



SANTA ROSA REPUBLICAN WOMEN, FEDERATED

Chartered 1945

An Affiliate of the National Federation of Republican Women

California Federation of Republican Women, Northern Division, Region XI

2008-2009 Newsletter Award 2nd place CFRW No. Division ~ CFRW 2nd place

Website ~ www.santarosarwf.org & E-mail ~ srrwf@yahoo.com

Volume 24, Issue 7

“Education is Key”

September 2009

“GOVERNMENT IS RUN BY THOSE WHO SHOW UP!”

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Monthly Meeting

Tuesday ~ September 22, 2009

FOUNTAINGROVE GOLF & ATHLETIC CLUB

1525 Fountaingrove Parkway, Santa Rosa

Business meeting 11:15 a.m.; lunch to follow

Linda Halderman, MD, FACS

Senior Policy Advisor under Senator Sam Aanstad

Member of California State Senate Health Committee

\$23.00 reservations in advance

\$26.00 without advance reservation

Reservations by September 18 th

Make your check out to SRRWF and mail to...

SRRWF, 1585 Terrace Way #306, Santa Rosa, CA 95404

We are here to help you with ~ Information ~ Reservations ~

Cancellation ~ Transportation ~ call 707 525-8085

E-mail - srrwf@yahoo.com New Website - www.santarosarwf.org

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Presidents Message



Welcome back everyone. Are you reenergized and ready for the battle ahead? We certainly have one as we fight to save our country from the creeping disease known as Fascism. It has been wonderful to see the town hall meetings across the country where voters have had the opportunity to challenge the arrogance, elitism and ignorance of many members of Congress. Our own Representatives, Woolsey and Thompson, have had to react to constituent pressure and hold town hall meetings. The meeting held by Representative Woolsey drew over 1200 persons. This kind of political action needs to continue.

Our speaker this month is Dr. Linda Halderman who is Senior Policy Advisor in the office of Senator Sam Aanestad. Senator Aanestad, an Oral Surgeon, is a member of the California State Health Committee and one of the most respected legislators on healthcare issues.

Dr. Halderman is a board-certified General Surgeon specializing in breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. She has served many of the state's uninsured and underinsured women. She has written and spoken on providing medical services to those with limited access to modern healthcare. Be prepared to ask questions.

I am going to address a topic that I have received some feedback and questions about. Why do we eat part of our lunch during the speaker's talk? This is done because of the time factor. I have been to other clubs where the speaker talks after everyone has eaten. Some of these meetings last until 1:30 or 2:00. Most of our members do not have that kind of time and it can be disconcerting to watch half the membership leave. We are fortunate in that the staff at Fountaingrove is very quiet and efficient. If members wish to visit I encourage you to come early or stay after the meeting. There is no pressure on us to vacate the meeting room quickly.

I look forward to seeing all of you on the 22nd. It is always good to be with Freedom Fighters.

See you on the 22nd. Bring a friend.

Edelweiss Geary, President

BIOGRAPHY Linda Halderman, M.D., FACS



Dr. Linda Halderman is a board-certified General Surgeon specializing in breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. Fluent in Spanish, she served rural south Fresno County's uninsured and underinsured women with breast cancer before underpayment by Medi-Cal and the state's breast cancer programs for uninsured women contributed to her practice's financial demise.

Since April 2008, she has served as the Senior Policy Advisor under Senator Sam Aanestad, member of the California State Senate Health Committee. Senator Aanestad, an oral surgeon, is one of the most respected legislators on healthcare issues. Dr. Halderman continues to practice as a General and Trauma Surgeon in underserved rural areas of California.

She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in English. She is a published author with over 50 articles and essays on topics as diverse as autism, the relationship of faith to physical health, and the politics of cosmetic surgery. Her work has appeared in local, national and international publications, including such prestigious websites as National Review Online, The American Thinker and Victor Davis Hanson's Private Papers. She is a frequent guest on both radio and television programs, including Fox News's "America's Newsroom."

Her insightful writing and patient advocacy have made her a sought out expert on the issue of providing medical services to those with limited access to modern healthcare. She is a pragmatic voice of reason in the debate on reforming the funding and delivery of healthcare in the United States.

