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Published by Chuck Hains & Sally Beer

ACT and ADC's Mock Iowa Caucus Results: Klobuchar Earns Narrow Win, Sanders Right Behind

As Iowans gathered to caucus Monday night, February 3, so too did ACT and Arroyo Democratic Club members and other supportive Democrats.

Meeting at the El Torito Restaurant in Pasadena, local Democrats were pretty evenly split at our Mock Iowa Caucus: Sen. Klobuchar led the pack with 30 votes, followed closely by Sen. Sanders with 28 votes, then Vice-President Biden with 23 votes, and Sen. Warren with 21 votes.

Mayor Buttigieg initially had 10 votes, but that was under the 15% minimum threshold, so his supporters had to realign with other candidates. Similarly, 11 caucus attendees were originally undecided, and they also had to realign.

If this caucus determined delegate allocations, with our 27th CD being entitled to 5 delegates, the breakdown would be as follows:

Sen. Klobuchar	30 votes 29.1%	2 delegates
Sen. Sanders	28 votes 27.2%	1 delegate
Vice-Pres. Biden	23 votes 22.3%	1 delegate
Sen. Warren	21 votes 20.4%	1 delegate.



All can agree that the event was chaotic, crowded and fun. (We had about thirty more attendees than we expected.) This, our third Mock Caucus was the best attended, with many new members joining ACT and ADC. The El Torito taco bar was delicious and filling, though some of us were eating while standing up!

Special thanks go to Ed Washatka and Jon Fuhrman for arranging everything, John Buchanan for ably moderating the event, persuasive Caucus leaders Vickere Murphy for Pete Buttigieg, Joanne Wendler for Amy Klobuchar, Tina Wu Fredericks for Bernie Sanders, Bruce Wright for Elizabeth Warren, Jon Fuhrman for Joe Biden, and Ed Washatka for the 'Undecideds'. Also, to Beth Gertmenian, Betty Krachman, Barbara Paul and Sally Beer for attempting to keep things under control at the sign-in table.

Continued on next page

Mock Caucus, *continued from page one*

We are alerting the media. Jon has sent out a press release with our Mock Caucus results and Joanne is contacting the Klobuchar folks to let them know of their win here in Pasadena.

The turnout for this year's Mock Iowa Caucus was about 50% greater than the caucus in 2016, suggesting Democrats are acutely interested in and passionate about the 2020 primaries.

NOTE: These results are not an "official" ACT or ADC endorsement of any Presidential candidate.

Please see Caucus pictures on page thirteen.

**New ACT and ADC Officers**

At our January and February meetings, ACT and ADC members elected new officers for 2020. We are pleased to introduce two new ACT Co-Chairs, **Denise Robb** and **Teresa Lamb Simpson**. We thank them for stepping up and wish them well. We also express thanks to **Barbara Paul** who continues on as Co-Chair for her second year. (ACT Co-Chairs usually serve for two consecutive years.) And thanks to our two "retiring" Co-Chairs, **Joanne Wendler** and **Darla Dyson**. They have been true stalwarts for us. Below are our officers and committee members for 2020:

2020 ACT Steering Committee

Co-Chairs: Barbara Paul, Denise Robb,
Teresa Lamb Simpson

Recording Secretaries: Mona Field,
Barbara Paul & Joanne Wendler
(backups)

Corresponding Secretaries: Beth Gertmenian, Monica Hubbard (backup)

Treasurer: Ed Washatka

Committees:

Computer/Webpage – Bruce Wright,
Felicia Rusnak, Jon Fuhrman,
Fred Register, Elliot Cuite

Fundraising – Bill Hackett, Anne Wolf,
Felicia Rusnak, Teresa Lamb Simpson,
Anthony Portantino, Barbara Paul,
Veronica Raymond, Fred Register,
Jeanne Register

Membership – Barbara Paul, Linda Centell,
Sally Beer, Karen Breau, Lynne Appel

Mailing – Sally Beer, Jon Fuhrman,
Barbara Paul, Joe Pardee, Jim Heringer,
Tom Hubbard, Monica Hubbard,
Inman Moore, Marguerite Cooper,
Ray Fisher, Ron Garber, Karen Breau,
Ann Hunnewell, Kris Ockershauser,
Chuck Hains

The Phoenix – Chuck Hains, Sally Beer

Program – Ann Marie Hickambottom and
Ron Garber (Co-Chairs), Linda Centell,
Susan Kane, John Buchanan,
Dolores Hickambottom,
Kris Ockershauser

Research – Marilee Marshall & Tim Wendler
(Co-Chairs), Susan Kane,
George VanAlstine, Bruce Wright,
Jeanette Mann, Jon Fuhrman,
Dolores Hickambottom, Joanne Wendler,
Monica Hubbard, Vickere Murphy,
Beth Gertmenian, Ed Washatka,
Felicia Williams, Marguerite Cooper,
Betty Krachman, Barbara Paul,
Karen Breau, Denise Robb

Note: All former ACT Co-Chairs are Steering Committee members. Some of them are not listed here.

