



COLAB SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

WEEK OF JANUARY 15 - 21, 2017

THIS WEEK

NO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

**LAFCO TO RECEIVE UPDATE ON 2ND
PROPOSED PASO BASIN WATER DISTRICT
(THE ESTRELLA - EL POMAR - CRESTON WATER DISTRICT)**

LAST WEEK

**PESCHONG ELECTED BOARD CHAIR 3/2
IN RANCOROUS MEETING
HILL ELECTED VICE CHAIR**

**STAFF AUTHORIZED TO APPLY FOR NEW
HOME ENERGY PROGRAM
(FUNDED OUT OF YOUR ELECTRIC AND GAS BILLS)**

**COASTAL COMMISSION HEADED TOWARD
STRICTER RULES ON OCEANO DUNES PARK
(USE CAN CONTINUE FOR NOW BUT COMMISSION COULD ADOPT
RESTRICTIONS IN SEPTEMBER)**



A VIDEO OF ATV'S CHASING PLOVER DIDN'T HELP

SLO COLAB IN DEPTH

(SEE PAGE 9)

**TWO ARTICLES ON HOW STATE'S LIBERAL ELITE HAS
PROMOTED CRIME – ONE BY ANDY CALDWELL AND
ONE BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON**

The Wild, Wild West

BY ANDY CALDWELL

IT'S STILL A MAD, MAD CALIFORNIA

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON



COLAB
San Luis Obispo County

8th
ANNUAL



DINNER & FUNDRAISER

CELEBRATE SUCCESS - REINFORCE REFORM

Thursday, March 30, 2017



Alex Madonna Expo Center, San Luis Obispo

5:15 PM - Social Hour, No Host Cocktails

6:15 PM - Filet Mignon Dinner including Wine

Exciting Auction!

\$120 per person / \$1200 per table of 10

Reserved seating for tables of 10

For tickets, mail your check to:

COLAB, PO Box 13601,

San Luis Obispo, CA, 93406

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or email to COLABSLO@gmail.com

THIS WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

No Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, January 17, 2017 (Not Scheduled)

There will be no meeting as Tuesday January 17th is the day after a national holiday, Martin Luther King Day. The Board's normal practice is to not schedule meetings on a day following a national holiday.

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Meeting of Thursday, January 19, 2017 (Scheduled)

Item B-2: Status Report: Formation of the Estrella - El Pomar - Creston Water District.

The Commission will receive a report on the proposed district, including boundaries, financing, and functions. The district lies to the east of Atascadero and Paso Robles and to the west of the previously approved Shandon Water District. The chart below compares the two districts.

	Estrella Water District	Shandon Water District
Total Acreage	45,000	144,000
Irrigated Acreage	16,250 (36%)	11,000
Landowners	125	66
Parcels	445	465

General Provisions of the Estrella District:

- Proposed boundary only includes those landowners who are willing participants decreases disagreement and controversy;*
- Voluntary landowner boundary assures that the formation and funding will be approved and the district will be formed; barring unusual circumstances;*
- Allows for included landowners to have a voice as part of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) and preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) versus being governed by the County or State;*
- Affected landowners fund the operating costs and administer the District rather than having the County Flood Control District or State provide services and charge residents;*

- *Helps the County with SGMA compliance for a particular area of the Basin;*
- *Creates a patchwork of service areas that are not covered by the new District*

