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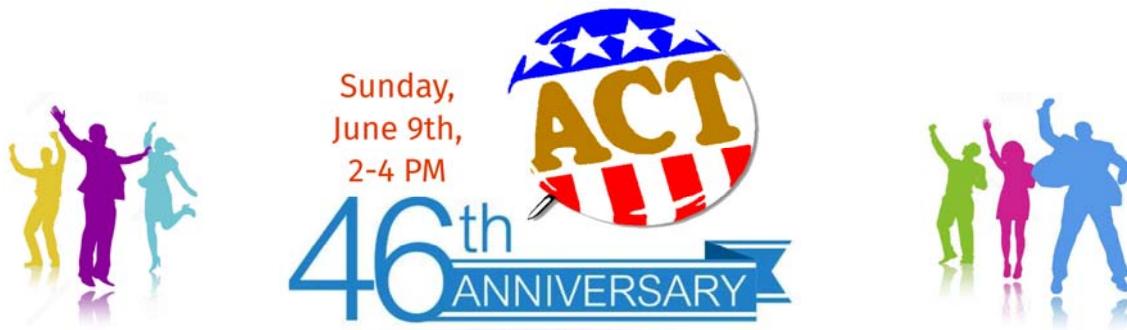
Volume 47

Number 5

May, 2019

Published by Chuck Hains & Sally Beer

Help Elect the Nation's New 46th President



Sunday,
June 9th,
2-4 PM

46th
ANNIVERSARY

**You are invited to celebrate ACT's 46th Anniversary,
and help elect the nation's new 46th President in 2020!**

Sunday afternoon (from 2-4), June 9, 2019

at the home of Connie Holguin: 271 Markham Place, Pasadena
(Access from S. Orange Grove Boulevard)

Special Guests/Honorees:

Congressman Adam Schiff
Rev. Inman and Nellie Moore

Music; appetizers and desserts; wine bar and cold drinks;
all complimentary

RSVP to www.actpasadena.org; Ticket Price; \$46;
Contact Bill Hackett about sponsoring the event at 626 705-2180.
Levels are \$146, \$250, \$500, \$1,000, and \$2,300.



In Memoriam – John Hunnewell

Our friend John Hunnewell died on Saturday evening, April 13 at age 89. Professionally, John was a Municipal Clerk for several jurisdictions. He also served 18 years as Executive Director of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.



John, with his wife Ann, was a longtime ACT member and an activist in the cause of social justice and civil rights. Some years ago, he chaired ACT's Demographics Committee, presenting many election analyses to our members.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 26 in the Sanctuary of Throop Unitarian Universalist Church, 300 S. Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena. Light refreshments and a sharing of memories will follow in Throop Church's Social Hall.

Anyone who would like to speak at the service should let Ann know. She indicates that Rev. Tera Klein, who will be leading the ceremony, will include as many people as possible.

We extend deepest sympathy to Ann, daughter Elizabeth, and grandchildren Gretl and Nadine.



In Memoriam – Janice Mangerino

We were sorry to learn that Janice Mangerino died this past January. She was a 10-year ACT member and a retired science teacher. She taught Junior High Science at Emery Park Elementary and Chemistry at March Keppel High School in Alhambra. She was Science Dept. Chair in the 90s and developed and taught AP Chemistry and Environmental Science courses. She was an advocate for girls in science and a founder of the Tech



Trek Science Camp program.

Our sympathy goes to her family and friends.

PPD Chief Perez to Speak

PPD Chief **John Perez** will be the special guest speaker at the next meeting of ACT and the Arroyo Democratic Club.

Thursday, June 6

**at the home of Jeanne & Fred Register
2438 Highland Avenue, Altadena**

That's between Altadena Drive and Mendocino Street. (Highland runs parallel to and one block west of Holliston Avenue.) Socializing will begin at 7 p.m. The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 p.m.

We will also be making final preparations for our 46th Anniversary Celebration.

Please join us at this important meeting. Everyone is welcome.



