



## **SAVE RURAL ANGIN QUARTERLY UPDATE**

**November, December 2012, January 2013**

Is the land-use battle in Angwin over as a result of the 2012 election outcome? Is Save Rural Angwin (SRA) done? The answer to both questions is an emphatic “no”. We are merely, once again, in the eye of the hurricane. The real question is how long the Pacific Union College (PUC) Board of Trustees believe it prudent to wait to announce their Purchase and Sale Agreement of “non-essential lands” (very likely inclusive of the affordable housing sites, current Plaza area and hayfields) when they have so recently assured the voters of Napa County “there are no plans for the ‘urbanization’ of Angwin”.

Pacific Union College was Napa County’s biggest spender in the 2012 election cycle as it pumped in almost \$500,000.00 of its own money to defeat the Save Rural Angwin land-use initiative, Measure U. Year-end campaign financial reports filed in January 2013 revealed the College spent \$472,702.00, which paid for television commercials, advertisements, lawyers, consultants, polling and survey research and a tsunami of campaign signs and literature. We know the college was authorized to borrow considerably more to defeat Measure U. We know that the college has paid out well over \$3 million in obligations to Triad for the previously proposed and ultimately withdrawn “ecovillage” development. We know PUC has undertaken extensive parcel boundary surveying and a series of lot-line adjustment applications to the County. At least 3 separate applications have been filed, approved and recorded, effectively separating specific parcels from the core campus for ease of sale. Such expenditures and actions make it hard to believe that the PUC board and its developer partners have no plans to build a “downtown Angwin”.

SRA supporters may have read in the news papers that the County has hired a mediator to explore the possibility of achieving a “shared vision for the center of Angwin”. The mediator is tasked to meet with representatives of the County, Board of Supervisors, SRA and PUC. It is too soon to comment on the viability of this proposal. Reconciling land use disagreements with a secretive and largely absentee PUC Board of Trustees would most certainly be challenging.

The Save Rural Angwin Steering Committee wholeheartedly thanks SRA supporters who continue to follow the land use designation issue in Angwin and its potential impacts to Napa County residents.