Learn more about Dr. Halderman on www.lindahalderman.com and articles written on Americanthinker.com

- [ObamaCare's Poison Pill](#)
- [California Healthcare Reform: the Governor's new plan](#)
- [Patients without Doctors: The Flawed Plan of Governor Schwarzenegger](#)
- [First Do No Harm. Then Do Something.](#)
- [What's Your Doctor Worth?](#)
- [Governor Schwarzenegger's Flawed Health Care Plan](#)



AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU

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At our BBQ on a very very hot June Saturday...our very own Steve and Debbie Countouriotis attended. We all were able to thank Steve for his service and also Debbie for her sacrifice for our country. The Americanism Committee will gather mid-September to pack dozens of books, stuffed animals and treats for those amazing men and women working on our behalf and on the behalf of their host Afghani and Iraqi citizens. We can never appreciate all that they sacrifice, including their lives in some cases and all that they give up in order to serve. They are extraordinary people working in an extraordinary environment. We urge you to visit nearby yard sales, thrift stores, etc. in order to pick up more stuffed animals and bedtime stories to send to the troops. We also are in need of many more snack foods such as beef jerky, powdered drinks, hard candies (Halloween is just around the corner), nuts and any other type of treat that you can find. Due to the temperature there, we are not able to send anything with chocolate. Wait until the holidays! We look forward to seeing you at our September luncheon at which time we will be **collecting money for postage and other expenses associated with this project.** Our laundry basket for donations will also be there as usual. This is **YOUR** way to participate and we, as your committee, are delighted to send along something from home in your name.
Maridale Smith and the Americanism Committee



Peeking inside an e-mail to/from Maridale Smith...."Thom. Lemmons is one of our recipients from Tracy - a wonderful and extraordinarily brave man". Date: Sunday, September 6, 2009, 4:46 AM From Tom Lemmon

This was an article that was written by a combat reporter who was embedded with us for a mission on the 20 AUG 09. He was able to see first hand what a "Dustoff Pilot" experiences going into "HOT LZ's". It was the first and last mission he would fly with us, he said "never again". We didn't know that this story was written, just another day on the job for us. Kind of puts things into perspective, I guess we are just used to it by now. Anyway, this article was found by a fellow Captain and friend of mine who spent a month providing gunship support for us at a remote Forward Operating Base in Northern Afghanistan in Feb-Mar of 2009. I am down to 4 weeks until I can head home and be with my family again. Hope everyone is well, I will see you all soon. Tom.

Date Saturday, September 05, 2009 12:12 PM To: Lemmons, Thomas M. 1LT USA CJTF-82 TF Eagle Lift; Smentek, Tyler F. CPT USA CJTF-82 TF Eagle Lift

Not sure if you guys saw the attached article in the Early Bird today. Tom, good work as always. I go on leave in a couple weeks so if I don't see you guys before you head back home, it's been great meeting you and working with you. I think we'll all have a good story to tell one day about "Shank Army Airfield". Keep in touch. My email is See you around, *Big Sugar*, Respectfully, Sean McMahon CPT, AV "Reaper 36

Wounded GIs in Afghanistan: Casualties More Seriously Injured Than in Iraq

Posted: 09/1/09 David Wood, Politicdaily.com

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan -- They are the invisible casualties of this war, the 2,194 Americans who have been badly wounded in battle here. More are coming. Stunned, torn and bleeding, they are extracted from dusty battlefields in wild, shouting chaos and because they are so quickly rushed into the hands of trauma nurses and surgeons, more of them survive than in past wars.

But their wounds are often grievous, even more severe than those inflicted in the Iraq war. It is not uncommon for a casualty to arrive at a combat surgical hospital with two, three or even more immediately life-threatening injuries. Simultaneously drawn to the soldier's side will be specialists in setting broken bones, repairing deep abdominal wounds, attending to crushing chest injuries and cleaning the stumps of amputated limbs, while a neurologist works to assess brain damage. *Continued on page 6/7*



Massoud Hossaini, AFP/Getty Images



California Federation Republican Women



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Capitol Weekly e-mail update . 9/4/09

SB 572 "Harvey Milk Day" Passes Assembly - Let the Gov. Know What You Think! At SB 572 looked like it was going to fail in the Assembly. The bill was 3 votes short of passing and was put "on call" with the expectation that it would be back up for another vote before the end of the day. At 5:27 p.m., quickly called and the very last vote of the day, SB 572 passed with 46 votes to 28. Not one Assembly Republican spoke against the bill! With the passing of "Harvey Milk Day" yesterday, we now have until October 11th to let the Governor know that we do not approve! The Governor vetoed this bill last year, and we want to make sure the same happens again. Make your voice heard!

Call the Governor's office at (916) 445 2841, When prompted Press 1, then 2, then 1, then 2.

ObamaCare in California? It's Closer than You Think

Yesterday the Senate passed AB 1422 (Bass, D-47), aptly nicknamed "ObamaCare-lite." AB 1422 would aid in funding "Healthy Families," a program which covers state select services, such as elective teenage abortions in which the life of the mother is not in danger and neither rape nor incest is involved. This cleverly disguised piece of legislation taxes Medi-Cal providers 2.35%, which would be offset by federal dollars, a governmental shell game which in turn translates to higher co-pays and premiums for families. CFRW has voted to OPPOSE this bill.