May 2nd Meeting Briefs

At our May 2 meeting the ACT Steering Committee voted to send a letter to the Assembly Budget Committee in support of AB1725 that would provide more funding for after school programs.

ADC members voted in favor of a resolution prepared by a delegate to the Democratic State Convention (5/31-6/2) that supports state takeover of the PG&E utility. View a copy of the resolution at ACTPasadena.org.



Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

Tammy Silver, Pasadena

Special Thanks to Patrons

Beth Gertmenian

Fred & Jeanne Register

My Two Cents

By Ron Garber



When I agreed to help with the programming of Progressive Discussion Group I took out a subscription with the Pasadena Star News and it's helped me to foment program ideas. It's also created a loathing inside me for a man named Jon Coupal. Mr. Coupal is the President of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. Howard Jarvis was the author of Prop. 13 which not only limits property tax, but requires California voters to have to approve ANY new taxes with a 67% super majority. The Star-News gives him space for a weekly column where he rails against anything having to do with new taxes.

On May 5 his rant du jour was SCA 5. He said that SCA 5 amends the California Constitution to allow educational parcel taxes to be approved with a 55% majority rather than a 67% majority. In actuality it doesn't amend the Constitution but rather it calls for placing an initiative on next year's ballot to amend the constitution. Jon Coupal did not point that out because he doesn't trust California voters to decide for themselves how they want to be governed.

Republicans are the minority party in California and nationwide, but they control how we're governed through un-democratic institutional levers like gerrymandering, the electoral college and the need for super majority votes like those imposed by prop 13. The initiative that will be generated by SCA 5 could serve as the first brick in dismantling the Republican tyranny of minority rule.

Update on the project to bring all the Progressive groups in the Pasadena area together in a leadership council: On May 4 we had our 2nd

meeting and while making remarkable progress, I'm guessing that we will need two more meetings before this project comes to fruition. In the meeting we decided that another aspect of what this coalition could do would be to help each other with a resource component. Groups could share speakers, venues, physical things like chairs, tables, amplification equipment, knowledge resources like IT, publicity etc.

Recruitment of Progressive orgs and scheduling of an inaugural meeting are not that far off. Stay tuned for this space for further info.



The April 19th Progressive Discussion Group presentation with our guest speaker Melanie Ochoa, ACLU attorney, devolved into a discussion of our new Sheriff, Alex Villanueva who has turned out to be my biggest electoral disappointment. Many of you may remember that he spoke at the "UDH Oktoberfest" dinner just before the election. His message was that while the Sheriff's position is a non partisan post, he would be the first "Democrat" to hold the position since – and I don't remember the next sentence – but I believe it was something like before we were all born.

He pointed out that Sheriff McDonnell was dragging his feet in the much needed reforms that would correct Sheriff Baca's troubled tenure. Said reforms had to do with deputies treatment of prisoners and suspects, and cliques within the department. We gleefully went to the polls and were ecstatic when he pulled an upset.

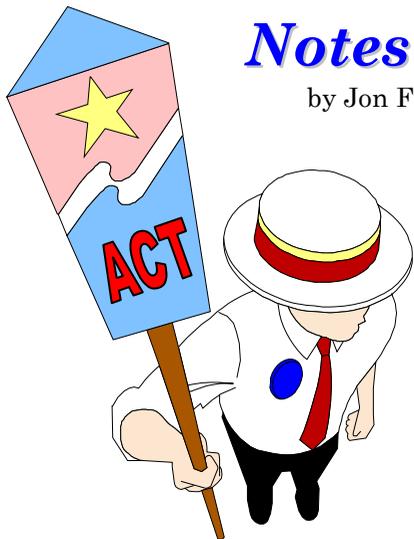
Since he's taken office he has not only not sped up said reforms, but to our incredulity has put them in reverse. Since the Sheriff is an elected office the control that the Board of Supervisors have over him is extremely limited and he's not up for reelection for another four years.

June 1st marks his six month anniversary in

Continued on page seven

Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Monday, May 6.