See **Officers**, *continued on page fourteen*

My Two Cents

By Ron Garber



An observation on a critique of a publishing rollout

As anyone who has read any of my columns now knows, I get many - probably most - of my inspirations from the L.A. Times as is the case with this piece. Monday, January 27 on the front-page bottom right corner written by Daniel Hernandez with assistance from Dorany Pineda, an article entitled "How the roll-out of 'Dirt' got so nasty" caught my attention and the article enthralled me to the point that I dropped everything to write this column.

A little background, 'American Dirt' is a recently rolled out novel by Jeanine Cummins published by Flatiron Books which is a division of Macmillan Publishing. The controversy is that Ms. Cummins, who ostensibly is white, was paid a one-million-dollar advance for a book about a Latinx woman's harrowing journey with child across Mexico to reach the safety of the United States. At this point I have to tell you that I haven't read the book and this is not a critique of it but a reporting of criticisms of both the book and more importantly the publishers roll out of the book.

As might be expected the criticisms of the book are coming from the Latinx literary community who probably are chafed by the fact that a non-Latin woman was paid an unseemly fortune for depicting a current day heroine belonging to their culture. Further exacerbating the squabble is the fact that the book was chosen to be Oprah's book of the month and it had been distributed to celebrities like Stephen King and Selma Hayek in advance for comment. Ms. Hayek praised the book only to later admit after the controversy became public that she hadn't read it.

While I both understand and commiserate with

the critics and in no way wish to defend either the author or publisher, I can't help but be amused by the unintended consequences of their displeasure. As I understand it, the author was being sincere in her depiction of the hardships incurred by those fleeing violence, but the critics claim that she perpetuated both stereotypes and memes which both incorrectly harm our perceptions of Mexican and Central American Latinx refugees and by extension the Latinx culture. The unintended consequences of their rebukes unfortunately have helped land the book solidly in the top 10 sales category. The publisher has refused to apologize and the author has now conveniently discovered that she has a Puerto Rican grandmother.

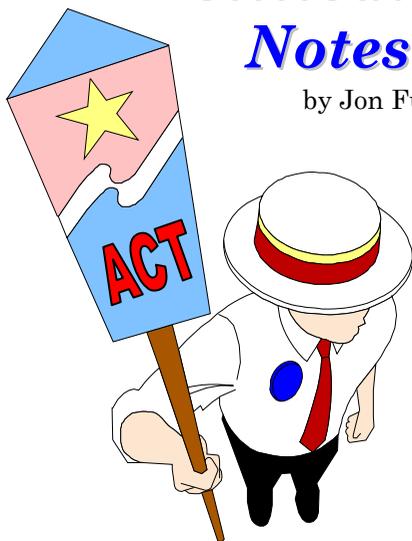
I can't help but to compare this discussion to the fictional character of Charlie Chan, a Honolulu Chinese-American detective, created by author Earl Dorr Biggers a white Mid-Western, Harvard educated writer. While his intentions were to create favorable impressions of Asians in America, the Asian community found the impersonation to be insulting. Further complicating that perception was the movie characterization portrayed by Warner Oland, a Caucasian actor.

When I was a young adult in the mid-20th century I was a voracious reader of mostly novels. I've always been what today is characterized as a progressive, but my taste in literature was eclectic to the point of enjoying both 'The Fountainhead' and 'Atlas Shrugged' written by Ayn Rand. Ms. Rand's philosophical bent known as objectivism is commonly employed by members of the Republican party - most noted recently by former House Speaker Paul Ryan. In 'Atlas Shrugged' she would go on these very long, sometimes pages long, soliloquies on the evils of helping the poor instead of allowing them to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps. Not that deep into the tomes I would recognize when one of these

See **Two Cents**, *continued on page twelve*

Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Well, the Iowa and New Hampshire Democratic contests turned out pretty much as I had predicted – except exactly the opposite. I was pretty confident that Vice-President Biden would dominate the traditional liberal Democratic lane, and that Senators Sanders and Warren would compete for voters further to the left and fragment that vote, leaving Biden in a dominant position. The only part I got right is that there seem to be many more voters in the traditional liberal camp than there are further to the left.