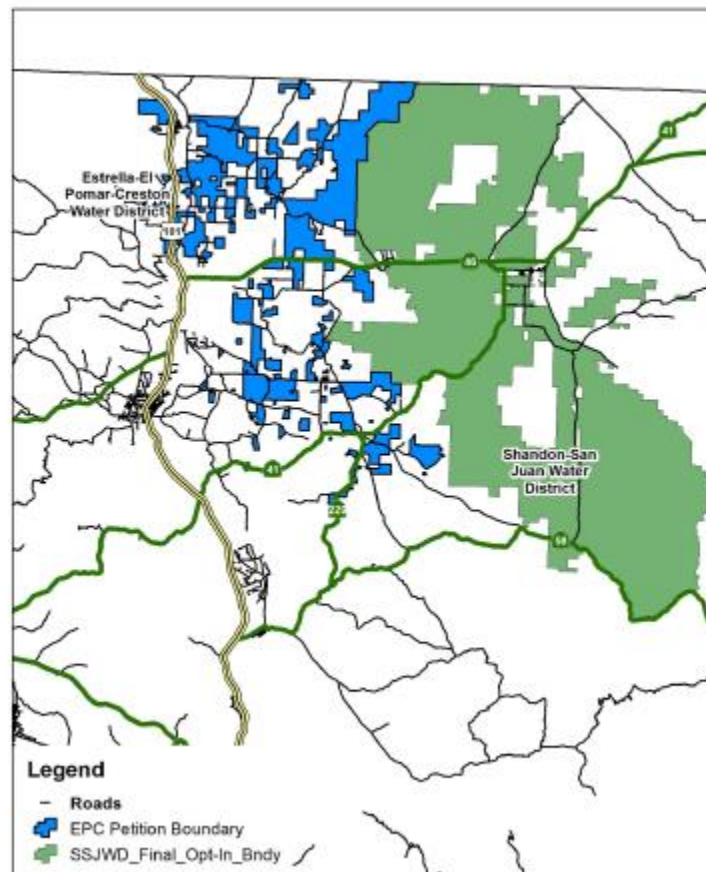
If LAFCO approves the formation, the landowners (based on a one acre-one vote formula) within the boundary would vote on whether to form the District, or not.

Other features include:

- Maximum annual assessment of \$522,000 per year for the first 5 years.
- Maximum annual budget of \$504,894 per year for the first 5 years.
- Maximum tax for non-irrigated land of 59 cents per acre.
- Maximum tax for irrigated land of \$7.50 per acre.

Once LAFCO approves the formation, the landowners within the boundary (based on a one acre-one vote formula) would vote on whether to form the District. Subject to some clarifications noted by the LAFCO staff, it is expected that the district would be approved once the petition signatures are verified by the County Assessor's Office. Since the district is voluntary, it is expected that the vote for creation would be 100% of the landowners involved.

Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District



LAST WEEK'S HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Supervisors Meeting of Tuesday, January 10, 2017 (Completed)

Item 1 - Reorganization of the County Board of Supervisors: Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. The Board voted 3/2 (Hill and Gibson dissenting) to elect John Peschong Board Chairman. The meeting was attended by 50-60 supporters of Hill and a somewhat lesser number of people who either opposed Hill's election, supported having a chairman who would be likely to support changes in County policy, or both. There were 31 public speakers of which 15 supported Hill's election and 16 were opposed. Among the supporters were current and former public officials, including SLO Mayor Heidi Harmon, former SLO Mayor Jan Marx, and former Grover Beach councilwoman (and current Lucia Mar school board member) Karen Bright. Former County Supervisor Mike Ryan supported the election of Supervisor Peschong. Grover Beach City Councilwoman Debbie Peterson opposed Hill's election.

Three Speakers and eventually Supervisor Hill himself expressly criticized COLAB for opposing Hill's election. SLO County energy activist Eric Veium, who is also a promoter of socialization of electrical power distribution and generation (Community Choice Aggregation – an issue which will be before the Board later this year), was particularly nasty in his characterization of COLAB.

Hill specifically criticized COLAB negatively during deliberation on the motion to appoint Peschong. When COLAB Government Affairs Director Mike Brown attempted to request that the Chair consider allowing him to rebut Hill under a point of order, a Deputy Sheriff swiftly approached Brown and told him he had to leave the meeting. When Brown, who had been escorted outside, explained to the Deputy the parliamentary purpose of the point of order request, he allowed Brown to return to the meeting. By then it was too late for the Chair to consider Brown's request.

Some of the public support of Hill, and Hill and Gibson's own rationale for appointing Hill, focused on maintaining the tradition of an arbitrary rotation. Most of the comment, as well as Hill and Gibson's arguments, asserted that failure to follow the rotation undermined collegiality and civility. Of course collegiality and civility only apply when you go along with the left. How civil and collaborative were Hill and Gibson when thousands of voters in the Paso Basin asked them to not approve the AB 2453 water district? Were they collegial with Supervisor Arnold when she opposed the formation of the district? In the end the voters rejected the district by almost 80%? Subsequently, and as has been widely reported in various print media outlets, Hill and Gibson later retaliated by kicking off what is likely to be a long term long guerilla warfare campaign against the Board majority by attempting to deny approval of a Sheriff's office (not a full substation) in Nipomo. Hill even essentially accused Compton of being in the pocket of a housing developer in connection with the issue.

