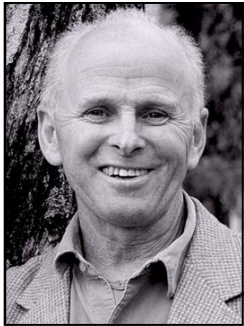


**Will Pier for 1st District,
East County Supervisor**

www.willpierforsupervisor.com



Will Pier

A Message
from Will:

With the encouragement of fellow environmentalists, colleagues, neighbors, volunteers and professionals who share my vision of planning for the long-term, sustainable future of our County – I decided to be a candidate for 1st district supervisor.

The economy and the environment are integrally related. I will bring creative solutions to the current environmental, social and local economic issues of Sonoma County, always serving the best interests of our community. The critical decisions to protect and preserve our environment have been contested, weakened or simply rejected by the Board of Supervisors. **I am committed to leading that Board to vigorously enact programs that will develop a sustainable future for Sonoma County.**

As Supervisor, I will immediately address the crisis in County health care services. The County must budget for and revive the mental health care program and its facilities. The County also needs to budget for and provide health care to the people of Sonoma County by taking back Community Hospital. The Board should not renege on benefit contracts. We must take these measures while working for an optional universal health care program at the state level. When this program is in place, the county will save millions of dollars annually in worker's compensation and employee benefits.

I will also work immediately to give

(Continued on page 2)

**Shirlee Zane for 3rd District,
Central County Supervisor**

www.zaneforsupervisor.com

A Message from Shirlee:

I have been a community leader in Sonoma County for over 14 years, and most recently as a Chief Executive Officer for a multi-million dollar non-profit that provides health and human services to seniors for the past 9 years. I have over 25 years experience in health and human services and I am running on a "healthy Sonoma County" platform that is close to my heart, and based on my depth and breadth of experience working in our County. **The concept of a "healthy**



Shirlee Zane

Sonoma County" includes both environmental justice and social justice.

My family has been profoundly affected by environmental ill health. Both my aunt and uncle died of environmental cancer in their forties and their son, my cousin was stricken with Parkinson's disease at the age of forty. They lived on a golf course in the 60's and 70's when the turfs were being treated heavily with chemicals and pesticides. So definitive was their case, that UCLA studied them as one of the first demonstrations of environmental illness.

I have been active in politics my whole adult life. I am a recent graduate and fellow of the California Women's Policy Institute, a former member of the Central Democratic Committee, former Sonoma County Commissioner, California State Democratic Delegate and have worked on numerous state and local policies, measures and propositions. I have

(Continued on page 2)

**Rue Furch for 5th District,
West County Supervisor**

www.ruefurch.com

A Message from Rue:

I'm honored to have the endorsement of Sonoma County Conservation Action. SCCA literally "walks the talk". SCCA is the only local environmental organization that goes door-to-door in Sonoma County neighborhoods year-round talking to citizens and raising awareness of environmental issues. I salute SCCA, and I look forward to working together when I am Fifth District supervisor.

SCCA and I have been allies in countless environmental battles over many years. One of the first major issues I participated in as a Planning Commissioner was the Aggregate Resources Management (ARM) Plan in the early '90's. Representatives of SCCA spoke in favor of protecting the Russian River during the ARM Plan those many years ago and still attend hearings to speak out in favor of River protection. **Consistently, SCCA representatives and members (you) have been instrumental in forcing better decisions, and electing superior, environmentally conscious candidates.**



Rue Furch

More recently we have worked together on the Sonoma County General Plan (GP) update. Through the GP update, we have been successful in getting the County's first

Water Resource Element, and we have expanded the riparian areas to protect all the "blue line" streams identified on USGS maps - including functions that setbacks perform, such as riparian habitat, bank stabilization, sediment and erosion control. These areas pro-

(Continued on page 2)

us a comprehensive water management plan. This will require county-wide assessment of aquifers and recharge zones that can be relied on as a resource for potable water for all the communities nearby. Recycling, conservation and diversion will play a major part in recharging these aquifers. We need to stop exporting our water and gravel mining in the Russian River basin, both of which degrade our watershed.