The legislation passed in the Senate yesterday with Senate Republicans Cox, Ashburn and Maldonado in support. It is now back in the Assembly awaiting concurrence. There is still time to stop this bill! We must contact our assembly members and let them know our disapproval!

Dr. Linda Halderman, Senior Policy Advisor to Senator Sam Aanestad (R-4), has worked hard in opposition to AB 1422 and she provided points for our members to use when contacting the legislators.

This is a TAX. AB 1422 is a political shell game that taxes Medi-Cal managed providers, then returns funds to them through federal matching funds and drives up the costs of healthcare.

No programmatic reforms are included, not even the reduction/elimination of Healthy Families state-funded optional benefits, including: acupuncture, biofeedback, chiropractic, outpatient alcohol and drug treatment visits or elective abortion. Although the other benefits are covered by some (not all) Healthy Families plans, 100% of them do cover elective abortions—at state expense. Access is a continuing problem, with an average of 1 in 3

Healthy Families kids NOT receiving timely access to care, according to their parents (ranging from 25-47%, depending on county—San Francisco is the worst).

This is the time to act! Get to the phones, write letters, type emails, send faxes! Be sure to tell YOUR ASSEMBLY MEMBER what a terrible idea this is! ACTION IS URGENT AND NECESSARY. We do NOT want California's mini-version of ObamaCare passed!

"Community Benefit Fund" or "Economy Damaging Fund"? **This week CFRW voted to OPPOSE AB 1405 (deLeon, D-45).** As if AB 32 (Nunez, D-46; act passed in 2006 that requires businesses to reduce "greenhouse" gas emissions to 1990 numbers by 2020) or, "The Global Warming Solutions Act" was not enough, Assemblyman de Leon (D-45) introduced AB 1405 as a supplement law. It creates a "Community Benefits Fund" that receives 30% of the fees from the yet-to-be-drafted regulations based on qualifications specified by the California Air Resources Board (CARB). This fund is then distributed to the "most impacted and disadvantaged communities," also yet to be determined by CARB.

In short, this bill raises unnecessary fees on California businesses only to redistribute the wealth to stave off the "effects" of global warming. CARB stands to gain millions of dollars from the bill in administrative fees while small businesses struggle to meet their efficiency standards. And the "disadvantaged communities," hand-picked by CARB, will likely receive tens of millions of dollars to upgrade energy efficiency in low income housing, mass transit, and provide "air conditioned cooling centers."

When it comes down to it, the negative economical impact of this bill exceeds the need to go green. We urge you to contact your state senators and ask for their "NO" vote! state agencies are not accepting IOUs as a valid form of payment.

And They Thought They Could Get Away With It... California, "U-O-ME!"

This week the CFRW Advocate's Office received an urgent email from Assemblyman Villines seeking our support for AB 1506 (Anderson, R-77). This important legislation would allow state issued IOUs to be used as payments back to the state, such as DMV registration, state fees, or even taxes. Currently state agencies are not accepting IOUs as a valid form of payment. ***Your CFRW Voting Body responded quickly in support of the measure, and yesterday the bill passed out of the Assembly and is awaiting a vote in the Senate. Please let your senators know that governmental double standards will not be tolerated and implore them to SUPPORT AB 1506!***

Important Dates to Remember 2009

Sept 9-14 - NFRW 35th Biennial Convention,
Orlando, Florida

September 23, CFRW Fundraiser Cruise to Canada
and New England- 562-694-6551



Oct 16-18 CFRW Convention -Ontario

Nov 13-15 CFRW No Division Convention
Concord

Northern Division Welcomes Legislative Advocate

Allison Daley Olson

CFRW welcomes Legislative Advocate Allison Daley Olson who will begin her new position in our Sacramento Office on Tuesday, September 1, 2009.

Allison is a recent graduate of the University of California, Davis Campus, with a degree in Political Science. She and husband Rob have just returned from their honeymoon trip to Alaska.

Allie was the Deputy Finance Director for the McClintock for Congress campaign and previously interned with Wilson-Miller Communications in Sacramento, a position that included tracking California legislation for clients of that firm.

No stranger to Republican volunteer organizations, she chaired the Davis College Republicans from June of 2006 until May of 2008. She was also a fellow with the Foundation for Defense of Democracies from April of 2007 to May of 2008. During that time, Allison studied in Israel and Washington, D. C., with counter-terror experts. She looks forward to meeting you at the Northern Division Biennial Convention in Concord in November.