Fundamental Leadership Issue: The question arises that since Hill is not likely to support many policy changes that could be proposed by the new majority, can he practically and ethically serve as chairman and policy leader?

On the one hand, it could be argued that the Chair position is temporary, only has one vote, no veto, and no powers of appointment, and thus it doesn't really make any difference who is Chair. Some incremental power is attached to the ability of the Chair to preside at the Board meetings and to help set the meeting agendas.

On the other hand, and given the potential for significant policy change and given that the Supervisors are all legally equal players, how does a new strategic direction or even a new incremental direction become articulated? It will be said (and is being said) that Hill was elected by his district, and given the rotation tradition, he should not be denied.

Item 29 - emPower Energy Loan Program to be Replaced by Alternative Residential Energy Efficiency Program (REN). The Board authorized by a vote of 5/0 staff to join a consortium of SLO County, Santa Barbara County, and Ventura County to apply for a new program to replace emPower. The new program, REN, is financed out of your electric and gas bills and is administered by the California Public Utilities commission (CPUC). The staff knows that emPower is going away sooner or later. They therefore propose:

Given the current limitations of the emPower program, and the likely defunding of the program beyond calendar year 2017; staff has explored the formation of a REN.

Comprised of local and regional government agencies, a REN is an alternative to IOU energy management programs. A REN directly receives ratepayer funding from the CPUC to design and implement regional energy efficiency programs. The CPUC's decisions creating and affirming RENs recognize many local jurisdictions' calls for increased flexibility, innovation, and autonomy in their ability to administer energy efficiency programs.

The staff, in advocating for REN, stated that CPUC is raking off money from your higher rates and, therefore, SLO County might as well join the program to get some of the money back locally. Of course this is simply feeding the beast and encouraging more programs and costs. What if Bostonians had rationalized the British Tea monopoly/Tax in 1775 with such logic?

Background on emPower: The first part of this item was a staff request for the Board to approve a one-year extension of a contract with the County of Santa Barbara to run a government program called the emPower energy home loan program. This is yet another politically correct green boondoggle in which the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) shakes down utilities for money, ostensibly to provide energy savings. In this case the money is granted to Santa Barbara County, SLO County, and Ventura County and serves as a loan loss reserve so that Santa Barbara County can operate the loan program in all three counties. Funding is also provided for administration, marketing, energy coaches who travel around the counties and cities telling residents which improvements they need in windows, duct work, insulation, and solar, etc.



An emPower Promotion

The purpose of the program is to provide home improvement loans for people to repair their insulation, windows, etc. The program has very high overhead, as demonstrated by the data from the latest annual report. See last week's Weekly Update for all the details at the following link:

http://www.colabslo.org/prior_actions/2017/Weekly_Update_January_8-14_2017.pdf

The New Program - Alternative Residential Energy Efficiency Program (REN): The staff knows that emPower is going away sooner or later. They therefore proposed:

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Currently there are two authorized RENs – the BayREN covering the nine bay area counties and the SoCAL REN covering Los Angeles County. Combined these two RENs received nearly \$70 million in 2012-2014 to operate energy efficiency programs in their communities. Their programs range from single-family whole house retrofits to public sector programs. In the coming cycle both RENs will be submitting business plans expanding their portfolios and deepening their capabilities and reach in their respective areas.

Continuing the legacy of tri-county collaboration, Ventura County has volunteered to lead the formation of a REN in coordination with Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. As the lead agency, Ventura County has also offered to be the fiscal administrator to the CPUC.

Although specific details still require development, the REN would likely include the following programs and objectives.

Why should the government (State and local) be in the home improvement energy business?

What will be the quantified benefits in terms of energy saved, greenhouse gas forestalled, and number of homes improved? What are the cost benefit ratios?

California Coastal Commission Meeting of Thursday, January 12, 2017 (Completed)

Item 14 - CONDITION COMPLIANCE: Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA) CDP Review: Review of the overall effectiveness of the methods being used to manage vehicle impacts in relation to coastal resources at ODSVRA as required by coastal permit 4-82-300, as amended, in the Oceano Dunes area of San Luis Obispo County. The Commission heard a staff report, took public comment, and had deliberations. It then continued the matter at the suggestion of its staff to its September 2017 meeting which will be in Cambria. The State Parks Department has a 30 year old temporary Coastal permit to operate the Oceano Dunes Park and riding area. Generally the Commission believes that the State Parks Department routinely violates conditions contained the temporary permit and has been dilatory in working with Commission staff in coming to agreement on how to fix things. The purpose of the extension is to allow time for the Coastal Commission staff and the State Parks staff to work things out and to agree on updated conditions and requirements to be included in a new permanent permit.

