

## We've Done Our Homework—Please Do Yours, Get Out and Vote

### El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee's Primary 2020 Voting Guide

**County Board of Supervisors, District One—John Hidahl**

John has been a dedicated elected official serving our community for the past four years with a commitment to what is best for the entire community. He is fair and balanced and he has made decisions and voted for what is right, legal and sometimes not the easy choice. We believe John has proven his loyalty to his constituents and the people of the entire county.

**County Board of Supervisors, District Two—Ken Pimlott**

"Accountability", "accessibility", "sound fiscal management", and "planning for the future" aren't just words or slogans to Ken Pimlott. They are principles to live by. Ken spent over three decades as a firefighter, and worked his way through the ranks, retiring as the Chief of CAL FIRE, the State's largest fire department. He is a lifelong Californian. Ken believes in sensible and responsible growth, budget accountability and ensuring our County is prepared for emergencies, including catastrophic wildfire.

**Placerville City Council Michael Saragosa**

Michael has proven himself to be a champion and defender for the city of Placerville. He has a track record of fairness, and responsibility. Michael's background in public policy provides a new prospective as a Council Member allowing him to look at issues not just through the lens of an elected official, but rather to use his experience as context to draw on when making decisions.

**Placerville City Council Jackie Neau**

Jackie intends to gain control over the growing homeless situation. She will encourage local businesses to grow and prosper to generate revenue to pay for necessary services. She'll work to keep our town safe from Wildfires. She has a focus on improving Traffic Flow and rebuilding deteriorating infrastructure and balancing the budget. Jackie has served on the City Park & Rec commission for 9 years, 8 years as the chair. She sits on countless committees for the city, county & transportation commission for projects and master plans. Jackie will be a strong advocate for the city.

**El Dorado Irrigation District Brian Veerkamp**

Brian is a proven leader with a legacy of accomplishments and support for the county of El Dorado. Brian's background and experience as a Fire Chief and his recent service of two terms on the County Board of Supervisors bring the knowledge and innovation needed to serve on the EID Board. As the Supervisor and the Chairman of the Board he served on many organizations and agencies regarding water issues in our county and region. He will hit the ground running with leadership and experience

### PROPOSITIONS

**Prop 14** - Authorizes \$5,500,000,000 in state bonds to fund stem cell research. Earlier state taxpayers supplied medical research funds were spent without accountable results. - NO

**Prop 15** - Claims to provide additional funding for schools, it is actually a plan to alter Prop 13 by reassessing commercial, industrial and some agricultural property as a funding source. Prop 13 split roll initiative - NO

**Prop 16** - This affirmative action initiative would extend preferential treatment to

people of some races by holding higher standards for people of other races - NO

**Prop 17** - This restores the right to vote to 40,000 formerly incarcerated Californians - NO

**Prop 18** - Permits 17-year-olds to vote in primary elections if they turn 18 by the next general election - NO

**Prop 19** - The measure sounds good and we fought for a yes vote until we learned how it is funded. It is funded by reassessing farmland upon a farmer's death. This means farms that are

generational will be the hardest hit. - Hard to pick a YES or NO.

**Prop 20** - Authorizes felony sentences for some crimes that were changed to misdemeanors by AB109, Prop 47 and Prop 57 such as raping an unconscious woman - YES

**Prop 21** - Expands the authority of the state government to enact rent control on residential property - NO

**Prop 22** - Corrects part of AB5 the independent contractor issue and will permit delivery drivers, Uber and

Lyft drivers to work as independent contractors - YES

**Prop 23** - Forms a state agency to regulate kidney dialysis clinics - NO

**Prop 24** - Amends consumer privacy laws and creates another state agency - NO

**Prop 25** - An obscurely written proposition. A no vote repeals SB10 and supports the return of bail bonds. - NO

These explanations are obviously abbreviated. We encourage you to review your ballot and **GET OUT AND VOTE.**

## Congratulations are in Order!

The El Dorado County Chamber would like to give acknowledgment to the following outstanding businesses that were recently recognized for their excellence:



**CARBON COPY**  
Small Business of the Year



**BELLA VISTA BED & BREAKFAST**  
Home Based Business



**HOME INSPIRATIONS**  
Start-Up Business of the Year




**MOTORPOOL AUTO & EQUIPMENT REPAIR**  
Mini Grant recipient

Stop by the El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce and pick up a FREE window decal!



We also are continuing our distribution of free PPE's (personal protective equipment) for your business with 25 or fewer employees. We have hand sanitizer and masks. Please call 530-621-5885 in advance to make your request.

