

GOLF CART FEES - Roseville collects a \$25 fee biannually on Sun City golf cart owners. The fee is to restripe the golf cart routes and street crossing lanes in Sun City. There is \$78,000 in that fund - enough money to restripe the roads many times. Keeping \$30,000 for striping and returning \$48,000 to golf cart owners would be the right thing. It is also time to lower or cancel the fee. **GRADE C.**

DID WALKING EXPERT SKIN ROSEVILLE? - A lot has been said about Dan Burden, walking community expert, but nothing said about whether he was paid by the city to assess Roseville's pedestrian use of city streets. His quest: to encourage walking rather than using autos. Councilmember Garbolino said she invited Burden to look over the streets of Roseville, but made no mention of a retainer. Did he skin Roseville? **GRADE C.**

PLACER UNIVERSITIES - Development heat is on Placer County to approve two universities. One is proposed in west Placer County. It is said that Placer County has written a letter to Roseville asking if the city would annex the land in order that the university could be built. Efforts to obtain a copy have been futile, but the city does not deny nor affirm receiving the proposal from Placer County. For stonewalling - **GRADE F.**

CONVENTION CENTER BOON OR BOONDOGGLE - \$20 million is a bunch of money. That's the price tag on a proposed convention center to be built by Kobra Properties. It calls for a 30,000 square foot center and a 150 to 175 room hotel. The city will front an undisclosed amount of money to Kobra for the center, but Kobra will fund the hotel. The city knows money spent without voter approval has been a bone of contention, and unpublished money transactions are suspect of underhanded transactions. Questions of source of money and who suffers if the project goes under need answers. The city's secretiveness is not open government. **GRADE F.**

CITY SELLOUT TO BIG SHOTS BILLIARDS

*Big Shots
sues city*

Big Shots billiards, located on Melody Lane, opened as a place to shoot pool and related activities. The City gave Big Shots a use permit allowing it operate as a night club with live music on certain nights. After a number of unpleasant incidents, Big Shots closed, suing the City. Questioning the suit's status a phone call was made to City attorney Mark Doane who stated the lawsuit was dismissed in June (2003). A question to Doane: "Did the City pay him (Big Shots) any money?" The answer: "\$35,00 to settle the case."

City pays

So, Mike Ragusa, aka Big Shots, walks away with \$35,000 of taxpayers money. The residents living close to his nightclub, who were terrorized for two years, rendered sleepless on many nights, and whose peace was disturbed constantly over a two-year period, get nothing. They dropped their lawsuit against him after he allegedly declared bankruptcy. Residents had no way of knowing the City was going to settle, paying him \$35,000. If they had, perhaps they could have placed a court order on the settlement money, But it was all kept a secret.

*Residents
begged*

People need to be reminded that the residents begged councilmembers, time after time, during those two years, to come and visit their homes - to sit in their living rooms and watch the pictures vibrating on the walls, to feel the base throbbing through their bodies, and to image what it was like to try to sleep in that environment. Not one councilmember ever came to their homes to experience first-hand the problems caused by cars parking throughout the neighborhood, customers urinating outdoors, using drugs, and drinking beer out in the open; broken beer bottles and, worst of all the consistent violations of the residents' rights to enjoy their homes in peace and quiet.

City fails

It was not the City that forced Big Shots out of business - he simply stopped paying rent, and after three month, his landlord evicted him. Also, the Department of Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) was in the final stages of revoking his liquor license for the many violations. Big Shots barely circumvented the license revocation by closing down. Actually, ABC did far more to shut him down than the City. One night alone, 11 agents blanketed Big Shots.

*Residents
investment*

After thumbing his nose at the City, the ordinances, the residents, and ABC for two years, Big Shots is rewarded 35,000 taxpayer dollars. The Cresthaven neighborhood spent thousands of