

June, 2014

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Support Davis' Quality of Life- Vote Yes on Measure O

Councilmember Lucas Frerichs, Mayor Joe Krovoza & Mayor Pro Tem Dan Wolk

Fellow Davis Democrats - we need your support! Among the many important items headed your way in the upcoming June 3rd election is the City of Davis' Measure O.

This ballot measure proposes to increase our community's sales tax to 8.5 percent until 2020. This represents a ½ cent increase now, and will continue until 2020 an existing ½ cent tax, which is due to expire in 2016.

This modest increase in our sales tax rate will fund essential community needs that shouldn't be delayed further, including:

Road, sidewalk, bike path, streetlight repairs

Parks, water conservation measures, street tree maintenance

Revenue from this sales tax increase will provide an additional \$3.6 million per year toward our current \$5.1 million structural budget deficit. With Measure O's passage, the City Council must still cut \$1.5 million to balance its 2014-15 budget, and we have already identified the cuts to balance our budget. Without Measure O's approval, basic services (including police, fire, parks, recreation) will suffer severe cuts, up to 12.5 percent! Davis will become a less safe and less pleasant place to live.

Your City Council has been hard at work making tough fiscal choices over the past several years; we've restructured all labor contracts for major cost savings and long-term fiscal sustainability, with employees paying significantly more toward their retirement. Davis has also decreased its workforce by 22 percent, or 103 full-time employees.

The longer Davis defers major road repairs, parks maintenance, and water conservation projects, the costlier they become. We are also aggressively moving forward with economic development to generate additional tax revenue as a longer-term solution to the city's budget challenges.

Many cities have implemented similar local sales tax rates: Sacramento's sales tax is 8.5 percent; Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco have higher rates. The state's ongoing shift of responsibilities to local governments, concurrent with shifting property tax revenues away from cities, makes it crucial to increase local funding for core city functions through sales tax.

Without the revenue that the Measure O renewal and slight increase in sales tax revenue provides, the fiscal outlook for the city will be extremely uncertain, and additional major service cuts will start to seriously degrade our quality of life.

We all know that Davis is known regionally and throughout the country as an unusually fine place to live, work, and study. Renewing the modest ½ cent sales tax, coupled with a ½ cent increase, until 2020, is a small price to pay to retain our exceptional quality of life.

Fellow Davis Democrats, we respectfully ask you to stand together with us - in solidarity - please help us protect the quality of life we all enjoy!

Please join us in voting "Yes" on Measure O.

Davis Democratic Club Board

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Jonathon Howard

Jim Provenza (ex officio)

Bob Schellen ex officio)

Arun Sen

Mike Syvanen

Betty Weir

Photography:

Luba Schmid

Calendar of Events & Campaign Activities

Tuesday, May 6, 7:00 pm, Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting. The Board conducts planning and routine Club business. All Club members are invited to attend. Small Conference Room in the Davis Library.

Sunday, June 22, 11:30-2:00 pm Champagne Brunch. Hosted by Bill Julian and Robin Kulakow at their home. Mark your Calendar. The detailed programs and guest speaker will be announced later.

Obituary for Barry Wilson: Personal Reflections

By Richard Yamagata



When I arrived as a newly minted freshman at UC Davis in 1974, I was told war stories by the resident advisers in the dorms of the great train incident that took place in 1972. In 1972, UC Davis students protesting the Vietnam War blocked with their bodies the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks as part of the Free Speech Movement (FSM) against the Vietnam War. There were tales of this small, little bespectacled, newly made Associate Professor that did pre-organizing for all of the protest events, planning ahead, establishing who was willing to be arrested and prearranging bail and legal defense -- generally making sure the students remained safe during protest activities and after arrest. The professor's name was Barry Wilson. I heard more tales of the Free Speech Movement (FSM) era and Barry Wilson,

when I became involved with ASU and the leftist Third World Forum student paper. The most interesting story was that there would be meetings held at Barry's home for the FSM and one of the attendees stashed his pot in the couch when there was an unexpected knock on the door (fortunately not a drug raid). Needless to say, once the pot was discovered by Dr. Wilson, I was told this caused problems for having future meetings at his home. Also in the news was Dr. Barry Wilson, the UC Davis professor with a multimillion dollar grant working on chickens that hatched with Muscular Dystrophy (MD). I knew this because Jerry Lewis would talk about Dr. Wilson and his chickens during the MD Telethons every Labor Day. Barry and his wife, Joyce, became members of the Davis Democratic Club during the early sixties and did not abandon the club during the FSM as many Dems did who were against the Vietnam war.

