



DEMOCRATIC CLUB OF CAMARILLO

Newsletter March 2010

General Meeting

Thursday March 4, 2010
6:15 for chats and snacks
7:00 Meeting and program:

24th Congressional Candidates night:
Tim Allison, Marie Panec and Sean Stern

Orchid Building, UFCW Hall
816 Camarillo Springs Road, Camarillo
at the Camarillo Springs exit from the South 101

President's Message

Dear Members,

With elections coming up we thought it would be important to give you the opportunity to listen to the Congressional candidates at our next membership meeting. Tim Allison, Marie Panec, and Shawn Stern will be speaking and they will be answering your questions!! So please come and find out who you will want to vote for in the primary election June 8, 2010.

I did attend a meeting last week held by Chris Lanier and attended by various Democratic club presidents, Ventura County Central Committee members, and club members. In this meeting there were facts and figures as to how many republicans and democrats voted in the last elections. The purpose of this meeting was to learn how to pinpoint what areas of the county we need to focus on in order to win elections. Ventura County is still Democratic however Republicans still consistently vote more than Democrats. I want to ask you in your social networking and when you are in contact with other Democrats if it is face to face in other clubs, Facebook, Twitter, Email, or visiting with your families

please remind them how important it is to vote!! If you know a Democrat who is not an absentee voter encourage them to become one. Absentee voters tend to vote for it is so easy to vote at home and mail in the ballot. If we as club members all do a little bit then as a group the end result will be very rewarding. It isn't hard registering someone to vote but we need to make sure these folks go out and do actually vote.

Please call Bruce Little at 805-482-8360 if you are interested in working in the field operations project during this upcoming election.

Plans for a Democrat office are still alive. I spoke with the landlord of the shopping center of our last office and he said to call him in June or July. I am noticing more and more "For Lease" signs going up unfortunately in town. The plan is to lease temporarily in a convenient location and provide the space and volunteers for our candidates' campaigns, for rallies, phone banking, field operations, and for registering more Democrats.

Hope to see you March 4 at the Orchid Room at 6:15pm for refreshments and networking and the meeting starts at 7pm.

Sincerely,

Sue Boloorchchi-President

FRIENDLY REMINDER

Lots of people have already renewed their membership in our Club and thank you! Just in case you haven't, this is a reminder that dues are now due. You can mail your renewal using the form on the back of this newsletter or pay at the February 4th meeting. The price is nominal, just \$20/individual-\$30/couple and \$15/student or senior-\$20/student or senior couple.

Your continued renewal in the Club will help with the cost of a campaign office this election season with an eye to an office for the Presidential election in 2012.

Your membership will help give Camarillo Democrats a strong, viable voice in our community.

Letters to the Editor

We continually encourage you to write letters to the Editor. Some get printed and some don't, but remember, those that don't are still read by someone. You never know whose mind you might change or at least give them food for thought, so please, keep those letters going and send them to me for printing here so others can also reap the benefit of your opinion. Enjoy!

Published in the STAR on 2-9-10

Sparks fly

I was amused to read in The Star (Feb. 6, "Strickland blasts Parks' record"), that Assemblywoman Audra Strickland has moved with her family (husband, Tony, is a state senator, Senate District 19) from Moorpark, which is located in the 4th District, to Thousand Oaks so she can challenge moderate Republican Linda Parks for the "nonpartisan" office of 2nd District supervisor.

A run for secretary of state didn't gain momentum and Strickland was stopped cold in her tracks when she apparently failed to qualify for the office of Ventura County treasurer-tax collector. With time moving like grains of sand ever faster through the hourglass, she must have seen herself in danger of not having a political platform since she terms out of the 37th Assembly District this year.

But, lo and behold, the Strickland-friendly Ventura County Republican Central Committee had a vision — the termed-out assemblywoman could continue to hold a political office, while at the same time, ridding the ultraconservative VCRCC of an irritating, moderate supervisor.

Strickland has re-registered in the 2nd District and the sparks are already flying. Parks stated, "I look forward to contrasting my accomplishments as a Ventura County supervisor with hers as a Sacramento politician." Parks and her supporters have their work cut out for them. Her job is on the line.

Sharon L. Hillbrant

(The writer is a member of the Ventura County Democratic Central Committee. — Editor)

Strike 3 for Strickland

As Audra Strickland's time in the state Assembly draws to a close, and with little to show for it save a steady paycheck, she has announced she has moved to Thousand Oaks and will run against popular fellow Republican Linda Parks for county supervisor. Parks, who enjoys rare bipartisan support, was elected District 2 supervisor in 2002 and was re-elected in 2006.

In making her announcement, Strickland blasted Parks as being a "carpetbagger from Berkeley." It was a rough start for Strickland with this swing and a miss, as Parks has never lived in Berkeley.

