



**The Official Publication of ACT**

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*the phoenix*  
**On-Line**

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## UDH - the Fall Campaign

As the Pasadena Area United Democratic Headquarters (UDH) heads into full campaign mode for the midterm elections, we wanted to give you some updates on the latest developments as well as our plans for the fall campaign. While we will pursue our traditional election strategy of supporting Democrats on the local and state level, there will be some distinct differences from past campaigns.



First, this year will be more of a hybrid operation, with many of our volunteers working remotely from home or in backyard gatherings, in part because of the continued challenge of COVID. However, over the past two years, the UDH has worked hard to develop a vibrant virtual presence, through social media, virtual training and phone banking, as well as networking with other grassroots and party organizations around the country. We have grown our volunteer base – both local and virtual - and therefore we will be able to expand our reach considerably.

While we will continue our tradition of canvassing, door knocking and in-person voter registration, we will also be able to extend our outreach efforts with this hybrid model. The UDH outreach will be particularly important this year since our goal is to flip at least five seats in California that are currently held by Republicans.

These are the seats currently held by Republicans Mike Garcia, Young Kim, Michelle Steel, David Valadao and Ken Calvert. Each of these Republicans have supported the Trump agenda, as well as often Trump himself, and have taken uniformly anti-abortion, anti-immigrant, pro-gun positions. With the margins in the House so slim, flipping these seats could make the difference in maintaining a Democratic majority in Congress.



There are also important Senate races across the country, and working with the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic Senatorial Committee, the UDH will support Senate candidates, particularly in the challenging races in Arizona and Nevada. Of course, the UDH will work hard to support our

local and state candidates, working with the State and LA County Democratic party leadership.

We are delighted that Bill Hackett, the veteran of a number of UDH and other campaigns around Pasadena, will be joining us as Campaign Manager. Bill brings a wealth of experience and contacts that will be invaluable to our success in November. We are also thrilled that Caitlin Gallogly, who has been working as a consultant on social media, volunteer training and innumerable other important tasks for the UDH, will continue to provide a critical role during the campaign. In addition, our intrepid and irreplaceable Vice-Chair Cheryl Brickey will be working in virtually every aspect of the campaign.

A shout out as well to our postcarding gurus, Katie Dempster and Karen Rowinsky, who have already organized an impressive postcarding campaign with tens of thousands of postcards going throughout the state and nation supporting Democratic candidates and issues. Finally, kudos to John Gallogly, who has spearheaded our very successful fundraising efforts, as well as Jeanette Mann, Fred Register and all the members of our UDH Steering Committee who have worked hard to prepare for the campaign.

We have secured an office space at Industrious in Old Pasadena. It is a private office space in a shared office facility, conveniently located, with access to multiple conference room spaces. We will start there on August 1 with the campaign manager and interns. Hopefully, we will find a convenient and appropriate brick-and-mortar space for later in the campaign. As you know, that is always a challenge and any help would be much appreciated.

This election is an especially critical one for our nation and for democracy itself. We count on every one of you to join us in fighting for the future of our country. Please go to [pasadenademocrats.com](http://pasadenademocrats.com) to volunteer and for updates on all the UDH election activities.

Onward to victory!

~ Hoyt Hilsman,  
Chair UDH Steering Committee



## Do More, Worry Less

The last few weeks (years?) have been filled with things to worry about BUT, we have things to do! We have about three months until the midterms. Let's take time out from anxiety and despair and put our energy into doing what we can to give Democrats clear wins in November.

Pasadena Area United Democratic Headquarters (UDH) and Blue Wave Brigade will have a variety of postcard campaigns to work on over the coming months. Right now, we have postcards to the important *SWING STATES* of Arizona, Georgia, and Pennsylvania. These postcards can be written now, but will be mailed in October. We are also coordinating with important California district campaigns on Get Out the Vote postcards. Those will be available soon.

We hope you will join us and focus on the important work we can do to save our country and the world. Just contact Karen Rowinsky, [karen@karenrowinsky.com](mailto:karen@karenrowinsky.com), 626-483-1134 or Katie Dempster, [kdcjic@earthlink.net](mailto:kdcjic@earthlink.net), 323-363-2602. We will send you the order form to START WRITING! Remember, the more you write, the less time you'll spend worrying.



## Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

Alton Wang, Arcadia

## Special Thanks to Sustaining Members

Geoff Baum & Lisa Gallaway

## Special Thanks to Patrons

Gail Price

## The Research Com. Meets August 20

The Research Committee will meet on Saturday, August 20, at 9 a.m. (Whether via Zoom or at Co-Chair Marilee Marshall's house TBD.)

The Committee will consider Pasadena Unified School District races, the Pasadena Rent Control/Tenant Protection Charter Amendment, extension of the Pasadena Library tax, a PCC bond issue, and other propositions.

Anyone interested in participating may contact either Committee Co-Chair:

Marilee Marshall [mmlegal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mmlegal@sbcglobal.net)  
Tim Wendler [timwendler89@gmail.com](mailto:timwendler89@gmail.com)



## July Summer Potluck



ACT and ADC members enjoyed our July summer potluck meeting in the Philibosian/Seifert backyard (first in-person meeting since March 2020) and heard about Pasadena's Rent Control/Tenant Protection Charter Amendment.



## Upcoming ACT/ADC Meetings

August – Dark. **No meeting and no Phoenix.**

September - Thursday, September 1, 7 p.m. for socializing; 7:30 p.m. for the meeting (via Zoom or at a location TBD.)

The program will be the **Research Committee's Report** and recommendations on PUSD Board races, the Pasadena Rent Control/Tenant Protection Initiative, the Pasadena Library Tax renewal, a PCC Bond initiative and some state ballot measures.

An electronic endorsement ballot will be sent to ACT and ADC members following this meeting.



## Voter Registration at Farmers' Markets

Doing voter registration and volunteer sign-ups at Farmers' Markets is a great way make a big impact for Democrats in the fall and to bring in volunteers and new blood to Democratic Clubs and the Pasadena Area UDH. It will help us meet young voters, get to know neighbors and make new friends. And it's outdoors with less COVID risk.

ACT and ADC members, do you have a favorite Farmers' Market where we should be tabling to register Democrats and find volunteers?

Get in touch with the UDH with your suggestions about what Markets to staff. Help contact your Farmers' Market for permission to have a table. Consider doing voter registration and volunteer sign-ups at your local Market. It can be fun! Thanks, contact us at:

Cheryl Brickey [cpbricke@gmail.com](mailto:cpbricke@gmail.com)  
Bill Hackett [billhackett2002@yahoo.com](mailto:billhackett2002@yahoo.com)

## Political Notes

by Jon Fuhrman



Tuesday, July 12.

As I write this, the next hearing of the January 6<sup>th</sup> Committee is underway, exposing the explicit links between former President Trump and the extremist groups who fomented the violent attack on the Capitol, as well as hinting at witness tampering by Mr. Trump. In Georgia, the Fulton County grand jury has heard witnesses and is issuing additional subpoenas; it's hard to believe they won't be finishing up their work by the end of summer. The lawyers defending Steve Bannon, indicted for contempt of Congress, lost multiple pre-trial motions and then plaintively asked the Federal District Judge: "What's the point of going to trial if there are no defenses?"

The house of cards is starting to crumble. The hearings are, in fact, having an impact, moving people – not huge numbers, but you can see detectable movement in the polls. That's the real

reason, to my mind, why the former President is teasing his folks about a formal announcement of another run; it's the only way he can staunch the bleeding. If he waits too much longer, it may be too late. Also, announcing his candidacy could make a federal indictment even more problematic. It's bad enough to indict a former President; indicting an active Presidential candidate places an even greater public relations burden on the Justice Dept.

So, are the prospects for the midterm elections changing? Have the hearings, the legal proceedings, the Dobbs decision changed what most pundits saw as dire prospects for Democrats?

We'll start with a quote from Nate Silver, of the 538 polling and predictive website: "On the whole, the odds still favor Republicans. But I buy that Roe being overturned evens the equation a bit toward Democrats."

That's pretty typical of most commentary so far. It seems clear that Dobbs is both energizing the Democratic base and moving independents and some GOP voters over to our side. However, most commentators remain skeptical that those voters will ultimately desert the GOP, feeling that low approval numbers for President Biden and adverse economic news – specifically inflation – will ultimately sink the Democrats.