NFRW
NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

124 N Alfred Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Phone: 703.548.9688 mail@nfrw.org www.nfrw.org

Shirley Sadler, President

NFRW Biennial Convention, Orlando, Florida

September 9-14

SRRWF President Edelweiss Geary and other club Presidents and members are in Orlando representing California Women! Our President Geary will be voting for a new slate of officers to guide us in 2010-2011. The website for Northern Division - www.cfrwnd.org will have updates on the convention and if possible pictures of the events!

Marriott
ONTARIO AIRPORT

CFRW 2009 CONVENTION

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF
REPUBLICAN WOMEN

“Education is the Key”
October 16 – 18 of 2009

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

2200 WEST HOLT BOULEVARD

ONTARIO, CA 91761

Complimentary airport shuttle provided

909-975-5000 or 800-266-9432

Hotel Reservations <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/CFRW>

Rate: \$95 per night plus tax Parking is complimentary

DEADLINE for hotel reservations is September 25, 2009

Convention Information – www.cfrw.org

\$ 45.00 Registration Fee

Friday \$45 Dinner * Saturday \$30.00 Lunch \$48.00 Dinner

\$ 22.00 Sunday Breakfast - Former State Senator Jim Brulte
on “Winning Elections” (only speaker to be confirmed)

Workshops Friday “Business Women Membership”
& Computer management



To All Santa Rosa Members

LADIES OF LIBERTY

Republican Women

Honoring God, Country & Family

2009 CFRW NORTHERN DIVISION

FALL CONVENTION

REGION VI INVITES YOU TO JOIN THEM IN
CONCORD, CA

NOVEMBER 13-15, 2009

Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd.

925 827-2000 or 1-800 Hiltons (445-8667)

\$92 per night (room reservations under CFRW Northern Division).

Registration \$ \$40.00 to attend all or one day paid by SRRWF

Lunch \$40.00-speaker Honorable Rick Keene(former Assemblyman)
“What to do about California Water”

Afternoon Speaker 2 pm David Stirling, Pacific Legal Foundation,
“Green Gone Wild”.

MORE ON CONVENTION IN OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

www.santarosa.org or www.cfrwnd.org

-members only - northern express



The battle dead, deservedly, are venerated and honored by name. They are memorialized by their comrades in formal, intense, battlefield ceremony, honored as their remains are carried past rows of saluting troops onto waiting aircraft, and their sacrifices are sanctified again during and after their various journeys home. Their deaths are announced by the Pentagon and recorded on gravestones. The wounded receive no such recognition. They are moved swiftly and anonymously; their names and sacrifices are not publicly recorded by the Department of Defense, which effectively bans interviews and photographs. But as they are tenderly passed along -- from the combat medics who bandage them and the dust-off pilots who fly them away under fire, to the surgeons who perform emergency battle-zone surgery and the aeromedical evacuation pilots and crews who fly them toward home -- they are known and respected, honored, and treated with urgent compassion.

The Pilots

Darting through mountain passes like an angry hornet, Army Capt. Thomas Lemmons drove his UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter toward the landing zone where two badly wounded soldiers lay. Short of the landing zone, he started taking heavy enemy fire despite -- or perhaps because of -- the red cross emblazoned in a white circle on the fuselage. He backed away while a pair of Apache attack helicopters made their strafing runs. Afterward, Lemmons slid in to the LZ, touching down in an immense cloud of brown dust, and as his medics dashed out with litters, he started taking fire again, calling out to the Apaches, "Targets at my ten o'clock! Targets at my four o'clock!"

One soldier had been shot through the throat and was barely conscious. Working feverishly, medics applied a gauze pressure bandage and the blood gushed from an exit wound. They swathed him in bandages and sprinted with him on a litter through the dust and bullets to the helo. The other soldier had a clean upper chest wound; he was loaded in and Lemmons lifted off.

Minutes later they were touching down in bright, clear sunshine on the concrete ramp of the joint theater hospital at Bagram Air Field, the major U.S. base in Afghanistan. As the rotors coasted to a stop, the aircraft was swarmed with blue-gloved trauma nurses, medics and orderlies. The throat-wound soldier had died in flight, bled out. The soldier with a chest wound was rushed into surgery.

Tom Lemmons is a 35-year-old California National Guard pilot who volunteered to fly medevac choppers,

known as "dust-off" missions in Afghanistan. In private life he runs a construction company in Livermore, Calif.

