



July 30, 2010, John Pfeifer, Jeffry Mullins and Marianne Kobak, Elko Daily Free Press Editorial Board

Carlin prepared to grow by leaps and bounds

Northeastern Nevada miners need housing — lots of housing — and Carlin has a vacant plot of land just waiting for a big subdivision to be built.

It was a win-win situation just waiting to be worked out.

That happened when Byron Georgiou, a Las Vegas attorney-investor-entrepreneur-etc., made a deal with the city to purchase \$1 million worth of land for \$100,000, on the condition his development company puts in roads and other infrastructure.

This isn't the first time big plans have been made to expand Carlin, the unofficial gateway to Nevada gold country. But it is the first time someone of Georgiou's caliber has been involved, and work on the first phase of 168 houses is expected to begin in a matter of weeks.

Georgiou has his hands in so many enterprises one might suspect he has a twin or two helping him out. A distinguished graduate of both Stanford and Harvard, he is best known for his leadership role in the historic fraud case against Enron.

According to one biography, he co-founded the Mariposa School in Mendocino County and taught seventh- and eighth-graders for a year between his law studies. He served as legal affairs secretary to California Gov. Jerry Brown in the early 1980s before co-founding his own law firm. In the mid-'90s, he served as president of American Partners Capital Group.

Today, Georgiou Enterprises is involved in carbon emission reduction projects in China, cleanup of deep coal mining sites, real estate and golf course development and management, "and the provision of customer services at regional shopping centers throughout America," according to his website biography.

Last year he was appointed by Sen. Harry Reid to the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, a congressional panel trying to untangle the causes of the economic meltdown.

Somehow, Georgiou found time last week to stop by Carlin and hand Mayor Cliff Eklund a \$100,000 check and a promise to build not only the city's dream, but its tax base.

Elko County Economic Diversification Authority Executive Director Pam Borda called it "the single most critical and positive thing that could possibly have happened to kick-start Carlin into new directions and growth and health as a community."

She is not exaggerating, any more than it is possible to exaggerate Georgiou's resume.



Elko County Economic Diversification Authority
Representing Northeastern Nevada

Congratulations to Carlin, a city whose future is long overdue and finally coming to pass.