In fact, it is Strickland who reregistered to vote in the 2nd Supervisorial District only two weeks ago for the sole purpose of qualifying to run.

Strickland cited support and urging from the GOP Central Committee in her decision to run and has stated that she was surprised by a recent push poll it commissioned that attempted to discredit Parks' record. It is interesting to note that the GOP Central Committee members include Audra Strickland's mother-in-law, a former staff member and his wife, a business partner, and a businessman who has received more than \$1.5 million in business from the Stricklands.

Additionally, the majority of past campaign funding for Strickland has come from outside of her district and included contributions from big tobacco, horse racing and Indian gambling interests.

Apparent lies and deception aren't a great start to a campaign. If this were a ballgame, I'd yell, "Strike three, you're out"!

Bruce Little

Published in the STAR on 2-18-10

Not electable

Why do I hear all these defensive comments about a carpetbagger in reference to Audra Strickland? The dictionary states that a "carpetbagger is a politician who presumptuously seeks a position in a new location."

This is definitely a put-down for said politician. It suggests that the politician can't get elected in her own district, and needs to move to another to run for an elective office, any elective office, since she can't run for the two elective offices she had previously chosen.

My problem with this whole carpetbagger situation is this: Why does Strickland think she is electable in the Thousand Oaks district when she promises to carry on the dysfunctional voting record that has been her history in the Assembly from 2002 to 2008?

Remember, your vote counts.

Marjorie E. Grate

Contact Information for our local representatives (I use the term "representative" with tongue firmly planted in cheek):

Elton Gallegly	805-497-2224
Audra Strickland	805-230-9167
Tony Strickland	805-306-8886

Part Two of President Obama's Accomplishments:

DISABILITY Progress

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act included a number of provisions of particular concern to people with disabilities.

The Act included \$500 million to help the Social Security Administration reduce its backlog in processing disability applications.

The Act supplied \$12.2 billion in funding to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);

The Act also provided \$87 billion to states to bolster their Medicaid programs during the downturn; and,

The Act provided over \$500 million in funding for vocational rehabilitation services to help with job training, education and placement.

CIVIL RIGHTS Progress

The President signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, restoring basic protections against pay discrimination for women and other workers.

EDUCATION Progress

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act invested heavily in education both as a way to provide jobs now and lay the foundation for long-term prosperity.

The Act includes \$5 billion for early learning programs, including Head Start, Early Head Start, child care, and programs for children with special needs.

The Act also provides \$77 billion for reforms to strengthen elementary and secondary education, including \$48.6 billion to stabilize state education budgets (of which \$8.8 billion may be used for other government services) and to encourage states to:

Make improvements in teacher effectiveness and ensure that all schools have highly-qualified teachers;

Make progress toward college and career-ready standards and rigorous assessments that will improve both teaching and learning;

Improve achievement in low-performing schools, through intensive support and effective interventions; and

Gather information to improve student learning, teacher performance, and college and career readiness through enhanced data systems.

The Act provides \$5 billion in competitive funds to spur innovation and chart ambitious reform to close the achievement gap.

The Act includes over \$30 billion to address college affordability and improve access to higher education.

"If you have an apple and I have an apple and we exchange these apples then you and I will still each have one apple. But if you have an idea and I have an idea and we exchange these ideas, then each of us will have two ideas."

George Bernard Shaw

**From the Huffington Post
February 3, 2010**

Mullen Testimony on DADT Puts Senior Republicans in a Bind

Testimony on Tuesday by Adm. Mike Mullen that the time has come for the military to repeal its "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy has forced the hand of many prominent Republican figures who stalled for time on the issue by saying the matter was up to the military itself.

GOP lawmakers have avoided taking a stand on the 15-year-old policy -- which bans gay service members from serving openly -- by deferring to the opinions of the military brass. This week, it became crystal clear where the brass stands, with Mullen, the current chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, declaring that it is his "personal belief that allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly would be the right thing to do" and Colin Powell -- the former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman who was instrumental in writing DADT into law -- echoing those sentiments.

The spotlight, naturally, now turns to those who have used the military command as a crutch to defend their own skepticism.

Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) said in October 2009 that for a reversal of DADT to be successful, there would have to be a "buy-in by the military."

"They should be included in this," said Graham. "I am open-minded to what the military may suggest, but I can tell you, I'm not going to make policy based on a campaign rally."

Former Massachusetts governor and presidential candidate Mitt Romney in a November 2007 debate was asked if he looked forward to "a day when gays can serve openly in the military?"

"I look forward to hearing from the military exactly what they believe is the right way to have the right kind of cohesion and support in our troops and I listen to what they have to say," he replied.