**FREE HALF CHICKEN!**  
(a \$6<sup>00</sup> value)  
When you buy our **RIB ROUND UP OR FAMILY PACK**  
CARRY-OUT ONLY.  
Both include pint of Potato Salad, Coleslaw & Beans  
**BACK FORTY Texas BBQ**  
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\*MUST present coupon at time of ordering.  
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**CARBON COPY**  
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# Big Changes are Coming to Christmas Tree Lane this Year

The El Dorado County Chamber of Commerce will continue the tradition of the Hwy 50 Holiday Trees in spite of the current pandemic. The brightly decorated trees along the highway through Placerville give much-needed joy to our community and travelers. Now more than ever we need to keep that spirit alive.

In order to minimize the risk of exposure in our community, changes have been made in our application process as well as tree decorating and cleanup days. We appreciate your cooperation and patience through this new process.

## What you need to know about adopting a tree:

1. All applications must be submitted online between October 15th—October 29. No applications will be accepted in person. (Stay tuned for the link to our applications).
2. Applications will be drawn through a randomized system on November 2nd.
3. All applicants chosen through the randomized drawing will be notified by email on or before November 6th.
4. There will be a list of back-up applicants chosen through the same randomized process. Should the original winner of the drawing decline their tree within 5 days, the back-up list will be implemented.

## ADOPT-A-TREE Fundraiser

The Christmas Tree Growers Assn. has always donated the trees for Christmas Tree Lane. This year they are unable to donate the trees but have given us a generous discount. To support this project, seven trees will be given up for adoption with a suggested donation of \$500.00 per tree. To adopt a tree with a donation you may call the chamber office at 530-621-5885 between October 15th and October 29th.

## COVID-19 Safety Restriction & Protocols

All participants must adhere to the safety restrictions and protocol. Any indi-

vidual or group who refuses to follow these restrictions will be asked to leave.

1. Each participant will be given an appointment time to check-in and receive their assigned tree location. Do not show up before your designated time slot.
2. Groups may not exceed 10 people.
3. Masks are required.
4. If you are sick, please stay home.
5. Social distancing of 6 feet between groups and/or individuals is required.

Check the Chamber website for the release of the application link.



## COVID-19 and the State Legislature

As we all know, the COVID-19 pandemic altered life in California and the State Legislature was no exception. In mid-March, the Legislature adjourned for several weeks due to concerns about community spread. Upon their return, the Legislature put in place a system allowing for limited in person testimony in committees, enabling remote testimony via phone conference and legislative leadership directed legislators to reduce their “bill loads” encouraging members to 3-5 bills and limiting scope to three primary topics: State response to COVID-19, Homelessness and Fire Safety.

Well, filed under the topic of “Never let a good crisis go to waste,” one legislator’s perception of COVID Response is an opportunity for other legislators to advance policy priorities they were unable to do in normal times.

## SB 1383 – A COVID Melodrama

Such was the case with many HR related, union backed bills, including SB 1383, sponsored by outgoing Sen. Hannah Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) which sought to expand paid family leave law to include employers with as few as five employees, add an enforcement mechanism that would lead to unnecessary lawsuits and expand the list of eligible family members beyond current state law and inconsistent with federal law.

Just like the legislature, the UCAN chambers agreed to narrow our focus in 2020 to a core set of bills. UCAN joined a coalition of business interests aligned against SB 1383, led by the California Chamber of Commerce. UCAN’s job was to focus on our five Legislators in the state Assembly – Assembly members Bigelow, Cooley, Cooper, Kiley and Gallagher. After touching base with all five, we focused

our efforts on Assembly members Cooley and Cooper – both members of the so-called Moderate Democrat Caucus (The Mods).

The coalition consistently engaged moderate democrat legislators who expressed concern about SB 1383’s impacts to small businesses in their districts. SB 1383 was such a concern to the Mod Dems that they took a meeting with Governor Newsom’s staff and Speaker of the Assembly Rendon to discuss their concerns with the bill.... this was key since SB 1383 was a publicly declared priority for Governor Newsom, reflecting his definition of “California Values.”

SB 1383 was debated late into the night on Monday, August 31, the last day of the 2020 legislative session. In the end, SB 1383 was approved by the state Assembly 46-18, with several Democrats jumping on the bill after the 41st vote was cast - by Assembly member Joaquin Arrambula, who resigned his position as chair of the Mod Dem Caucus the next day.

You’ll be glad to know, the UCAN chambers held up our end. GOP Assembly members Frank Bigelow, Kevin Kiley and James Gallagher were joined by Assembly member Ken Cooley in voting NO on SB 1383 and Assembly member Jim Cooper abstained. All UCAN Chambers and their volunteer leaders deserve huge thanks for engaging with our legislators on SB 1383 – and two deserve special recognition – the Rancho Cordova and the Elk Grove Chambers of Commerce consistently engaged their legislators and demonstrated the critical role that united, local, constituent based advocacy plays in supporting the interests of small business.

