



# BASS LAKE BULLETIN

Vol. X No. 6

The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

June 2012

[www.basslakeaction.org](http://www.basslakeaction.org)

## RON "MIK" MIKULACO WINS DISTRICT 1 BOS RACE, NUTTING RETAINS DISTRICT 2 SEAT, DISTRICT 3 UNDECIDED

Spending a little more than \$5,000, as opposed to incumbent Supervisor John Knight, who spent \$21,000, Ron "Mik" Mikulaco won the El Dorado County District 1 seat in Tuesday's election.

According to the county's Semi-Official Election Night Final Report, "Mik" Mikulaco garnered 4892 votes (53.84%), as apposed to John Knight with 4174 votes (45.94%). That count includes vote-by-mail ballots as well as ballots submitted at polling stations.



Ron "Mik" Mikulaco

Mikulaco is estimated to have campaign contributions of approximately \$7,395, Knight had approximately \$18,929 in cash contributions Knight reportedly spent roughly \$7,000 on mailers, his single largest campaign expenditure. His website cost another nearly \$2,000. Knight had been endorsed by the Mountain Democrat, the Sacramento Bee and several local Chambers of Commerce.

District 2 Incumbent County Supervisor Ray Nutting maintained a consistent lead over challenger George Turnboo throughout the balloting. The Semi-Official Election Night Final Report shows Nutting with 67.9 percent of the 8,582 votes counted.

Nutting's campaign war chest included \$1,500 from the Sacramento Builders Exchange and \$1,000 apiece from Serrano Associates and Town Center East of El Dorado Hills. The El Dorado County Em-

ployees Association's parent entity Public Employees Union Local 1 also contributed \$750. Cash contributions reportedly totaled \$24,291 from January through May 19, while non-monetary donations were shown to be \$179. Second-time challenger George Turnboo reported mixed cash and in-kind contributions of about \$6,000.



Ray Nutting

Election observers were somewhat surprised at the perceived upset in the District 1 race. Mikulaco refused to speculate on why he won, except to note that he worked hard on his campaign. Knight credited an anti-government sentiment in El Dorado Hills, which makes up most of District 1. He noted dissatisfaction with local fire district pay practices, service district recall efforts and the defeat of the area's representative on the El Dorado Irrigation District board in the most recent election.

Such sentiment did not seem to influence voters in District 2, the other supervisor seat featuring an incumbent. In that election, Supervisor Ray Nutting was returned to office, winning handily over challenger George Turnboo.

The District 3 Board of Supervisor election results show Brian Veerkamp with a clear lead in the six-way contest, with 33 percent of the vote, but he was far from getting a majority. The race for second place, giving a spot on a runoff ballot with Veerkamp, was close. Runner-up Richard Barb had a margin of less than one percentage point over third-place candidate Al Hamilton, but Hamilton appeared ready to concede. Other candidates in District 3, in declining order of votes received, were Sue Taylor, Cathy Nerwinski, and Allen Amaro. ~



## OLD INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS MAY BE SAVED

In June the House of Representatives passed a spending-bill amendment aimed at preventing the Energy Department from enforcing the federal efficiency standards that require the phase-out of conventional incandescent light bulbs. Under the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, the phase-out was supposed to begin in January 2012 with a ban on 100-watt bulbs, but a spending bill approved last December delayed enforcement until this October.

The June amendment, introduced by Rep. Michael Burgess (R-Texas), would give incandescent bulbs a one-year reprieve. The Better Use of Light Bulbs Act—introduced by another Texas Republican, Joe Barton—would repeal the bulb ban altogether. Last July it received majority support in the House but fell short of the two-thirds vote necessary to pass a bill on a motion to "suspend the rules," a process that limits debate and bars amendments. Because of the procedure used, according to Govtrack, Barton can try again before the end of the current session.