Indeed, most mid-term elections are usually a referendum on the incumbent President. If voters are happy, and the President's approval ratings are high, his party does well. If not, there can be steep losses, and that's exactly the historical pattern in most mid-terms. That's exacerbated for Democratic Presidents because turnout in midterm elections drops off, and that drop is especially sharp among occasional Democratic voters.

So, the historical pattern is for the incumbent's party to lose. But sometimes voters defy tradition and expectations – usually when something unusual has happened. In the 2002 midterms,

after 9/11 but before the Iraq invasion, President Bush fared well. In 1998, in reaction to the GOP overreach in their impeachment proceedings, President Clinton fared well. Will the Dobbs decision, and the prospect of a new Trump candidacy, overshadow voters' perceptions of the President? There are also times when a particular candidate is so toxic that, despite a wave in one direction or another, voters reject that candidate; this is more frequent for Senate candidates, where the Democrats are shielded from the effects of gerrymandering districts because the races are state-wide.

Most commentators are now agreeing that, although they still see the House as likely to go Republican, based mostly on Presidential approval numbers, the Senate is a real toss-up, primarily because of that last factor. Republicans have already selected, and may select a few more, really unattractive and inept candidates, and Democrats are already going to town. My guess is that we will pick up three to six Senate seats, in large part due to Republican incompetence.

One of the most endangered Senate Democrats is Sen. Rafael Warnock in Georgia, who is being opposed by Hershel Walker. Walker, the former football star, was thought to be a powerful GOP candidate – appealing to the black community, to Georgia's football crazy fans, carrying Trump's endorsement. But news of one unacknowledged child broke, and then another, and then yet another, along with news about how Walker had repeatedly lied to his own campaign staff about them. Then he made bizarre comments about air pollution and American "clean air" being replaced by Chinese "bad air" which we had to clean. Polling gives incumbent Sen. Warnock a clear and consistent edge. Another example is in



Pennsylvania, where "Dr. Oz" narrowly won the GOP primary thanks to Trump's endorsement, but continues to film campaign ads from his mansion in New Jersey, to the delight of local Democrats. Here also, the Democratic candidate, Lt. Gov. John Fetterman, despite being laid up for most of June due to a stroke, continues to have a sizeable lead in the polls.

The House is a tougher ballpark for Democrats. Despite statewide leads, gerrymandering often puts Democrats at a disadvantage. Nonetheless, the more the election is seen as about abortion

rights and the possibility of a second Trump Presidency, the better our chances are. Interestingly, we may get an early read on the power of the abortion issue in early August. In 2015, the Kansas legislature enacted a ban on all surgical abortion procedures. But in 2019, the Kansas State Supreme Court, not exactly a bastion of liberalism, found in a 6 – 1 decision that the Kansas State Constitution, by including language taken from the

Declaration of Independence, recognized "natural, inalienable rights" which included "personal autonomy" and therefore the right of women to control their own medical care and choices. Anti-choice activists then pushed the State Legislature to put a Constitutional Amendment on the ballot to override that decision and empower the Legislature to regulate abortions. The GOP has a narrow supermajority in each house of the state legislature, and the amendment passed on a strict party-line vote.

Kansas is a pretty deep red state, and by having the vote in August, it lends a further advantage to the GOP side supporting the amendment. So, by all rights, this should be a cakewalk. Yet, Kansas does have a centrist Democratic Governor, Laura Kelly (who is up for re-election this year) and in

past years voters rejected extremist GOP candidates. The pro-choice community is waging an aggressive campaign against the amendment, with strong support in the Kansas City and Lawrence areas. Proponents argue that the amendment does nothing to the existing state abortion laws, which, though technically accurate, is misleading because no one doubts what the Legislature would like to enact if given the green light. So, on August 2, we'll get an early read on the power of the Dobbs ruling to move centrist and GOP voters into our column. My guess is that voters will defeat the amendment, but it could be quite close. But even a vote narrowly approving the amendment would suggest that the Dobbs decision really will have an impact in November.

~ Jon Fuhrman



## The Pasadena Area United Democratic Headquarters

presents a

**January 6 Select Committee  
Public Hearing Watch Party\***  
**Thursday, July 21, 4:30 p.m.**  
**at Mark Geragos' 10e Restaurant**  
**811 W. 7th Street, Los Angeles**

\*The date is tentative, as it is dependent on the Committee's schedule. Watch for information in your email inbox.