## Dem on Dem Infighting...

As the legislative session came to a close, infighting between Democrat leaders in the Senate and Assembly became

intense....with many priority bills of legislators from each house failing to come up for a vote on the last day of session. The last day was also marked by the expulsion of Senate Republican members from the floor due to possible exposure to COVID-19 from one of the colleagues, Brian Jones (R-Temecula). Unlike the Senate which approved remote voting for their members, the State Assembly did not, which forced Assembly member Buffy Wicks to bring her newborn baby with her to vote on the floor, causing significant blow back for Speaker Rendon from a cross section of interests.

## Status of UCAN Priority Bills (2 wins, 5 losses – 40%)

Below is a list of UCAN priority bills advanced in the 2020 legislative session...

## SB 1383 (Jackson) re: Paid Family Leave – UCAN OPPOSE

Passed in Assembly, enrolled to Governor. Includes mediation option for businesses 5-20 employees. Expires in 2024.

## AB 1659 (Bloom) re: Ratepayer funding for fire safety – UCAN OPPOSE

Held in Senate Approps

## Budget Trailer re: Fire Safety Forest Management – UCAN SUPPORT

Never called. Sen. Nielsen will bring back in January.

## SB 1457 (Borgeas) re: Small Business Relief, State Agencies – UCAN SUPPORT

Held in Assembly Appropriations. Sen. Borgeas plans to reintroduce.

## AB 3279 (Friedman) re: CEQA reform – Administrative Judicial Procedures – UCAN SUPPORT

Held in Senate Appropriations

## SB 939 (Wiener) re: Commercial Leases – UCAN OPPOSE

Held in Senate Appropriations

## SB 806 (Grove)re: Repeal AB 5 – UCAN SUPPORT

Failed in Senate Labor (4-1)

## UCAN Ballot Recommendations

The UCAN Leadership Group discussed and approved a set of shared positions on state propositions set to appear on the November 3 ballot. Of significant concern is Proposition 15 which proposes to taxes by \$11.5 Billion (with a “B”) million on business property, which will ultimately be passed on to small business owners and to consumers; and Proposition 20, which proposes to Proposition 20 would fix the flaws in Prop 47 and Prop 57, approved by voters in 2016 – and would define 51 crimes and sentence enhancements as violent crimes in order to prevent early release.

A complete set of UCAN Ballot Recommendations is attached.

## Planning for 2021

The UCAN Leadership Group agreed to meet in mid-November (subscribing to all COVID-related public health requirements, of course) to begin planning for the 2021 legislative session. We hope to expand on our success, enhance our effectiveness and think outside of the box to possible grow UCAN and our influence within the State Legislature.

## Contact

For more information concerning UCAN, please contact Dave Butler, Vice President, Advocacy and Management Group, at [dbutler@amgroup.us](mailto:dbutler@amgroup.us).

Visit  
El Dorado

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Community Observatory

Folsom Lake College-El Dorado Center, Campus Dr. Free. (530) 642-5621 or [communityobservatory.com](http://communityobservatory.com)

## Farmers Markets

Tuesday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. – South Lake Tahoe – American Legion Hall Parking Lot

Wednesday 8 a.m. to noon – Cameron Park – Burke’s Junction

Saturday 8 a.m. to noon – Placerville – Ivy House Parking Lot

Sunday 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. – El Dorado Hills – Town Center Boulevard

For more info call (530) 622-1900 or visit [www.eldoradofarmersmarket.com](http://www.eldoradofarmersmarket.com)

SOL Community Farmers’ Market

Sunday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Featuring Local, Organic Farms, quality

Artisans, excellent Food, Iced Drinks and Wine. 681 Main Street, Placerville.

## Music in the Courtyard at Smith Flat House

Wednesdays, 6 p.m. -7 p.m. 2021 Smith Flat Road, Placerville. For more info call (530) 621-1003 or email [sfh.eventcenter@gmail.com](mailto:sfh.eventcenter@gmail.com) , [www.smithflathouse.com/events/music-in-the-courtyard](http://www.smithflathouse.com/events/music-in-the-courtyard)

Weekly on Sunday, Carol Tuttle & the Jazz Trio at Smith Flat House

Sunday, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. 2021 Smith Flat Road Placerville. For more info call (530) 621-1003 or email [sfh.eventcenter@gmail.com](mailto:sfh.eventcenter@gmail.com) , [www.smithflathouse.com/events/carol-tuttle-and-the-jazz-trio](http://www.smithflathouse.com/events/carol-tuttle-and-the-jazz-trio)

