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DAVIS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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Thank you Candidates for Stepping Forward (Part 2: Senate candidates)

To help them introduce their campaigns and you in making your choice, the January Newsletter featured statements by your Democratic candidates for the State Assembly. The sentiment leading that article is worth repeating: *Yolo County, and Davis in particular, are fortunate to have outstanding public servants, who are willing to step forward and run for political office.* They deserve our appreciation and careful consideration for their willingness for taking on this challenge. As a continuing series, this Newsletter features statements by the three **Democratic candidates** for our open **State Senate** seat, Assemblymember **Bill Dodd** {p.1}, Lt. Col. (retired) **Gabe Griess** {p.2}, and former Assemblymember **Mariko Yamada** {p3}.

We hope that you find this information useful and intend to continue the series by inviting the candidates for City Council to submit statements for the next Newsletter.



Bill Dodd with Pres. Obama upon creation of Berryessa Snow Mountain N.M.

Bill Dodd: I was raised on a small family farm right here in Northern California, where I've lived my entire life. My mom and dad taught me many important lessons, but none more important than the conviction that you should always leave a place better than when you found it. It's a lesson that's always stuck with me. It's a lesson that's central to my Democratic values, and one I've passed on to my children and grandchildren.

The reason I ran for the legislature in the first place, and the reason I want to serve as your Senator, is that I'm not satisfied with the state of California we're leaving to future generations. I believe the state of California is at a crossroad and faces some critical challenges, but we also have a

real opportunity to make a difference by coming together and advancing our shared Democratic values.

As a non-profit leader, small business owner, and county supervisor, I built a track record of collaborating and achieving real results. These include restoring hundreds of acres of wetlands on the Napa River and founding the Wolfe Center for teen drug and alcohol counseling. In the legislature, I've worked to invest in education and economic development, preserve our environment, and serve our most vulnerable residents. Senator Lois Wolk and I have also partnered with key stakeholders to protect the Delta from the twin tunnels.

This past year we were able to make meaningful progress in a number of areas. I introduced, and the legislature passed, the first-ever state resolution urging President Obama to create a national monument, and the President answered our call. We now have the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument and over 330,000 acres of land preserved in perpetuity for future generations. We also enacted the most sweeping climate change protections in the nation, and I'm committed to building on our achievements next year and addressing climate change, which is a clear and present threat to California and the world. (*cont'd. p. 5*)

Democratic News

Calendar of Events & Campaign Activities

Davis Demo. Club Board

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Elly Fairclough

Angel Melchor

Jim Provenza (ex officio)

Luis Rios

Bob Schellen (ex officio)

Arun Sen

Photography:

Luba Schmid

Tues., Feb. 2, 7:00-9:00 pm. Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The Board conducts planning and attends to routine Club business. Blanchard Room, Davis Library.

Sun., Feb. 14, 6:00-8:30 pm. Love Your Electeds. Valentine themed party with potluck and informal discussion with State County and local elected officials. I-House, Davis



Gabe Griess: After twenty years in the Air Force, Gabe Griess, Lt. Col. (Ret) is taking his leadership to Sacramento as the next State Senator of California's Third District. The core of his campaign, win or lose, is to encourage all citizens to vote. Special interest money has had its say in politics for too long. Gabe is determined to give the microphone back to the people.

Gabe is passionate about the environment and supports innovative solutions to solving the water crisis such as solar thermal desalination. He also believes that the growing solar industry will not only clean the environment but will also invigorate the economy.

As the son of teachers, education is a top priority for Gabe. Without a great education system, everyone's future is in jeopardy. Making education more accessible and affordable is essential to preserving our economy and democracy.

Gabe believes that everyone, young or old, deserves access to excellent healthcare. Together with his activist wife, Kristie, he is spreading awareness of childhood diseases that often go undiagnosed or treated too late. Their four-year-old daughter, Mickie, is a survivor of severe childhood epilepsy who continues to inspire her parents to work towards a future where everyone can look forward to a miraculous recovery like hers.

While serving in Central and South America, Gabe was involved with numerous humanitarian efforts including The Baseball Buddies Foundation that donates toys, sports equipment and school supplies to underprivileged children. Gabe continues this tradition in our community – donating hundreds of toys last holiday season.

Also during his time in Latin America, he sent Air Force Master Sergeant Richard Gross to become one of the first in the Air Force to be trained in solar power installation. This provided economical power to remote bases in Central and South America. His innovative work saved the U.S., Colombia, Curacao, and El Salvador a total of \$6 million over three years.