Clearly a number of the Commissioners see this as a last chance and are ready to take hard action if the State Parks Department refuses to cooperate and actually agree to a new permit.

Key Issues include:

- Limits on the number of visitors and vehicles per day.
- Prohibition of vehicles crossing Arroyo Grande Creek when it is flowing. One Commissioner suggested that the vehicles are running over fish. Commissioner Martha McClure stated she was “looking out for the fish.”
- Including the concerns of the Northern Chumash Tribal council (Fred Collins) in planning and developing requirement permit requirements. Collins asserts that the area is sacred and contains many sensitive sites.
- A new condition monitoring plan.
- A new assessment of how uses of the Park “degrade valuable natural resources.”
- The Commission seems to be willing to allow the APCD to continue to seek ways to reduce the dust, but some Commissioners pointed out that keeping the ATVs off the fore dunes would allow the dunes to build up, which would reduce the blowing particulate.
- Closing Grand Avenue and Pier Avenue as access points.

SLO COLAB IN DEPTH

In fighting the troublesome, local day-to-day assaults on our freedom and property, it is also important to keep in mind the larger underlying ideological, political, and economic causes and forces.

**TWO ARTICLES BELOW ON HOW THE LIBERAL ELITE
HAS PROMOTED CRIME - ONE BY ANDY CALDWELL
AND ONE BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON**

THE WILD, WILD WEST

BY ANDY CALDWELL

I often write about the self-inflicted blows to our economy by our government, but what about the inflicted blows to public safety and welfare delivered by the electorate? Following the legislature's lead in approving AB109, voters subsequently approved Propositions 47 and 57 inflicting the most dangerous and dastardly atrocities on law and order imaginable.

AB109, if you recall, was Jerry Brown's attempt to deal with three huge problems all having to do with prison overcrowding. First, our state was being threatened by the federal government for not having adequate medical treatment facilities for inmates. We were expected to spend billions on prison hospitals. Second, we had severe overcrowding in the prisons meaning we needed to spend even more money building greater capacity. Third, due to extremely generous pay and benefits to state prison guards, a problem in and of itself, options one and two were not considered feasible. So, Governor Brown, with great sleight of hand, dumped thousands of prisoners out of state prison remanding them to county jails. Since most county jails were already overcrowded themselves, the domino effect resulted in the phenomenon of catch and release on our streets. In other words, cops would book and immediately release criminals on a routine basis because our county jails no longer had the capacity to retain criminals awaiting trial nor many who were convicted!

Then came Propositions 47 and 57. The first downgraded a long list of felonies, mostly having to do with various forms of theft to misdemeanor status, while the latter granted early parole and release to a number of felons with the claim that their crimes were non-violent in nature. These so-called non-violent crimes include rape by intoxication, human trafficking involving sex with minors, drive-by shooting, assault with a deadly weapon, hostage taking, domestic violence, failing to register as a sex offender, and the list goes on and on.

Why did these ballot propositions pass? Well, Attorney General Kamala Harris (our new US Senator) helped fool the voters by giving the measures deceptive titles and descriptions. Moreover, too many California voters are simply stuck on stupid!

Our situation is now dire. For many crimes, we no longer catch and release, we simply issue tickets. Only felons are seeing the inside of a jail or prison, what is worse, thousands of criminals are not even bothering to show up for court proceedings because they no longer fear incarceration as a consequence for their crime. Some police departments are no longer

investigating certain crimes because they know full well no prosecution or penalty will ensue. They have better things to do than write tickets and witness yet another failure to appear in court.

Moreover, our state legislature has surely and deliberately taken away the rights of the citizenry to protect their lives and property by way of a dozen or so gun and ammunition control laws leaving us at the mercy of the thousands of “non-violent” felons now roaming free in our communities. Herein, lies the legacy of Jerry Brown.

