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DAVIS DEMOCRATIC CLUB

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Dear Davis Democrats



I am truly honored to have been chosen by Assembly District 4 to represent you at the State Capitol as your Assemblymember for the next two years. I want to thank my predecessors, now Senator Bill Dodd, for his two years of service in the Assembly and for the years he has dedicated to public service in Napa County, and Senator Lois Wolk, who has served our area as a local and state leader for so many years.

I believe a small introduction is in order. My name is Cecilia Aguiar-Curry. Prior to being elected to the Assembly, I served as the Mayor of

Winters where I oversaw improvements in the downtown area and local economy, secured computers for every sixth-grader in the city, brought broadband internet to my rural constituents, built senior housing, and helped the area to become an agricultural and food innovation hub for the region. When I am not serving you as a Legislator, I am a working farmer on the 80-acre farm that I own and operate with my brothers.

The deadline for submitting legislation just passed, and our whole team worked hard to ensure that the bills I am authoring represent the needs of the Fourth Assembly District. I've introduced 21 bills, all of which are proposals to improve the lives of people in our region.

The first bill I introduced is AB 273, which will allow people taking English as a Second Language and high school equivalency classes to be eligible for subsidized child care, in the same way that people taking vocational training classes are. If a person can't speak English or obtain a high school diploma, they don't realistically have access to job training programs, much fewer opportunities in higher education, nor jobs that can support their families. And, many can't get there without child care.

I've also introduced ACA 4, a constitutional amendment that if approved by voters will lower the vote threshold from 2/3 to 55% to approve local bonds and special taxes to fund infrastructure and affordable housing. It's well-known that infrastructure across our district, and throughout the state, is in bad shape. The toolbox that local governments have to address these critical issues is limited. And, it certainly doesn't appear that help is coming from Washington, DC. So, I'm proposing we give local officials an opportunity to work with their communities to fund the infrastructure and affordable housing projects that make sense to them.

Finally, I've authored AB 666, which remove barriers for people who wish to get involved in our democracy by running for public office. When I chose to run, I had six counties, six different sets of rules, and six different candidate statements to sift through. Now more than ever, we need more women, minorities, and Democrats at every level of government. And, while some folks may think I'm crazy for making it easier for someone to run against me, our democracy is more important than protecting my "seat."

I look forward to representing you in Sacramento. It is a privilege to serve the people of Davis. I want to thank you for being active, engaged, and passionate about civic service and our democracy. If you ever need any help, please call my District Office at (530) 662-7867.

Democratic News

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Calendar of Events & Campaign Activities

Tues., Apr. 4, 7:00-9:00 pm. DDC Board Meeting. Regularly scheduled Board Meetings to organize Club activities. All members invited to attend at the Davis Library. (The May 2 Board Meeting will be held at Steve Souza's home, 2424 Rodin Pl., Davis.)

A Sunday in June (TBA) Planning is now in progress for the annual Champagne Brunch which will include a buffet brunch and prominent speakers.

Misaligned Stars: DDC Valentine Party

The Club had planned an excellent buffet and program for its annual Valentine Party. However, Mother Nature interfered as our event coincided with the Oroville Dam crisis, which in turn resulted in Rep. John Garamendi holding an overflow-crowd town hall at Veterans Memorial Building coincident with the party. Naturally, this scheduling conflict severely impacted attendance at our event. However, the Club live-streamed the Congressman's town hall such that people, who were turned away from the overfilled hall, attended our party. As a result, the DDC did make a few new friends and even recruited new members!



Despite the surrounding confusion, Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (p.1), our principal speaker, was able to juggle her schedule and attend. Among other interesting points, she explained how legislation is often left unfinished from the preceding term, and as a new member, she could view these bills with fresh, critical eyes, to ask hard ques-

tions. Additionally, she explained her particular interests in invigorating vocational education within the school curriculum, an entirely sensible plan to raise income levels and enhance the California economy. **Of special interest to her local constituents, Cecilia announced that she will open a field office in Davis.** The Newsletter will report the future opening and location of this office.



Following his overflowed town hall meeting in Davis and after an exhausting day touring the district from Oroville to Vacaville, Rep. Garamendi graciously dropped by to greet DDC members before setting out again, at night, back to Oroville. The theme of this annual party, "*Love Your Electeds*," is to express our appreciation for the dedication of our representatives. We are indeed well served.

Thank you to our renewing members! Nearly one half of DDC members have paid dues for the coming year. A special thank you and welcome is owed to new DDC members, who enrolled at the Love Your Electeds Valentine's Day Party. Remember, virtually all of the proceeds from both dues and member events go to support GOTV efforts in upcoming local elections and beyond. The Yolo County Democratic Party, which we support financially, reaches out statewide and nationally to campaign for Democratic candidates in targeted races, especially in southern California and Nevada. In other words, taking back congressional and state legislatures in 2018 begins here with us, with you. Thank you for daring to become involved.

--Elly Fairclough, Membership Chair

2016/17

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Cont'd p3

Introducing Two of Four New Board Volunteers

There has been a resurgence of involvement in political action since the November election. One indication of that renewed interest is the willingness of volunteers to join the DDC Board. At its last meeting, the Board appointed four new members: **Jan Agee, Giles Giovani, Tom Dowling and Juliet Crites**. To introduce these volunteers, the *Newsletter* will feature brief biographies in this and the subsequent edition:



Jan Agee: On the morning of November 9, like many people, especially those in the Democratic Party, I hoped that I was just waking up from a bad dream. But sadly, as the days and weeks have passed, it is clear that the bad dream has become a terrible reality. I am the mother of three adult children and the grandmother of two toddlers, and I am worried for their future. So, I want to take steps to make a difference. Serving on the local Davis Democratic Club Board is one way for me to channel my energies.

My parents escaped Hitler's Germany, and the United States gave them the opportunity to live with hope and without fear. I have spent much of my life working to promote opportunity for others. I was a Hillary Clinton delegate at the Democratic National Convention in 2016, and I volunteered at the two previous national conventions for Barack Obama. I travelled to Nevada to get out the vote during the last three elections, and over the years, I have volunteered for numerous campaigns on behalf of Democratic candidates.

I have spent over 40 years working in the field of education. I worked for three different California Superintendents of Public Instruction in the Communications and Executive Offices. I have most recently worked as a writer and editor at a national education nonprofit and am an adjunct professor of English at Sacramento City College at its Davis Center.

Finally, I am one of the founding leaders of both the Yolo County Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, as well as Saving California Communities, a group advocating for the resources to support healthy California communities. I look forward to working together with the Davis community.

Giles Giovinnazzi is an attorney and public policy expert who spent 15 years in Washington, D.C., working for Democratic Members of the U.S. Congress: Congressman James P. McGovern (D-MA) and then as a senior Democratic aide on the U.S. House Transportation & Infrastructure working for James L. Oberstar (D-MN) and Nick Joe Rahall (D-WV). Giles has spent his career advancing Democratic federal policy priorities in transportation, economic development, labor, safety and land and water conservation issues. In May, 2014 Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. appointed Giles to serve as the Federal Transportation Liaison for the California Department of Transportation and California High-Speed Rail Authority where he currently serves.

Giles lives in South Davis with his wife Jolynn Shoemaker, who is an attorney and consultant for non-profit organizations who works on international women's rights and national security issues (Jolynn is also a Davis Democratic Club member) and their daughter Kate and son Paul. During the 2016 election, Giles and Jolynn were volunteer attorneys with the Hillary Clinton Campaign's Victory Counsel and supported voter protection efforts in Nevada. Giles is also a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve and served in Afghanistan.



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www.davisdemocraticclub.org

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