
Liberty Nights and Carnival Lights

By Mike Greer: *Blowing in the Wind* August 13, 2026

Fair season has exploded across California, and nowhere is the energy more palpable than in the North Coast counties! Politicians are swarming midways and exhibit halls like fleas on a hound dog. I've had the unique opportunity to walk through those halls and midways myself, talking with families and witnessing the reality of them trying to find relief from the Sacramento legislative pressures on our personal finances. Right now, I'm writing from the Del Norte County Fair, where the theme is "Liberty Nights & Carnival Lights"—a phrase I wish rang true throughout the state instead of merely serving as a catchy reminder of the freedoms we've lost to the far-left legislature in Sacramento.

As I journey through the fair circuit—from Hayfork in Trinity County, to the Fortuna Fair and Rodeo, to Humboldt's Redwood Acres—I encounter a population exhausted by the skyrocketing cost of living, inflated democrat caused fuel prices, and lackluster education results. The liberty to seek new opportunities is being ruthlessly restricted by a mountain of regulations and laws. Instead of the glow of freedom, the only "Carnival Lights" we see are the flashing warnings of new taxes and financial burdens designed to increase dependency on the government and feather the pockets of north state representatives and their nonprofit supporters.

As I anticipate the upcoming fairs in Santa Rosa, Boonville, and the Paul Bunyan Days in Fort Bragg, I'll be searching for true Liberty Nights, but I fear the only Carnival Lights to be found will be the house of mirrors and horror houses created by Representatives McGuire, Rogers and the other democrat legislators. These leaders continue to pass bills that raid our wallets, strip our free-speech rights, and hide the truth of how they've mismanaged and destroyed the California Dream.

It is heartbreaking to see families struggle to afford entry, rides, and food because the Sacramento gas cartel keeps piling on energy fees that drive up the cost to attend our local fairs. If we don't demand a change in leadership, we are destined to become the New York of the West Coast! Our state leaders have already surrendered to a socialist vision, stripping away local control and dictating what your neighborhood looks like through state enforced zoning laws. Liberty is being systematically destroyed in California, and the Sacramento carnival clowns are the ones holding the strings as they treat voters as puppets. Voters should be rebelling against the way our legislators disregard people in local areas and force us to bend over for "one size fits all" policies. Just like the fairs have their own special events that give flavor to their local area, the democrat legislators have their own special agenda that has turned off the carnival lights and liberty nights, over the last fifteen years. Democrat Representatives Rogers' and McGwire's agenda is based on what their

campaign donors want; land, and selective, non-disclosure agreements, no accountability grants to nonprofits, and higher taxes.

People! Wake up and smell the stench coming out of Sacramento that prevents our children, grandchildren and ourselves from achieving the potential that is within our reach.