Republicans

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

**REPUBLICANS OF RIVER CITY WELCOME AUTHOR AND NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER
SCOTT THOMAS ANDERSON**

to speak on

May 19, 2015 at REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS, located at:

9851 Horn Road, Suite 100

Sacramento, 95827

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



Republicans of River City welcome **Scott Thomas Anderson**, an award-winning journalist who is currently Chief Editor of The Roseville Press Tribune, Rocklin's Placer Herald and The Granite Bay View.

Between May 2010 and October 2011, Scott spent 18 months as an embedded reporter with California law enforcement agencies, partnering with officers on night patrols, accompanying detectives

on warrant searches and probation sweeps, observing SWAT operations and spending hundreds of hours with attorneys and victims' advocates in courtrooms. During this time, he also traveled to different rural communities across the United States. The result was his nonfiction book, *Shadow People: How Meth-driven Crime is Eating at the Heart of Rural America*, an exploration of nation's modern methamphetamine crisis.

In May of 2012, Scott won the California Newspaper Publishers Association's highest award for governmental coverage, after publishing a six-part series on the state's new criminal justice law, AB

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THE MINIMUM WAGE IN THE NEWS

By Robert Evans

According to the Federal Reserve, there are 550,000 workers over the age of 25 (0.4 percent) earning the minimum wage.

Should prices go up to help 550,000 minimum-wage workers?

Fact: 550,000 of the 129.5 million people over the age of 25 who are employed make the minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour.

Fact: mandating raising the low wages of will force some businesses to close. Is it good public policy to create

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ANDERSON

109, or Realignment. In April 2015, his newest nonfiction book was released, *The Cutting Four-piece: crime and tragedy in an era of prison overcrowding*. He will discuss his new book, *The Cutting Four-piece: crime and tragedy in an era of prison overcrowding*. He'll also review his findings on the local, state and national levels and talk about the ongoing challenges our nation and region face with methamphetamine. He will also bring copies of and sign books.



MINIMUM WAGE

unemployed people who will then make \$0 per hour instead of \$7.25?

It seems to me that our national debate about raising the minimum wage is nothing more than public policy made by television sound bites and political efforts by the major media finding minimum wage workers with sad personal stories instead of our political leaders using sound economics to form their policies.

This debate should be driven by fact instead of by emotion to minimize unemployment.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT

By Carl Burton

As we prepare to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, signed into law on Aug. 6, 1965, it is imperative that we continue to clear any barriers that prevent eligible voters from participating in the democratic process.

The Voting Rights Act prohibits every state and local governments from imposing any voting law that results in discrimination against racial or language minorities. Other general provisions specifically outlaw literacy tests and similar devices that were historically used by the Democratic Party to disenfranchise racial minorities.

The 1965 Voting Rights Act was introduced in Congress on March 17 as S 1564 and it was jointly sponsored by Senate Minority Leader Republican Everett Dirksen from Illinois and Senate Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-MT). Dirksen enlisted other Republicans to support the legislation in order to block Sothern Democrats who would try and filibuster the legislation. The Senate passed the bill by a 77-19 vote with Democrat Senators representing Southern states voting against it.

After the Voting Rights Act was signed into law by the President, it immediately decreased racial discrimination in voting.



MOTOR VOTER ACT

By Carl Burton

On May 20, 1993 President Clinton signed legislation that required all state governments to offer voter registration opportunities to any eligible person applying for or renewing a driver's license or public assistance which is known as the Motor Voter Act.

The Motor Voter Act prohibits states from removing registered voters from the rolls, unless certain criteria are met. The purpose of the act according to supporters was to increase the number of registered voters, enhance voter participation, protect election and ensure states maintain voter rolls. Non supporters of the legislation maintain that the act enables voter fraud.

CALIFORNIA NEW MOTOR VOTER ACT

California New Motor Voter legislation (AB 1461) has already cleared the state Assembly Transportation Committee and it was passed out of the Rules Committee by unanimous vote.

California's new Secretary of State, Democrat Alex Padilla, is the sponsor of the motor voter act that will automatically place eligible voters on voter rolls as a result of their driver's license transaction with the DMV. Oregon already has passed and signed into law a similar bill.

