



CHIANGO


LANDIA

RESTAURANT SCHEDULE
 Taco Tuesday 4:30 - 8:30pm
 Wed - Fri 4:30 - 8:30pm
 Sat 2:00 - 8:30pm

**Authentic Mexico City
Street Food**

6241 Fair Oaks Blvd, Carmichael 916.283.4082
 Located in the Milagro Centre

AN OASIS IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN




Showing the Style
of Sacramento and
the Spirit of Mexico

La Cosecha

917 9th Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 970-5354
 lacosechasacramento.com

"MAYOR ON AN ISLAND"

continued from page 13

When asked to address the crowd, Norm DeYoung, chairman of the Elk Grove Western Festival, stumbled on the tail of the elephant in the room.

"Some nonprofits aren't here tonight because they're worried this is a political event," DeYoung said. "Help us get the word out," he added with a hard, staccato emphasis. "This, is, not, a, political event."

Though big, the crowd size couldn't hide the fact that Suen, Nguyen, Hume and Detrick were no-shows. Suen told SN&R that he had to work out of town that night. Nguyen and Hume couldn't be reached for comment.

Asked about the council ghosting him, Ly just shrugged.

Will Elk Grove's five council members keep acting out an episode of **South Sacramento County's version of House of Cards?**

"It's a positive thing that's going to benefit the community," he said. "It would be great if you came with me, but you don't, I'm OK with that as well. I've always operated that way."

But some observers weren't surprised that the other council members didn't show. When Suen announced his campaign for mayor in April, it came with the revelation that nearly every political hard-hitter in the city was backing him. During a council meeting the following week, while Ly was discussing the possibility of

switching to district elections, Hume blew up at him.

"There isn't that interest, though!" Hume huffed. "What part of the people we're speaking to, who say they don't want it, are you not hearing?"

Tensions only grew from there. Ly was soon at odds with the council members over their determination to oust longtime, highly praised City Manager Laura Gill. Ly publicly blasted Gill's firing as an illogical decision and a waste of a \$300,000 payout.

Then, during a Suen campaign event in August, Detrick—the sole council member not up for reelection—called Ly "a show horse" obsessed with photo ops and his public image. Meanwhile, Nguyen published an op-ed in the Elk Grove Citizen accusing Ly of being a fountain of "inflationary and self-promoting statements."

Two weeks later, Ly was discussing a potential workforce development agreement modeled on a Sacramento program, when he took incoming fire from every angle of the dais.

"We're Elk Grove, we're not Sacramento," Nguyen challenged. "We need to do our due diligence and make sure we flesh this out fully before we start discussing things like this."

Remaining calm, Ly noted he wanted to get a road map to Sacramento's model done quickly.

The vice mayor turned to Ly. "You think it's a road map, but I don't even think you've read the document," Suen said.

"That kind of statement is out of line," Ly replied.

Ly and Suen started talking over each other until a woman in the audience shouted, "Keep the politicking for the campaign!"

Yeah, that made YouTube.

"It doesn't bother me," Ly told SN&R of the flare-ups. "Sometimes politicians will do things to grandstand or make a point."

That's a double-edged sentiment in City Hall. "My colleagues encouraged me to run because they'd all had similar experiences with the current mayor and we're feeling the same frustrations," Suen told SN&R. "For me, it wasn't personal, it was more like, 'You like the title, Mr. Mayor, but you don't like the work.'"

"MAYOR ON AN ISLAND"

continued on page 17