So Vice-President Joe Biden finally dropped the shoe and announced that he is, indeed, running for the Democratic nomination for President. In short order, millions poured in, and his lead in the polls bounced upward noticeably. He's winning easily in Iowa, significantly in South Carolina, and even beating Sen. Sanders in New Hampshire. The problem now is, what next?

It's a long time from now till the first debates, and a really long time until the Iowa caucuses and the New Hampshire primary. Can the Vice-President maintain a vibrant, exciting front-running campaign that draws together the many disparate strands in the Democratic Party? That's a tall order. There will be lots of opportunities for all sorts of folks, left, right and center, to snipe at Biden, question his true progressivism based on thousands of Senate votes from decades ago, or demand his

allegiance to all sorts of new litmus tests. Of course, whoever is the frontrunner would face a similar barrage, but Senator Biden, by virtue of his long service, has an incredibly rich set of baggage, so to speak, including particularly his treatment of women. Everything wrong with the Obama Administration, everything wrong with the Congress for the last forty years, will be his fault. And then, finally, there is his age – will that simply be a deal breaker for many younger voters?

Fortunately, for pundits and perhaps the candidates themselves, the Presidential campaign isn't the only election that will be in the news. This year will see a modest number of special and off-year elections, and some of those will be in North Carolina. In fact, the special elections for the NC-3 district, which became vacant when incumbent Walter Jones passed away a few months ago, have already begun. On the Democratic side, Allen Thomas, the former Mayor of Greenville, received just over 50%, so he moves on to the general election. On the GOP side, State Rep. Greg Murphy got 22.5%, and Joan Perry, a physician running for office for the first time, got 15.4%, so they will face off in a Republican run-off on July 9th. The winner will then face Thomas in the general election on Sept. 10.

The more newsworthy set of elections in North Carolina will be in the 9th district, where Democrat Dan McCready lost in 2018 by just hundreds of votes in an election riven by such egregious ballot fraud that the state's non-partisan Elections Commission threw out the results and ordered a new election. The primary election will be next week, on May 14. On the Democratic side, McCready is unopposed; but on the Republican side, there are 10 candidates, perhaps attracted by the standard wisdom that this R+8 district (eight points more Republican than the national average) should be easy pickings for any Republican. If one Republican manages to get over 50% of

the GOP vote, then the general election will be on Sept. 10, the same day as in NC-3. But if no GOP candidate cracks the 50% margin, then the top two will have a primary run-off on Sept. 10, and the general election will be on Nov. 5.

Both districts have been traditionally reliably Republican, but, had it not been for incredibly flagrant cheating, McCready would likely have won the 9th. Divisive primaries on the GOP side in each district further complicate life for the Reps. Without Walter Jones, a long-time, popular and somewhat iconoclastic Representative, even the 3rd could be in play.

Watch for intense grass-roots activity focused on helping the Dems win these two seats.

The other really interesting race may be the gubernatorial contest in, of all places, Kentucky. Incumbent Matt Bevin has been at the forefront of Pres. Trump's peanut gallery, rooting him on and being one of his most outspoken defenders among GOP Governors. But Bevin's popularity has plunged, from a 45%-41%

approval rating last year to a 35% - 53% disapproval rating this year. The primary election is on May 21, and the clear leader among four candidates on the Democratic side is State Attorney-General Andy Beshear.

Beshear was elected AG in 2015 (albeit narrowly, by 2,000 votes out of nearly 1 million), but he has been an active and effective counterweight to Gov. Bevin. Beshear sued Bevin in 2016 when the Governor slashed the state university budget mid-cycle. The State Supreme Court, by a 5 - 2 vote, agreed with Beshear that the Governor had exceeded his authority. In 2018, Beshear sued again, after the Governor signed a punitive bill "reforming" teacher pensions, and again the State Sup-

reme Court sided with Beshear and ruled the bill unconstitutional. By November in 2018, Beshear had filed nine separate lawsuits against various pharmaceutical companies, alleging their neglect contributed to the opioid epidemic sweeping Kentucky. So Beshear has maintained a high-level profile, and it doesn't hurt that his father, Steve Beshear, served as Governor for 8 years (2007 - 2015) before being term-limited out of office.