This article first appeared in the Santa Barbara News Press. Andy Caldwell is the Executive Director of COLAB of Santa Barbara County, regular columnist of the Santa Barbara News Press and host Andy Caldwell Radio Show on 1440 AM KUHL from 3 -5 PM every Monday through Friday.

IT’S STILL A MAD, MAD CALIFORNIA

BY VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

Coastal elites set rules for others, exempt themselves, and tolerate rampant lawlessness from illegal aliens. One reason for the emergence of outsider Donald Trump is the old outrage that elites seldom experience the consequences of their own ideologically driven agendas. Hypocrisy, when coupled with sanctimoniousness, grates people like few other human transgressions: Barack Obama opposing charter schools for the inner city as he puts his own children in Washington’s toniest prep schools, or Bay Area greens suing to stop contracted irrigation water from Sierra reservoirs, even as they count on the Yosemite’s Hetch Hetchy project to deliver crystal-clear mountain water to their San Francisco taps. The American progressive elite relies on its influence, education, money, and cultural privilege to exempt itself from the bad schools, unassimilated immigrant communities, dangerous neighborhoods, crime waves, and general impoverishment that are so often the logical consequences of its own policies — consequences for others, that is. Abstract idealism on behalf of the distant is a powerful psychological narcotic that allows caring progressives to dull the guilt they feel about their own privilege and riches. Nowhere is this paradox truer than in California, a dysfunctional natural paradise in which a group of coastal and governing magnificoes virtue-signal from the world’s most exclusive and beautiful enclaves. The state is currently experiencing another perfect storm of increased crime, decreased incarceration, still ongoing illegal immigration, and record poverty. All that is energized by a strapped middle class that is still fleeing the overregulated and overtaxed state, while the arriving poor take their places in hopes of generous entitlements, jobs servicing the elite, and government employment.

Pebble Beach or La Jolla is as far from Madera or Mendota as Mars is from Earth. The elite coastal strip appreciates California's bifurcated two-class reality, at least in the way that the lords of the Middle Ages treasured their era's fossilized divisions. Manoralism ensured that peasants remained obedient, dependent, and useful serfs; meanwhile, the masters praised their supposedly enlightened feudal system even as they sought exemptions for their sins from the medieval Church. And without a middle class, the masters had no fear that uncouth others would want their own scaled-down versions of castles and moats. Go to a U-Haul trailer franchise in the state. The rental-trailer-return rates of going into California are a fraction of those going out. Surely never in civilization's history have so many been so willing to leave a natural paradise. Yet collate that fact with the skyrocketing cost of high-demand housing along a 400-mile coastal corridor. The apparent paradox is no paradox: Frustrated Californians of the interior of the state without money and who cannot afford to move to the coastal communities of Santa Monica or Santa Barbara (the entire middle class of the non-coast) are leaving for low-tax refuges out of state — in “if I cannot afford the coast, then on to Idaho” fashion. The state's economy and housing are moribund in places like Stockton and Tulare, the stagnation being the logical result of the policies of the governing class that would never live there. Meanwhile, the coastal creed is that Facebook, Apple, Hollywood, and Stanford will virtually feed us, 3-D print our gas, or discover apps to provide wood and stone for our homes.

Crime rates are going up again in California, sometimes dramatically so. In Los Angeles, various sorts of robberies, assaults, and homicide rose between 5 and 10 percent over 2015; since 2014, violent crime has skyrocketed by 38 percent. This May, California's association of police chiefs complained that since the passage of Proposition 47 — which reclassified supposedly “nonserious” crimes as misdemeanors and kept hundreds of thousands of convicted criminals out of jail — crime rates in population centers of more than 100,000 have increased more than 15 percent. California governor Jerry Brown has let out more parolees — including over 2,000 serving life sentences — than any recent governor. How does that translate to the streets far distant from Brentwood or Atherton? Let me narrate a recent two-week period in navigating the outlands of Fresno County. A few days ago my neighbor down the road asked whether I had put any outgoing mail in our town's drive-by blue federal mailbox, adjacent to the downtown Post Office. I had. And he had, too — to have it delivered a few hours later to his home in scraps, with the checks missing, by a good Samaritan. She had collected the torn envelopes with his return address scattered along the street. I'm still waiting to see whether my own bills got collected before the thieves struck the box.