Senator Sanders is now the undisputed leader on the far left side of the party. Sen. Warren's campaign has basically collapsed, although she continues gamely to pose for every last selfie and reach out to every last voter. But Sanders' strong showing may disguise some weaknesses. The overall turnouts in both Iowa and New Hampshire have been modest. In New Hampshire, about 300,000 votes were

cast in the Democratic primary, up from the 267,000 in 2016. However, over 40,000 fewer votes were cast in the Republican primary this time than in 2016, when there was a fierce battle for the Republican nomination, so it's likely that quite a few independents who were GOP voters in 2016 voted this time in the Democratic primary. The underlying thesis of Sanders' campaign is that he can motivate and excite, and draw to the polls, many on the left who are discontented and typically have not voted. So far, though, there seems little evidence that this is happening. Further, Sanders picked up only about half as many votes as he got in 2016 (although there were many more candidates this time around).

In the traditional liberal lane, Pete Buttigieg and Sen. Amy Klobuchar are basically neck and neck, but the momentum seems to be with Sen. Klobuchar. Neither she nor Buttigieg were polling well in New Hampshire. But her debate performance, and perhaps a strong desire among Democrats for a woman candidate, have propelled her into the top tier. Further, her post-election speech was far and away the best of the night, and her fundraising spiked last night, reportedly bringing in over \$2 million since the polls closed last night.

Both she and Mayor Pete now face a critical test. Neither had the money or time to invest much energy in either Nevada or South Carolina, and January polling put them both in the single digit range in both states. Sen. Sanders has had a long-standing operation in Nevada and has been competing strongly on the ground. However, the Culinary Union in Las Vegas, which represents most casino hotel workers and thereby exerts inordinate influence in the caucuses, is not happy with Sanders' Medicare for All proposals. In fact, the Union last night distributed flyers to all its thousands of members explicitly warning that Sanders wants to take away their union health care plans. Sanders, of course, would

argue that his plan will provide a better alternative, but it's hard to argue that an unknown visionary plan is better than what folks use day to day and are happy with.

Caucus states are Bernie's strength, so I'd expect him to win, but perhaps not to dominate, the Nevada caucuses on February 22. (And that's assuming the caucuses don't implode as they did in Iowa.) Then just a week later, we're on to South Carolina, an even tougher test for Buttigieg and Klobuchar, but possibly the salvation for Vice-President Biden.

Biden is betting the farm on South Carolina. His showing in Iowa and New Hampshire was not just poor; it borders on fatal. But he argues, rightly so, that Iowa and New Hampshire are hardly representative of the Democratic Party nationally, or of the country, and represent barely 2% of overall voters. Still, the image was bad, and he underperformed in New Hampshire compared to recent polling, suggesting many Biden voters switched over to Buttigieg or to Klobuchar. South Carolina is, arguably, a different case, where he has much deeper

and stronger ties, particularly to the African-American community there. Yet, those too could be fragile; Hillary Clinton had overwhelming support there in 2008 until Barack Obama proved he was a viable candidate in Iowa. Of course, in this cycle, there is no other candidate who would have such a natural appeal to that constituency, so perhaps Biden's poor showing so far is not fatal. Biden did give a strong speech after the New Hampshire polls closed, and he sped off to South Carolina right after that, so it's clear he will be spending the next two weeks there shoring up his support and quite literally fighting for his candidacy.

The other candidate who might, surprisingly,

be competitive in South Carolina is Tom Steyer. Steyer, who barely registered in either Iowa or New Hampshire, has been spending inordinate amounts of money on advertising in South Carolina for months now, and has been buying up every endorsement possible and advertising in every locally owned newspaper or weekly he could find. Why he chose South Carolina to focus on is a bit of a mystery to me – it doesn't seem like a natural fit for him. But he did, and his money has made an impact, at least according to most polls, which put him among the top three candidates.

Then three days after South Carolina comes

Super-Tuesday. That's an enormous challenge to candidates, because virtually no one has the money or resources seriously to compete in thirteen states – including huge states like California, Texas and Florida – all at once and right after they've spent everything they could in Nevada and South Carolina. The only candidate with such resources is Mike Bloomberg, who apparently is willing to spend several billion dollars on the primary, and per-

haps multiple billions more after that should he be the general election nominee.

So if you don't have money to pay for advertising and organization, you have to rely on name recognition and free media. Biden outshines everyone in name recognition. But winning primaries gets you a lot of free media, and that's what Sanders, Buttigieg and Klobuchar will have to rely upon in the Super-Tuesday states.

Biden has an advantage, in that he has been polling well in the big states like Florida and Texas, and that the voters in most of these Super-Tuesday states are much closer to him ideologically than to Sanders. But Buttigieg



and Klobuchar are in that same lane, and their success so far is propelling them forward and making them viable competitors for Biden voters.