## Announcing the 2022 Judy Boggs Memorial Internships



ACT is now accepting applications for the 2022 Judy Boggs Memorial Internships in Grassroots Politics. If you know of qualified young people who might be interested, please pass this information along. Here's more detail about the program:

**In memory of our long-time Executive Director, Judy Boggs, ACT will award stipends of up to \$4500 for two outstanding students to intern at the 2022 Pasadena Area United Democratic Headquarters (UDH). This year UDH will focus on targeted Congressional districts in California and supporting local Democratic incumbents.**

Internship program goals: to give interns experience in all aspects of a local campaign; to help them meet and work with local activists, candidates and elected officials; and to develop potential future leaders in local politics.

Preference will be given to students in good standing at a local college, community college, university or graduate school; but recent graduates will also be considered. Applicants must demonstrate an interest in government and electoral politics; show commitment to progressive issues and grassroots participation; and be able to work at least 20 hours a week at UDH in the 2-3 months leading up to the November election.

All interested students will be asked to submit a resume and a cover letter. **Applications must be received by Wednesday, July 27, 2022.** For more details, e-mail Fred Register at: [fred.register@charter.net](mailto:fred.register@charter.net) -- or call 626-791-5345 and leave a message.

~ Fred Register

## My Two Cents

By Ron Garber



When contemplating what to write this month I had a plethora of topics; the SCOTUS Roe ruling, the January 6 Committee hearings, the potential that the Supreme Court could throw out future free elections by turning over the Electoral College Votes to severely gerrymandered state legislatures, whose justification would be that they believe themselves to know better than a democratic (majority) electorate. The thought of any of these made me queasy, so I decided it was time to take a break from democracy's demise and find something heartwarming instead.

Now bear with me as my thought process is somewhat convoluted. Today I read in the L.A. Times that assassinated former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe attended USC for three semesters. As my far better half, Valerie, also attended USC, I decided to research Abe to ascertain whether they were there at the same time. As it turns out Abe and Valerie share the exact same birthday, with he being born one year earlier. Now I'm not going to tell you that their paths crossed as she was an undergraduate taking classes in marketing and accounting, and his curriculum was post graduate at USC's School of Public Policy, but this got me to thinking about another story stuck in the crevices at the back of my brain:



So, imagine you're a 13-year-old girl, attending Western Middle School, a public school in Bethesda, Maryland in early June 2006 and you're told that a woman has shown up asking to speak with the female students. It turns out this woman, a medical doctor, is the first woman who is not the widow of a South American President,

to be elected in her own right to the presidency of a South American country, in this case Chile. Why, you wonder, is this recently elected President of Chile visiting MY public middle school? As Edgar Allen Poe would say, "let's this mystery explore."

In 1964 when Michelle Bachelet was a 13-year-old, her father was a military attaché assigned to the Chilean embassy in Washington D.C. They lived in Bethesda, Maryland, and she attended Western Middle School, hence, she speaks fluent English as well as German - where she would also attend school when her father was stationed there.

She has a fascinating biography which I will only touch on. She was elected as a Socialist serving two non-consecutive 4-year terms, another first. Her family was incarcerated and tortured by President Pinochet who was Chile's Trump - only on steroids. As President she had her ups and downs, but leaves behind a legacy of expanding rights for women and the poor in the areas of abortion rights, pensions for all and improvement of public education.

She's currently the head of the United Nations Human Rights Commission. Her term expires in August when she plans to retire at the age of 70 to spend more time with her family. I can only imagine how inspired those girls were to be receiving that unexpected 2006 visit.

~ Ron out!!!



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

Phlunte & Eddie Riddle

Eddie Taylor

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

Eddie Taylor

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



Dear ACT members,

I'm writing this from my hotel room in Washington on the eve of the Safe Communities Act Celebration at the White House. President Biden is hosting the historic event and I was honored to have been invited to attend. Gun reform has been a significant legislative priority for me, and I am proud to have had California's successful gun control efforts be the reason for my inclusion.

I recently sent the gun reform bill, SB 906, to the Governor for his signature. SB 906 has two provisions: it forces school districts to investigate credible violent threats to campus safety and it requires school districts to educate parents on proper and safe gun storage of firearms in the home.

