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## LA Pride #Resist March on June 11 Join Congressman Adam Schiff

The annual LA Pride Parade has chosen to make a change this year -- it is a March. Their website tells why:

“On Sunday, June 11th, we will march from Hollywood, where LA Pride was born in 1970, to West Hollywood where LA Pride grew up. Instead of a parade celebrating our past progress, we are requesting that our entire LGBTQ community and its allies march to ensure our collective futures. Our march will be taking place in solidarity with and on the same day as the National Equality March for Unity and Pride in Washington, DC.

We simply felt that in 2017 we need to return to our roots and protest so that those who would roll back our hard won human rights are put on notice that we will not stand idly by. This is the founding premise of Christopher Street West. This march is for those who believe that America’s strength is in its diversity. This is not a democratic or republican march. It is not a red or blue march. This a red, white and blue march meant for anyone who cares about human rights. On Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> our unique, diverse, inter-sectional voices will come together in one harmonized voice. WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US.”



Have you been looking for an opportunity to become involved with this wave that is sweeping our nation?? Here is your opportunity to march for human rights. The ACT Steering Committee voted unanimously to support Congressman Adam Schiff and the LA Pride March. We will march side by side with Congressman Schiff and his supporters. It is our opportunity to step up to the plate and thank the Congressman for all he has accomplished -- especially these past 100 days and march in unity with him. We are very proud of him and will forward a letter to him expressing our gratitude. He has become a daily fixture in the media. Save the date to march -- June 11. Details will follow in the May *Phoenix*.

## Susan Tully

We are sorry to note the death of Susan Balsley Tully, a longtime ACT member, on July 31, 2016 at age 75. Susan was born in San Francisco and grew up in many U.S. places. She attended UCLA, graduating from UCLA Medical School in 1966 and training as a pediatrician.



She had a long and distinguished career in pediatrics, both as a practitioner and as a teacher. Her special interest was pediatric emergencies and trauma prevention. She was Chief of the Pediatric Emergency Room at each of her last three institutions, UC Irvine Medical Center, LACo-USC Medical Center and Olive View-UCLA Medical Center. After retiring in 1997, she continued to teach residents at a Pediatric Continuity Clinic.

Our sympathy goes to husband William, sons Michael and Steven, their wives and children and Susan's sisters and brother. They have suggested that any memorial donations be sent to "Susan B. Tully, MD Pediatric Fund," UNM Foundation, Two Woodward Center, 700 Lomas Blvd., NE, Suite 108, Albuquerque, NM 87102.



## Eileen Schoellkopf

We are saddened by the death of Edith "Eileen" Reekie Schoellkopf on March 7 at age 74.

Eileen, born in Boston, moved to California with her family as an infant. She graduated from Stanford with a Political Science degree and worked in the travel industry and for TWA.

She was, with her husband Fred, a longtime ACT member and Pasadena resident. She volunteered with and supported many worthy organizations, notably serving as President of



the Pasadena Junior League and President of the Board of Hillside Home for Children. She suffered from rheumatoid arthritis for over forty years. While remaining optimistic about her own condition, she dedicated her time to educating people about the disease (including joining her rheumatologist in giving talks to doctors on a lecture circuit.)

We extend sympathy to Fred, daughter Susan and her husband and children, as well as Eileen's brother. A memorial celebration is scheduled at All Saints Pasadena on June 17 at 3 p.m. The family suggests that any memorial contributions be made to Union Station Homeless Services or Hillside Home for Children.



## John Van de Kamp

We join in the sorrow expressed by so many at the death of John Van de Kamp on March 14 at age 81. A Pasadena native and longtime ACT member, John attended local schools, then Dartmouth and Stanford Law School. He served in the military before being appointed Assistant US Attorney.

He entered politics with an unsuccessful bid for a San Fernando Valley congressional seat. He established the L A Federal Public Defenders Office and later was L A County District Attorney. In 1982 he was elected California Attorney General. He ran for the Democratic nomination for Governor against Dianne Feinstein in 1990. (Dianne won the primary, but ultimately lost the general election to Pete Wilson.) More recently, John, a staunch opponent of capital punishment, headed the California Commission on the Fair Administration of Justice and fought to end the death penalty. He also was Special Monitor for the city of Vernon.



*Continued on page ten*

## Wonderings and Wanderings

By Inman Moore



### Memories

As I write these words my wife, Nellie, who is seriously ill, is asleep on the sofa. As I see her there on the sofa, memories start to flood in. I think of her as a young woman I met 71 years ago at the bus station in Jackson, Mississippi. We were both on our way to a National Youth Convocation in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She was, and still is, a beauty. There is a song entitled "Galway Girl." One phrase in it goes like this, "What's a fella to do. Her hair was black and her eyes were blue." That's a perfect picture of Nellie at 21.

Memories of standing at a hospital bedside and seeing for the first time our first baby. This happened four times: two girls and two boys. Memories of family marriages, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Ah, how the memories are so vivid of our annual family gatherings for a week at a house on the beach at Cayucos, a little beach town north of Morro Bay.