In another Republican presidential debate a month later, former Arkansas governor Mike Huckabee joined Romney in insisting that the country needed to hear first from military command.

"I probably would let the military make that decision," he said, when pressed. "One thing I don't think you need is a president who's trying to tell the military how to run the military, other than set broad policy agenda. The Uniform Code of Military Conduct is the best way to handle that and I would leave it to -- to those who run the military."

Sen. Tom Coburn (R-Okl.) has insisted, as recently as 2009, that he would "defer in large part to our military leaders on matters of military readiness and code of conduct. This includes the impact changing the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy would have, especially since military leaders note that this issue is fundamentally about military readiness."

In a 2008 interview, Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) defended DADT as a sound military policy by arguing that he had not "sensed that the military is calling for a change." It is now.

The conundrum facing all of these Republican leaders is simple: coming out against the repeal of the DADT policy now would represent a de facto admission that the opinions of the military brass never really mattered in the first place.

But that doesn't mean they'll suddenly support the repeal. In fact, in a widely observed reversal yesterday, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) said that he was "disappointed" in Mullen's testimony, and expressed concerns that overturning DADT at a time of "immense hardship for our armed services" would be problematic. This despite the fact that he once declared that: "the day that the leadership of the military comes to me and says, 'Senator, we ought to change the policy,' then I think we ought to consider seriously changing it."

As witnesses not of our intentions but of our conduct, we can be true or false, and the hypocrite's crime is that he bears false witness against himself. What makes it so plausible to assume that hypocrisy is the vice of vices is that integrity can indeed exist under the cover of all other vices except this one. Only crime and the criminal, it is true, confront us with the perplexity of radical evil; but only the hypocrite is really rotten to the core.

Hannah Arendt, *On Revolution* (1963)
 US (German-born) historian & social philosopher (1906 - 1975)

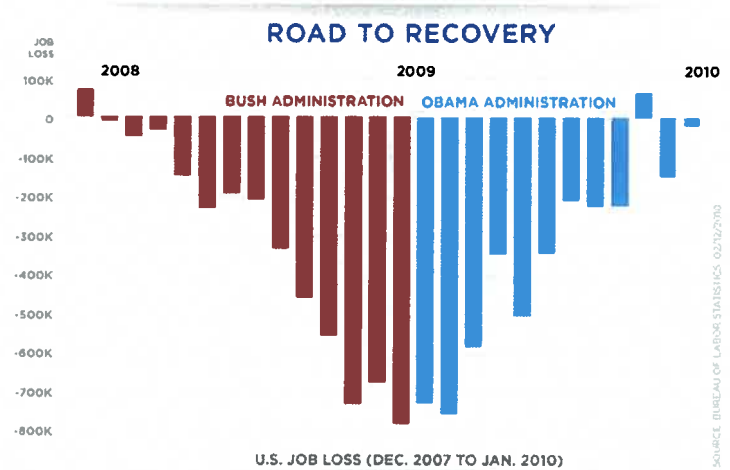
TIM ALLISON FOR CONGRESS

If you are interested in meeting Tim up close and personal, please join Steve and Carolyn Crandall on March 6, 2010 to meet Tim. This is not a fund raiser but an opportunity to ask any questions regarding what Tim intends to do as Congressman Allison in a relaxed and comfortable environment. Details as follows:

Date: March 6, 2010
 Location: 865 W. Loop Drive
 Camarillo, CA
 RSVP: by March 2 to Carolyn at
 805-484-0173
 Refreshments will be served.

Disclaimer: This is not an endorsement by Democratic Club of Camarillo.

Wondering what the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act -- President Obama's **stimulus bill** -- has accomplished? **Look at this:**



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant Applications and Awards – Ventura County

Camarillo Airport - Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) - Airport Improvement Program - \$1,500,000

This grant will fund the construction phase of the rehabilitation of the asphalt concrete pavement of the eastern and central ramps/hangar complex including associated drainage improvements of the areas.

Status: AWARDED - FAA has notified the County of Ventura that this project will receive the full funding request.

Ventura County Area Agency on Aging - Senior Nutrition (\$195,446) and Senior Community Services Employment Program (\$24,867)

This grant will fund the congregate and home delivered meal programs as well as the Senior Community Services Employment Program for fiscal years 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Status: AWARDED - In May 2009, the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging entered into two contracts - totaling \$220,313 - with the California Department of Aging.

Ventura County District Attorney's Office - U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs - Reducing Mortgage Fraud and Crime Related to Vacant Properties - \$1,655,231

This grant will be used to engage in proactive measures to deter and prevent mortgage fraud.

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Executive Office – Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant Recovery - \$540,287

Funding will be used to leverage Neighborhood Stabilization Grant funds anticipated to be received from the California Department of Housing and Community Development. Those funds will be used to acquire, demolish, and/or rehabilitate vacant, blighted and/or foreclosed properties within the county entitlement area.