Most school shooters get their weapons from the home or from a relative. If you recall in Michigan, the school received information on a shooter's violent intentions and failed to act on them. We can't let inaction cause another deadly tragedy which is why I authored a bill to rectify this situation in the future.

The recently adopted state budget included \$23 million for Pasadena, Burbank and Glendale to build affordable housing. It is part of an effort to create a regional housing Joint Powers Authority between the three cities. In January, the three cities asked me to carry legislation to authorize the formation of the regional housing trust and I was happy to comply with the request. I followed it up by making the budget request to fund this laudable plan.

Mayor Gordo and I attended the recent California

Transportation Commission meeting in Sacramento. We testified to support the vote to formally relinquish the 710 Freeway stub back to the city. Three years ago, I authored SB 7, the legislation to authorize Caltrans to relinquish the stub to the city. The CTC action was the culmination of the city's negotiations authorized under SB 7.

The Pandemic exposed many healthcare inequities for racial and ethnic populations. There are significant differences in cancer coverage and access in California with far too many patients unable to access necessary treatment and clinical trials. In an effort to solve these problems I've been working with City of Hope to create access cancer centers. The CDC lists cancer as the second-leading cause of death in California. More than 187,000 Californians are diagnosed with cancer every year, and thousands of them will be misdiagnosed or placed on inappropriate or ineffective treatment.

SB 987 expands the existing set of care diagnoses for which enhanced access is provided and includes clinically necessary cancer care services such as genomic/genetic/transcriptomic/proteomic testing, clinical trials participation, and all necessary cancer-related outpatient and inpatient clinical care, defined episode of care. The expansion in care will make medical patients eligible for the latest and best care.

SB 974 expands health care coverage for diagnostic breast imaging following an abnormal mammography. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death among women of all races. Early detecting of breast cancer can reduce the risk of dying from the disease by 25-30%. Health insurance coverage extends to mammography screening, which detects 80-90% of breast cancers in women who have not yet manifested physical symptoms. Women who receive abnormal results on a breast cancer screening can be instructed to undergo follow-up testing to ensure that the abnormality is not cancerous, and they

are often required to pay out-of-pocket for follow-up testing. This can cost thousands of dollars and cause many women to delay or avoid these appointments and thus, delay treatment that can save their life. SB 974 requires health insurance policies to provide coverage for all medically necessary diagnostic breast imaging. The bill ideas were suggested by a constituent in Glendale.

On the family front Ellen and I completed our move to Burbank. After nearly 30 years, we sold our house in La Canada and moved closer to Universal for Ellen and the airport during my final two years in the Senate.

Warmest and Best,

~ Anthony



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



Dear ACT Friends,

I am pleased to announce the local victories of Assembly District 41. The California Legislature passed AB 178 that supplements the 2021-2022 State Budget agreement announced earlier in June.

Below is a list of local victories for Assembly District 41:

The \$5 million for the Pasadena Central Library Seismic Retrofit project will require a seismic retrofit, structural upgrades, building systems upgrades, and improved ADA amenities for building access, inclusivity, and usage.

The \$3 million for the Rose Bowl Stadium will ensure proper gas and water infrastructure improvements and the outcomes will be a strong level of emergency preparedness for City, Coun-

ty and State officials in the event of a catastrophe (pandemic, earthquakes, etc.).

The \$1.5 million La Vina Trail Completion will assist The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in their pursuit of creating two new trails that will provide public access for all to the Altadena Crest Trail, Chaney Trail, and the Angeles National Forest's extensive network of trails.

The \$2.7 million for Clara Oaks would provide a western entrance to the Claremont wilderness park. It would also help in the effort to create an open space corridor of 100 acres across the entire foothills in the region.

The \$10 million for Sierra Madre Library will assist in infrastructure upgrades and accessibility compliance.

The \$1.9 million for the Rancho Cucamonga Wildfire Detection Initiative will cover the installation of a newly available rapid wildfire detection system on the power line structures along the City's northern boundary, following the wildland urban interface to the Alta Loma and Etiwanda neighborhoods along the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains.

Additionally, my bill AB 2617, has also been adopted in the budget trailer bill to include \$200 million for students across California to start their careers and higher education journeys with intention.