Memories of my parents and my sister and her family are indelibly stamped on me. I shall never forget all those family experiences and new memories crop up daily.

Memories of World War II and my days in the Navy, spending the last months of the war in the Philippines, having gone in as part of the invasion forces commanded by General Douglas MacArthur. My memories include the tragic suffering of the Philippine People. Especially it was bad in Manila where people were living under large cardboard boxes and discarded parachutes. A memory that war is hell will linger with me forever.

Fond memories of churches where I have served as pastor or associate pastor.

Memories of the raucous, dangerous, and exciting days of the civil rights movement in Mississippi, California, and the nation. Memories that led to my book, On the Road to Civil Rights.

Memories of businesses Nellie and I owned and operated in California for over 20 years.

Memories of long vacations taken all over the world, such as: Mexico, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, England, Spain, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Israel, Turkey, Egypt, Switzerland, and Italy.

Great memories of our beloved Dodgers. For many years Nellie and I were season ticket holders. We were in the stands the night Kirk Gibson hit his shot heard round the world, leading us to the World Series Championship in 1988. That night was like an old fashioned "Southern Prayer Meeting" with everybody hanging around hugging and kissing everyone in sight.

Memories of a political landscape that rapidly changed here in California in the last 30-40 years. Memories of ACT, the Democrats of Pasadena Foothills Democratic Club, the United Democratic Headquarters, and the State Democratic Party. Memories of members in our area working for progressive changes in the state and national government in those early days and seeing men and women like Jack Scott, Adam Schiff, Carol Liu, Anthony Portantino, Judy Chu, and Chris Holden get elected to public office.

Memories of our first black president. He wasn't perfect, but he was a model of decency. Memories of those beautiful women in his life: his lovely wife and those two wonderful daughters! On the national scene we almost elected a woman as President. What a bitter defeat!! But, knowing what could be, we get up and work harder for the tomorrows to come.

*Continued on page ten*

## Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Wednesday, April 12.

It's getting close to 100 days into Mr. Trump's Presidency, and we're starting to see some concrete judgments. Yesterday, the GOP held onto a Congressional seat in Kansas, but only by 7% in a district that President Trump carried by 27% and the prior incumbent carried by 31%. Given that Democrats traditionally do poorly in special elections, the reduced margin is actually pretty impressive. Further, the race had been flying well under the radar nationally. The Democratic candidate, James Thompson, reported through March 22 up to \$252,000 in contributions. That sum included \$147,000 in non-itemized contributions (under \$200) and \$100,000 in itemized contributions; of those 240 itemized contributions, 169 (70%) were from Kansas.

In contrast, Jon Ossoff, the Democratic candidate in the special election in Georgia, which

happens next Tuesday (April 18<sup>th</sup>), reported that as of March 29, he had received \$5.6 million (yes, million) in non-itemized contributions and another \$2.63 million in itemized contributions. The individual contributions are not yet posted on the Federal Elections Commission web site, but you can be sure he didn't get 70% of them from Georgia.

Raising \$8 million (rather more, actually, since I'm sure the fundraising hasn't let up since his reporting period ended on March 29) is utterly extraordinary for any House race, let alone a special election. Only Speaker Ryan raised more than that in 2016, and Ossoff is a new candidate, in a typically Republican district, in an off-year special. It's a testament to the grass-roots hunger to do something concrete in protest against the Trump Administration.

But back to Kansas for a moment. One might think that if Thompson had even half a million more in support, perhaps we could have won that race. To be fair though, his Republican opponent, State Treasurer, Ron Estes also had limited resources. Estes reported, as of March 22, raising \$282,000, or roughly the same amount as Thompson. Interestingly, Estes reported no non-itemized contributions; all his money came in big chunks, with a sum of \$189,000 from individuals (almost all in Kansas) and \$93,000 from various national business PACs that traditionally support GOP candidates. Had Thompson reported more aggressive fundraising, Estes would likely have ramped up his efforts as well.

As it happened, the GOP did go into panic mode in the last week of the election. Their House Campaign committee bought \$90,000 worth of ads in the last week – a pretty significant sum given the modest overall spending by either candidate. Further, Sen. Ted Cruz flew into the District on Monday before the election, and Vice-President Pence recorded a robocall on Saturday, followed by President

Trump himself doing a robocall on Monday and Tuesday.

Thompson was born in Kansas, went to college and law school in Kansas, served in the Army, and is a civil rights lawyer (and a Bernie supporter) in the Wichita area. He had a relatively strong pro-gun stance, so he seemed a pretty good match for a conservative and rural Kansas district.

But that last-minute campaigning seemed to work. Thompson had a significant lead – 17,000 to 12,000 – when the absentee results were posted early Tuesday night. His lead steadily shrank and Estes took the lead as the election-day ballots came in, and usually Democrats do better on Election Day than in the absentee ballots.

