


**SCCA Endorsements for November 6, 2012 Election**

<p><b>Sonoma County Supervisor</b></p>	<p><b>CA State Assembly</b></p>
 <p><b>Susan Gorin</b> for 1st District, East County Supervisor  SusanGorin.com (707) 480-0908</p>	 <p><b>Wes Chesbro</b> for State Assembly District 2  WesChesbrofor Assembly.com (707) 498-2483</p>
<p><b>US Congress</b></p>	<p><b>Michael Allen</b> for State Assembly District 10</p>
 <p><b>Jared Huffman</b> for US Congress, CA District 1  JaredHuffman.com (415) 459-2012</p>	 <p>AllenforAssembly.com (707) 322-7741</p>
<p><b>Santa Rosa City Council</b></p>	<p><b>Sebastopol City Council</b></p>
 <p><b>Gary Wysocky</b> for Santa Rosa City Council  GaryWysocky.com (707) 575-3820</p>	 <p><b>Robert Jacob</b> for Sebastopol City Council  Jacob4Council.com (707) 861-9272</p>
 <p><b>Caroline Banelos</b> for Santa Rosa City Council CarolineBanelos.com (707) 583-9603</p>	 <p><b>John Eder</b> for Sebastopol City Council  www.johneder2012.w ebly.com/ (707) 696-4309</p>
<p><b>Sonoma City Council</b></p>	<p><b>Sonoma City Council</b></p>
 <p><b>Julie Combs</b> for Santa Rosa City Council  JulieCombs.com (707) 542-1906</p>	 <p><b>Laurie Gallian</b> for Sonoma City Council  LaurieGallian.com (707) 738-9847</p>

**Santa Rosa’s District Elections— Yes on Q!**

*By Craig Litwin, District Elections Campaign*

The time has come for our City Council to represent the needs of all of Santa Rosa. Over the past thirty years, there have been only four Councilmembers from the West side of the city. Simply put, our current system is unbalanced.

We reject the idea that a person’s vote is something that needs to be protected from someone else. Every vote counts, and should translate into a voice that is heard in our city government. That is the whole concept of our representative form of democracy.

The reality in Santa Rosa is that for too long now, large areas of Santa Rosa have not had adequate representation on or accessibility to our City Council.

As Santa Rosa grows, we need to ensure that our city government reflects the vibrant geographic, age, economic and ethnic diversity of our city. It’s time for new perspectives and fresh ideas on our Council, boards and commissions.

District Elections will both unite Santa Rosa and promote a shared responsibility to tackle our toughest challenges together. Please Vote Yes on Measure Q on Nov. 6th! Volunteer today- districtelections4sr.com ◇

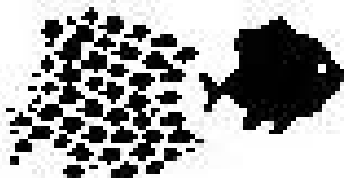
**“Western Growers Association” Wants to Buy Your Vote**

*By Dennis Rosatti, Executive Director*

Sonoma and Marin Counties have long been considered among the strongest environmental advocates in California, if not the nation. We have had a great succession of legislators who not only value our parks and open space, but whom are willing to fight to ensure that these resources are adequately funded and protected.

This year, with the open primary,

*(Continued on page 3)*



*More Endorsements  
Inside on Page 7!*

## If Prop 32 Passes: A Not So Green Golden State

By *Matthew Fleisher* on September 18, 2012  
\*Originally appeared on *fryingpannews.org* blog.

How different would California look with Proposition 32's passage? To imagine, it's not necessary to focus on a Golden State without the legacy of its unions, but rather to think of a California in which only the rich and powerful have a say in Sacramento and in the polling booth. "It will have a devastating effect," says John Logan, director of Labor Studies at San Francisco State University, of Prop. 32's impact. "California would be transformed as a state."

**On environmental issues alone,** Prop. 32 stands to roll back decades of progress in making California a global leader in green policy-making. "You don't have to go very far back to find likely examples of how it would change California," Logan says, adding that Prop. 32 would remove labor's voice from nearly all political conversations.

That voice is not always confined to lobbying efforts in the state legislature. Often labor's support of candidates filling executive posts can be decisive. An obvious example is the 2010 governor's race. Jerry Brown's opponent, former eBay CEO and billionaire Meg Whitman, spent more than \$144 million of her personal fortune on her own campaign—\$178 million in total, nearly five times Brown's war chest. And yet Brown won, thanks to a massive grassroots effort led by labor. What would California look like had big business had the spending field all to itself in 2010? Except for her stated adamant opposition to raising taxes on the wealthy, Meg Whitman was largely short on policy specifics during her campaign. In 2009, however, she told the San Diego Union-Tribune that her first act as governor would be to suspend AB 32 — California's Global Warming Solutions Act, citing its financial impact on California industry.