As Supervisor, I will plan and budget for increased bus service between towns, and expand and improve bicycle paths countywide. I support the **SMART rail and trail**, and will work for its passage. We must reduce our carbon footprint.

I will work for affordable housing, to ensure a higher percentage of all new construction truly meets this need, and a **living wage ordinance**, which I will lead the Board to pass, affirming those passed by the Cities of Sebastopol, Petaluma and Sonoma. Also, I will work to promote internship and apprenticeship programs for all youth, and expand programs services for seniors. I will work to build more recreation facilities.

I am committed to furthering the preservation of Open Space and scenic corridors, and support for sustainable, diverse farming and agriculture. Through incentive programs I will encourage green building, and green collar jobs, and green industry. I believe the County should retain ownership of the Central Landfill and create incentives to promote zero waste.

I dedicate myself to finding solutions for these urgent issues, and to working collaboratively with all the communities to create a sustainable Sonoma County. ◇

You can contact **Will Pier** at:

Friends of Will Pier
PO Box 732, El Verano, CA 95433

Or call at (707) 227-0047
Or online willpierforsupervisor.com

Vote June 3rd!

served on the **Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) Advisory Board**. The MTC represents all nine Bay Area counties.

I most recently demonstrated my leadership in the community by providing the vision and top management in a capital campaign of 3.5 million dollars that built an energy efficient 10,000 foot kitchen for our Meals on Wheels program and also the first and only emergency disaster kitchen in Sonoma County. The campaign was effective due to my strategic management, vision; know how, persuasive abilities with elected officials, the media and community donors, and ability to create successful teams.

I worked to support the **Open Space District** measure two years ago. I was featured on the front of the brochure that was distributed to Santa Rosa residents.

I created and led "The Take Back the Streets" March and Rally to support safety for bicyclists and pedestrians and encourage the use of these two "green modes of transportation." We must create clean walkable livable communities that support walking and bicycling as a viable method of transportation. Engineering, enforcement, education and environmentally sound projects are necessary in order to achieve this.

I have worked with the **Accountable Development Coalition** this past year on the Station Area Plan in order to achieve their significant goals of environmental and social justice in planning. Council on Aging is the newest nonprofit member of the ADC on account of our shared vision.

I am incredibly proud, honored and humbled to have received the SCCA endorsement. I am open, teachable and passionate about the environment and sustainability. **We must partner and work together for a healthy Sonoma county.** ◇

You can contact **Shirlee Zane** at:

Zane for Supervisor
1585 Terrace Way, # 539
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Or call at (707) 495-2246
Or online at zanehorsupervisor.com

vide filtration from chemicals and toxins, and slow floodwaters to allow greater recharge of our groundwater areas. We also have goals for Greenhouse Gas Reduction that were not in the previous GP. We must write and implement an aggressive Plan of Action to meet those Greenhouse Gas Reduction goals.

There are many more battles to come.

We must pass SMART! I was involved with the early Highway 101 Corridor Action Committee seeking a solution to our main stem traffic issues. Local passenger rail, the SMART train, is that solution. I served on both the Sebastopol and Santa Rosa Urban Growth Boundary Committees and I expect to be fighting along with SCCA to preserve our UGBs as they come up for renewal.

We'll also work to strengthen the County's companion UGB measure. We must also ensure that the people and uses of Sonoma County have safe and reliable water for *all* of us, and for generations to come.

SCCA endorsed me because they know that I have the background and experience to not only work on these vital environmental issues, but **to produce results as I've proven I can.** In order to get to work on these problems as your Supervisor, I first have to get elected. The Primary election is coming up on June 3rd.

I need your help to get elected. I will do everything I can to represent you well, and to achieve our common dreams. **Together, we'll make a difference for Sonoma County's environment, and all of our futures.**

People are also sending personal notes to their friends and associates - encouraging them to Vote for Rue. **This is grassroots campaigning at its core, and it represents the kind of outreach SCCA stands for.** ◇

You can contact **Rue Furch** at:

Friends of Rue Furch,
PO Box 1853, Sebastopol, CA 95473

Or call at (707) 246-1301
Or online at www.ruefurch.com

Saggio Hills and the Fight Against Rural Sprawl

By Jessica Diaz and Warren Watkins

A sprawling, luxury resort proposed for the outskirts of Healdsburg has raised major questions about how a small town should grapple with community needs and fiscal hardship without putting both the environment and working class families in the crosshairs.