This wasn't necessarily a referendum just on Donald Trump. Kansas has been wracked by budget deficits due to an ideologically pure set of tax reforms sponsored by Gov. Sam Brownback and approved by a very conservative majority in the State Legislature, elected in 2014. This

entailed sharp reductions in income taxes on corporations and high-end individuals, which would in theory be offset by the economic growth stimulated by these reforms. Well, as it has played out over the last three years, there has actually been less growth than there had been in Kansas, less than in surrounding states and less than the average growth nationally.

With both less growth and lower taxes, not surprisingly, there has been dramatically less revenue for the state, leading to huge deficits. The Governor has been locked in an ugly battle with the State Supreme Court, itself not exactly a bastion of liberalism, over minimum school funding requirements. The Legislature

(from which quite a few of the hard-core conservatives were ousted in 2016) passed a budget undoing most of the tax cuts the Governor has pushed. Brownback vetoed the budget, and the Republican-controlled Legislature came within a handful of votes of overriding the Republican Governor's veto. In the Wichita area, Democrats captures three state legislative seats in 2016 because Brownback was so unpopular.

With Brownback such a relatively toxic quantity in Kansas politics, State Treasurer Ron Estes was easy to portray as tied into the Brownback clique and worthy of some blame

for the sad state of Kansas schools. All that notwithstanding, the closeness of the election is generally seen as good news for Democrats, suggesting that a typically less-motivated electorate can actually get out and vote in special elections and, hence, presumably in the 2018 mid-terms as well.

The real test, though, and the main event, so to speak, will be on April 18<sup>th</sup> in Georgia. The primary is in the district that Newt



Gingrich represented for 20 years, but one that has changed dramatically in recent years, becoming much more demographically diverse as Atlanta has grown and a metropolitan population has spilled out into the suburbs and exurbs. The incumbent Congressman, Tom Price, was tagged by President Trump to become Secretary of Health and Human Services. Eleven Republicans and 5 Democrats are competing, and if no single candidate gets over 50% of the vote, the top two vote-getters go on to a run-off in June.

Jon Ossoff is the leading Democrat, and indeed the leading candidate, capturing a bit over 45% in most polls – tantalizingly close to

the 50% needed for outright victory. The two leading GOP candidates are each well back in the low 20% range. Ossoff would seem to be a pretty good fit for the District – he was born there, his parents still live there – even though he actually lives in the next-door district to be with his girlfriend, who attends Emory University. He served for several years on the staff of Congressman John Lewis, who represents the adjacent District and is well-known throughout the Atlanta area.

Ossoff has captured huge resources and support from across the Democratic spectrum. He's a lock to be one of the top two, but if he is forced into a run-off, it becomes an infinitely more difficult election for him, as the GOP will have time to coalesce behind a single candidate and bring all their national resources to bear, as they did in Kansas. His challenge, then, really is to breach that 50% barrier on the 18<sup>th</sup>, by attracting huge Democratic turnout in a typically low-turnout election. Early reports suggest that absentee ballots, so far, are in fact disproportionately Democratic, so maybe he can do it. Even a close race in a special election should be a morale booster for Democrats nationally.

On the legislative front, President Trump and the House Republicans found they just could not square the circle and reconcile spending less money and eliminating mandates to buy health insurance with the desire to make health insurance available regardless of pre-existing conditions and to allow adult children, up to age 26, to be covered on their parents' policies. Economically, there is just no way magically to expand availability of insurance without somehow dealing with the inherent increase in costs. One or the other has to give, and the more they gave in to the Freedom Caucus' desire to cut costs and government involvement and mandates, the more votes they lost from moderates who demanded that existing coverage be maintained. The

death warrant was pretty much signed when New Jersey Congressman Peter Frelinghuysen, not someone known for roiling waters, turned against the bill. As the Appropriations Committee Chair, and someone seen as a key player in the leadership, his opposition was particularly telling and opened the door for other centrists to hold back their support as well.

The most interesting facet about the President's, and Speaker Ryan's, defeat on the health repeal / replace bill was what it portends for the President's next target, tax reform. The President and the Speaker face a similar dilemma here – competing demands from different wings of the party that, at their core, just cannot be reconciled in a single bill. Do you cut high-end tax rates but do nothing for the middle class? Do you cut taxes and ignore the impact on the budget deficit? If you cut rates, what deductions (aka loopholes) do you close to balance it out? For every initiative in one direction, there are huge counter-vailing forces in the other direction.

As one concrete example, the Administration has floated the idea of eliminating the deduction for state and local income, property and sales taxes to raise perhaps \$70 billion, thereby partly offsetting the impact of lowering the top marginal rates for individual taxpayers. The problem here, though, is that all tax legislation has to start in the House of Representatives, and specifically in the Ways and Means Committee of the House. The current chair of the Committee is Rep. Kevin Brady, a long-term GOP member from Texas' 8<sup>th</sup> District. If you look at Brady's web page on the official Ways and Means web site, the very first of his "major legislative achievements" is "Restoring the Federal sales tax deduction which saves Texas taxpayers over \$1 billion a year." So when the Committee Chair boasts, first and foremost, of protecting that deduction, you can pretty much bank on the fact that repealing

the deduction is not likely to see the light of day in any legislation coming out of his Committee.

