



# News Update

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## Mission Statement

To represent and assist public employees in their quest to improve their wages and working conditions and to ensure their rights are protected.

## DEFEAT OF SPECIAL ELECTION INITIATIVES—WHAT WAS THE MESSAGE?

The defeat of the May 19 initiatives placed on a Special Election ballot by the State Legislature and Governor should be a wakeup call to our State leaders. The fact that they proposed these initiatives to the voters is an admission of their own failures and was an extremely bad decision to waste close to \$100 million dollars on a special election in the hopes of passing initiatives that were doomed from the start. The fact is there may have been little choice but to make this last-ditch effort given the legislatures inability to pass a budget based upon the two-thirds majority

vote requirement necessary to pass a budget through both houses of the Legislature.

A fundamental problem with the two-thirds majority vote is that it allows the extremes at both ends of the political spectrum to unduly control the outcome of budget deliberations. Some might see the two-thirds requirement as a way of controlling excessive spending. However, history demonstrates that this has not been the case. What the two-thirds majority vote requirement does is perpetuate budget gimmicks and creative financing of critical

services. It is also been the catalyst for various initiatives, which have severely limited the legislatures' ability to manage the state's resources. It is at the root of the State of California's budgetary problems. If Californians hope to have a more logical and stable governance of public services, it must be changed.

Unfortunately, the State Legislature and Governor seem to interpret the voter's decision on May 19 as an edict that there should be no new or even temporary tax increases.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## YCEA DEFERRAL FINALIZED

Since the YCEA membership approved the one-year deferral of the County's obligation to pay the employee contribution of 7% to CalPERS, staff has been monitoring the negotiations with other

labor groups and has been engaged in discussions with County administration regarding the essential elements of our addendum agreement.

Once it became clear that all labor groups were

committed to participating in the deferral of their negotiated increases scheduled to take effect July 1, 2009, YCEA began working in earnest to secure an addendum

*(Continued on page 4)*

## SUMMER TIPS – CAR, CAMPING, AMUSEMENT PARKS

*By Office Manager, Anna Anderson*

Getting stuck out on the road is an awful feeling. I hope these tips that I found on the Internet can save you some frustration and worry. I also included some things to make the ride more comfortable.

- Tend to tires, check wear and tear and air pressure
- Check fluids such as water, washer fluid, oil and get your scheduled oil change
- Inspect belts, hoses, and windshield wipers
- Check your battery

Keep these items in the car in case

of an emergency or if you are stopped by law enforcement:

- Emergency kit for minor car repair, including battery cables, flares, etc.
- Car Registration
- Insurance Paperwork
- Emergency Roadside Assistance Programs contact numbers
- Camera
- Snacks and water
- Games, books, CDs

Also, if you are traveling where the weather can be extreme, you should consider extra clothing, coats, and blankets in case of a breakdown in a remote area.

You can find just about anything on the Internet and I enjoy going to “google” to find answers to my questions. It can make life easier with lists that keep me from forgetting the things that I would normally not think about because we are all under so much pressure with today’s hectic lifestyle.

[www.carsforgirls.com/index.php/dont-leave-home-without-it/](http://www.carsforgirls.com/index.php/dont-leave-home-without-it/)

## CAMPING TRIP ESSENTIALS

There are many types of camping and whether you go in a tent, trailer or cab-over camper, I find that I cannot take everything I want. I would like to fish and ride my quad, but taking a boat, trailer and an all terrain vehicle at the same time poses a problem. So I just plan my activities according to my surroundings and hope that I made

the right choice when I pack. I find that you can pack light and do without a few things or you can pack everything you might possibly need and that can be a little overwhelming.

The site at the end of this article has a great list of camping essentials. I

like the ability to check things off as you pack them. You may not need everything so just cross out things you don’t wish to bring so you don’t keep going over them.

[www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/Checklists.htm](http://www.lovetheoutdoors.com/camping/Checklists.htm)

## AMUSEMENT PARKS— WHAT TO TAKE

A trip to an amusement park can be expensive and frustrating if you don’t have a plan. Here is the list that I compiled after scanning many websites for articles on amusement park tips.

- Backpack
- Paper/pen (write down where you parked)
- Tickets to park

- Map of park
- Picture ID/Insurance card
- Money/Debit card
- Pair of cheap sunglasses
- Sunscreen/Chap stick
- Disposable camera
- Hand sanitizer
- Pocket tissues
- Small pack of Tylenol
- Sandwich baggie (keep mobile phone dry)

- Band-Aids
- Water
- Snacks (cereal bars, trail mix, fruit gummies)
- Rain poncho (dollar store)
- Sweatshirt
- Wear comfortable walking shoes

[www.thenewparentsguide.com/travel-checklist-theme-parks.htm](http://www.thenewparentsguide.com/travel-checklist-theme-parks.htm)

## DEFEAT OF SPECIAL ELECTION INITIATIVES

(Continued from page 1)

Tax revenue is essential to our member's interest. Taxes provide for their employment, their wages, and the benefits they and their family receive. However, even our members are frustrated and many are angry about the inability of our State leaders to spend tax revenues wisely and to address the structural problems with our State budget that have plagued our State for the last 15 years.

