

# The Rossmoor Republican

April 2012



## Contra Costa County Sheriff David Livingston to Address the RCR April 11

The rule of law is a bedrock principle upon which American democracy rests. Without effect law enforcement, there can be no rule of law. The chief law enforcement officer in Contra Costa County is Sheriff David Livingston. Sheriff Livingston will speak to the Republican Club of Rossmoor on Wednesday, April 11. His presentation will be of vital interest to all Rossmoor Republicans.



he is committed to more active monitoring of parolees throughout the County. Sheriff Livingston has said he values training, teamwork and professionalism.

Sheriff Livingston lives in Danville with his wife Agnes, his three sons and stepdaughter. He earned a Bachelor's Degree with Honors from the University of California at Santa Barbara and later earned his law degree from the USF

**David Livingston  
 Sheriff  
 Contra Costa County**

Sheriff Livingston was elected the 22<sup>nd</sup> Sheriff of Contra Costa County on June 8, 2010. He succeeded longtime Sheriff Warren Rupf, who retired. David started his career as a police officer in the City of Fremont where he rose to the rank of Captain. He then served as Chief of Police in Pleasant Hill for approximately three years before assuming command of the Concord Police Department in 2005. Along the way he served as a member of the California Police Chiefs Board of Directors and served on the State Bar's Judicial Nominee Evaluating Committee.

Sheriff Livingston has a record of supporting a community policing philosophy, seeking out current equipment and technology, and standing up for the employees who work with and for him. He intends to study whether 911 calls from cell-phones can be answered locally and

School of Law. He attended the FBI Academy, graduated from the Police Officers Standards and Training Command College and is an attorney admitted to practice in both the state and federal courts.

"The Office of the Sheriff is a leader in providing outstanding law enforcement services. I am proud to wear the Sheriff's Office badge," Sheriff Livingston said. "I also look forward to working with other County departments and leaders as we tackle the many challenges we face. We are all in this together."

**A blue dinner reservation form for April 11 is included in this issue of the Republican. The form MUST be returned by noon, Friday, April 6. Reservation questions: 937-0125.**

**We're on the web!**  
[www.rossmoor-republicans.us](http://www.rossmoor-republicans.us)

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## Does it Take a Village? ...President Fran Cavenaugh

Hillary Clinton's 1996 book took its title from the African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child." The concept is that the collective effort of the entire community is superior to that of one family. To many, this choice of title betrayed a collectivist mentality in conflict with self-reliance and competition---central to the free enterprise system. The relative worth of collective versus individual effort is a provocative question. Let's look at two experiments.

In the first, an economics professor failed an entire class. That class had insisted that collectivism worked; no one would be poor and no one would be rich---a great equalizer. The professor proposed an experiment. On each test all scores would be averaged and everyone would receive the same grade so no one would fail.

After the first test, the scores were averaged and everyone got a B. The bright students and those who had studied hard were upset, while the dull students and those who had studied little were happy. For the second test, the slackers studied even less; the achievers decided they wanted a free ride too, so they studied little. The second test scores averaged a D. No one was happy. Predictably, the average for the third test was an F. The scores on subsequent tests never increased because no one would study for the benefit of others. All the students failed the course. The experiment demonstrated a failure of collectivism. When the potential reward is great, so is the effort to succeed; without the reward, no one will try.

The story's origin is obscure; it may be only an urban legend. Nevertheless, an actual study conducted at the University of California (Merced campus) showed that when students were asked to share their academic successes by averaging grades with their less successful classmates, the better students declined.

The second example is historical rather than anecdotal. On the Mayflower in 1620, the pilgrims agreed upon collective ownership of everything: the structures they would build, the land they would farm, the crops they would grow---all owned in common. They would draw rations equally from common supplies.

Under this system, effort was lacking and results were poor. Many perished from starvation during their first winter. Fearing for the survival of the colony, its governor William Bradford abolished the collective system. He assigned a plot of land to each family to work and manage. Effort and results improved, and the colony survived. Bradford had recognized that the people had no incentive to work hard unless they could directly benefit from their own efforts.

Self-interest, not collective interest, is the natural human impulse. It drives success and growth. Substitute collective responsibility for self-interest and you get outcomes like the Mayflower colonists' first winter, or the students who all received an F---or the failed Soviet system. Just something to consider when a politician tries to sell you government redistribution of wealth---or of anything else, for that matter.

## They Make It Happen

Carol Worthington is our Membership Chairperson---a key position in any organization. Carol provides membership application forms to those expressing an interest in our Club and follows up. She conducts recruitment efforts by maintaining a presence at events like Rossmoor's Activities Day and by contacting potentially interested Republicans. She places a membership renewal flyer in the *Rossmoor Republican* and coordinates follow-up contacts with those who do not renew.

Carol receives and processes both initial and renewal membership forms and dues. She forwards membership information for inclusion in the Club's membership database and directory, and she maintains a card file with historical and contact information on all members. She also initiates contacts with those whose initial or renewal membership applications indicate an interest in various Club activities.

Carol sends a membership directory and *Rossmoor Republican* newsletter to all new members. She also works to make new members feel welcome by greeting them at their first dinner event, placing a new-member caption on their name badges, and making sure they are seated with Board members or others who will provide orientation to our Club.

As you can see, the Membership Chair position is central to maintaining the orderly operation and the vitality of our Club. If you would be willing to assist in this crucial operation, contact Carol Worthington at 256-1313. She

# RCR Board of Directors



**Fran Cavanaugh,  
President**



**Mary Hufford,  
Vice President &  
Ambassadors Chair**



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**Bud Lake, Treasurer**



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**Clair Weenig,  
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**Carol Worthington,  
Membership Chair**



**Bud Semrau,  
Publicity Chair**



**Kathy Poling,  
Issues Committee Chair**

**Tom Fryer, Editor  
Rossmoor Republican**

## Club Calendar

- Ambassadors**, Tuesday, March 13, 11 AM, Room 4, Creekside
- Dinner Meeting**, Wednesday, March 14, 5:15 PM, Fireside Room, Gateway
- Issues Committee**, Thursday, March 15, 2 PM, Ivy Room, Dollar Clubhouse
- Board Meeting**, Monday, March 19, 1 PM, Room 4, Creekside
- Discussion Group**, Tuesday, March 20, 2 PM, Garden Room, Dollar

**JOIN US!**  
Simply call Carol Worthington at 256-1313. She will handle all of the steps needed to make you a full member of the Republican Club of Rossmoor. Annual dues are \$15 per person; \$25 per couple.

**NEW MEMBER**  
*Mary Todd*  
**A WARM REPUBLICAN CLUB WELCOME!**

Photos by Peggy Fryer

THE ROSSMOOR REPUBLICAN IS THE JOURNAL  
OF THE REPUBLICAN CLUB OF ROSSMOOR  
"SENIORS FOR A GOVERNMENT OF PRINCIPLE  
ABOVE POLITICS"

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1001 Golden Rain Road  
Walnut Creek CA 94595



## **APRIL DINNER MENU**

**Wednesday, April 11, 2012, Fireside Room, Gateway**

**5:15 pm Social Time, 6:00 pm Dinner**

**THERE WILL BE A HOSTED WINE AND BEER BAR**

### **Menu**

**Caesar Salad**

**Pork Tenderloin with Apple Chutney**

**Scalloped Potatoes**

**Asparagus with Roasted Shallot Butter**

**Vegetarian Option: Spinach and Ricotta Cannelloni**

**Chocolate Cake**

**Decaf Coffee or Hot Tea**

**Reservation deadline: Noon, Friday, April 6**

**Reservation questions: Call 937-0125**