Further, the Kansas debacle, in which Gov. Brownback cut marginal rates and corporate tax rates and drove a prosperous state into a deep deficit, seems to be pretty hard evidence that the Republican approach fundamentally just doesn't work (as if we needed more evidence). Once again Speaker Ryan and the President will likely face absolutely united Democratic opposition and only fragmented support within their own party. As the President's position is weakened politically, by special elections, by the Russian investigation (props to our own Cong. Adam Schiff!!!), by missteps in international relations, by brutal infighting within his own Administration, the willingness of individual Congressmembers to buck the President simply grows and further complicates his political calculus.

As we talk about taxes and the economy, we have some good news in California. Not only did the Legislature approve the Governor's gas tax / transportation package, but tax revenues generally seem to be picking up. March income was close to \$2 billion above the Governor's latest budget estimates, and March is usually a bit of a slow month. April is the big one for the state, accounting for nearly 17% of annual personal income tax revenues (the single biggest component of state revenues). As of April 11<sup>th</sup>, we're tracking ahead of last year's pace for the month. If we exceed revenue expectations again in April, then the reductions that the Governor forecast for schools and community colleges in his January budget will probably disappear from the May budget revise – good news for PUSD and PCC! (For the budget wonks among our readers, State Controller Betty Yee has a web page tracking daily tax receipts for April, showing day by day and cumulative monthly numbers against projected income and compared to last year's

revenue, so you can follow along each day and see how we're doing; the web site is [http://www.sco.ca.gov/2017\\_personal\\_income\\_tax\\_tracker.html](http://www.sco.ca.gov/2017_personal_income_tax_tracker.html).)

-- Jon Fuhrman



## Use of ACT/ADC Member List Clarified

At a joint session of the ACT Steering Committee and ADC on Thursday, April 6, 2017, a majority of members present voted and confirmed the following: (1) The ACT/ADC Member List is not considered one of the 'files' referred to in the Bylaws of ACT, (2) The Member List is made available to any member of ACT/ADC in good standing, upon his/her request to the Executive Director, and (3) Going forward, membership solicitations, such as those published in *The Phoenix*, will include a disclaimer indicating that information provided by the member, such as mailing address and e-mail address, will be provided to other members upon request.

This confirmation concluded a two-part discussion which continued from the March 9, ACT Steering Committee, and was prompted by member inquiries as to the use of their e-mail addresses by other members. Discussion of potential restrictions on the use of the e-mail list did not result in adding any such restrictions. It was generally agreed that the ability to communicate directly with fellow members was a powerful political tool which should be used wisely by members of ACT/ADC.



## May Phoenix Deadline

The deadline for the May *Phoenix* will be Sunday evening, May 7. Please submit your *Phoenix* items to Chuck Hains by that date at [hains27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hains27@sbcglobal.net).

## Next ACT Meeting

The next ACT and Arroyo Democratic Club meeting is on Thursday, May 4 at the home of Jeanne and Fred Register, 2438 Highland Ave., Altadena (between Altadena Drive and Mendocino Street.) We will be discussing ACT business: membership, outreach, and dealing with issues.

Come for coffee and conversation at 7 p.m., with the meeting following at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and urged to attend.

## Where Have You Been Recently?

Either near or far. Send a high-resolution photo (of you) to Chuck Hains for inclusion in *The Phoenix*. at [hains27@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hains27@sbcglobal.net).

## Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

Janice Dangerfield, Pasadena  
Mona Field, Los Angeles  
Kathryn Kroger, Pasadena

Helen Nedelman, Pasadena  
Gary Reece, Sierra Madre  
Ed Rounds, Pasadena

Marie Stein, La Canada  
Leah & John Sullivan, Pasa.  
Katheryn & Douglas Venturelli,  
Pasadena

## Special Thanks to Our Sustaining Members:

David & Lyssa Axeen  
Sue Basmajian  
Frank & Marianne Dryden  
Sandy & Mark Esensten  
John & Joan Fauvre  
Jim & Priscilla Gamb  
Andrea Gordon  
Wendy Gordon

Bruce & Betty Ann Jansson  
Al & Harriet Koch  
Berjouhi Koukeyan  
Lara Larramendi  
Herb & Karin Meiselman  
Susanna Miele  
Nichole Mihara & Gregory  
Harrison

Michael O'Connor  
'Phlunte & Edgar Riddle  
Esther Schachter  
Betty & Norri Sirri  
Marie Stein  
Joanne & Tim Wendler  
Roger & Anne Wolf  
Michael Reagan & Carolyn  
Garner-Reagan