Most of us in rural California go into town to mail our letters, because our rural boxes have been vandalized by gangs so frequently that it is suicidal to mail anything from home. (Many of us now have armored, bullet-proof locked boxes for incoming mail). On the same day last week, when I was driving outside our farm, I saw a commercial van stopped on the side of the road on the family property, with the logo of a furniture- and carpet-cleaner company emblazoned on the side. The driver was methodically pumping out the day's effluvia into the orchard. When I

approached him, he assured me in broken English that there was “no problem — all organic.” When I insisted he stop the pumping, given that the waste water smelled of solvents, he politely replied, “Okay, already, I’m almost done.” When it looked as if things might further deteriorate, the nice-enough polluter agreed to stop. In the interior of green California, it is considered rude or worse to ask otherwise pleasant people not to pump out their solvent water on the side of the road. Down the road, I saw the morning’s new trash littered on the roadway — open bags of diapers and junk mail. Apparently California’s new postmodern law barring incorrect plastic grocery bags (and indeed barring free paper grocery bags) has not yet cleaned up our premodern roadsides. Remember: California knows it dare not enforce laws against trash-throwing in rural California; that’s too politically incorrect and would be impossible to enforce anyway. Instead, it charges shoppers for their bags. In California, the neglect of the felony requires the rigid prosecution of the misdemeanor. I was in my truck — and suddenly I felt blessed that I was lucky enough to have it. Last summer it was stolen from a restaurant parking lot in Fresno when my son borrowed it to go to dinner. The truck was found four days later, still operable but with the ignition console torn apart and the interior ruined, amid the stench of trash, marijuana butts, beer bottles, waste, and paper plates still full of stale rice. During this same recent 14-day period, my wife stopped at her office condo in Fresno to print out a document. She left the garage door open to the driveway for ten minutes. Ten minutes is a lifetime in the calculus of California thievery. Her relatively new hybrid bicycle was immediately stolen by a fleet-footed thief. I noted to her that recent parolees often walk around the streets until they can afford to buy or manage to steal a car — and therefore for a time like bikes like hers. That same week, her bank notified her that her credit card was canceled — after numerous charges at fast-food franchises showed up in Texas. Cardinal rule in California: Be careful in paying for anything with a credit card, because the number is often stolen and sold off

I thought things had been getting better until these awful two weeks. One-third of a mile down my rural street, in the last 24 months, at least the SWAT team crashed a drug/prostitution/fencing operation hidden in a persimmon orchard. The house across the street from that operation was later surrounded by law enforcement to root out gang members. Forest fires started by undocumented-alien pot growers were down in the nearby Sierra. I hadn’t lost copper wire from a pump in two years. I once also thought the proof of American civilization was predicated on three assumptions: One could confidently mail a letter in a federal postal box on the street; one in extremis could find safe, excellent care in an emergency room; and one could visit a local DMV office to easily clear up a state error. None are any longer true. I’ll never put another letter in a U.S. postal box, unless I’m in places like Carmel or Atherton that are in the Other California. Two years ago, I was delivered by ambulance to a local emergency room after a severe bike accident; on fully waking up, I saw a uniformed police officer standing next to my bed to protect fellow ER patients from the patient in the next cubicle — a felon who had punched his fist through a car window in a failed burglary attempt and who was now being visited by his gang-member relatives. Not long ago, the DMV did not send me the necessary license sticker. Online reservations were booked up. So I made the mistake of visiting the local regional office without

an appointment, where I first got my license 47 years ago — the office then was a model of efficiency and professionalism. A half-century later, a line hundreds of feet long snaked out the door. The office is designated as a DMV center for licensing illegal aliens. The entire office, in the linguistic and operational sense, is recalibrated to assist those who are here illegally and to make it difficult if not impossible for citizens to use it as we did in the past. After 20 minutes, when the line had hardly moved, I left. What makes the law-abiding leave California is not just the sanctimoniousness, the high taxes, or the criminality. It is always the insult added to injury. We suffer not only from the highest basket of income, sales, and gas taxes in the nation, but also from nearly the worst schools and infrastructure. We have the costliest entitlements and the most entitled. We have the largest number of billionaires and the largest number of impoverished, both in real numbers and as a percentage of the state population. California crime likewise reflects the California paradox of two states: a coastal elite and everyone else. California is the most contentious, overregulated, and postmodern state in the Union, and also the most feral and 19th-century. On my rural street are two residences not far apart. In one, shacks dot the lot. There are dozens of port-a-potties, wrecked cars, and unlicensed and unvaccinated dogs — all untouched by the huge tentacles of the state's regulatory octopus. Nearby, another owner is being regulated to death, as he tries to rebuild a small burned house: His well, after 30 years, is suddenly discovered by the state to be in violation, under a new regulation governing the allowed distance between his well and his leach line; so he drills another costly well. Then his neighbor's agricultural well is suddenly discovered by the state regulators to be too close as well, so he breaks up sections of his expensive new leach line. After a new septic system was built by a licensed contractor and a new well was drilled by a licensed well-driller, he has after a year — \$40,000 poorer — still not been permitted to even start to rebuild his 900-square-foot house.