Perhaps the State Legislature and the Governor should consider the decision of voters on May 19 from a broader and more objective perspective. It seems to me that the message was:

We elected you to manage and govern our State on complex issues. We elected you to understand these complex issues and to make difficult decisions. We will not support creative financing or gimmickry to fund our government any longer. Demonstrate to us that you are

using our tax dollars wisely, before you ask for more.

One can hope they will eventually open their eyes to this message. However, it is always best if important matters are not left to chance.

Our members are the public employees that toil day in and day out to provide essential services to their fellow citizens. The services provided cover a broad spectrum from education, municipal services, government regulation, judicial and social services for those citizens of our communities that are in need of our collective assistance.



Public employees are the element that makes our State, counties, cities, courts, school districts and special districts work. As citizens

who best understand the necessity of these essential services, we cannot and should not rely on chance, but need to become proactive in the effort to bring about much needed change in the way our State government works and in the way our State Legislature manages its limited resources.

The next several years will be very challenging times for public employees. Undoubtedly, our members will be asked to make sacrifices and to work in a cooperative way with public agencies to manage services during these trying times. While we must remain vigilant in our effort to make advancements and maintain our achievements of the past, it is also critical that we participate in the resolutions necessary to maintain quality public services and restore confidence in public service. It is absolutely necessary that we are seen as part of the solution rather than a part of the essential problem.

*By Executive Director, Gary Stucky*

## NEW SYCEA.ORG WEB PAGE

With summer just around the corner, it is time to be thinking about vacations or at least something to do while the weather is nice.

It has been a long time since I had a small child, but I do remember that kids get bored easily and these days it can be trying to entertain them.

Check out the Association's new community events page on the website. It reminds you that we have some wonderful community events available such as the Farmer's Market and the Gold Sox Baseball. Also, events like the Hot Rod Jamboree and Summer Stroll. Many events are FREE!

[www.sycea.org/Community/Community.html](http://www.sycea.org/Community/Community.html)

### **Bounce Central**

*Inflatable party rentals and  
concession machines!*

10% discount to members

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[bouncecentralonline.com](http://bouncecentralonline.com)





# JUNE CALENDAR

Representing Public Employees in City of Colusa, Sutter and Yuba Counties

718 Bridge Street, Suite A  
Yuba City, CA 95991

Phone: 530 674-0185  
Fax: 530 674-0477  
Email: Local1@sycea.org

[sycea.org](http://sycea.org)

## Website Survey



- YCEA Site Rep Meeting** — *Tuesday at noon* June 9  
*Held at the SYCEA Association Office - Site Reps attend*
- SCEA Site Rep Meeting** — *Thursday at noon* June 11  
*Held at the SYCEA Association Office - Site Reps attend*
- SCEA Board of Directors' Meeting** — *Monday at noon* June 15  
*Held at the SYCEA Association Office—Board members attend*
- Local #1 Board Meeting** – *Tuesday at 7:30 pm.* June 16  
*Held at Local #1 Martinez Union Hall - Local #1 Board members attend*
- YCEA Board of Directors' Meeting** – *Wednesday at noon* June 24  
*Held at the SYCEA Association Office—Board members attend*

I want to thank everyone that took the time to go to the website and take the survey. The results were very helpful to me. Most of the input was very positive. There were 51 entries, but only 49 put their name on the form for the drawing.

#6 Have you visited the website before?	#7 What information would you like to see in the future?
17 Never visited the website before	14 Surveys
13 Once	33 Information
1 Weekly	24 Pictures
11 Monthly	22 Fun Stuff
9 Often	

You can view all the results if you wish on the **website survey page** of the website. There is a green button on the homepage that will take you to the information. Suggestions regarding content for the future included voting online, a blog, more of the retirements, and archived data.

***Congratulations to Bill Ramsaur at Sutter County Health Department who won the MP3 player!***

## YCEA DEFERRAL FINALIZED

*(Continued from page 1)*

agreement that provided the security our membership insisted on and that included the negotiated changes to the Voluntary Time off (VTO) program and suspension of the Y-rate application to layoffs.

I am pleased to inform you that an addendum agreement has been finalized and approved by your YCEA Board. The agreement will be before the Board of Supervisors at the meeting on June 2, 2009, for final approval. Once the addendum agreement is fully approved and signed, we will post a copy on our web site.

*By Executive Director, Gary Stucky*

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