## Special Thanks to Our Patrons:

John & Teri Buchanan  
Walt & Zan Cochran-Bond

Dorothy Matthiesson  
Paul Hunt & Gina Frierman-  
Hunt

Maria Low Way & George Way  
Dianne Philibosian & Tom  
Seifert

## And Really Special Thanks to Our Benefactors:

Ray & Jackie Fisher  
Beth Gertmenian  
Councilmember John Kennedy

Ann Munger  
Otis & Shirley Spencer  
Kip Thorne & Carolee Winstein

Katheryn & Douglas Venturelli  
Hon. Carol Liu & Michael Peevey

## And Thanks to Members for Additional Contributions to ACT's Operating Account:

Sue Basmajian  
Janice Dangerfield  
Ray & Jackie Fisher  
Dolores Hickambottom

Jacqueline Cannon Jones  
Helen Nedelman  
Greta Pruitt  
Gary Reece

'Phlunte & Edgar Riddle  
Ed Rounds  
Rody Stephenson

## And Thanks to Members for Additional Contributions to ACT's Political Account:

Mary Copperud  
Helen Nedelman

Greta Pruitt  
Rody Stephenson

Paul & Pat Trivers

**From  
25<sup>th</sup> District  
State Senator  
Anthony  
Portantino**



**Dear Act Members,**

Last week I voted for SB 1, a landmark road repair and transportation package that invests billions to fix and maintain California's roads, freeways and bridges. At a time when the state faces \$130 billion in backlog repairs and infrastructure needs I felt it was prudent to no longer delay sound investment in meeting these needs. Just this past winter, there was \$800 million dollars of infrastructure damage across California to add to our burden.

The infrastructure plan addresses decades of deferred maintenance by funding road repair in every California community and doubling the state's investment in public transportation. It raises \$5 billion annually -- mostly through increases to gas taxes and a tiered "Highway Use Fee" based on vehicle value and paid at the time of vehicle registration renewal. It will also stimulate the economy and create tens of thousands of middle class jobs.

I did not take the responsibility of this vote lightly or without listening to many of the concerns from residents in the 25<sup>th</sup> Senate District. Here are some of ways I tried to address these concerns:

- The revenue from SB 1 is guaranteed and cannot be taken by this or a future legislature to be used for other purposes.
- None of the revenue generated from SB 1 can be used for the High-Speed Rail.
- The final bill included more funding for mass transit than earlier drafts.
- And finally, much of the money generated

from SB 1 will go directly to local cities in our district to meet local needs under local control.

Would it had been better to have kept up pace with demand over the past three decades? Yes, of course, but without SB 1 our needs would continue to spin out of control if we did not seize the opportunity to address them now.

**Legislative Progress ~**

SB 23 – It's hard to believe that it's been seven years since I set up California's public Umbilical Cord Blood collection program at UC Davis. With the funding scheduled to sunset this year, SB 23 extends and increases the funding to collect, store and treat more people facing leukemia with cord blood stem cells. It has passed out of the Senate Health Committee.

SB 24 – This bill is another attempt to bring more transparency to political financial disclosure. It has passed out of the Senate Elections Committee.

SB 304 – Creates an academic path for youth coming out of custody. It has passed out of the Senate Education Committee

SB 318 – This bill is an attempt to bring more transparency to the Cal State System for procurement and personal service contracts by requiring a competitive bid process like other state agencies but long sought for the CSU.

SB 378 – Passed out of the Government Organization Committee. It allows for a local process to suspend, limit, or condition of a liquor license when there is urgent and necessary need to protect health or safety that is reasonably related to the operation of the licensed business.

SB 399 – I'm very pleased that efforts to address the treatment needs of children with Autism passed out of the Senate Human Services Committee.

SB 478 – This bill helps community college transfer students receive their AA diploma upon completion of the required courses. It has passed out of the Senate Education Committee.

### Family News ~

I'm so proud of Bella for receiving the Hustle Award from her JV soccer coach for her tough and aggressive defense. Her coach commented on how she surprises him with her aggressive play packed in such a small person. Sofia took her little sister to Panic at the Disco last week. Oh, to be young again. My Aunt Philly turned 90 and my Uncle Joe is slowing down. Boy time is flying!

-- Anthony

*State Senator and former ACT Co-Chair*

Contact: <http://sd25.senate.ca.gov/contact>.



**Van de Kamp**, *continued from page two.*

In the L A Times (3/16/17) L A City Attorney Mike Feuer recalled, "An extraordinary leader of impeccable integrity, John never backed away from taking strong principled stands on tough issues. John was supremely effective at everything he did – always with a quiet confidence and devotion to public service that inspired generations of lawyers."

We extend our sympathy to John's wife Andrea and their daughter Diana. Memorial services were held of March 30.



**Inman Moore**, *continued from page three.*

Memories of the greatest climate in the world. We Southern Californians are truly blessed. Every morning when I get up and look out our bedroom window at the mountains, I say with the Psalmist: "This is the Lord's Day and I will rejoice and be glad."

Memories of the continuing struggles for the rights and acceptance of humans of all races,

colors, creeds, and gender. Memories that spark us to work even harder for a brighter tomorrow.

Yes, you and I have memories both bad and good. My friends let us cultivate the good memories, water them, and let them grow to become the rod we lean on in the battles of the soul that will surely come to all of us as we move on into an exciting unknown future.