Of course, the Governorship of Kentucky isn't all that important, in and of itself. But in 2020, Sen. Mitch McConnell, the GOP majority leader, is up for re-election from Kentucky,

and McConnell's approval ratings in Kentucky have sunk even lower than Governor Bevin's. If a centrist Democrat can beat an incumbent Governor in an off-year, who knows what a centrist Democrat could do to an incumbent Senator in a Presidential year with an amped up Democratic turnout (and a Democratic Governor pumping up the troops). The President's political operatives apparently are extremely concerned and reportedly have

promised Gov. Bevin the President will go all-out for Bevin. Look for an equal response nationally on the Democratic side, as this gubernatorial race becomes a proxy for control of the Senate in 2020.

Back here in California, we are approaching the annual budget dance, with the Governor's May Revise to the budget due out the end of this week or early next week. The Governor's January budget incorporated some moderately aggressive revenue projections. So of course the very first month into his budget cycle revenues came in \$2.7 billion under estimates. There was hope, however, that the complex changes in the federal tax laws had somehow



altered the expected stream of income, and that by the summer we'd be back on course.

April is the make-or-break month for tax revenues, with 2018 year-end taxes due as well as the first estimated taxes for 2019 and regular payroll withholding. It is a big month for corporate taxes as well. It looks like the revenue wonks were right and that the changes in the federal tax laws distorted the typical flow of income, because April revenues blew past expectations and recovered the entire \$2.7 billion shortfall and then some. Further, corporate taxes came in probably \$800M above projections. The strong jobs reports of the last two months suggest that regular payroll withholding will be stronger than anticipated, and, finally, the Uber and Lyft and other IPO's suggest May and June will likely come in well above expectations as well.

All this is both good and bad news – obviously good, since our budget for 2018 – 2019 will have an unanticipated surplus (one-time funds) and our projections for 2019 – 2020 can probably be increased (increased on-going revenue that can fund additional on-going programs). The bad news, though, is that these extra funds can provoke relatively bitter fighting in Sacramento over how much to allocate as one-time funding and how much to allocate to on-going programs, and which programs to grace with additional funding.

One of the programs Gov. Newsom reportedly is focusing on is expanding the state's Earned Income Credit, a program by which poor working families receive a "reverse income tax" – that is, based upon their income and number of dependents, they receive a refundable credit which can significantly exceed the taxes they owe, so they basically get all their taxes back and then some. This applies only to families and only to those that have taxable wages, so it rewards work. This was one of the few "welfare" programs that Republicans supported, and it used to be one of Gov. Reagan's favorite

programs. Gov. Newsom proposes to increase the income cap, thus making more families eligible, and add an extra \$500 subsidy for families with children under the age of 6, and increase the amount of the credit for each family. In aggregate, these changes could lead to an annual \$1 billion additional expenditure, but it is one of the most effective programs that actually transfer money from the rich to the poor.

I would also anticipate that the Governor will advocate using some of the excess one-time funds to increase still further the state's contribution to the CALSTRS and CALPERS retirement systems. These one-time contributions reduce the deficits in each of these funds and thus, over the long run, lessen the annual assessments against local cities and school districts, which is a remarkably effective way to convert one-time money into annual subsidies to local districts. It's also a smart thing to do for the fiscal health of the retirement systems.

Overhanging the budget discussions is the issue of how to help, or indeed whether to help, the investor-owned utilities (like PG&E, Edison and SDG&E) deal with liabilities stemming from the wildfires of 2017 and 2018. It's a hellishly complicated issue, pitting the interests of taxpayers, ratepayers, investors and insurers against one another (and some of us can be all four at the same time). The essence of the quandary starts with a peculiarity in California constitutional law. In most states, to be held liable for damages, negligence has to be shown; it's not enough that your utility lines came down and caused a fire – plaintiffs would have to show some degree of neglect, either in the construction or maintenance or care of those utility lines. The California Constitution, however, has a more comprehensive view of "takings", that is the right of individuals to be compensated when the government takes their property for a road, or

a hospital, or any other civic project, regardless of negligence. Our state Constitution has been interpreted as extending this takings coverage not just to governmental entities, but to any entities acting on behalf of, or acting as, governmental entities; then, since the utilities are so heavily regulated, the rationale goes, they are acting as governmental entities and thus subject to the same strict rules, regardless of negligence.