The Bloomberg scenario is that the centrist voters remain split, with Sanders emerging as the plurality winner (even though a clear majority of voters support more centrist candidates), which turns the process into extended trench warfare where his overwhelming and unlimited resources eventually carry the day. It could happen. Having come so far, it would be tough for either Buttigieg or Klobuchar to drop out. If anyone, I would guess that Vice-President Biden would be the first to drop out, especially if he doesn't come in first or second in South Carolina.

Does this scenario sound eerily familiar – a candidate on the edge with a plurality in the 30 – 40% range, winning against a bevy of more moderate candidates, none of whom are willing to drop out and consolidate the moderate vote? Donald Trump made it work, despite the disbelief of most pundits and commentators.

It appears that voters, at least in California, are waiting to see what happens. Over 15 million absentee ballots were mailed out early last week, but reports as of Monday indicated only 32,000 had been returned. Typically, there is a large burst of early ballots, then more trickle in, and then there is a large burst in the days just before the election. That early burst seems not to be happening. My guess is that many voters are undecided or loosely affiliated with a candidate and are waiting to see what happens. I wouldn't be surprised if we saw unprecedented numbers of absentee ballots handed in at the polls, as voters wait until the last minute to decide among the Presidential candidates.

So what is going to happen? To my mind, the wild card is Sen. Klobuchar. She seems to be striking a chord now, and there has always

been among Democratic voters a strong desire for a woman candidate. If she can defy expectations and show a strong second in Nevada and South Carolina, or an upset win in either one, then I think she will do surprisingly well in Super-Tuesday and may well go on to capture the nomination. Our own Mock Iowa Caucus results may have showed that same underlying support for a woman candidate and a centrist nominee.

On the other hand, if Biden can eke out a win in South Carolina, then I think his existing advantages in Florida and Texas, and other southern states, will take him to a multi-state victory that will reanimate his campaign and lead to his nomination, even if Bernie wins states like California and Massachusetts.

If I had to bet, I'd want good odds, but I'd take a flyer on Klobuchar.

Here in Pasadena, we're also awaiting our March 3 Mayoral and Councilmanic elections. Candidates are pounding the pavements and filling mailboxes, and the central issue, in one way or another, seems to be development. Monday night the City Council voted to approve a new development on South Los Robles by a 5 – 3 vote, and that vote highlights the central fault lines. Mayor Tornek voted to approve the development, while Councilmember Gordo voted against it. Councilmember Masuda voted to approve, while Councilmember Madison voted against it. The proposed development includes some affordable housing (perhaps not enough?), and would have some impact on traffic and, opponents argue, add to the cumulative impact of overall development. It also had several "bonus" features including greater height and greater Floor Area Ratios (which is developer-speak for greater density), to which it was entitled by new state laws. The developer threatened to sue the City if the project was not approved, and in truth they probably would have had a strong case.

So the Council wisely approved the develop-

ment, but it stands as an example of the conflict between desire for more housing, particularly affordable and moderately affordable housing, and a fear that the city is losing its livable quality and is succumbing to overdevelopment, excessive traffic, and the loss of our single-family neighborhoods. One writer in the West Pasadena Residents Assoc. newsletter went so far as to proclaim the death of our single-family neighborhoods because state laws now override our limits on Accessory Dwelling Units (commonly known as granny flats).

Mayor Tornek and Councilmember Gordo are positioning themselves on opposite sides of this divide. In fact, though, there really isn't much the City can do. State law clearly takes precedence. Further, having more granny flats is a good thing, and it does increase the overall supply of housing, and is particularly well suited for students or recent graduates. (It is stunning to learn, for example, how many PCC students are homeless or living in their cars.) The City will be obligated to increase its housing supply, and building more housing between Del Mar and the Freeway is the logical place to put it.

But the emotional impact of development has, stretching back to the 1980's, always been a political hot button. The only change, these days, is much stronger political pressure to increase housing supply and affordability, which can be done only by building more housing. Is that politically saleable? We'll see on March third.

~ Jon Fuhrman



Thanks for Additional Contributions to ACT's Operating Account

Joan & Andreas Aebi
Charles Dillingham
Andrea Gordon
Victor & Janice Laruccia
Joel Stoup

Primary Election Voting Advice

Sample Ballots and Vote-by-Mail Ballots for our March 3 Primary Election have arrived! Pay attention because just about everything is new this time around. The LA County Registrar is rolling out a whole new system. Precinct polling places are history, having been replaced by Vote Centers. February 18 is the last day to register to vote, although you can "conditionally" register (Same Day Registration) up to 8 p.m. on Election Day at a Vote Center or the LA County Elections Office.

Some Vote Centers will open on February 22; others will open on February 29. They will remain open through Election Day, March 3. You may visit any Vote Center in L.A. County to cast your ballot during those days.