The Creed

U.S. military field medicine treats all wounded -- Americans, Afghans, French, Brits . . . and, yes, even enemy insurgents, who get the same priority medical care as American troops. One time recently, the "dust-off" birds retrieved a pair of casualties, one American, one insurgent, wounded in the same battle (and perhaps by each other). They were loaded into the helicopter side by side ("We sedated 'em pretty good so they wouldn't wake up and start fightin' again," said a medic) and went into surgery on adjoining gurneys. The enemy fighter was then taken to a separate recovery room, in restraints and under armed guard. "Some of them are amazed and grateful," said a doctor, speaking of the enemy wounded. "Some of them, you know they'd kill you in a heartbeat if they had the chance. We treat them all the same."

The Emergency Room

Scott Russi is working out at the gym when the call echoes across Forward Operating Base Salerno. "Attention on the FOB! Attention on the FOB! Shamrock Black, I say again, Shamrock Black!" The code signifies multiple casualties, inbound. And the Combat Surgical Hospital's chief surgeon is sprinting, barely in time to throw on a camouflage-patterned hospital blouse and draw on gloves before medics burst through the hospital doors with men in blood-soaked dressings writhing on their litters.

Roadside bombs, or IEDs, are the principal cause of injury in Afghanistan, and the numbers are rising -- tripling in the past three years in this region. The initial blast can collapse lungs and rupture eyeballs, bowels and other internal organs. Shrapnel slices through tissue. The blast flings its victims about, causing blunt-force trauma. Burns and smoke inhalation often follow.

Four gurneys are in the emergency room. Four casualties, attended by a throng of nurses, surgeons, orderlies, specialists, and a babble of urgent, yet calm and confident, voices. Russi, still wearing a ball cap and his gym shorts, snipping off a sodden uniform, inserting a chest tube, probing for additional unnoticed wounds, quarterbacking his team as he manages multiple trauma wounds, repairing enough to get the patient wheeled down the hallway and into the operating room.

Within 15 minutes of the Shamrock alert, the emergency room is virtually empty, with only orderlies cleaning up blood-stained bandages, scrubbing down the floor. Three patients are in surgery. One soldier had arrived dead. He is covered with a sheet and gently removed.

Hours later, Russi is walking to dinner, musing about his life here. Back home in Colorado Springs, Colo., he is an Air Force colonel and runs hospitals, clinics and a large medical staff. Here, he works out at the gym and saves lives. "This is the most rewarding work I have ever done in my life, helping people who are trying to make a difference," he says in the twilight.

He tells of a young Afghan girl brought in, comatose, from Khost city hospital near the U.S. military hospital here. She'd been hit by a car. Russi and the staff worked on her for three weeks while her father slept at her bedside. Now she is almost fully recovered.

"If she'd been left at Khost [hospital] she would have died," says Russi. "It is important that the interaction with Afghans shows them what America is really about – caring for each other. I still believe we are a good people – I guess I still bleed red, white and blue," says Russi, 48, who volunteered for six months away from his wife and six children. This is his second combat deployment. "This is the way life should be," he says. "Everybody working together, not like in the U.S. with all that pervasive superficiality."

"When you get home, some time you'll hear a plane and you'll go through a moment of emotional crisis," she said. "And then you will go on. That's what we do."

The Trip Home

"We have people horribly wounded," a nurse told me. "And yet . . . we had a Marine in here the other day. He'd lost one leg and the other was cocked at an odd angle. We asked him if he'd like something for the pain, and he said, 'Ma'am, I surely would appreciate that.'"

There are also the wounded who are not obviously wounded, the ones who may be dazed or momentarily stunned by an IED blast, but who shake it off.

"These are the ones that worry me," says Col Joseph P. Chozinski, a psychologist and Air Force flight surgeon at Bagram Air Field. "They go through multiple IED

blasts and may have severe headaches but they press on, and not until they get home do they begin to have problems."

One doctor, not entirely in jest, has proposed that anyone blown up by an IED four times automatically gets to go home.

Once the wounded are stabilized, they are flown out of Afghanistan aboard specially outfitted aircraft that are essentially airborne Intensive Care Units. Air pressure and temperature are carefully adapted to individual patients' needs (burn patients need heat; chest-wound patients often can't fly at high altitude). For the medical and flight crews, these are emotional missions.

"It really hurts to see how young these wounded kids are, some of them terribly wounded, on ventilators and with horrible head wounds," Lt. Col. Jeffrey Briere, a pilot with the Nebraska Air National Guard, told me at the start of one such 21-hour mission.

"Helping these guys on their way home is the most terrible, and rewarding, mission we do."

On one flight, among the patients was a military working dog, used to hunt for explosives. The dog had been wounded in a firefight. He was in a body cast on which was written: "Taliban tastes like chicken."