In the district, I am excited to announce that I will be re-launching my 23rd Annual Block Party and Community Resource Fair. I look forward to seeing you all on July 23, 2022 from 11AM-3PM on the 500 block of East Jackson Street in Pasadena (Between El Molino and Los Robles). This event brings local government agencies and non-profits together to provide residents with information to assist them in interfacing with the state and local government. There will be free hotdogs, lemonade, a bouncy house, live music,

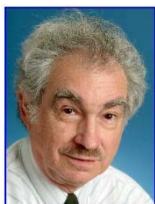
a game truck, backpacks, a car show and a raffle with free grocery and gas cards!

Sincerely, ~ Chris R. Holden



## Book Review

By Robert V. Frampton



### **“There is Nothing for you Here: Finding Opportunity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, a Memoir by Fiona Hill**

“In the 1980s” Fiona writes, “my dad told me to get out of Bishop Auckland and the North East of England with five fateful words: ‘There is nothing for you here’.” Fiona was born in 1965 in the market town of Bishop Auckland, County Durham, the daughter of a coal miner who after the mines shut down became a porter at the local hospital, and his wife, a nurse/midwife at that hospital. Fiona describes the area of Durham County, in Northeast England (near Scotland) as a blighted area, suffering from the economic impacts of shutting of the mines and of deindustrialization. Up until the ‘80s coal mining defined County Durham; but the last pit closed in 1994. She describes the similarity of this part of the UK with Appalachia and West Virginia in the US, and the effects of the economic policies of Thatcher and Reagan — “a policy mix of pulling back government regulations, cutting taxes, reducing social-sector spending, and greatly enhancing military spending.” Thatcher espoused minimal state intervention, market liberalization, deregulation and privatization of public services. This pushed unprofitable coal mines, steelworks and factories to close, broke the backs of trade unions and tore people from their traditional workplace-oriented communities. Similarly, in

the US, large steel mills and giant factories, employing thousands, in Michigan, Indiana and Pennsylvania, became outmoded and shrank as they modernized and became automated, bringing a post-industrial blight to the Midwest. A similar situation occurred in Eastern Europe and Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Russia had the additional burden that its large cities in Siberia were built under centralized planning decree, to exploit Siberia, without regard to natural market needs in those locations; and these cities then became economically isolated, leaving millions in extreme cold climates. This situation is expounded in detail by Fiona Hill and Clifford Gaddy in their book “Siberian Curse: How Communist Planners Left Russia Out in the Cold” (Brookings Institution Press, 2003.)

It was her father’s cousin, Charlie Crabtree, who inspired Fiona to study Russian. An old leftist who fought briefly in the Spanish Civil War, then in World War II, he had been an admirer of Russia. He later became obsessed with how Russia had changed after the war. Learning that there were scholarships for children of former miners, Charlie told Fiona’s dad, “Your Fiona’s good at languages. She should get one of these scholarships and study Russian and figure out why the bloody hell they’re trying to blow us up.” Fiona applied to the Russian program at Saint Andrews University in Scotland and was accepted. She spent her junior year, 1987, at the Maurice Thorez Institute of Russian language in Moscow and graduated from St Andrews with a major in history and Russian studies. While in Moscow she learned from a British diplomat of the opportunities for fellowships at Harvard. She moved to Cambridge and obtained her MS in 1991 and PhD in 1996, in Russian studies at Harvard. After Harvard she moved to the Brookings Institution.

Fiona was recruited to the White House National Security Council by news commentator Kathleen Troia (K T) McFarland and General Keith

Kellogg, and joined the NSC staff as head of the Russia desk in April, 2017, on leave from Brookings. Gen. HR McMaster had just succeeded Gen. Flynn. She describes the rather chaotic relationship between the NSC staff and the President. Indeed, Gen. McMaster was shortly replaced by John Bolton. She describes a president who did not take advice from his NSC briefings, and who was more interested in the TV showmanship of events than policy or diplomatic substance. “What Trump loved most of all was the big showpiece event that would put everything in motion.” However, the Helsinki summit with Vladimir Putin, which was meant to be such an event, became a disaster because Trump preferred to “wing-it” rather than to stick to approved policy points. Trump referred to himself as a 1980s man; “indeed it was in the ‘80s that Trump emerged into the national and international spotlight as a celebrity businessman and public personality, and set the stage for the style of leadership that Trump embraced for himself, in many respects already verging toward the hyper-personalized”, self-centered and self-absorbed.