Voters will have an opportunity to choose a party affiliation or opt out of registration after the fact.

A report released last October by the California Secretary of State found that 73 percent of eligible voters were registered to vote

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NEW MOTOR VOTER

and it estimates that once AB 1461 becomes law voter registration will increase by 7 million voters from 17 million to 24 million voters.

Voter turnout of 42 percent for the November 2014 mid-term election set a record low for regularly scheduled general elections.



A POLITICAL BATTLE THAT COULD AFFECT CALIFORNIA

By Carl Burton

Earlier this year I attended a conference on voting right issues facing California and although I had heard of a battle taking place in Arizona up until then I hadn't given it much thought.

Arizona Republican legislative leaders have challenged their state's redistricting commission and arguments were heard in March before the U.S. Supreme Court and if the Republican Party position that Arizona's redistricting commission is

unconstitutional and they immediately gain power to redraw their state congressional lines then the voters can expect the same here in California where Democrats control both houses of our state legislature.

Central Valley Republicans might lose seats in Congress. But first Democrats would shore up Fresno Democrat Jim Costa who almost lost last year and Jerry McNerney in San Joaquin County.

Republican Congressman David Valadao would more than likely be drawn out of his 21st District along with Jeff Denham in the 10th District.

With a Supreme Court ruling that says only legislatures have the power to draw congressional districts, legal experts are saying California's Redistricting Commission wouldn't stand a chance of surviving.

Another Democrat opportunity would be to split the 21st Congressional district of Republican Congressional Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy from Bakersfield, making it difficult to impossible for McCarty to win reelection in 2016.

We could expect the Democrats to also change the lines in Sacramento County to help ensure an Ami Bera reelection along with changes for Julia

Brownley of Thousand Oaks, Scott Peters of San Diego, Raul Ruiz of Palm Desert, Pete Aguilar of Redlands and John Garamendi of Walnut Grove.

Should the Democrat politicians in Sacramento be given by the Arizona Republican sponsored lawsuit the opportunity to go into smoke-filled back rooms and choose their voters by again drawing highly partisan districts, we will get Democrat career politicians who will rob voters of the ability to make their leaders accountable.

We should find out this summer what the U. S. Supreme Court decides about independent redistricting commissions.



SELF-DRIVING CAR

By Robert Evans

Google's latest self-driving bubble-shaped autonomous vehicle, will soon go out onto the streets of

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Telephone 359-5741

CAR

Mountain View to see how they do in real traffic and how the public will respond.

These prototype vehicles will appear this summer according to Chris Urmson, director of the company's self-driving car program, said Friday. He said "... a few of the prototype vehicles."

The cars will be self-driving but also will have "safety drivers" to take over if necessary. This is because Google reported earlier that some of its self-driving cars had been in accidents. The company reported that, in the past six years, its self-driving cars were involved in 11 minor accidents with no injuries, that no self-driving vehicles were at fault and that some accidents cannot be avoided.

According to Urmson, "Even when our software and sensors can detect a sticky situation and take action earlier and faster than an alert human driver, sometimes we won't be able to overcome the realities of speed and distance; sometimes we'll get hit just waiting for a light to change. And that's important context for communities with self-driving cars on their streets; although we wish we could avoid all accidents, some will be unavoidable."

Self-driving cars are the next wave of technology for consumers and businesses with automakers experimenting with autonomous vehicles and many models now equipped with such features as lane control, collision control and parallel self-parking.

Google's bubble-shaped cars coming to Mountain View's public roads are prototypes designed by Google which use the same

software that's installed in their earlier vehicles. The earlier fleet has driven nearly 1 million miles on the roads since Google started this project.

All the new cars have a steering wheel, an accelerator pedal and a brake pedal so the safety driver can take control if needed. Speed is capped at 25 miles per hour.

Google has operated the cars to test the software and sensors.

Google documents the progress of its new self-driving cars on the Google+ page. If you want to comment or ask questions about these cars, you can share on that page.



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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 _____

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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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