Someone told me this: "A woman was walking down Colorado Blvd. and saw a rather disreputable man sitting on the street. Feeling generous she walked over to him and handed him a five dollar bill and said, "Never despair!" The next day as she walked down the street the same disreputable looking man was sitting on the street corner and he called her over and handed her five hundred dollars. Dumbfounded she said, "What is this for?" "Well", he said, "Never Despair" came in first in the second race at Santa Anita yesterday paying 100 / 1."

You and I may not win five hundred or five million, but we can win in life by never giving up. Who knows what tomorrow may bring. Someone has well said, "It's nothing against you to fall down flat. But to lie there — that's disgrace!" May you and I be among those who give it our very best and never give up. Ah, Memories!!!



### ACT's Webpage: Wanted: Photos

ACT's webpage [www.ACTpasadena.org](http://www.ACTpasadena.org) has links and good information. The current on-line edition of *The Phoenix* (in color and often with items that couldn't be fitted into the print edition) is always available there.

Our web-master Bruce Wright says "Please send me photos of relevant local meetings, marches and other events to liven our webpage!" Submit ideas and photos to Bruce at [brucewright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brucewright@sbcglobal.net).

**From  
41<sup>st</sup> District  
Assemblymember  
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

**T**he legislative session is in full swing as many of us are working to get our bills through their first policy committee. I look forward to a busy next few weeks when most of my legislation will be brought to a vote for the first time in committee.

The biggest news in Sacramento was passing a transportation funding package to improve road safety, fill potholes, and repair local streets, freeways, bridges and overpasses. For decades, transportation in California has been getting worse and the funds to fix it having been drying up. This compromise solution will save consumers in the long run and avoids borrowing funds that may result in cuts to schools, health, and public safety. The funding transportation package will have a powerful and positive impact on the 41st Assembly District as we will see over a 100% increase in much needed transportation funds.

My bill to empower families with developmental service's needs, Assembly Bill 959, already passed its first committee. AB 959 requires the Department of Developmental Services to expand the type of information offered by regional centers on their website and describe the services offered in plain language for parents to understand. When families are provided clear information regarding the services provided by regional centers, they are able to make the best choices for their loved ones. I'm proud to author this transparency measure as it came directly from constituents.

I'm also proud to introduce legislation again this year to tackle California's teacher short-

age. Our shortage of professionally qualified teachers directly impacts the quality of our children's education. Last year, I passed a bill that streamlines the credentialing process and provides greater reciprocity with other states so that highly qualified and experienced teachers can easily teach in California. This year, I introduced Assembly Bill 586 that allow newly-credentialed teachers either an individual tax credit or deduction for professional development expenses to fulfill the requirements for a California Clear Multiple, Single Subjects Credential or Special Education (Education Specialist Instruction) Credential.

Earlier in the month the Assembly passed my resolution recognizing the 70th Anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier in a major professional sport. Robinson, a Pasadena native, made baseball history when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in April, 1947. Jackie Robinson is a true hero who continues to influence our lives 70 years later by his actions and words both on and off the field. With this resolution, the legislature recognizes the bravery he exhibited, and the sacrificial hardship he and his family endured during a time in our country's history of racial turmoil and inhuman discrimination.

I encourage you to visit my website to learn more about my legislative package. I look forward to keeping you up to date on these efforts.

Sincerely,

Chris

*Assemblyman Holden represents some 420,000 people in the foothills communities of Altadena, Pasadena, South Pasadena, Sierra Madre, Monrovia, San Dimas, La Verne, Claremont, and Upland.*

*He can be reached via his website at: [www.asm.ca.gov/holden](http://www.asm.ca.gov/holden) and fill out the contact form.*



## Former ACT Member Roberta Martinez Describes Pasadena's Mexican American History

Against the constant clamor for mass deportations from candidate and now President Donald Trump, Mexican American author and advocate Roberta Martinez presented a history of Mexicans in Pasadena at the Progressive Discussion Group breakfast Friday, April 7 that residents are fearful will be repeated.

"In 1931, between one and two million Mexican-Americans were sent back to Mexico," Martinez said, "even though over 60% of them were US citizens." While the mass deportations occurred all across the US, from New England to the Southwest, Pasadena residents were also expelled. According to an April, 1931 newspaper article, 143 Mexicans were deported from Pasadena.

"Boxcars filled with Mexicans were sent back to Mexico," she said describing how youngsters born in the US who only spoke English were sent back to Mexican villages. Young women who grew up in the US dressed differently than the locals in the villages and were treated as prostitutes because their skirts were shorter.

Martinez, who wrote a book in 2009 titled *Latinos in Pasadena*, said she could find no record of people going to the City Board of Directors, as the City Council was known then, and "saying 'no you really shouldn't deport those people'."

Contrasting the 1930's to today, the Pasadena community has been more demonstrative at City Council meetings. Led by Pasadenans Organizing for Progress (POP), the National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) and Clergy and Laity United for Economic justice (CLUE), hundreds of demonstrators have marched and shown up at City Council

meetings the past two months demanding that the City Council, City Manager, and Pasadena Police take deliberate steps to protect immigrants.