Fiona Hill devotes several sections of her memoir to describing the phenomenon of “populism” and the appeal of a populist leader. She defines the essence of populism as a movement that “creates a direct link to the people, or specific groups, and either bypassing or eliminating intermediaries like political parties, parliamentary representatives and talking established institutions.” Vladimir Putin, Nigel Farage in the UK, *Viktor Mihály Orbán* in Hungary, and Donald Trump are contemporary examples of populist leaders. They are charismatic leaders who deal in pithy slogans that offer promises, not programs. Populists deal exclusively in ‘us’ vs ‘them’, who always present themselves as ‘champions of the people’. The blighted economy of deindustrialization sets the stage for populism. Dr Hill gives the example of

the rise of Nazism in Germany, citing a study by Fritz Stern of “cultural despair” for providing the milieu for the rise of a populist charismatic strongman leader. [See “The Politics of Cultural Despair: A study in the Rise of the Germanic Ideology”, by Fritz Stern, Univ. of California Press, 1961.] Cultural despair is the sense of loss, grievance, and anxiety that occurs when people feel dislocated from their communities and broader society as everything shifts around them: especially when the sense of identity of working in a particular job or industry, such as coal mining, recedes, and people lose their grasp of the familiar.

In Part IV of her book, Dr Hill describes social and economic measures that should be taken in the US and UK to strengthen community ties and lessen the sorts of unequal opportunities that she experienced growing up in County Durham. The key is to build up what she calls “the infrastructure of opportunity”, to provide the means, through mentoring and educational support and training, that lessen unequal opportunities and provide the programs for self-advancement for all who wish to take advantage of these opportunities.

~ Robert V Frampton



### [ACTpasadena.org](http://ACTpasadena.org)

Have you checked out our website? You can always find the current *Phoenix* there, plus a *Phoenix* archive.



Thanks to website manager Bruce Wright and to Marcus Green for updating and adding to the site. **Please share items of interest and online calendar items with Bruce.**

Reach him at: [brucewright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brucewright@sbcglobal.net).



## Calendar

July 21 (Tentative) UDH Jan 6 Committee Public Hearing Watch Party/ Fundraiser at Mark Geragos' 10e Restaurant, 811 W 7th St., Los Angeles. See information inside.

Thursday 4:30 p.m.

August 1 UDH Working Office opens in Old Pasadena.

Monday

August 15 UDH Steering meeting via Zoom. 5:30 p.m.

Monday

August 20 Research Committee Meeting via Zoom or at a location TBD.

Saturday 9 a.m.

August No August ACT/ADC Meeting and no August Phoenix.

September 1 ACT Steering and ADC Meeting via Zoom or at a location TBD. Research Committee Report. Socializing at 7 p.m.; Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 7 p.m.

### Please Pay Up for 2022!

If you find a **RED ✓** on your address label on this *Phoenix*, that tells you we are still looking for your 2022 membership dues for ACT and/or ADC. Please pay up now. Send your check with the form below or renew online at our website. If you have any questions about your membership, check with Executive Director Jon Fuhrman at [jon\\_fuhrman@outlook.com](mailto:jon_fuhrman@outlook.com) or 626 864-5255.

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

- |                          |      |                                      |                          |       |                   |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$40 | Single                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$70  | Single Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$25 | Each additional member per household | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$90  | Double Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$15 | Student or limited income            | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$150 | Patron            |
|                          |      |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$275 | Benefactor        |

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

- |                          |      |                                      |                          |       |                   |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$35 | Single                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$60  | Single Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$20 | Each additional member per household | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$85  | Double Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$15 | Student or limited income            | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$125 | Patron            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$20 | Gift Membership (NEW!)               | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$275 | Benefactor        |

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

- |                          |      |                                      |                          |       |                   |
|--------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$35 | Single                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$60  | Single Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$20 | Each additional member per household | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$85  | Double Sustaining |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | \$15 | Student or limited income            | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$125 | Patron            |
|                          |      |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$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

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Address Office Phone

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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.