All military medical staff, from medics to surgeons and pilots, are on call 24/7, and they jump to the sound of an alarm -- most often a "nine-line" radio request for casualty evacuation from a soldier or Marine kneeling for cover in a firefight. They work 12- to 14-hour days with no days off. It is a high-stress business.

"We've seen some gruesome things, but luckily your mind is wonderful in the way it can absorb things," Madelin Schwitzke told me at Bagram Air Field. She's an Air Force master sergeant and medical logistician on her fourth deployment away from home in Charleston, S.C. She is accustomed to running to the sound of incoming medevac aircraft.

Websites of Interest

www.drudgereport.com

www.americanthinker.com

www.lucianne.com

www.townhall.com

www.nationalreview.com

www.spectator.org

Radio Stations

www.ksfo.com

www.ktkz.com

www.knew.com



By Tom Del Beccaro

News & Commentary Update

Conservative Magazine Human Events on Tom Del Beccaro

"One of the GOP's most effective communicators."

London based Economist Magazine:

"Republican spines are . . . stiffened by conservative bloggers such as Tom Del Beccaro"

Brian Sussman of KSFO on Tom Del Beccaro:

"You are the face of Conservatism going forward."

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Burbank, CA 91506

Sacramento office 916-448-9496

www.cagop.org

Elected or Appointed Boards

There are other positions that are either elected or appointed. Those are the positions on

- Water Boards
- Fire Districts
- Library Boards
- School Boards
- Airport Boards.

The persons on these boards make many decisions that affect the daily life of citizens. Water Boards are extremely important at this time, given the fact that many environmentalists are working hard to demolish dams throughout the state. The goal is to save the fish with no attention paid to the needs of human beings.

As I have said before, Republicans need to develop a farm team and these boards are the place to start.



JoAnn Danner

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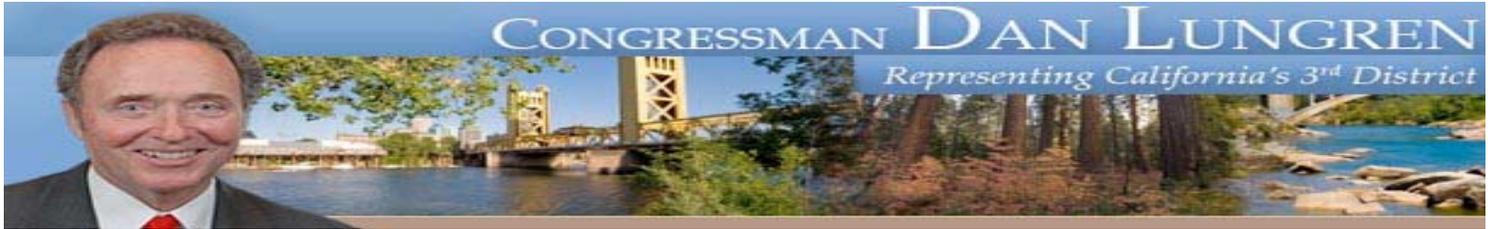
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The four face-to-face town halls I held throughout the month and the tele town hall that followed were among the most engaging and exciting conversations I've taken part in for quite some time. It was a privilege to participate in the debate and hear the full spectrum of points of view firsthand. In fact, there is no substitute for an open exchange of ideas.

Health care reform is a very personal issue and must be examined with that in mind. I think it's fair to say the passionate public reaction across the country came as a surprise to the authors of the House and Senate measures, but it shouldn't have. Ironically, there is much we can learn from doctors about listening and we in the Congress must be great listeners now as we proceed down the path of health care reform.

That's why during the District Work Period I seized every opportunity to listen at the town halls, during my travels to visit health care providers, and over the telephone as thousands of you took me up on the invitation to express your opinions on health care.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our town hall community partners in Alpine County, Citrus Heights, Jackson and Rancho Cordova. Under pressure and unusual circumstances, we were able to conduct civil and productive meetings with thousands of constituents in August. Furthermore, I want to compliment those who attended for their calm and courteous discourse, for staying on point and providing me valuable information as we move forward.

The events of Wednesday, Aug. 26, were cases in point. We started the day in tiny Markleeville under blue skies and a shelter at Turtle Rock Park. To our delight, 60 of the county's 1,200-population had taken the time to shower us with home-made snacks—and lots of questions about health care reform. Later that evening we moved on to Rancho Cordova where we were expecting a crowd larger than the entire population of Alpine County.

Armed with the knowledge and experience of the previous week's turnouts at town halls in Citrus Heights (Aug. 18) and Jackson (Aug. 22), our staff—working with Rancho Cordova officials—pulled out all the stops. City officials and police had even gone so far as to rehearse their preparations the previous night, and it really paid off. By 5 p.m. Wednesday, the day of the town hall, 500 people were queued up waiting at City Hall.