Saggio Hills is a development proposed for approximately 260 acres on the hills north of Healdsburg. It would include 130 hotel rooms in addition to 70 “resort residences and villas,” plus a 590-seat conference center, restaurants, vineyards, a spa, and other luxury facilities. In terms of water use, it is the environmental equivalent of adding 500 homes to the community – hardly insubstantial for a town of approximately 12,000 residents.

A project of this magnitude so far from the town’s center threatens to pull economic activity away from Healdsburg’s downtown, although the project is within the voter approved urban growth boundary. But, it is proposed on the edge of town, and the air and vehicle travel required to transport guests to the resort will generate

significant greenhouse gas emissions.

Because the development would create hundreds of new service jobs, at least 150 units of workforce housing will be needed, with a substantial portion affordable to low and very-low income households. Otherwise, the resort’s low-income employees will be forced to drive to affordability, thus increasing traffic for Healdsburg’s current residents and further adding to the project’s sizable carbon footprint.

While the developer has agreed to donate 14 acres of land for affordable housing, the current entitlements include no guarantees as to when this workforce housing will actually be built or how affordable it will be. A better plan would also disburse this housing to more than one site.

There is a similar lack of certainty as to how the resort will mitigate its significant demand for water and energy use and the associated greenhouse gas emissions. The environmental review process initially failed to analyze the project’s impact on climate change or how the proposed development would adhere to Healdsburg’s goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. And, the proposal may

have underestimated the project’s water demand and overestimated the City’s supply – threatening to squeeze out water availability for more sustainable, city-centered growth, small businesses, and workforce housing.

It is therefore with good reason that a small but growing group of residents, including the newly formed Healdsburg Citizens for Sustainable Solutions, is speaking out against significant environmental impacts of the project. A record number of residents came out to express their views at the City Council’s first hearing on the Saggio Hills Environmental Impact Report – more than had come to speak on any item in the history of the city.

The project has also attracted countywide attention, with the Accountable Development Coalition taking a position of opposition to the project unless significant concerns are addressed.

Community involvement will be key to protecting Healdsburg from the potentially significant and irreversible environmental impacts of this project. The next City Council hearing is May 21st at 7pm. Please contact Healdsburg Citizens for Sustainable Solutions at OWLWO@sonic.net or the

(Continued on page 6)

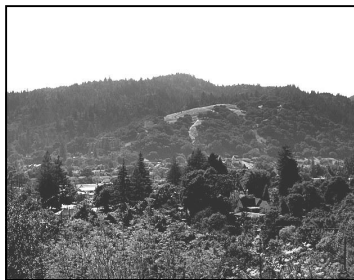
A Report from the Grassroots of Cloverdale

By Donna Arnstein, Co-Chair, CCCUGB

Over the last ten years, Cloverdale, the sleepy little town in the northern most part of Sonoma County, has experienced a big jump in population. Some of us here in Cloverdale realized that we needed something that other towns in the County already had—an Urban Growth Boundary. And so the **Citizens Committee for a Cloverdale UGB** was formed.

With support and guidance from Greenbelt Alliance and Sonoma County Conservation Action, our group began work on shaping how Cloverdale would look in the future. The first action was to gather signatures of residents who wanted an Urban Growth Boundary. These signatures were presented to the City Council.

The group then worked hard on the local election to make sure that the newly elected members of the City Council were supportive of a UGB. Presentations were made to the Citi-



View of hills near Cloverdale.

zens Advisory Committee working on the General Plan asking them to include an Urban Growth Boundary in their recommendations to the Planning Commission.

Meanwhile, the UGB Committee wrote letters to and personally met with each member of the City Council

and the City Planner to discuss the proposed boundaries for the City. Together with Greenbelt Alliance and SCCA, a town forum was held to inform the citizens about the UGB and to get their input.

Finally, after many months of committed work on the part of the Citizens Group, the Cloverdale City Council officially voted to put in place a tight UGB. After adoption of the final General Plan, the City will go through the process of adopting a UGB Ordinance.