Gabe is currently a volunteer board member of the Solano Community College



Gabe with the Aggies for Humanity at UC Davis

Educational Foundation, The Vacaville Rotary Club, Rebuilding Together Solano, and a trustee with the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post. Gabe and Kristie look forward

to seeing you in the community. Visit www.VoteGabe.com or contact us (797-999-8593; Gabe@VoteGabe.com) for more information and to join the campaign.

2015

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Don Saylor

Carl & Luba

Schmid

Joe & Betty Tupin

Kathy Williams-

Fossdahl

Bruce & Lois

Wolk



Mariko Yamada: We've Got Work to Do!

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information about our campaign to represent you in the State Senate.

I am a lifelong Democrat and have had the honor of serving as your Assemblymember from 2008 – 2014 and as Yolo County Supervisor from 2003-2008. I am a professional social worker by training, now in my 42nd year of public service. Over the past four decades, I have been privileged to work for Los Angeles and San Diego County, and for ten years in Washington, D.C., for the U.S. Census Bureau and the Office of the Secretary of Commerce as a civil rights investigator before moving to northern California in 1994.

I grew up in Denver, Colorado, where my family was released after four years in the Manzanar War Relocation Center, one of ten Japanese American WWII internment camps. I attended inner city public schools in the Five Points Neighborhood and was the first in my family to graduate from college and graduate school.

My background and experience as a professional social worker is at the core of my commitment to the issues of poverty and vulnerable populations, including seniors, persons with disabilities and their caregivers. In addition, I am a small business advocate and also served as regional chair for a five-county emergency medical services agency where the issues of health and public safety services are paramount. Protecting the environment, water, and natural resources as well as animal welfare remain among my top policy priorities.

While in the Assembly, I served as Chair of the Aging and Long-Term Care Committee; and was the senior Member on Agriculture; Water, Parks and Wildlife; and Veterans Affairs. I also served as Chair of the Select Committee on Sustainable and Organic Agriculture and State Hospital and State Developmental Center Safety, the Select Committee on Homelessness; Foster Care; and Wine, among others. Serving during some of California's most difficult budget times, I am proud that 31 of our bills became law, and our District Office saw 1600 constituent cases mitigated.

I am running for the State Senate because I believe my background, education, experience and temperament have prepared me well to take on the serious responsibilities of representing nearly 1 million residents in the Third State Senate District.

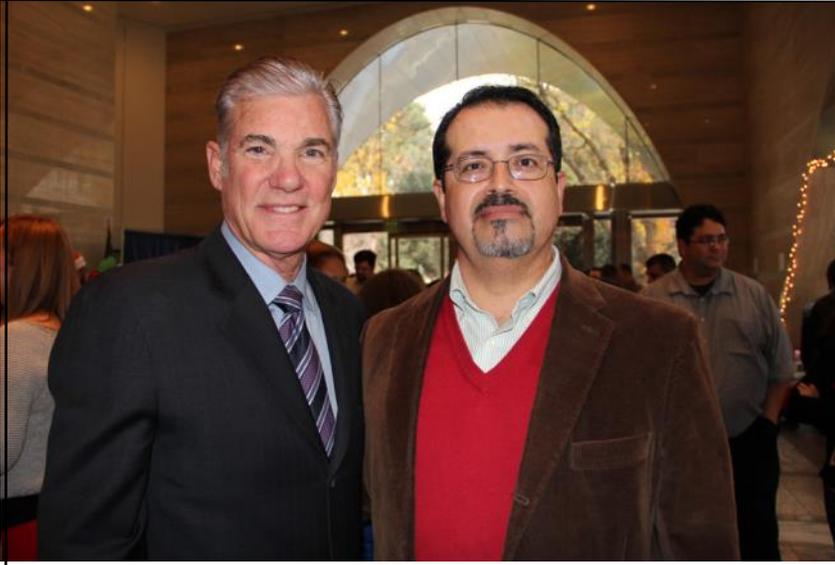
If elected, I have three immediate goals:

- *To establish the first standing Senate Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care;
- *To protect agriculture, water, and natural resources with particular attention to the Delta; and
- *To pursue state policies that ensure social, educational, economic and environmental justice for all Californians.

I am a longtime member of the DDC, have also served as Chair of the Yolo County Democratic Party and am a strong proponent of grassroots activism. Please visit <www.yamadaforsenate.net>, call me at 707-533-4851, or email info@yamadaforsenate.net with any questions.

I would be honored to have your vote on Tuesday, June 7, 2016. Thank you!