In the former case, the owner of port-a-potties and shacks clearly cannot pay and belongs to an exempt class of the Other. The latter owner is a rare law-abiding Californian, and so he has a regulatory target on his back — because he is someone of the vanishing middle class who can and will do and pay as ordered. He is an endangered species whose revenue-raising torment is necessary to exempt others from the same ordeal. In feral California, we suffer not just from too many and too few applications of the law, but from the unequal enforcement of it. When the state has one-fourth of its population born in another country, dozens of sanctuary cities exempt from federal law, and millions residing here illegally, it makes politicized cost-benefit choices. Feral California out here is a live-and-let-live place, a libertarian's dream (or nightmare). The staggering costs for its illegality are made up by the shrinking few who nod as they always have and follow the law in all its now-scary manifestations. More California In California, 220,000 Public Employees Earn Six-Figure Salaries California's Secession Movement Gains Traction after Trump's Victory California Needs Federalism, Not Secession The rich on the coast tune out. From her nest in Rancho Mirage, a desert oasis created by costly water transfers, outgoing senator Barbara Boxer rails about water transfers. When Jerry Brown leaves his governorship, he will not live in Bakersfield but probably in hip Grass Valley. High crime, the flight of small businesses, and water shortages cannot bound the fences of Nancy Pelosi's Palladian villa or the

security barriers and walls of Mark Zuckerberg and other Silicon Valley billionaires — who press for more regulation, and for more compassion for the oppressed, but always from a distance and always from the medieval assumption that their money and privilege exempt them from the consequences of their idealism. There is no such thing as an open border for a neighbor of Mr. Zuckerberg or of Ms. Pelosi. A final window into the California pathology: Most of the most strident Californians who decry Trump’s various proposed walls insist on them for their own residences.

Victor Davis Hanson is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and the author, most recently, of The Savior Generals. Dr. Hanson has appeared at various COLAB events over the years including last fall’s COLAB Fall Forum. This article first appeared in the January 3, 2017 National Review and comes to us via the Hoover Institution of Stanford University Daily Report of January 4, 2017



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANDY CALDWELL SHOW

The only local talk show to cover the entire Central Coast!


Central Coast Government watchdog, taxpayer, business and traditional values advocate Andy Caldwell interviews leaders and scholars on a variety of local, state and national issues.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS:

General Member: \$100 – \$249 \$ _____ Voting Member: \$250 - \$5,000 \$ _____

Sustaining Member: \$5,000 + \$ _____

(Sustaining Membership includes a table of 10 at the Annual Fundraiser Dinner)

General members will receive all COLAB updates and newsletters. Voting privileges are limited to Voting Members and Sustainable Members with one vote per membership.

MEMBER INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

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COLAB Member(s) /Sponsor(s): _____

NON MEMBER DONATION/CONTRIBUTION OPTION:

For those who choose not to join as a member but would like to support COLAB via a contribution/donation.
I would like to contribute \$ _____ to COLAB and my check or credit card information is enclosed/provided.

Donations/Contributions do not require membership though it is encouraged in order to provide updates and information.

Memberships and donation will be kept confidential if that is your preference.

Confidential Donation/Contribution/Membership

PAYMENT METHOD:

Check Visa MasterCard Discover Amex NOT accepted.

Cardholder Name: _____ Signature: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp Date: ___/___ Billing Zip Code: _____ CVV: _____

TODAY'S DATE: _____

All applications are subject to review and approval by the COLAB Membership Committee and Board of Directors.

Applications that are not accepted will have the dues or donations promptly refunded.

(Revised 9/2016)