This is the basic concept of “inverse condemnation” – when private property is “taken”, or harmed, by actions of a utility, whether or not any negligence is shown, then the utility is responsible. This is at the core of the problem facing PG&E and Edison, and threatening the existence of the investor-owned utilities (and, by the way, would also apply to any municipal owned utilities or to state-owned utilities). Whether or not they were negligent, if their equipment caused a forest fire, they are responsible for all the damages.

But in a fascinating twist, San Diego Gas and Electric is appealing this rule (as it related to their liability for a 2008 fire) to the US Supreme Court, arguing it is an illegal taking by the government of their property. The US Supreme Court, in recent years, has been relatively receptive to cases arguing local governments have exceeded their authority in eminent domain cases. The current court, with its new members, might be extremely receptive to this argument. If they do rule, in the 2019 - 2020 court session, for SDG&E, this could upend the entire jurisprudence surrounding these issues, which the Legislature is trying to address in the short term. All I can say is, what a can of worms. (And, by the way, I think we undervalue the service utility companies – either investor owned or publicly owned – provide in ensuring reliable delivery of electric and gas services.)

— Jon Fuhrman

Jon Fuhrman's 4/24 Special Edition Political Notes Now on ACT's Website

Please check www.ACTpasadena.org, ACT's webpage for a Special Edition (April 24) of Jon Fuhrman's Political Notes, “To Impeach, or Not to Impeach???” You will find it under the 2020 Presidential Election News heading.

You will also find the current online edition (and previous editions) of *The Phoenix* (in color and sometimes with items we couldn't fit into the print edition).

Bruce Wright, our website manager, has created a Presidential Primary page that lists local events for Democratic presidential candidates. Please let him know of any local presidential campaign events he can add to the page. (at brucewright@sbcglobal.net)



Ron Garber, *continued from page three*

the position. That's the requisite term in office in California before an elected official is subject to recall. Let the record show that I'm the first person calling for his recall. Let's see what happens.



On April 14 the UDH Steering Committee met, with Joanne Wendler conducting the meeting. Fred Register commented that there are many potential volunteers who are anxious to get started on 2020 campaigning. I provided feedback on my contact with Chase Hardin, Arizona U.S. Democratic Senate candidate Mark Kelly's Political Manager who will be a grateful partner and has asked us to be patient while he works to staff up the campaign. I also reported that at my request Edwenna Werner, who leads the San Gabriel Valley Swing Left, should ask Vote Forward to provide "Voter Registration By Mail" (VBM) letters geared to our emphasized state of Arizona. While Arizona is one of the 11 to 13 states Swing Left is concentrating on, to date

we have only received letters for Georgia & Wisconsin. She complied and they responded that they would be happy to work on that and we could expect those letters by mid to late May. Until then Vote Forward is providing Special Election GOTV letters for a congressional seat in Pennsylvania that we hope to turn BLUE. Stay tuned to this space for further 2020 election volunteering opportunities.

— Ron Garber



Progressive Discussion Group - Upcoming Programs

PDG meets every first and third Friday of the month from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., currently at Rose City Church, 1801 E. Del Mar Boulevard, (NE corner of Del Mar and Allen) Pasadena. Park on the street or in the parking lot entered from Allen. Meet in the room opposite the Sanctuary.

While the program starts at 9, please arrive a bit earlier if you are having coffee or other refreshments.

**Note that May 24 is an exception to the first and third Friday rule.*

May 24* Presentation on Asian Pacific Heritage Month with Congresswoman Judy Chu.

June 7 Report on the just concluded California State Democratic Convention. One male and one female delegate reporting.

June 21 Gay Pride Month, Leo Miras from Lambda Legal, speaker and San Gabriel Valley LGBTQ.