A landmark environmental law, AB 32 mandates, among its other goals, that California return its emissions output to 1990 levels by 2020—a reduction of 25 percent. The effort to

comply with the law has spurred significant attempts to enhance automobile fuel efficiency as well as to source renewable energy from across the state. These efforts have national, even international implications, as technology designed to meet California's rigorous environmental standards is often marketed and sold around the world.



Photo from [www.fryingpannews.com](http://www.fryingpannews.com)

**The global sweep of AB 32 has made it a top target for multinational oil and petrochemical interests.** In 2010, Big Oil banded together to launch Proposition 23—a California ballot initiative to nullify AB 32. Among the donors to the pro-Prop. 23 effort were the billionaire Koch Brothers—whose Koch Industries subsidiary, Flint Hills Resources, gave \$1 million to overturn the law. Their efforts failed by nearly 25 percentage points at the polls.

**On September 13 of this year, the Koch brothers, with no apparent sense of irony, donated \$4 Million to back Prop. 32—a bill that claims to "stop special interests."** If Prop. 32 were to pass, repealing AB 32 would likely be at the top of the Koch brothers' — and the rest of the oil/petrochemical industry's — to-do list.

The mere fact that AB 32 exists at all is a stroke of luck for the state of California. Despite its reputation as the land of environmental progress, California has seen a host of potential landmark bills axe-murdered by big business in the past decade.

In 2006 then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed a litany of environmental bills at the behest of business interests, including a law (AB 1021) requiring that 50 percent of

the vehicles sold in California run on clean alternative fuels by 2020. A year later, the Governor followed up by vetoing a series of bills (Assembly Bills 35, 888 and 1058) to establish green building standards for state buildings, as well as commercial buildings and residential structures.

**But perhaps no environmental reform effort stands to flame out under a Prop. 32 regime as conspicuously as the longstanding effort to clean up California's filthy, air-polluted ports.**

In 2008, SB 974, proposed by state Senator Alan Lowenthal, would have imposed a \$30 fee per 20-foot shipping container at the ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach and Oakland. The fees would have added up to \$300 million annually, half to be spent on air pollution controls and the other half for infrastructure upgrades to prevent port congestion.

Public health fallout from our dirty, crowded ports costs Californians \$19 billion annually. Senate Bill 974 received the direct support of the 85,000-member Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 721 and made it through the California Assembly—only to be vetoed by Schwarzenegger in 2008 after none other than Sarah Palin lobbied the governor against the bill. She was joined by the California Chamber of Commerce, who called the measure a "job killer" and by a who's who of cheap Chinese labor-dependent big business—from garment manufacturers like Abercrombie & Fitch, to big box retailers like Walmart. (A new version of the bill—SB 379—eventually passed last year.)

Big business already decides much of California's environmental policy. If Prop. 32 were to enter the equation, it would only be a matter of years before California's reputation as a green leader in the global environmental movement would be as torched as the coal in our power plants. ◇

*Matthew Fleisher is an award-winning investigative journalist, a former LA Weekly staff writer, and an editor at FishbowlLA.*

## Hollow Endorsements in Santa Rosa

By David Keller, SCCA Board Chair

An unexpected turn of events occurred in Santa Rosa this election cycle. An SCCA-endorsed candidate traded endorsements with current incumbent Ernesto Olivares, and stirred quite the pot of controversy. Besides Mr. Olivares scoring lower than any other candidate in Santa Rosa on SCCA's Annual Environmental Scorecard, he is notoriously one of the least available Councilmembers in Sonoma County.

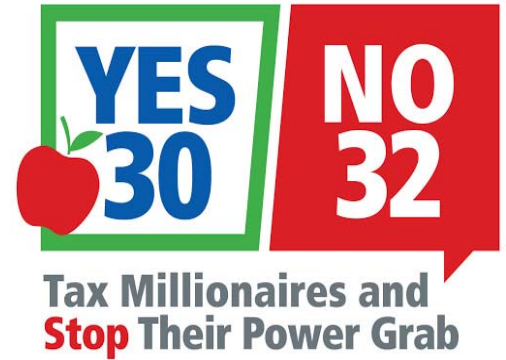
Mr. Olivares pitched a "reaching across the aisle" theme that purports to address long-standing rifts between big business/development interests and environmental/neighborhood/labor interests in Santa Rosa. SCCA's Board of Directors took strong offense to this action, on a number of fronts.