The Council and City officials have responded. On March 27, the Council adopted a resolution directing all City employees to refrain from asking anyone their immigration status or creating a database to store information on immigrants. The resolution also directs the police to refrain from enforcing civil immigration laws. At the meeting, Mayor Terry Tornek stated there is still room for improvement and the community is continuing to work with City staff to close loopholes that would further restrict Pasadena police from working with Immigration & Customs Enforcement or ICE.

Even though local activists are speaking up today, the account Martinez provides is not widely known in the Pasadena community though it could be if residents demanded more history be told about its minorities. She described how the three different Mexican American communities -- Chihuahuita near where PCC's Community Education Center located on Foothill, the Winona-Cypress area in Northwest Pasadena, and the Sonora neighborhood near Huntington Hospital, changed over time because of marginalization, discrimination, and deportations. Two schools were deliberately set-up to segregate the Mexican students from the rest of the school system until one had to be closed because enrollment fell due to the deportations.

Martinez, who for years organized the Latino Heritage Parade and now hosts a cable TV show "Casa Martinez" Tuesday nights on the public access channel, said "it is important for teachers and students to know stories of the past so they know how to react now. This is a part of Pasadena's history." She expressed frustration that PUSD does not teach students about the Pasadena Mexican American experience as part of its curriculum.

“They say it’s not time. But it is time.”

For more information on local organizations working on social justice and economic issues, please go to the following websites:

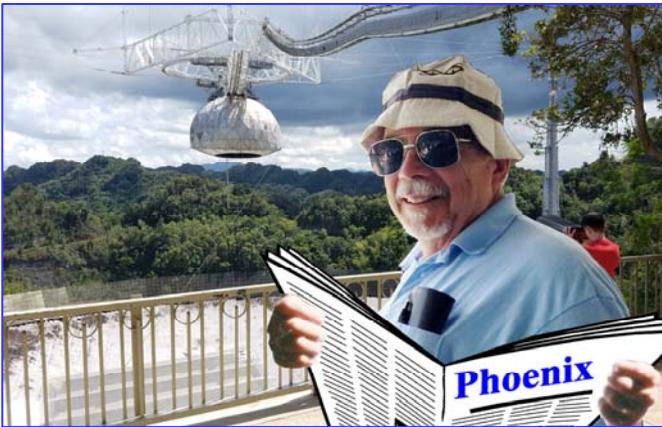
[ndlon.org](http://ndlon.org) or [poppasadena.org](http://poppasadena.org) or [cluejustice.org](http://cluejustice.org).



## Supervisor Kathryn Barger to speak at NWPC Brunch

At its 38<sup>th</sup> annual CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH, the National Women’s Political Caucus of Greater Pasadena is proud to have Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger as its keynote speaker. With Barger’s election, the County Board now has a supermajority of women Supervisors! It is already making a positive difference.

The Brunch will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the historic home of Connie Holguin, 271 Markham Place, Pasadena. The \$40 Brunch charge can be sent to Ellen Wood, P.O. Box 3814, South Pasadena, CA 91031 or paid at the door.



Editor Chuck Hains enjoys the Phoenix at the Arecibo Radio Observatory in Puerto Rico last week.

## Progressive Discussion Group

Friday Morning Progressive Discussion Group meets every first and third Friday of the month from 9-10 a.m. in the back room of Dupar’s Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Parking is available in the big lot behind the restaurant off Shopper’s Lane. You can always count on a lively discussion of a current political topic at a PDG meeting.

Come and join the discussion. Everyone is welcome. Order breakfast, coffee, etc., or not. Check with Dale Gronemeier at 323 254-7600 or [dlg@dgronemeier.com](mailto:dlg@dgronemeier.com) for additional information.



## The Phoenix Editorial Policy:

Signed articles and letters appearing in the *Phoenix* represent the opinions of the individual writers and not of ACT. Their appearance does not imply endorsement by ACT or agreement with the opinions expressed. The accuracy of facts is not guaranteed. We welcome articles of interest and encourage members to write.



## Bernie Sanders: Trump will be a one-term president

Promising to “expose the Republican Party for what it is,” Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders predicted Wednesday that President Trump would be a one-term president as the liberal icon prepared to launch a nationwide tour to rally Democrats.

“In terms of the first three months in office, Donald Trump is the least popular president in the history of polling,” Sanders told The Associated Press. Sanders said “The momentum right now is with the progressive movement in this country.”

**From  
Congressman  
Adam B. Schiff's  
Website**

4/9/17 Sunday



I believe that there was a strong moral basis for taking action against Bashar Al-Assad's use of chemical weapons, but not without Congressional approval. Nor, for that matter, should President Obama have introduced troops into Syria and Iraq without an authorization to use force (AUMF) by Congress. For years I have been urging Congress to repeal the prior AUMF's passed after 9/11 and vote on this war. When we return, I will be re-introducing my legislation to authorize and set out the limits on the President's use of force.