NOTE: This would be a very good time to become a Vote-by-Mail voter, and thus totally avoid any problems that might occur in the roll out of the new Vote Center system.

Anyone can Vote-by-Mail. Complete and return the back cover of your sample ballot OR go to LAVote.net for a Vote-by-Mail application that you complete and return. Remember that **the last day to turn in your Vote-by-Mail application is February 25.**

If you are already a permanent Vote-by-Mail voter, nothing will change. You probably have already received your Vote-by-Mail ballot in the mail. You drop your voted ballot in the mail or return it to any open Vote Center.

Visit LAVote.net for detailed information.



Thanks for Additional Contributions to ACT's Political Account

Victor & Janice Laruccia
Andrea Gordon
Ed Washatka & Linda Centell

Vote Centers - A New Voting Experience for L A County Residents

Those who Vote By Mail (VBM) will not experience any changes to their procedure; the new system only affects those who vote at the polls.

By now, you should have received your 'Vote Center Locations' in L.A. County booklet. You may go to ANY of the sites to vote. Some Centers will be open from Feb. 22 through March 3 (11 days); others will only be open Feb. 29

through March 3 (four days). There are about 800 Centers. Each Center will be staffed with several clerks to assist voters. All clerks have had a mandatory eight hour training class.

They will assist you through the whole process. **Bring your Sample Ballot** to expedite things. It will be scanned and your information will pop up. Otherwise, you will provide name and address and the clerk will search for you. If you need to update your information the clerk can assist you with an immediate database update.

Next, the clerk will generate a blank ballot with your own code (Poll Pass). It has been personalized to allow you to vote for your own City candidates, etc. For instance, you reside in Pasadena but you are at a location in Long Beach; your ballot will list all ballot issues for Pasadena!!!

Take your blank ballot to an empty privacy booth to vote where a clerk will help you get started. Touch screen to begin, choose language, insert ballot, and confirm your ballot is loaded. Find your candidate and touch the screen to cast your vote. **Always hit the MORE button at the bottom to access all pages.** Upon completion, your ballot will be ejected. With both hands, manually insert the voted ballot to cast your vote in the same privacy booth.



Do not forget your I VOTED Sticker.

There will be Curbside Assistance and Handicapped voting available at all sites.

Good News: This will eliminate many of the thousands of provisional ballots.

Vote Early!!!! Vote Early!!!!

~ Barbara Paul



ACT and ADC Endorsement Recommendations for March 3 Primary Ballot

Judy Chu, CD27

Adam Schiff, CD 28

Anthony Portantino, 25th State Senate District

Chris Holden, 41st Assembly District

John Harabedian, LA Co Supervisor, District 5

Terry Tornek, Pasadena Mayor

Felicia Williams, Pasadena Council District 2

Charlotte Bland, Pasadena Council District 4

Steve Madison, Pasadena Council District 6

Jim Osterling, PCC Area 2 (ACT only)

Hoyt Hilsman, PCC Area 4



ACT/ADC Steering Committee Recommendations

Yes on Measure FD, Fire Protection Special Tax Measure

Yes on Measure R, Code Revision to Sheriff Civilian Oversight Comm.

Yes on CA Prop 13, School and College Facilities Bond

George Gascón, L A District Attorney

ACT/ADC Steering Committee Recommendations on Judicial Candidates

Office 42

Linda Sun Qualified Endorsed by LA
Dem. Party

Office 72

Steve Morgan Well Qualified Endorsed
by LA Dem. Party

Office No. 76

Emily Cole Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem. Party

Office No. 80

David A. Berger Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem. Party

Office No. 97

Sherry L. Powell Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem Party

Office No. 129

Kenneth M. Fuller Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem. Party

Office No. 145

Adan Montalban Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem. Party

Office No. 150

Tom Parsekian Qualified Endorsed by
LA Dem. Party

Office No. 162

David D Diamond Well Qualified



ACT/ADC Webpage

Check our webpage, ACTpasadena.org for the current issue of *The Phoenix* in color and sometimes with extra items we couldn't fit into the print version. It also has ballot recommendations and other election information.

Please send any suggestions or comments or items to be included to Bruce Wright, our website manager at brucewright@sbcglobal.net.



California Proposition 13, School and College Facilities Bond

This was put on the Ballot by the Legislature.

A “**yes**” vote supports this measure to authorize \$15 billion in general obligation bonds for school and college facilities, including \$9 billion for preschool and K-12 schools, \$4 billion for universities, and \$2 billion for community colleges.

A “**no**” vote opposes this measure to authorize \$15 billion in general obligation bonds for school and college facilities.

What would the bond revenue be used for?