When the doors opened at 6:30 p.m., the city hall chambers filled up in a hurry. The American River Room just down the hall had a huge TV screen that carried the events going on across the hall. My staff had microphones that patched into the main meeting, so in all 725 guests were having virtually the same town hall experience.

That said, we were able to broadcast the indoor proceedings to those who were still outside the building with the help of outdoor speakers. My staff included the "outdoor" group in the Question and Answer rotation: (1) City Hall Chambers; (2) American River Room (3) Outdoors. Though some people were disappointed they couldn't get in the doors, a majority complimented us on our efforts to involve as many people as possible. At the conclusion I went outside and spoke with those who remained.

These town hall discussions were as spirited as any you would have joined in across the country. Here are a few points I believe represent the majority, followed by some ideas I introduced that were well received:

- There was negative reaction to ideas associated with a "public option."
- There was deep concern new government directives would interfere in the doctor-patient relationship.
- The prohibitive cost of the program seemed indefensible—especially now.

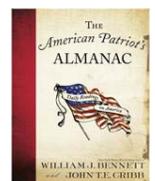
Constituents were receptive to these ideas:

- The present health care system would benefit from more transparency: more information about provider costs and their effectiveness. The better informed the health care consumer, the more providers will have to compete.
- More options and choices: opportunities to join bigger coverage pools and associations; the right to buy health care insurance outside of California.

I will be investigating all these matters next week when the House returns to session. I hope you will continue to contact me while I am in Washington.

LITERACY PROGRAM 2009

- Summer of 2009 a donation of a basket of books was donated to the North County Republican Club.
- Santa Rosa Republican Women held a booksale on August 29th. Members donated a variety of books many of which were by conservative authors. Those books not sold were bundled and donated to the Incarcerated Youth Program at the California State Prison, Solano Campus.
- As we do each September, the mouse book series is donated to an elementary school.





THE SKEPTICAL OBSERVER

Whether or not he realizes it, President Obama has a real knack for bringing moral issues to the foreground and getting Americans to start thinking and talking about those issues. I would bet, however, that this was not his intent when he started in with this health care bill.

One issue that he has managed to bring out in the open is the time to die. Because more money is spent on medical expenses during the last six months of life for older people, this is obviously a place where money can be saved if services are severely limited. Because not all senior citizens are senile, most have caught on that the money that will be saved in this proposed health care plan will primarily come from denying services to them. Of course, it makes sense that more services would be needed when a person is 75 as opposed to when they are 25. Better medical care is why we no longer have a life expectancy of 45 years.

However, the time to die does not apply only to seniors. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Center for Ethics in Health Care, advocated a 52 page end-of-life planning document, "Your Life, Your Choices." This document was first published in 1997. When George Bush came into office, the VA suspended its use. However, under our current President, "Your Life, Your Choices" has been resurrected. The main author of this document is Dr. Robert Pearlman, Chief of Ethics Evaluation for the VA Center. In 1996, this man advocated for physician-assisted suicide in *Vacco v. Quill* which was argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Your Life, Your Choices" is given to veterans in VA hospitals. There is a worksheet that lists various scenarios and asks users to then decide whether their own life would be "not worth living." Imagine some soldier surviving the war and coming home without all of his limbs. The veteran is then asked to decide if their life is worthwhile or if they are too much of a burden on the family. That is quite a reward for his or her service, isn't it?

It is interesting to note that the only group listed as a resource on advance directives for this VA document is the Hemlock Society, now known as "Compassion and Choices." Of course, the Hemlock Society has been behind so much of the assisted suicide legislation in the country. In Oregon, a person cannot always get the treatment for advanced cancer that could help, but they can get government assistance to die.

The culture of death surrounds us. The main problem with all of these issues is that someone else is always deciding what is best for us and when we should say good by. We are told that we need to save money by denying medical treatment to our disabled, elderly and wounded.

However, there seems to be endless money for many government pet projects such as 30 Czars in the White House.

We have excellent examples to study in other countries of government run health care. A group of experts who care for the terminally ill in Great Britain claim that some patients are being wrongly judged as close to death. Under National Health Services guidelines introduced to help doctors and medical personnel deal with dying patients, fluid and drugs can be withdrawn and many people are put on continuous sedation until they die.

Health care that is run by government panels leads to rationing and rationing leads to death panels. Sarah Palin was right.

Information from Jim Towe in the Wall Street Journal and The Daily Telegraph.