I also want to report that the House Intelligence Committee's investigation into Russian interference is back on track. We are close to agreeing on the first tranche of witnesses to call before the committee, and our work continues.

**Intel Committee Ranking Member Schiff  
Calls on Sessions to Step Down 03.02.17**

"After reviewing Attorney General Session's testimony during his confirmation hearing and his statements this afternoon, I have come to the reluctant conclusion that the Attorney General should step down. As a Senator, Mr. Sessions demanded complete and truthful testimony by those appearing before him for confirmation, and I do not believe he met his own rigorous standard.

"First, Session's testimony clearly misled the Senate on the subject of his contacts with Russian officials. Whether he deliberately misled the Senate, depends on what he intended, a matter that is difficult to know or prove.

Jeff Sessions wasn't someone occasionally considered a surrogate, as he demurely suggested at the hearing, but one of the earliest and most prominent surrogates of the Trump campaign. His explanation for omitting to tell the Senate of his meetings with the Russian Ambassador – that he was sought out by the Russian ambassador at the Republican convention or thereafter in his personal office because of his work on the Armed Services Committee – is simply not credible. In the midst of a Russian campaign aimed at undermining our election and as a highly visible proxy for candidate Trump, Sessions would have had to be extraordinarily naive or gullible to believe that the Ambassador was seeking him out in his office for a discussion on military matters, and Sessions is neither.

"Second, the partial nature of the Attorney General's recusal from matters pertaining to the Trump campaign is not enough to remedy his flawed testimony, or to give the public confidence that counterintelligence concerns related to Russia and the Trump Administration and organization will be fully investigated or, if necessary, prosecuted. In the interests of justice, I believe that an independent prosecutor should be appointed to examine whether any counter-intelligence or other investigation warrants prosecution. With the Attorney General's recusal, the Acting Deputy Attorney General Dana Boente should take this step immediately."



## Have Your Renewed Your ACT and ADC Membership?

A Red Check on your address label tells you we have not yet received your renewal check. We are eagerly waiting for it! Note that ACT and Arroyo Democratic Club membership dues for 2017 have not increased. And you know how much we need your continued support! You may use the form below or renew online at [www.ACTpasadena.org](http://www.ACTpasadena.org). Many thanks!



If you have any questions about your membership please contact Executive Director Jon Fuhrman at 626 795-5255 or [jon\\_fuhrman@charter.net](mailto:jon_fuhrman@charter.net).

P.S. Thanks to all who have renewed already - for your amazing generosity and support.

### I'd like to join both groups for one low price! (Checks payable to ACT/ADC)

\$40 Single	\$70 Single Sustaining
\$25 Each additional member per household	\$90 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$150 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

### I'd like to join ACT (Checks payable to ACT)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
\$20 Gift Membership (NEW!)	\$275 Benefactor

### I'd like to join the Arroyo Democratic Club (Checks payable to ADC)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

## Extra Contribution

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Political Account (for endorsed candidates and issues)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Operating Account (for organizational costs)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total enclosed**

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Name

Home Phone

---

Address

Office Phone

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City

ZIP

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Email address

**Mail to ACT, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074**

Information provided will be available to other members and endorsed candidates upon request.



## Calendar

- |  |   |                                       |   |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| <p>April 21<br/>Friday<br/>9 a.m.</p>      | <p>Progressive Discussion Group at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Dale Gronemeier 323 254-7600 or <a href="mailto:dlg@dgronemeier.com">dlg@dgronemeier.com</a> for more info. Also 5/5 and 5/19.</p> | <p>May 4<br/>Thursday<br/>7 p.m.</p>  | <p>ACT Steering Committee and ADC Meeting at the home of Jeanne and Fred Register, 2438 Highland Ave., Altadena (between Altadena Dr. and Mendocino St.) Coffee at 7 p.m.; meeting follows at 7:30 p.m.</p> |
| <p>April 25<br/>Tuesday<br/>7 – 9 p.m.</p> | <p>ACLU Pasa/Foothills Chapter Forum on ICE Raids, Privacy Invasions, Muslim Bans, at Glendale City Church, 610 East California Avenue, Glendale.</p>   | <p>May 6<br/>Saturday<br/>11 a.m.</p> | <p>NWPC of Greater Pasadena Champagne Brunch, 271 Markham Place, Pasadena. LACo Supervisor Kathryn Barger speaks. \$40 per person.</p>  |
| <p>April 27<br/>Thursday<br/>7 p.m.</p>    | <p>United Democratic Headquarters planning meeting at the home of Karen Wingard, 737 Magnolia Ave., Pasadena.</p>   | <p>May 19-21<br/>Fri – Sun</p>        | <p>California Democrats 2017 State Convention, Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J St. Congressman Adam Schiff is Keynote Speaker at Convention Dinner, Sat., 5/20, 6 p.m.</p>                             |
|  |   | <p>June 11<br/>Sunday</p>             | <p>L A Pride #Resist March for Human Rights. 8-11 a.m.</p>  |



**P. O. Box 40074**  
**Pasadena, California**  
**91114-7074**