- \$9.0 billion Preschool and K-12
 - \$2.8 billion new construction of school facilities
 - \$5.2 billion modernization of school facilities
 - \$500 million providing school facilities to charter schools
 - \$500 million facilities for career technical education programs
- \$4.0 billion Universities
 - \$2.0 billion capital outlay financing needs of the California State University
 - \$2.0 billion capital outlay financing needs of the University of California and Hastings College of the Law
- \$2.0 billion Community colleges
 - capital outlay financing needs

Supporters include: Governor Newsom, 13 Democratic State Senators (including Senator Portantino), 15 State Assemblymembers (including Assemblymember Holden)

Opponents include: Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

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



Dear ACT Members,

Election Day is just around the corner. Sorry I missed the ACT mock Iowa Caucus. I heard it went well and that our tabulation system was far superior to the APP used by the Iowa Democratic Party. On a more serious note, after watching another series of childish tirades from Trump, we have to get through our Primary with a strong candidate who can unify the party. America won't be America with four more years of this administration. I hope we can all agree that after the Primary we need to have a singular focus to fire the surreal Trump administration.

We had our Senate summit last week where we were able to hear from academics and researchers on a variety of subjects. Governor Newsom spent about two hours with us, too. We also heard from a housing non profit from Oakland that has achieved tremendous success keeping people in homes through short term rental assistance efforts. Keeping people from falling into homelessness is a very effective, financially efficient strategy as compared to dealing with the wrap around services and re-housing necessary after a person or family becomes homeless. While we are on the subject of housing, the trickle down housing Bill SB 50 failed to pass on the Senate floor. I voted "no" as the Bill's emphasis on market rate housing rather than affordable housing and its tipping the balance of land use power substantially into the hands of developers would have led to too many unintended consequences. I was also quite alarmed by the Bill's negative effect on historic preservation.

So many communities in the foothills have spent decades endeavoring to preserve the historic and rich character of their business and residential properties that it seemed very ill-conceived to abruptly neuter these efforts.

This week, I'm introducing a Bill to bring oversight and regulation to summer camps. Our area knows all too well that tragedy can strike when a child isn't properly supervised. Last year, a six year old from Pasadena drowned at a summer camp. We can't change the past but we can try to bring about a better and safer summer camp experience for our children in the future.

Since I introduced a bill in the wake of the Poway synagogue shooting I am continuing to be attacked on social media for my efforts to enact common sense gun regulation. In Poway, the shooter was able to purchase a rifle without a valid hunting license. SB 914 seeks to have the retailer, the DOJ and Fish and Wildlife cooperate to determine the validity of hunting licenses. Proper verification might just have help prevent the Poway shooting. My opponent in the upcoming election seems to have paired up with the Anti-Vaccination Pro-gun crowd. At least on social media both groups are giddy at the chance to bring about a pro-gun anti-public health agenda to our district. I don't think I'll let them do that!

On the family front, Bella will once again transition from her high school soccer team back to her club team. Sofia dropped her cat, Indiana Jones, at our house for three months as she works on a film in San Francisco. All good with the Team at home.

Warmest and Best,

~ Anthony



**Really Special Thanks to
Benefactors**

Marilee Marshall & Bruce Wright

**From
41st District
Assemblymember
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

The legislative session is in full swing. Three bills I introduced so far include AB 2011 that would extend the Gold Line all the way to Ontario Airport, AB 2019 that would increase access for dual enrollment for students in juvenile court, and AB 1994 would make health-care more accessible for juvenile inmates coming out of incarceration.

Light-rail is playing a critical role in reducing our carbon footprint, improving air quality, and connecting communities throughout the region. We also know that cities with links to airports are shown to be more productive than those without. That's why I'm excited to introduce AB 2011 that will create West San Bernardino County Rail Construction Authority that would be responsible for designing and building the extension from Montclair to the Airport.

I am also requesting funding through the State Budget for a study to examine the potentiality of extending the Gold Line to Burbank Airport. The benefits of light rail on our environment, communities, economy would be greatly amplified if we were to extend the Gold Line to both Burbank and Ontario Airport. Additionally, and what I believe is on most peoples' minds, is the convenience of sitting on a train when you're trying catch a plane compared to being stuck in LA traffic worried if you catch the flight.

Expanding access to dual enrollment programs continues to be one of my top priorities in the legislature since first establishing the College and Career Access Pathways Act in 2015 (AB288). Dual enrollment increases the

number of college graduates, reduces time and money spent for college, and helps close the achievement gap. Students in juvenile court schools, like foster and homeless youth, experience high rates of educational instability, and are likely to be behind in credits. In an effort not to exclude any students from dual enrollment opportunities, I introduced AB 2019 that allows students in juvenile court schools to access the benefits of dual enrollment programs.