SCCA fundamentally disagrees with Ernesto Olivares. Mr. Olivares is no environmentalist, nor does he have a track record of being a proponent of good government practices.

SCCA believes that reaching out to work with all members of the Council, and all members of the public, are fundamental values that are critically important for work done in public office. All candidates have a responsibility to support, "working across the aisle." However, Mr. Olivares' gesture is a media-grabbing stunt that rings hollow in light of his history and public action. He has an 'F' grade from SCCA on environmental voting and an 'F' on listening to the public.

We continue to strongly support Gary Wysocky, Julie Combs and Caroline Banuelos for positions on the Santa Rosa City Council, because of their proven values and demonstrated actions. Please vote for the candidates

you can trust to hold true to your environmental values: Wysocky, Combs and Banuelos. Please do not support those candidates whose environmental record is poor, who make hollow claims, or who have proven track records of obstructionism. The healthy and prosperous future of Santa Rosa depends on your vote ◇



*"Big Ag Buying Your Vote" Continued from p. 1*

there is a very real threat to our environmental values—and big agriculture has taken notice. Western Growers Association, an agribusiness trade association backed by Monsanto, has opened a political action committee against Assemblyman Michael Allen because he had the audacity to support the labeling of genetically modified organisms (Proposition 37) and supported legislation requiring shade and water to be made available to farmworkers in the fields.

This political action committee has dropped \$117,000 on negative attack pieces against Assemblyman Allen and is working hard to ensure that he doesn't return to Sacramento to continue protecting our working men, women, and the environment.

The contributors to the PAC have a long history of environmental abuses and worker rights violations. In 2010 Tom Bengard Ranch, Inc, was fined for violating air quality regulations. Kern Ridge Growers were fined in 2010 for using illegal pesticides. In both 2009 and 2012, Paramount Farming and Turlock Fruit Company were fined for non-compliance with smoke emission standards.

Mann Packing Co, Inc. made the most egregious abuse towards workers this year. They were fined for both refusal to pay overtime wages and for not providing meal and rest periods for their workers. This news proceeds a 2008 judgment that forced Mann Packing Co, Inc. to pay a six-figure settlement for water contamination in Salinas.

Often times, interest groups define the candidates for us, and in this election they give us a very stark contrast. Michael Allen is supported by every environmental group in Sonoma and Marin Counties, including SCCA. His opponent is not supported by any of these respected organizations; rather, he is relying upon Big Ag and Big Chemical companies to negative campaign for him. Michael Allen's campaign contributions come from liberal environmentalists while his opponent's come from conservative developers, real estate interests and large corporate polluters.

We cannot afford to let these interests buy our Assembly seat in November. Vote Michael Allen for State Assembly on Nov. 6th . ◇

*Michael Allen is running for the seat vacated by Jared Huffman due to his being termed out. Michael is a sitting Assemblymember who's district was eliminated during the latest round of redistricting in CA. He recently moved to San Rafael and has lived and worked in Sonoma County for over 30 years. ◇*

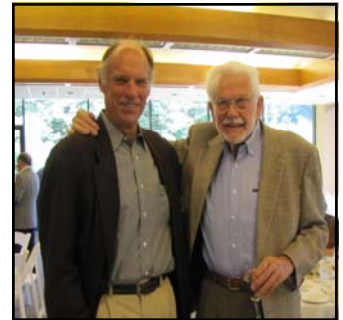


# SCCA Salutes Our Donors!

*SCCA extends a special thank you to all sponsors and donors who contributed to our June 19th, 2012 Benefit Dinner. When possible please consider supporting them.*

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Former Board Member Sheri Cardo caught shopping with friends in the silent action.

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SCCA Board President Una Glass (at mic) and Executive Director Denny Rosatti present a resolution from the CA State Assembly, honoring the work of the CA Coastal Commission, to keynote speaker Dr. Charles Lester, the newly appointed CA Coastal Commission Executive Director.