If you are interested in helping to bring this process to completion or for more information, please contact jenna@conservationaction.org

Donna Arnstein is an Conservation Action member, and is the Co-chair of the Citizens Committee for a Cloverdale Urban Growth Boundary.



Green Affordable Housing Forum

How green building can save the planet and make housing affordable...

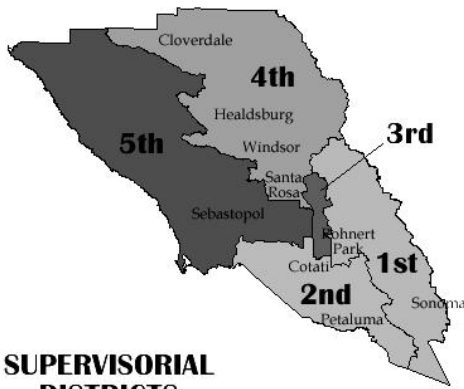
Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 6:00-8:30pm

First Congregational United Church, Friendship Hall
2000 Humboldt St, Santa Rosa

Forum is free. Light dinner included.

***Be sure to bring your own dish and utensils ***

This event is cosponsored by SCCA, Accountable Development Coalition, Habitat for Humanity, and Greenbelt Alliance.



SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS

What Does Your Supervisor Do For You?

5th District Local Government Dinner

Come learn about the inner workings of county government in Sonoma County's 5th District.

Wednesday, May 14, 2008, 6:00PM

\$25-\$50 sliding scale, Dinner and wine included.

Howard Station Café

3611 Bohemian Hwy, Occidental

Featured Speakers:

Mike Reilly, 5th District Supervisor

Rue Furch, County Planning Commissioner

Craig Litwin, Mayor of Sebastopol

From the Heart of KYN

SCCA's Know Your Neighbor (KYN) Program is happy to announce the addition of a new staff person, Nicole Allen, beginning in late May! With increased people power behind KYN, we are looking forward to involving more environmentally-concerned Sonoma County residents and building teams in more neighborhoods. Welcome Nicole!

In April, KYN had successful workshops on Mycorestoration and Edible Gardening. At Laguna Farm we inoculated the ground in the biodiesel area with soil-remediating spores to clean up biodiesel leakage. At a residence in Sebastopol we planted several garden beds with a variety of vegetables and are looking forward to the residents harvesting food in their own back yard. Thank you to our hosts, instructors, and students!

In May, we have a little change of pace with KYN's events. May 13th we are co-sponsoring a Green Affordable Housing Forum with expert panelists. Join us for this in Santa Rosa! May 14th is our Local Government Dinner at Howard Station Café in Occidental. Come learn about the inner workings of Sonoma County's 5th District!

The June 3rd election is just around the corner. **Do you live in the 5th District?** Would you like to call your neighbors or knock on their doors for Rue Furch for Supervisor? **Do you live in the 3rd District?** Would you like to connect with your neighbors about Shirlee Zane for Supervisor? **Do you live in the 1st District?** How about building neighborhood relationships while talking about Will Pier for Supervisor?

Your help is needed now and your neighbors will be very happy to hear from you! Please be in touch with any questions and let us know how you want to be involved.

Contact Jenna: 707-571-8868,
jenna@conservationaction.org

Early in the year, the Governor proposed a 10% cut in all departments in the state, including schools and state parks. Then he sent out a list of state parks that would be closing, including Old Adobe in Petaluma and Armstrong Redwoods in Guerneville. SCCA put out a Call for Action!

From the beginning of our Call to Action, SCCA partnered with Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods (Stewards), who had also put out a Call to Action to their membership. The plan was for SCCA to focus on getting local cities to pass a resolution to save our state parks, and the Stewards would lead the effort to get local Chambers of Commerce and the County to pass the same resolution.

SCCA's Canvass, Know Your Neighbor (KYN) program, and Political Department got to work. They were immediately successful in Sebastopol, Cotati and in Rohnert Park. With some additional follow-up by the Canvass, KYN, and the Political Department SCCA went on to procure

resolutions and/or letters supporting saving state parks in eight of nine cities in Sonoma County with only Cloverdale pending!