July 5 Discussion of the state of the Democratic Presidential contest. NO SPEAKER. Each participant (us) will be given from 60 to 90 seconds to make a statement of where they stand as of this date. The field should be set as the first debate will have happened a few weeks prior. Save

this date as A) it should be fun and B) those of you who can't usually make it on a Friday morning might be taking a four-day holiday weekend.

July 19 YIMBY (Yes in my backyard) movement will be discussed. Carson Malbrough, speaker.

Ed Washatka is the PDG convener, Ron Garber is in charge of programs, and Monica Hubbard maintains the list and sends meeting reminders. Contact ed.washatka@gmail.com, or ronagarber@yahoo.com. Please let Monica know if you would like to receive meeting notices at consulting@mihubbard.com.

We look forward to seeing you at any or all meetings.

— Ron Garber



ACT & ADC 2019 Meeting Calendar

Our meetings are on the first Thursday of the month, with just a few exceptions*. Meetings are called to order at 7:30 p.m. after time for socializing beginning at 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 6

Sunday, June 9, ACT's 46th Anniversary Celebration*

Thursday, July 11*

No meeting in August

Thursday, September 12*

Thursday, October 3

Thursday, November 7

Thursday, December 5



Additional Contributions to ACT's Operating Account

Bob and Maureen Carlson, Pasadena

Beth Gertmenian, Pasadena

Cheryl Kane, Pasadena

Honoring Nellie & Inman More

ACT will honor Inman and Nellie Moore at our upcoming 46th anniversary. As a young Methodist pastor in Mississippi, Inman Moore made a courageous public stand for civil rights. He not only preached for the end of segregation from the pulpit, he signed a public letter with other pastors that became national news. Nellie stood bravely with Inman as they suffered the ugly backlash in Mississippi. Ultimately, the situation became so dangerous – including multiple death threats – that they were forced to move their ministry and family to California.

The couple arrived in Southern California in 1963, serving churches in La Crescenta, Pasadena, Burbank and other communities before Inman's retirement in 2010. They also founded and ran their own successful business here in Pasadena for many years.

At every step along the way, Inman and Nellie have continued speak out on the great moral issues of the day. As strong, consistent advocates for peace and justice, they were always in the forefront of causes, from opposing the Vietnam War to affirming LGBT couples in the United Methodist Church. Even as Nellie's health has declined in recent years, dozens of local organizations have continued to look forward to Inman's "mini-sermons" and jokes at their meetings and in support of their causes. In 2002, he helped others of like mind to find a common voice, founding the Progressive Discussion Group, which meets twice monthly in Pasadena to address social and political issues.

This is a couple who have exemplified service and commitment every day of their lives. ACT is proud to join in honoring their decades of contributing to this community.

Happenings in Altadena

Altadena Coalition of Neighborhood Associations (ACONA)

Tuesday, May 28, 7-8:30 p.m., Altadena Community Center, 730 E. Altadena Drive

- Topics:
- Update on Water in Altadena (after the rains)
Speaker: Melvin Matthews, General Manager, Kinneloa Irrigation District
 - Search & Rescue in Altadena (helicopters, etc.)
Speaker: Alex Canchola, Altadena Sheriff's Station
 - Devil's Gate Cleanup Project Update
Speaker: Brittany Barker, Civil Engineer, LA County Public Works

Neighbors Building a Better Altadena

Altadena Town Council Candidate Forum
Wednesday, May 29, 7-9 p.m., Altadena Community Center, 730 E. Altadena Drive
Co-sponsored by League of Women Voters Pasadena Area

Altadena Town Council Election

Tuesday, June 4, Early Voting
Saturday, June 8, Election Day
Voting Locations, Various.

www.altadenatowncouncil.org/election/



Your Photo in The Phoenix

Please share a high-resolution photo (of you) with *Phoenix* readers. Send it to Chuck at hains27@sbcglobal.net for inclusion in an upcoming issue.

