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Photos by Gail Bullen
Bethany Westfall chats with Congressman Ami Bera and Sacramento County Supervisor Don Nottoli as they help judge the Rooster Crow Contest at the Wilton Community Fair on Oct. 13 at the Wilton Community Center. Assemblyman Ken Cooley was another celebrity judge a few roosters away.

Wilton Community Fair exudes yesterday fun

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

Rustic activities ranging from a Rooster Crow Contest with celebrity judges to an old-time engine churning ice cream drew about 300 people to the Wilton Community Fair on Oct. 13.

The Wilton History Group (WHG) presented the event at the Wilton Community Center as a reboot of the long-running Wilton History Day. Their intent with the new format was honoring the Alta Mesa Fair that was the signature event in Wilton for decades in the last century. It lasted all day with a fried chicken dinner, contests for the

kids, dancing and coronation of the queen – the young woman who sold the most tickets for the old-time event.

A WHG committee organized the fair with each member with a different responsibility. Judy Davies was in charge of the Rooster Crow Contest, which she brought back last year after a several-year hiatus. She was delighted with the participation this year – 14 roosters in beautifully-decorated cages. However, it wasn't much of a fray because only the first and second place winners consistently crowded. No doubt three of the birds were

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RMA extends GM contract, hears from Murieta Bulldogs

By Gail Bullen
River Valley Times Reporter

From extending the general manager's contract to hearing pleas from a youth baseball team, the Rancho Murieta Association board meeting was livelier than usual on Oct. 16.

President Alex Bauer announced that General Manager Greg Vorster's employment contract would be extended three years. Two representatives from the Murieta Bulldogs, a competitive baseball team with players aged 10 through 13, asked the board for access to the community's ball fields. The board voted unanimously to put their request on hold until other sports teams could be queried.

The board also voted 6-1 to provide escrow information on home sales to a new group that wants to welcome new residents into the community. Bauer also announced that negotiations with Murieta Village over an amenities access fee is still in progress but may be finalized in November. Vorster also reported that long awaited, portable restrooms for Lake Clementia were to be shipped the following week.

General manager

Bauer announced the extension of Vorster's contract during his President's Report. Approved in executive session Sept. 24, it will run from February 2019 to Feb. 2022. Bauer said Vorster will get a small increase in salary and retirement benefits, the details of which will be covered at the board's Nov. 8 budget workshop.

"What we get with Greg is an incredible value," Bauer said.

"He knows the community. He has been around the block. He especially knows the MBA (Mutual Benefit Agreement) really well, and we are really happy to have him on board another few years."

Asked for a few remarks, Vorster said that he had met separately with two homeowners earlier in the day. Both asked if he were the new general manager. "I look forward to another three years. Thank you for the vote of confidence," he said.

Vorster served as RMA general manager from 1996 to 2005. He resigned to operate a family restaurant in Placerville. He returned to RMA as general manager in February 2013.

Bulldogs

The first item on his general manager's report was a field use agreement requested by the Murieta Bulldogs. "They are here in full force tonight. I'm not sure if I am supposed to say it – who let the dogs in," Vorster joked. "I think the board would like to hear how they operate. Fire away."



Photos by Gail Bullen
Greg Vorster is to remain as Rancho Murieta Association general manager until February 2022, according to an announcement made at the Oct. 16 meeting of the board.

Scott Abraham, who founded the traveling team with Lonnie Trillo, did most of the talking although Trillo occasionally chimed in.

Abraham said it was hard to believe that they started with 10 kids two years ago and now have 28 players, three teams

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Scott Abraham, who coaches the Murieta Bulldogs traveling baseball team, asks that his group be recognized as an organization and allowed access to sports fields at Stonehouse and Riverview Parks.