New DDC Board member supports preschool education programs by Luis Rios



State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson with DDC Board Member Luis Rios

My work as an early education staffer for the California Department of Education (CDE), involves overseeing professional development and support programs for preschool teachers and administrators, including community college students completing child development coursework or earning a Child Development Permit. I will share some of the programs—not all—that I lead at CDE. A project I lead with multiple external stakeholders is the Early Care and Education (ECE) Training Portal, an online tool that offers trainings for preschool educators statewide. Last year, over 30,000 participants

attended CDE-funded trainings and utilized the Training Portal.

I enjoy my job because I see up close how preschool teachers and front-line staff receive technical assistance and stipends to cover their permit fees via the Child Development Training Consortium, a CDE-funded statewide program under my leadership role. Another program under my responsibility is the Career Incentive Grant designed for students enrolled in college and employed in CDE-funded programs. Students apply and are reimbursed for tuition costs, enrollment fees and books. Helping the early education workforce with professional development activities is important in having well-prepared teachers and staff employed in state preschool programs and child care programs. As a former college faculty member, I also lead the Faculty Initiative Project which develops instructional guides for professors who teach child development courses at the community college and state university levels. As a result, professors have materials that include research-based content on social emotional, language and literacy, English language development, mathematics, visual and performing arts, science and history-social sciences, all areas needed to provide high quality programs statewide. This is a very rewarding experience because preschool education is a key priority to the future of quality education. I hold a Ph.D. from Columbia University-Teachers College and a B.A. from UC Davis and I am born and raised in Yolo County.

Ed. Note: The DDC Board is pleased to welcome and introduce Luis Rios as a new member. Here Luis describes his personal commitment to public education. Other Board members are similarly committed to advancing Democratic values such as public health, social justice, economic opportunity, national security, and quality public education. The Board invites the participation of all Club members toward advancing any and all of these goals. Please attend the next Board Meeting (Tuesday, Feb. 2 at the library) to explore how the DDC can address your concerns.

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Bill Dodd (*cont'd. from p.1*)

I also passed the state's first ever low-income water rate assistance framework. Seniors and those on fixed incomes are particularly impacted by raising water rates, and no one should have to choose between clean drinking water and the other necessities of life. While similar proposals had failed in the past, my ability to work with others made the difference.

This year I championed the cause of gender pay equity, helped pass the strongest fair pay laws in the nation and helped enact the state's new earned income tax credit, which will raise 50,000 people out of poverty and benefit two million of our low-income workers. It's unacceptable to me when people toil so long and still live in poverty or that seniors who've worked hard their entire lives aren't able to retire with dignity. In the seventh largest economy in the world, it's unacceptable that we lead the nation in the number of children in poverty or that women continue to earn less than their male counterparts for doing the same work.

While our recent progress is heartening, we're not done. Our cause endures and the work must go on. I will fight every day to realize our shared dream for our beautiful district and our great state. I hope you will support me and join our cause to build a better state – now and for our children.

Assemblymember Bill Dodd is supported by Senator Lois Wolk, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Helen Thompson, and the Davis College Democrats. You can learn more about Bill at www.billdodd.com.

Love Your Electeds ; 6 pm, Sunday, April 14th at I-House

This annual Valentine themed party is an opportunity to express your appreciation to our Elected officials for their service. The event features a very well supplied potluck (you are encouraged to share a favorite dish of your choosing) and brief presentations of current state and local issues.

The party is usually well attended by State, County and city officials.

Additionally candidates for elected offices are glad to make your acquaintance and answer your questions about their position on the issues that concern you.

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 Richard Luna
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 Kathy & Jerry Marr
 Shannon McCall
 Barry Melton & Barbara Langer
 Donna Newberry
 Jesse Ortiz
 Joseph & Baby Payyappilly
 Luis Rios
 Thomas & Joan Sallee
 Cass Sylvia & Craig Reynolds
 Norma Turner
 Louise Walker
 Janellyn Whittier
 Rachel Yasui



Democratic Newsletter

*Valentine Party
Love Your Electeds
Sunday
Feb. 14*

Davis Democratic Club
P.O. Box 73014
Davis CA, 95617
Address Service Requested

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If you have a **RED DOT** attached to your newsletter, please pay your Club dues.

See the website photo gallery:

www.davisdemocraticclub.org

To JOIN or RENEW (circle one) membership in the Davis Democratic Club, fill out this form and send a check to the following address: Davis Democratic Club, P.O. Box 73014, Davis, CA 95617

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Are you interested in? (circle all that apply.)

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