When an individual becomes an inmate of a public institution their Medi-Cal benefits are terminated after one year from the date they are incarcerated. If they have been incarcerated for more than a year, they must then reapply to Medi-Cal to receive benefits once they are released. This process of requiring them to reapply for care exacerbates the already difficult position of reintegrating into their communities. For individuals with chronic conditions, the period of time between applying for Medi-Cal and receiving benefits can be deadly. That is why I introduced AB 1994 that would prohibit the termination of Medi-Cal benefits to eligible juveniles. Continuity of care is critical for improving health outcomes for vulnerable populations, decreasing need for costlier health care services later on down the road, and increasing rates of successful community reintegration.

I am looking forward to keeping you updated on the progress of these bills and new legislation I introduce in the next month.

Sincerely,

~ Chris R. Holden



Special Thanks to Sustaining Members

Sally Beer
Mel & Renate Cohen
Andrea Gordon
Judy Hochenauer
John & Virginia Kimball
Muriel Mitchell
Norman Thomas & Mae Gautier

Welcome New Members (from our Mock- Iowa Caucus)

Hector Alberdi, Altadena
 Nancy & Tom Buck, Pasadena
 Don & Susan Bosch, Altadena
 Alex Lung Chi, San Gabriel
 Ana Derby, Pasadena
 Connie Destito, Alhambra
 Theresa Destito, Pasadena
 Eric Dyson, Pasadena
 Donna Jaffee, Pasadena
 Una Lee Jost, Pasadena
 Alexa Kent & James Bartlett, L.A.
 Juan Mena, West Hollywood
 Yuni Parada, Pasadena
 Deb Sheridan, Sierra Madre
 Juanita Tillman, Altadena
 Lynette West-Cater, Altadena
 Tana Wong, Pasadena
 Martha Zavala, Walnut



Steve Madison, Phone calls and Sushi! Come Join the Fun!

Join us every Tuesday and Wednesday evening as we make a few calls for Steve Madison. Steve is the ACT/ADC endorsed candidate for Pasadena City Council in District 6. Come have some food and drink and make a few easy calls every Tuesday night at the Rothner Law Firm located at 510 S. Marengo Avenue in Pasadena 91101. Pizza du jour will be served! Enter from the back entrance. There is plenty of parking on Pleasant Street and Marengo. Or you can dial away and feast on sushi every Wednesday night at the home of Diana Peterson-More. We phone from 5 pm till 8 pm. Diana's address provided upon R.S.V.P. Thanks and come make a difference locally!!! Please bring your cell phones. RSVP to madisonforpasadena@gmail.com.

Two Cents, continued from page three

was about to begin and skipped over them, but I digress. I didn't purchase those books new. One I purchased for ten cents at a flea market and after enjoying it I checked the other one out of the library.

Today I'm ashamed to admit I don't read many books but wait for the movie adaptations to come out. I'm going to do that with 'American Dirt, which I never would have heard about if it weren't for this controversy. Not wanting to enrich the author or the publisher or the movie studio, I will wait until the movie comes out and then only view it in a format that I've already paid for like cable TV or on a cruise. Finally, I can't help but wonder who will play the protagonist. If it's not a Latina, like the Charlie Chan character was not played by an Asian, the critics will have a field day. However, while the part would be a wonderful opportunity for a young actress of the Latino community would she be pilloried for accepting the part? Fortunately for Selma Hayek, who would have been perfect for the role in her heyday, she is no longer young enough to play the part.

~ Ron Garber



Progressive Discussion Group

PDG meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 9-10 a.m. at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Avenue, Pasadena in the back Sun Room. Parking behind the restaurant can be entered from Cordova or Mentor. Please arrive a bit early to place a breakfast order; separate checks are provided.

Ed Washatka is the convener and Ron Garber is in charge of programs. You can contact Ed at ed.washatka@gmail.com or Ron at ronagarber@yahoo.com. Let Ed know if you wish to receive meeting notices. Everyone is welcome at any or all meetings.

Are Shelters Coming?

On Dec. 17 the L.A. Times, reporting on a specific piece of news that was generated on the previous day, devoted two major stories on the front page, the lead - and I might add lengthy editorial of the day, two op-eds covering almost an entire page and another major story in their California section. Was there a declaration of War, did a former President pass away, did a woman land on Mars? No, what generated this tsunami of print was the fact that the United States Supreme Court decided not to accept an appeal of a relatively obscure 9th Circuit Appeals Court ruling known as the Boise ruling.