Coming Pasadena Elections

Mayor and City Council Primary Election

Date: March 3, 2020

General (City run-off) and PUSD Election

Date: November 3, 2020

Mayor Nomination Filing Period:

November 12, 2019 to December 6, 2019*

City Council Districts 1, 2, 4, & 6:

November 12, 2019 to December 6, 2019*

PUSD 2, 4, & 6:

Summer 2020

PCC 2, 4, & 6:

November 12, 2019 to December 6, 2019*

*Extended to December 11, 2019 if incumbent does not run or qualify to run.

Thanks to Mark Jomsky, City Clerk, Pasadena for the above.

www.cityofpasadena.net/cityclerk



Special Thanks to Sustaining Members

Bob & Maureen Carlson

Brice & Carolyn Harris

Greg Harrison & Nicole Mihara

Bruce & Betty Ann Jansson

Cheryl Kane

Garrett & June Thurber Paine

Greta Pruitt

John & Ann Scheid

Tammy Silver

Betty & Norri Sirri



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.



Pictures Featured in the *Phoenix* in the Past Forty-Six Years



**From
25th District
State Senator
Anthony
Portantino**



Dear ACT Members,

In the past several months, I have been fortunate to hold or co-host six town halls across the 25th State Senate District. Two of the town halls dealt exclusively with gun regulation and gun violence, two were co-hosted with First District PTA on mental health first aide, one was with Supervisor Kathryn Barger in Sunland-Tujunga and the most recent was at Learning Works with a collection of Indivisible groups from the 25th Senate District. I feel they have been enlightening and productive. Direct conversations are an excellent way of learning from friends and neighbors and to improve as a legislator.

I've been working with the City of Glendale on two important pieces of legislation. Glendale was left with \$27 million dollars of bond funds after the dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies that it would like to dedicate exclusively to affordable housing. The city hopes to leverage these dollars with an additional \$80 million to build 300 to 400 new affordable housing units. Glendale also brought forth the idea of creating a tax credit for landlords who will honor federal Section 8 vouchers. Pasadena has recently experienced the number of landlords who take Section 8 vouchers fall from 1300 to 1200. It is the hope of Glendale and other cities that creating a financial incentive will have a positive effect on affordable housing stock. I agree with them and I am authoring the bill. I've also reintroduced an effort that will incentivize cities to provide housing for foster youth. Coincidentally, Bella just received her Girl Scout Gold Award working with foster youth in our district and I am a very proud dad.

I am continuing my work with the Brady Campaign on sensible gun storage legislation that not only includes stiffer requirements for residential gun storage; it extends the conversation and regulation to senior care facilities. These homes currently need guidance on how best to deal with seniors who bring guns into these facilities and may or may not properly and safely store them. In the wake of the recent tragic shooting in Poway, we are looking to strengthen California's gun control leadership and close even more loopholes. The vitriol for these efforts has been quite depressing but I couldn't help let a little smirk come to my face when one of the most vitriolic Facebook trolls called me the most progun-regulating politician in California.

As mentioned above, Bella just received her Gold Award. One of the things she did to earn it was to participate in our annual foster youth town hall. As many of you know, I hold an annual foster youth town hall with the cooperation of many ACT members. Our next foster youth town hall will be held on Saturday, May 25th. Stay tuned for details. We are also working on our annual HIV/AIDS summit for the fall.

Bella and I have been putting together her college visit schedule for the summer. It's a little bit tough to swallow that my Bella will be going to college much sooner than I was ready for. Sofia came home for the Girl Scout ceremony and the four of us are off to New York next weekend. I'll share details about our trip when I get back.

Warmest Regards,

— Anthony



**And really special thanks to
Benefactors**

Councilmember Steve Madison

**From
41st District
Assemblymember
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

It has been another busy month for me both in the Capitol and in the district. My legislation continues to move forward in the committee process, and I recently introduced a resolution on PG&E's bankruptcy. I am also requesting new funding for California's Earthquake Early Warning System through the budget process. In the district, I held a wildfire town hall in Mt. Baldy – one of the highest risk areas for wildfires.