Cartoon, Chuck Assay, Wall Street Journal, August 28,2009



Membership 2009

Nancy Maier—Membership Chair

Please welcome two new members -

Jo Cornett and Caroline Nielsen

Our total membership for the year is now 103 - Do I see 106 on the horizon? I certainly hope so. Each and every member can make this possible by encouraging a friend, family member, acquaintance or whoever, even a disgruntled Democrat, to come join us. They won't be sorry!

Each new member receives a Membership Book and a questionnaire which helps us to get to know you better. We hope that you will sign up to work in one or two areas to facilitate the election of Republicans in the coming 2010 election. If any current member of our Club would like to complete one of these questionnaires, please give me a call - Nancy 538-9804.

Nancy Maier, Membership Chair



You're invited to the California Republican Party Convention!

September 25 – 27, 2009 ~ Indian Wells, CA

California Republicans are determined to elect a new Republican Governor and send Republican reinforcements to Washington and Sacramento in 2010. With this important mission ahead, we look forward to welcoming you to the California Republican Party's 2009 Fall Convention in beautiful Indian Wells.

What you will find at
www.legislature.ca.gov/

[Today's Legislative Events](#)
[Session Information and Daily Files](#)



Welcome to the California State Legislature web site, the gateway to California's Legislative web sites. For an overview of the legislative process in California, please visit the [Citizen's guide to the legislative process](#) at the Capitol Museum website.



Santa Rosa Republican Women, Federated

Membership Form 2009

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____@_____

Spouse's name _____

Newsletter by mail _____ or E-mail _____

Please indicate the appropriate membership:

_____ \$35 Active Member

_____ \$50 Sustaining Member (Non-participating registered Republican woman interested in supporting the Club, receiving our newsletter and information.)

_____ \$30 Associate Member (A non-voting membership for a woman who is an active member of another Republican Women Federated Club, or who is not a citizen of the United States, or a man who is interested in promoting the goals and objectives of the Republican Women Federated.)

_____ Free Honorary Membership - Republican Woman 90 years plus.

_____ \$10 Student Membership

Make checks payable to SRRWF & mail to:

SRRWF - Treasurer

1585 Terrace Way, Box 306

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS

Registration forms are available at our meetings. Please advise Rosalie Parks of where we or you would like to register voters.

Voter Registration Chair Rosalie Parks
707-578-0414 guiltymoms@yahoo.com



Santa Rosa Republican Women, Fed
 1585 Terrace Way, # 306
 Santa Rosa, CA 95404
 A 527 Organization



Have you noticed the Federal highway signs with... "Official Seal" of Recovery.gov, the official site of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Look a little familiar? I was curious as I thought it looked different... On the website I obtained the information about the artist and oh so much more. They are very clever this Organizing for America formerly known as ACORN...

Steve Juras, the creative director of the Chicago firm Mode Project (which collaborated on the Obama campaign's "O" logo), led the designers Aaron Draplin of Draplin Design Co. and Chris Glass of the design collective Wire & Twine to develop the right marriage of type and image. The White House guidelines for each logo were very clear. "It was explicitly stated that the ARRA logo not look 'governmental,'" Juras said. "We were asked to create a 'visible sign of progress' in a contemporary way while referencing energy, education and health care."



Calendar 2009

- Sept 10-13** NFRW Convention pg 5
- Sept 12** Tea Party Express in Wash DC
- Sept 18** Constitution Day
- Sept 22** General Monthly Meeting
- Oct 6** SRRWF Board Meeting
- Oct 16-18** CFRW State Convention pg 5
- Oct 27** General Monthly Meeting
- Nov 3** SRRWF Board Meeting
- Nov 13-15** CFRW No Div Convention pg 5
- Nov 24** General Monthly Meeting
- Dec 1** SRRWF Board Meeting
- Dec 16** General Monthly Meeting

Republicans Meetings Around the County

Sonoma County Republican Party, meets the 3rd Wednesday each month.. Information-707 542-7066

www.sonomagop.org

North Sonoma Rep Club (Healdsburg) Sept 16th meets at Adels for Breakfast - Rosalie Parks Chair 707-578-0414

Republican Women Federated Clubs -Region XI

Lake County RWF - alternating 2nd Wed & 3rd Sat
www.lakecountyrwf.tripod.com

Marin RWF - Meets fourth Wednesday
www.maringop.org

Napa Valley RWF - Meets second Thursday of each month
www.napagop.org

Napa Vintage RWF - Meets third Thursday - 707-554-4710

Novato RWF - Meets third Tuesday www.novatorwf.org

Sonoma Valley RWF - Meets Second Thursday each month
 707 938-5055

Upper Napa RWF - Meets Second Monday call
 Marjorie Preston 707-226-2914