Like New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg's 16-ounce limit on soda servings, these light bulb regulations seek to make consumers trade their incandescent bulbs, which are lower priced, have greater versatility, and perform better in some respects, for florescent bulb of lower efficiency (and higher electricity costs). For example, incandescent bulbs go on right away, while the next cheapest alternative, compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs), often need to warm

*(continued on page 2)*

**LIGHT BULBS** *(continued)*

up; others complain about the quality of the light from CFLs.

The experience of many consumers with CFLs has been that they cost a lot more, do not last nearly as long as advertised, and do not perform the basic function of quickly illuminating a room nearly as well as the old bulbs. Light emitting diode (LED) bulbs may be better than CFLs, but at this point they are absurdly expensive. Halogen bulbs and the new, extra-efficient incandescent are not quite as pricey, but they still cost around 10 times as much as the old incandescent bulbs the government wants banned.

Consumers using the old bulbs may be paying more for electricity than they otherwise would (but not a whole lot more, according to the Energy Department's calculations), but most are willing to accept that tradeoff, to judge by the lack of enthusiasm for the newer, more efficient bulbs before the government decided to legally mandate this transition.

If newer products are really better in every respect, why would the government have to force people to buy them? Many consumers are irritated when they are told that either they don't know what they're talking about when it comes to products that they use every day, or that their preferences are stupid. Even if they are, people should have a right to be stupid with their own money in their own house. ~

**A Summer Wish**

Oh that it were with me  
As with the flower;  
Blooming on its own tree  
For butterfly and bee  
Its summer morns:  
That I might bloom mine hour  
A rose in spite of thorns.  
Oh that my work were done  
As birds' that soar  
Rejoicing in the sun:  
That when my time is run  
And daylight too,  
I so might rest once more  
Cool with refreshing dew.

— Christina Rossetti, 1880

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Hello Everyone,

This month's Bulletin is a short one. There is not a lot of news going into the summer, so we decided to report on the board of supervisors race and provide some light fare (pun intended) for you.

Congratulations to the election winners, both incumbent Ray Nutting and challenger Ron Mikulaco, and we will be looking forward to see who eventually wins the District 3 runoff election.

Remember that both the Bass Lake Action Committee meetings and the Bulletin take the month of July off, so you will not hear from me until August.

Also, the August 6th BLAC board meeting will not be held at the Erprnbecks, but will meet at 7 PM at Parker Development, 4525 Serrano Parkway (the Serrano Welcome Center). Kirk Bone will give an overview of contemplated Parker projects in the El Dorado Hills area. All BLAC members are invited.

In the meantime, have a nice summer, enjoy the sunny weather, and don't forget the sunscreen.

Sincerely,

*John Thomson*  
President

Bass Lake Action Committee  
501 Kirkwood Court  
El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

**MAILBOX KEYS**

With a neighborhood mail box, all residents have separate keys that allow them access to their mail. Therefore, when a key goes missing, you can buy one yourself from a hardware store or get one made by a locksmith.

Last week we lost one of our mailbox keys, and we were nervous about having only one key. Since we have had bad experiences with big-box store keymaking machines, we elected to go to a locksmith for some duplicate keys.

Waynes Lock and Safe on Placerville Drive in Placerville (530-626-5531) was happy to make us several new keys. Now we have enough spares, and best of all, they all work. ~

---

The Bass Lake Bulletin is published monthly seven to ten days after the regular monthly BLAC meeting, by the Bass Lake Action Committee, El Dorado Hills, California  
Copyright © 2012. Permission to reproduce unabridged articles is granted if appropriate attribution is given to the Bass Lake Bulletin

John E. Thomson, Ph.D.  
President and Editor  
doctorjet@basslakeaction.org  
530-677-3039

For additional information  
see our website, [basslakeaction.org](http://basslakeaction.org)  
or contact

Vice President Kathy Prevost  
[kathyp@basslakeaction.org](mailto:kathyp@basslakeaction.org)  
530-672-6836

---