

Reg 11 News and Happenings

Hello Democrats,

As I watched the tv coverage of hurricane Irma over the weekend I just kept thinking about all those folks who couldn't get out of the way of the storm. I thought about all of the people who couldn't evacuate. I thought about the elderly, the homeless, shut-ins or the working folks who don't have a car or the resources to leave. As I was watching people lined up outside of a Home Depot rushing to get supplies I thought about the people working inside of the store who aren't able to rush home and board up the residence because they are busy working and taking care of the customers. Natural disasters strike the most at risk communities in the most severe way.

I hope if any family or friends that you may have are safe and I hope they are all safe and with those they care about.

Well as expected our president started the clock on rescinding DACA. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with many people who we call Dreamers. They are some of the most impressive people I have ever met. I know some who are working as a union organizers, I know some who are in medical school, I know some who are attending colleges and universities from one coast to the other in our country and I know some who are working in good jobs trying to achieve what they thought was always within reach in the only country they have ever known "The American Dream".

I found this Senate floor speech by Sen Elizabeth Warren that I thought I would share with you

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=apE1LGZYQLE>

This fight has just begun and it will be a long one. I only hope that our Democratic leaders stand strong as the president and Republican leadership try to use people as

bargaining chips to build his wall. There will be much to do on this fight and we will need to keep constant pressure on our elected officials.

I am happy that our state has decided to sue the Trump Administration over their decision to end the DACA program. Just more proof that it is up to us in California to lead during these trying times in our country.

SB54

Senate President pro Tem Kevin De'Leon (SD24) and Gov Jerry Brown have reached an agreement on SB54 the California Values Act. This agreement is an important step in ensuring the governor will sign the bill when it reaches his desk. The bill now heads to the assembly for a floor vote so lets all keep an eye on this one.

<http://sd24.senate.ca.gov/news/2017-09-11-senate-leader-de-leon-and-brown-reach-agreement-sb-54-california-values-act>

AD51

With the special election to replace Jimmy Gomez scheduled for Oct 3rd we will need to hold another endorsement caucus for AD51. I am hoping to secure the same facility we used back in July for the primary caucus the meeting is being planned for Oct 7th from 10a-12p. I should have this all secured in the next day or so and all eligible voting delegates will be notified by the party through email.

Region 11 Meeting

We will be holding Region 11 on the weekend of October 14. I haven't secured a location yet but as I told folks at our region meeting in July my goal is to have

the meetings in different assembly districts. More news to follow on this in upcoming emails

LA County Fair (Urgent)

The LA County Fair is open and that means the LACDP's booth is also open. There is a shortage of volunteers so if you can volunteer a few hours please do and then you can spend the rest of the day enjoying the fair. There are plenty of shifts available. If the coordinators cant fill the shifts with volunteers then they are the ones who have to spend sometimes 12 hours a day in the booth so please help out if you can. Please contact the volunteer coordinator Linda Baker at llbaker4@verizon.net

Club News

I would like to thank Tim and Joanne Wendler for inviting me to speak at the Arroyo Democratic Club and ACT last week. What a great group of Democrats. I gave a quick update about the recent party executive board meeting, the region and just a quick intro on myself and why I ran for Regional Director. We had a very insightful conversation about how to work to bring different parts of our party together as we get closer to 2018. But to be honest it was much so much fun for me to see the amazing work being done in Pasadena and how engaged the club in their community. Here is a link to the clubs newsletter The Phoenix.

<http://actpasadena.org/page/index.html>

The Foothill Communities Democratic Club of San Bernardino County will be having a pancake breakfast fundraiser on October 21st at the Applebee's in Montclair 9421 Monte Vista Ave 91763. This event always draws lots of elected officials and its a great event to meet folks at. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased by contacting Linda Baker at llbaker4@verizon.net.

The Foothill Democrat Club has secured Gubernatorial Candidate Delaine Eastin as a speaker on September 28 at 7:00 pm. There will be more information in the forthcoming emails.

Glendale Rent Control

I was asked to share this information on a rent control ballot measure in the City of Glendale being promoted by Mike Van Gorder a delegate from AD43. This is the language and if you or anyone you know is interested in signing the petition or helping out please contact Mike at mike.vangorder@gmail.com

Local Fundaiser

Just an update on the meet and greet with Marine Col Doug Applegate hosted by our delegate Michael Duran. It was a very well attended and informal house gathering and Michael and his wife Suzanne did a great job making folks feel welcome which lead to a very relaxed conversation with the candidate. Mr Applegate gave a good update of his race in the 49th congressional district against Rep Darrel Issa in 2016 and what he sees as the path to victory in 2018. Mr Applegate's perspective as a veteran on needless wars was interesting to hear. He has strong positions on many progressive and labor issues. So a big thanks and congratulations to Michael for a job well done!

UFCW Local 1428

We head back to the negotiations table this week with Food4Less. The company continues to refuse to recognize the contributions our hard working members make to this very profitable company I was sent this TED Talk video by a friend. I viewed this a few years ago but it was a good reminder that we must always fight to make sure that workers are given a chance to be strong contributors to our local economies so that we all prosper.

Its a talk by Nick Hanauer and its titled "Beware fellow plutocrats , the pitch forks are coming

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q2gO4DKVpa8>

Movie Night

This past Saturday night my wife and I went to watch the movie "IT". It was a really good movie by the way! Now I knew Stephen King has some very strong liberal positions and is unafraid to voice his political views, heck Donald Trump even blocked him from his Twitter feed because Mr King was so effective at calling Mr Trump out on his ridiculous Tweets!

But what I wanted to mention about the movie was what a great statement it was on the idea of collective power. These kids in the movie all had their fears and troubles they have to deal with and Pennywise The Clown is very effective at attacking those fears to make the kids feel isolated and paralyzed because of their fears. The whole town doesn't want to talk about whats going on just like people want think how when one of our communities is attacked it doesn't matter because its not them or their community. The hero's in the movie realize that when they overcome their fears and act in a collective manner to fight evil they are unbeatable. Well it just got me thinking about all of us. When we realize that your fight is my fight and my fight is your fight then we are

unbeatable.

Who knew I would walk out of a horror movie thinking about the power of overcoming our fears and collective action!

We are stronger together was my take away from watching the movie.

In solidarity

Mark Ramos

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