Cotati City Council	Petaluma City Council
 <p><b>John Dell'Osso</b> for Cotati City Council Dellosoctai2012.com (707) 664-0598</p>	 <p><b>Tiffany Renee</b> for Petaluma City Council www.tiffanyrenee.com (707) 285-7193</p>
 <p><b>Susan Harvey</b> for Cotati City Council sharvey@cotati.ca.us (707) 792-0637</p>	 <p><b>Jason Davies</b> for Petaluma City Council Jason4petaluma.com (707) 981-4833</p>
 <p><b>Wendy Skillman</b> for Cotati City Council wskillman@gmail.com (707) 795-7295</p>	 <p><b>Alicia Kae Herries</b> for Petaluma City Council Aliciakaeherries.com (707) 758-8397</p>
Santa Rosa School Board	RP/Cotati School Board
 <p><b>Jenni Klose</b> for Santa Rosa City School Board Jenniklose.com Kloseforschools.com (707) 595-0295</p>	 <p><b>Ed Gilardi</b> for Rohnert Park/Cotati School Board Vote4ed2012.com (707) 792-2526</p>

 <p><b>Larry Haenel</b> for Santa Rosa School Board www.larryhaenelforschools.info (707) 280-5663</p>
 <p><b>Laura Gonzalez</b> for Santa Rosa School Board Lauragonzalez.org (707) 364-0415</p>

**JOIN "LADY JUSTICE" AT RALLY FOR FAIRNESS AND DIGNITY ON OCTOBER 27**

*By Janis Watkins, SCCA Board Member*

Are you ready for Lady Justice and her scales of justice? She will be at a **Rally for Fairness and Dignity on Saturday, October 27, 3-5 pm, Community Baptist Church, 1620 Sonoma Ave., Santa Rosa.** This is Get-Out-The-Vote political theater at its best! You will watch Lady Justice weigh the justice of voting for District Elections in Santa Rosa and Prop. 30 funding for students. You can directly tell County Officials what you think about policies that harm "Dreamers" and immigrant families. If you care about these issues of justice, join SCCA and its allies at North Bay Organizing Project as they celebrate democracy and seek justice at this inspiring event. This will be a culminating moment in a long and hard-fought campaign season.

For information, call Omar Gallardo, at (707) 236-7501 and email: info@northbayop.org ◇

**Local Measures**

**West Sonoma County Union High School Measure K– Parcel Tax– YES on K!**

**Santa Rosa Measure Q– District Elections- YES on Q!**

**Healdsburg Measure W– UGB Renewal– Yes on W!**

**Cotati Measure U– Anti-Roundabouts– NO on U!**

**Petaluma Measure X– Parks and Recreation– YES on X!**

**Sebastopol Measure Y - Yes on Y!**

**State Props**

**Proposition 30– Governor's Education Tax – YES!**

**Proposition 37– GMO Labeling/Right to Know – YES!**

**Proposition 32—Anti-Union Measure — NO!**





Sonoma County Conservation Action  
 540 Pacific Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404  
 (707) 571-8566 FAX (707) 571-1678  
 www.ConservationAction.org  
 scca@ConservationAction.org

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**Nov. 6 Election Endorsements**  
**Sonoma County**  
**1st District Supervisor– Susan Gorin**  
**CA State**  
**Prop 30– YES!**  
**Prop 37– YES!**  
**Prop 32– NO!**  
**State Assembly D1– Wes Chesbro**  
**State Assembly D10– Michael Allen**  
**Remember to VOTE Nov. 6!**  
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 \*Last Day to Register to Vote: is October 22nd!  
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***Celebrate the Season with SCCA***  
 Join us for an evening of presentations:  
 SCCA's Know Your Neighbor Program  
 SMART Train and Pathway  
 Other Local Environmental Issues  
**Sunday December 9th 5PM**  
**Starlight Wine Bar and Restaurant, Sebastopol**  
 Tickets: \$125, Sponsorships: \$250/\$500/More  
 \*Delicious food/wine pairing by Starlight!  
 Space is limited; RSVP by December 5th  
 (707) 571-8868

**City Endorsements**

**Cotati**  
 John Dell'Osso  
 Wendy Skillman  
 Susan Harvey  
 No on U  
 Ed Gilardi (School Board)

**Healdsburg**  
 Yes on W

*Santa Rosa Continued*

**Petaluma**  
 Jason Davies  
 Tiffany Renee  
 Alicia Kae Herries  
 Yes on X

**Santa Rosa**  
 Gary Wysocky  
 Caroline Banuelos  
 Julie Combs  
 Yes on Q  
 Jenni Klose (SRCS)

**Laura Gonzalez (SRCS)**  
 Larry Haenel (SRCS)

**Sebastopol**  
 John Eder  
 Robert Jacob  
 Yes on K (All West County)  
 Yes on Y

**Sonoma**  
 Laurie Gallian

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