## Open Air Dining at El Dorado County Fairgrounds & Event Center

Fridays, 4 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (530) 621-5860 or <http://eldoradocounty-fair.org/>

## Oct. 1, 15 & 29 Outdoor Discovery Days

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Site of the first Japanese colony in America. For private tours, please call 530-621-1224. Sign-ups at located at 941 Cold Springs Rd. Placerville. Visit <https://www.arconservancy.org/event/wakamatsu-open-farm-day-4/>

## Oct 11 Woga! Wine and Yoga in the Orchard

9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Fun for all levels from beginner to advanced. To book a private class - email [tara@boegerwinery.com](mailto:tara@boegerwinery.com) , [www.cellarpass.com/events/woga-wine-yoga-in-the-orchard-6043](http://www.cellarpass.com/events/woga-wine-yoga-in-the-orchard-6043).

## Oct 2 Chipotle for MORE

4:00 - 8:00 p.m. In queso you would like to pick up a tasty meal while supporting a great cause, we have the answer for you! Use the online ordering code: 3YCTKBH to ensure MORE receives credit. Thanks for your support!

# Cal/OSHA Issues Employer Fines for COVID-19 Violations

During inspections of industries where workers have an elevated risk of exposure to COVID-19, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (known as Cal/OSHA) has fined more than a dozen employers throughout California for not protecting employees from exposure to the virus.

“These citation are the first of many to be issued in the coming weeks and months,” said Cal/OSHA Chief Doug Parker — so employers should make sure their workers are protected by reviewing California’s Blueprint for a Safer Economy and any industry-specific guidance that applies to their business, and taking the appropriate steps.

As previously reported, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (OES) created a COVID-19 enforcement task force consisting of 10 different governmental agencies. Additionally, many counties that passed COVID-19-related urgency ordinances establishing administrative fines for violations of public health orders have stepped up their own enforcement.

Most of the employers, who were in the food processing, meatpacking,

health care, agriculture and retail industries, were cited for various violations, some classified as serious, with penalties ranging from \$2,205 to \$51,190.

The employers were cited because they didn’t take steps to update their workplace safety plans to properly address COVID-19-related hazards. Some of the violation examples include:

- One food processing company didn’t ensure its workers were physically distanced at least six feet apart in the processing area and didn’t install Plexiglass or other barriers between the workers.
- Another food processing company didn’t implement procedures to screen employees and visitors arriving at the facility and failed to take appropriate measures when employees exhibited COVID-19 symptoms at work.
- After a health care company’s employee became ill with COVID-19, Cal/OSHA found that the company had failed to comply with the Aerosol Transmissible Disease standard that requires proper respiratory protection in health care settings.

Cal/OSHA also cited a frozen food manufacturer and its temporary employment agency with more than \$200,000 in proposed penalties each. In addition to not implementing physical distancing or installing barriers between workers, the companies didn’t investigate any of their employees’ COVID-19 infections, which included more than 20 illnesses and one death. The company also didn’t report the COVID-19 fatality to Cal/OSHA.

“If a COVID-19 illness occurs, employers must investigate the case to determine if additional protective measures should be taken and report the serious illnesses and deaths to Cal/OSHA,” Parker said. “Employers should also notify workers of possible exposure and report outbreaks to county public health officials.”

At the end of April, after receiving complaints about both companies, Cal/OSHA found hundreds of employees were exposed to serious illness due to the lack of physical distancing procedures including while clocking in and out, in the break room and while working. The companies also didn’t train their employees on COVID-19

hazards.

Since July, Cal/OSHA has conducted close to 8,000 compliance assistance visits to identify and correct safety issues on the spot, and has engaged with more than 40,000 businesses for ongoing outreach and education. California’s COVID-19 enforcement task force inspected many of the agricultural employers in July, and several were also cited for failing to protect their workers from heat illness.

Employers can utilize these Cal/OSHA resources:

- Live, online training for agricultural, meatpacking and food processing employers.
- Guidance for many industries in multiple languages including videos, daily checklists and detailed guidelines on how to protect workers from the virus.
- Cal/OSHA’s Consultation Services Branch can help employers and workers who have questions or need assistance at 800-963-9424.

Employers are encouraged to seek legal counsel for any health and safety issues.

Katie Culliton, Editor, CalChamber

# You Can Submit Your Event Online!

Did you know that the Chamber keeps a community calendar of events? El Dorado County events can be submitted to <http://visiteldorado.mhsoftware.com/EditItem.html>. Once approved, your event will appear on the online calendar at [www.visiteldorado.com](http://www.visiteldorado.com) and also printed in the Voice of Business newsletter as space allows.