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Executive Office – Housing and Urban Development Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program - \$826,094

Funding for this program will provide housing stabilization by providing temporary financial assistance and/or services to help persons gain housing stability through tenant-based rental assistance, utility payments, and/or legal services required to keep income eligible persons in their housing. Funding for this program will provide housing stabilization by providing temporary financial assistance and/or services to help persons gain housing stability through tenant-based rental assistance, utility payments, and/or legal services required to keep income eligible persons in their housing.

Status: AWARDED *For additional information about the Ventura County program, please visit the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) website*

For additional information about HUD Programs, please visit: <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/arract2009.cfm>

Ventura County Health Care Agency – Capital Improvement Program - Public Health - \$298,893

This grant funding will be used to hire one additional staff member and purchase necessary software and hardware upgrades for

the medical clinics that provide care for Ventura County's homeless population.

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Health Care Agency - Department of Health and Human Services Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) - \$133,000

This grant will support increased demand for services for the County's Health Care for the Homeless Program.

Status: AWARDED - HRSA has notified the County of Ventura that this project will receive the full funding request.

Ventura County Human Services Agency – Workforce Investment Act Funding- \$7,665,534

This grant funding will be utilized by the Workforce Investment Board and the Business and Employment Services Department within the Human Services Agency to serve additional job seekers and employers alike. Eligible job seekers under the Workforce Investment Act include low income youth, dislocated workers and other adult job seekers. Training and employment services will be coordinated through the Job & Career Centers located throughout the county.

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Public Works Agency - State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) - \$8,000,000 – El Rio Sewer Project

This grant will fund Phases 5B, 5C, and 5D of the El Rio Sewer Project.

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Public Works Agency - Transportation Projects - \$5,244,000

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Sheriff's Department and Cities in Ventura County - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) - Formula - \$1,007,166

This grant funding is allocated by formula to State and local law enforcement agencies to help prevent, fight, and prosecute crime. The Oxnard Police Department has been designated as the lead agency for grant submittal and grant administration

Status: AWARDED

Ventura County Watershed Protection District - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - \$7,500,000

This funding will be used to award a construction contract to provide for fish passage, the completion of required documentation, and to complete the Santa Paula Creek Storm Damage Restoration Project.

Status: **AWARDED** - Congressman Elton Gallegly notified the County of Ventura about project funding.

Ventura County Watershed Protection District - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - \$250,000

This funding will be used for the design of the High-flow Bypass Facility at the Robles Diversion, an element of the Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project.

Status: **AWARDED** - Congressman Elton Gallegly notified the County of Ventura about project funding.

Ventura County Waterworks District No. 16 - State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) - \$8,550,000 grant and \$5,550,000 loan

This grant will fund the Piru Wastewater Treatment Plant Design Build Upgrade and Expansion Project.

Status: **AWARDED** - The SWRCB has notified the County of Ventura - Water and Sanitation Department - that this project will be funded as follows: \$8,550,000 awarded in grant funding and \$5,550,000 in a 30-year loan with a 1 percent interest rate.

Ventura County Fire Protection District - Assistance to Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant - \$3,562,128

This grant will fund the relocation and construction of a new fire station, Station 43, at Los Angeles and Yosemite Avenues in Simi Valley.

Status: **Grant Submitted - Awaiting Decision**

Ventura County Health Care Agency - Health Center Integrated Services Development - \$12,000,000

This grant funding will be used to retire existing outdated clinic sites in Santa Paula and to replace them with a new permanent, environmentally friendly structure.

Status: **Grant Submitted - Awaiting Decision**

A point that needs to be driven home is that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is **THE STIMULUS!**

People are not putting the two together, so once again, it is our job to educate.



A billion here, a billion there, pretty soon it adds up to real money.

Senator Everett Dirksen (R) 1951-1969
(1896 – 1969)

As Senate Minority Leader for over a decade, he played a highly visible and key role in the politics of the 1960s, including helping to write and pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Open Housing Act of 1968, both landmarks of civil rights legislation.

He wouldn't be allowed into the Republican Party of today.





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 (I am a registered DEMOCRAT
 or wish to change to such)
 Annual Dues: \$20.00/individual, \$30.00/couple/family
 \$15.00/seniors, \$20.00/couple
 Mail to: DCC, Attn: **Sandi Gummerman**
 P.O. Box 348 Camarillo, CA 93011-0348

Club Officers & Committee Chairs		
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President	Sue Bolorchi	(805) 469-3749
Vice President	Bruce Little	(805) 482-8360
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Corresponding Secretary	Barbra Scheibelhut	(805) 443-0585
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