My legislation that would strengthen anti-discrimination laws in new forms of housing accommodations such as Airbnb, passed the Assembly Judiciary Committee. There is a history of discriminatory behavior in housing and now we are seeing it happen in hosting platforms. My new legislation, Assembly Bill 1497, adds short-term rental on a hosting platform to the definition of housing accommodation to make sure hosts are held accountable to anti-discrimination laws. Assembly Bill 1497 ensures that technology continues to bring us together and is not used as a tool to further divide us.

I am also proposing to increase funding for California's Earthquake Early Warning System at the Assembly Budget Committee #5. I believe we must invest more in our Earthquake Early Warning System because our lives depend on it. My request includes a one-time 8.8 million dollars and an ongoing 3.6 million dollars for the creation and maintenance of the Shake Alert Early Earthquake Warning System. This will provide Californians with extra seconds before they feel an earthquake, which is critical to help prevent

injury or death

I also introduced Assembly Concurrent Resolution 78 that expresses the will of the legislature in PG&E's bankruptcy proceedings. PG&E's bankruptcy will have a ripple effect that impacts everyone across the state. There is a lot at stake, and our goal is to make clear that the outcome must prioritize victims, rate-payers, and any reorganization of PG&E should not jeopardize the state's safety, energy reliability, and climate change goals. The resolution also expresses that it is the will of the Legislature for the California Public Utilities Commission and any other entities representing the state of California involved in the court proceeding to ensure that damages to fire victims, where PG&E is determined to be responsible, are resolved equitably, that PG&E's rank and file employees continue to receive wages, and that PG&E's executive compensations be restricted.

Finally, here in the district, I was able to host a special wildfire town hall in Mt. Baldy, tailored for those residents. Mt. Baldy is a region severely prone to destructive wildfires with limited escape routes. Because of their unique situation, I convened a special community meeting for those residents to learn how they can protect their homes, be prepared for evacuation, and how to navigate fire insurance. We had participation from the Los Angeles County Fire Department, San Bernardino County Fire Department, California Office of Emergency Services, and the California Department of Insurance.

Sincerely,

— Chris R. Holden



**Thanks for Additional Contributions
to ACT's Political Account**

Beth Gertmenian
Greta Pruitt
Leah and John Sullivan

2019 ACT and ADC Membership Renewal

A red check on your address label on this *Phoenix* tells you that we have not yet received your 2019 membership renewal check. Please use the form below, or renew online at www.ACTpasadena.org.

If you have any questions about your membership, contact Executive Director Jon Fuhrman at jon_fuhrman@outlook.com or 626 864-5255.

P.S. Why not join both groups at our bargain rate?

Thank you to everyone who has already renewed. Your generous response is heartwarming!



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**

Name

Home Phone

Address

Office Phone

City

ZIP

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.

May Jun

Calendar

May 20 Monday 7 p.m. UDH Steering Meeting at the home of Karen Wingard, 737 S. Magnolia Ave., Pasadena.

May 24 Friday 9-10 a.m. Progressive Discussion Group at Rose City Church, 1801 E. Del Mar Bl., Pasadena. Details inside. Also, June 7 and 21.

May 31– June 2 Fri–Sun 2019 California Democratic Party State Convention, San Francisco.

June 4 Tuesday 6-8 p.m. LA Co Registrar/Recorder Grassroots Community Meeting on Vote Center placement at the Pasadena Convention Center, Ballroom F-G, 300 E. Green St., Pasadena.

June 6 Thursday 7 p.m. ACT Steering and ADC Meeting with PPD Chief John Perez at the home of Jeanne and Fred Register, 2438 Highland Ave., Altadena. (Between Altadena Dr. and Mendocino St.) Socializing 7 p.m.; meeting 7:30 p.m.

June 8 Saturday Altadena Town Council Election Voting Locations, Various: www.altadenatowncouncil.org/election/

June 9 Sunday 2-4 p.m. ACT's 46th Anniversary Fund-raising Party at the home of Connie Holguin, 271 Markham Pl., Pasadena. (Access from S. Orange Grove Bl.)



June Phoenix Deadline

The June *Phoenix* deadline is Monday evening, June 10. Please send items for publication to Chuck Hains at hains27@sbcglobal.net



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