

July 16, 2018

So the political season is in full swing for 2018. The California Primary recently concluded with the general election coming our way in November. Locally in the primary election there were some winners and losers with some initiatives passing as well.

In Fortuna for instance there was a school bond initiative for the upkeep and repair of many of the local schools. The initiative passed with very low turnout of the electorate, which is strange that more people do not vote in regards to initiatives that will require repayment of secured bonds for many years to come. Whether you support it or not I would think that your vote would be important so that your voice could be heard. Oh well like my dad used to say, if you don't vote you have no room to complain.

On the state level we can look forward to voting on a referendum to repeal the gas tax put in place by Governor Brown. We will also elect a new governor along with a number of other offices. We will see how and if the politics change in the Golden state or if they stay the same.

Nationally it is the off year for president but many house and senate offices are in play. We will have to wait and see if it will be a blue wave, as some predict, or if the Republicans retain control of the house and senate. I think it is too early to predict with accuracy but we will see. For now the economy is strong and growing, which has a great deal of influence on the voter.

I do think however that neither party, Republicans or Democrats, have a great deal to brag about. The republicans are having problems with their majority when it comes time to vote on bills and the democrats won't vote in favor of anything, so we again have a gridlock. Granted some good things have passed through the house and the senate, but so much more could have been accomplished.

It is hard to believe that our elected representatives can not work on any type of compromise, instead they obstruct. I understand that the democrats and some republicans hate President Trump, but the business of the country will continue until President Trump is no longer the president.

The level of gamesmanship going on now is at a level like I have never witnessed before. We have lost our real statesman ^{+ women} who took their oath of office with conviction and resolve to serve the people not their own interest or the interest of their parties leadership.

Rest assured this will pass but I'm not sure of the cost and if we will ever return to a civil discourse when attempting to resolve differences. I would hate to relive some of the shenanigans we have witnessed these past few years and yes there is plenty of blame to go around for both Democrats and Republicans. This has been Mike Downey for community comment.