So what's the Boise ruling? The 9th circuit told the city of Boise that they could not either arrest or force a homeless person to move on if found sleeping on a public sidewalk, if there were not a sufficient number of shelter beds available in the community. This ruling has major implications for Los Angeles County as there are close to sixty thousand homeless in the county. Large organizations formed by NIMBYs (not in my back yard) have successfully thwarted any building of shelters in their communities, while at the same time, urging their representatives, city council members and county supervisors, to have law enforcement either roust or arrest those blocking their sidewalks.

Now based on the fact that the Supreme Court has allowed the ruling to stand, local municipalities and NIMBYs know that their only alternatives are to allow shelters in their neighborhoods or live with the homeless sleeping on the street or under freeway overpasses or dry riverbeds etc. Look for shelters coming to your neighborhoods soon.

~ Ron Garber



Our Mock Caucus



Vickere Murphy urges the crowd to support Mayor Pete



Bruce Wright speaks for Senator Elizabeth Warren



New Officers, *continued from page two*

2020 Arroyo Democratic Club Officers

President: Tim Wendler

Vice-President: Bruce Wright

Secretaries and Treasurer: Same as ACT

Please tell us about any mistakes you see in the above list. For example, do you serve on a Committee and we missed your name? Or are you no longer serving on a Committee, but still listed? Let Beth Gertmenian know at

bgertmenian@gmail.com.

Also please let us know if you would LIKE to serve on an ACT committee (and thus become a Steering Committee member.) Contact Executive Director Jon Fuhrman at:

jon_fuhrman@charter.net.



ACT and ADC Meeting Calendar

ACT Steering Committee and ADC meetings are usually on the first Thursday of the month. Meetings are called to order (again, usually) at 7:30 p.m. after time for socializing beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Thursday, March 5 (Super Tuesday analysis by Jon Fuhrman and Fred Register)

Thursday, April 2 (Housing and Homelessness)

Thursday, May 4



Thank you from Terry Tornek

Dear ACT / Arroyo Democratic Club Members:

Thank you for your contribution and for your support. ACT's history in Pasadena earns it a reputation as an important voice in local affairs -- so I am genuinely grateful for your endorsement. I hope to prove worthy.

~ Terry Tornek

Carole Babcock



We are sad to note the death of **Carole Bailey Babcock** on December 24, 2019. Carole was born in Scranton, PA in 1934. She graduated from Madeira School in VA and then moved to New York City to study at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. She was a gifted artist who concentrated on stone carving for many years. She and her husband Mike Babcock have been longtime ACT members.

Carole and Mike met as teenagers. They married in 1955 and eventually moved to Pasadena where they raised their four children. We extend our sympathy to Mike, Carole's sister Lynn, children Michael, Linda, Scott and David and their spouses and eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Garland Theater at Polytechnic School, Sunday, February 16 at 3 p.m. The family suggests that any memorial contributions be made to The Pasadena Village, 236 W. Mountain Street, Pasadena 91103.



Thank you from Char Bland

Dear ACT and Arroyo Demo. Club Members,

I am so very appreciative of the Endorsement from ACT/ Arroyo Democratic Club, the oldest progressive grass-roots political action group in the Foothills, and one of the most effective for over 40 years fighting for progressive ideals at the city, state, and national levels.

Running as a first-time candidate is a great challenge and having the support of ACT/ADC members make the journey an easier road to travel. Thank you to ACT/ADC for the Endorsement and Contribution to the Charlotte Bland for City Council 2020 campaign.

Regards,

~ Char

Membership Renewal for 2020

It's that time! Renew your membership in ACT and/or ADC today! Use the form below, or renew online at www.ACTpasadena.org.

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

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 you provide will be available to other members and endorsed candidates upon request.

Feb Mar

Calendar

- February 19 Democratic Presidential De-
Wednesday bate, Las Vegas, Nevada.
- February 21 Progressive Discussion Group
Friday at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S.
9 – 10 a.m. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Also
March-6 and March 20.
- February 25 Democratic Presidential
Tuesday Debate, Charleston, South
Carolina.
- February 25 Last day election officials accept
Tuesday applications for Vote-by-Mail
ballots.
- March 3 Primary Election (Super Tues-
Tuesday day.)

March 5 ACT Steering and ADC Meet-
Thursday ing featuring Election Analysis
7 p.m. at the home of Marilee Marshall
and Bruce Wright, 654 S. Mad-
ison Ave, Pasadena. Socializing
at 7 p.m.; meeting begins at 7:30-

March 9 UDH Steering Meeting at the
Monday home of Karen Wingard, 737 S.
7 p.m. Magnolia Ave., Pasadena.

April 2 ACT Steering & ADC Meeting
Thursday 7 p.m.



March Phoenix Deadline

The March *Phoenix* deadline is Sunday evening, March 8. Please send items for publication to Chuck Hains at hains27@sbcglobal.net. (Chuck will continue to contact regular contributors with a deadline reminder.)



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