The Stewards also did a tremendous amount of work to put together a community forum with a panel discussion. Held at the Guerneville Veteran's Center, there was standing room only. Represented on the panel were SCCA and Stewards, Congresswoman Woolsey, State Senators Wiggins and Migden, Assembly members Evans and Berg, and in attendance were former Senator Chesbro and our local environmental champion, Supervisor Reilly. All were united in support of keeping the parks open.

Highlighting the evening with a presentation, and also serving in the panel, was Traci Verardo-Torres, Director of Legislation & Policy for the CA State Parks Foundation.

"The fight to protect our State Parks and keep them open has been one that has touched Californians up and down the state," said Ms. Verardo-Torres.

"Galvanizing organizations, local governments and community leaders has been an important part of reflecting the public's opposition to this proposal. SCCA has been a key force in generating support among cities and elected leaders in the Sonoma County area and, early in the campaign, took the lead in building that base of support."

It is worth noting that Sebastopol was the first city in the state, and Harmony Union School Board the first School Board in the state to pass the resolution to Save Our State Parks.

In a few weeks, the Governor will release his May Revision to the state budget he proposed in January. According to Verardo-Torres, "This fight is a marathon, not a sprint, and we'll be continuing to work with SCCA and others to make sure that the budget negotiations that ensue will result in keeping our state parks open." ♦

Craig Litwin is SCCA's Political Director and currently serves as Mayor of the City of Sebastopol.

Advertise your business here! We're offering space to select partners to help offset the cost of newsletter production and mailing— call our office for details, 571-8566. We thank you, our members and green businesses, for your support!

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bwilson9@sonic.net

Take a Hike. Make a Difference.



Founded in 1983, Coastwalk is a Sebastopol-based California non-profit that has been advocating for the right of all people to responsibly enjoy the California coast for 24 years.

Our affordable 2008 summer hiking trips will show you, your family & friends a California coast you've never seen! Sample trips include:

- » Monterey Bay Aquarium Overnight - June 28-29
- » Classic Humboldt - July 5-12
- » Angel Island Overnight - August 8-10
- » Sonoma Ft. Ross Overnight - September 6-7

See all trips and register online at:

www.coastwalk.org

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Sonoma County Conservation Action

540 Pacific Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95404

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www.ConservationAction.org

scca@ConservationAction.org

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Saggio Hills Continued from Page 3

Accountable Development Coalition at
diaz.ADC@gmail.com for more information.

Conservation Action, the Accountable Develop-
ment Coalition, and Healdsburg Citizens for Sus-
tainable Solutions will continue to monitor this
development, and will work to ensure that real
protections are enacted to protect the local envi-
ronment.

Jessica Diaz is the Director of the Accountable
Development Coalition, a broad based coalition
of Labor, Environmental, and Social Justice or-
ganizations. Warren Watkins is a long time
Healdsburg resident and founder of Healdsburg
Citizens for Sustainable Solutions. They are both
long time supporters of Conservation Action.

No on Prop 98!

Prop 98 is disguised as eminent domain reform,
proposed to protect private property rights, but
hidden loopholes in the proposition go way be-
yond this. If Prop 98 is passed, it will have a
frightening impact on California's environ-
mental quality and the future of its wildlife!

Go to www.pcl.org/legislation/prop98.html for
more information on the campaign to stop 98.

June 3rd Election Endorsements
Sonoma County
1st District Supervisor- Will Pier
3rd District Supervisor- Shirlee Zane
5th District Supervisor- Rue Furch
CA State Propositions
Prop 98- NO!
Prop 99- Yes!
Remember to VOTE June 3rd!
*Last Day to Register to Vote: May 19th

Yes on Prop 99!

Prop 99 is honest eminent domain reform that
would prohibit government from taking a home to
transfer to a private developer. Prop 99 does not
contain the environmental loopholes or dangerous
provisions of Prop 98. Prop 99 is supported by Na-
tional Wildlife Federation, the Planning and Con-
servation League, and over 150 other environ-
mental, business, social, and community orgs!

SUPPORT CONSERVATION ACTION!

SCCA is sustained entirely by the contributions of local
concerned citizens. Please sign up or renew today. Thanks!

Name: _____

Address: _____

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Contributions to SCCA support our advocacy and grassroots
Organizing work. They are not tax-deductible.

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Please share this newsletter with your neighbors and friends! Thank You!