It took over 7 years for me to see this man in person, and it was at a speaking engagement for John Garamendi on the quad at noon, Spring 1982, at UC Davis. Barry Wilson introduced Mr. Garamendi, who was running for Governor. One of the people that knew the progressive history of UC Davis pointed out Barry and said that man has "street Cred." That day I became a supporter of John Garamendi and have been ever since, but that is another story. I remember thinking "he IS a short, small guy" as he stood next to John Garamendi, a man of Gunsmoke Marshall Matt Dillon's over 6'4" physical stature. (*continued p. 7*)

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JESSE ORTIZ for **YOLO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS 2014** **Vote June 3**

Educational Background

Educational Doctorate (Ed.D.): Brigham Young Univ.
Masters Degree: Sacramento State University
Bachelors Degree: San Jose State University
Associate of Arts Degree: Yuba College
Woodland High School Graduate

Educational Credentials

K-12 Administrative Credential
K-12 and Adult Education Pupil Personal Services (PPS) Credential
California Community College: Counseling, Ethnic Studies, and Public Administration Credentials

Educational Policy Background

Yolo County Board of Education Trustee
Woodland School Board Trustee (10 years/4 years President)

Military Experience

U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) - Vietnam Era Veteran
California National Guard

Professional Educational Experience

K-12

Elk Grove School District: Counselor/School Social Worker
North Sacramento School District: District Administrator
Sacramento County Office of Education: Administrator/Consultant
Santa Clara County Office of Education: School Social Worker
California State Department of Education: Visiting Educator Consultant

College Experience

Los Rios & Yuba Community College Districts: College Dean, Instructor, Counselor
Adjunct Instructor: Sacramento State University School of Educational Leadership Program
Guest Lecturer: U.C. Davis, National University, and Drexel University

Community Service (partial list)

Yolo County Special Olympics Volunteer
Yolo County Multicultural Council Chair - District Attorney's Office Sponsor
Yolo County Health Council
Yolo Family Resource Center Board of Directors
Woodland United Way Board of Directors
Woodland Parks & Recreation Commissioner
Woodland Youth Gang Task Force
California State Drug Advisory Board - State Assembly Appointment
University of California Regents Advisory Committee - State Assembly Appointment
California Community College Academic Senate - Equity & Diversity Committee

Recognition/Awards (partial list)

Yolo County School Boards Association Golden Apple (2004 & 2007)
Yolo County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Community Service
Yolo County Hispanic Association Community Service
Woodland City Council Community Service
Sacramento State University Distinguished Alumni
United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Kika De La Garza Fellow
Capitol Center Mathematics-Engineer-Science-Achievement (MESA) Appreciation
National Hispanic Basketball Classic Service
American Muslim Voice Foundation Community Service
Rick Gonzales Sr., Yolo County Concilio Community Service

Join Us In Electing Dr. Ortiz!

TOM TORLAKSON, STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

YOLO COUNTY CALIFORNIA TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (CTA); YOLO COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

State Elected Officials

- State Senator Lois Wolk
- Assemblymember Mariko Yamada
- Helen Thomson, Former Assemblymember and Yolo County Supervisor
- Honorable Cruz Reynoso, Former California Supreme Court Justice

Educational Leaders

- Dr. Jorge Ayala, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools
- Jack Graf, Former Yolo County Superintendent of Schools
- Sheila Allen, Davis School Board
- Angel Barajas, Woodland School Board
- Sam Blanco, President, Woodland School Board
- Janet Boulware, Davis Bridge Educational Foundation Founder
- Carol Souza Cole, Former Woodland School Board Trustee
- Alicia Cruz, Washington School Board
- Alan Flory, Former Yuba Community College Board Trustee & Yolo County Assessor
- Julie Gallelo, Yolo County Child Advocate
- Evelia Genera, Former Woodland School Board Trustee
- Rick Gonzales Jr., Yolo County Concilio Educational Scholarship Coordinator
- Sara Kirby-Gonzalez, Washington School Board
- Elaine Lytle, Woodland School Board
- Mike Martin, Solano CCD Trustee #7 & Former Mayor of Winters
- Dr. David Meaney, Former Sacramento County Superintendent of Schools
- Adam Menke, President, Washington School Board
- Dr. Carlos Nevarez, Director, Sacramento State Doctorate Leadership Program
- David Nevarez, Former Yolo County Board of Education Trustee
- Michael Olivas, Winters School Board
- Dr. Cirenio Rodriguez, Woodland School Board
- Ernie Rodriguez, Former Esparto School Board Trustee
- Dr. Francisco Rodriguez, U.C. Davis School of Education Board of Advisors
- Tim Taylor, Davis School Board
- Gary Sandy, Yuba Community College Board & Former Mayor of Woodland
- Mary Vixie Sandy, Executive Director, California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
- Larry Schapiro, Former Yuba Community College Board Trustee
- Xaiver Tafoya, Yuba Community College Board
- Rogelio Villagrana, Former Woodland School School Board Trustee
- Katie Villegas, Washington School Board
- Dr. Bob Watt, Former Superintendent of Woodland School District

County and City Elected Officials

- Dr. Marlin "Skip" Davies, Mayor of Woodland
- Lucas Freichs, Davis City Council
- Mark Johannessen, West Sacramento Mayor Pro Tem
- Joe Krovoza, Mayor of Davis
- Chris Ledesma, West Sacramento City Council
- Melton Losoya, Former Mayor of Woodland
- Dr. Bill Marble, Woodland City Council
- Betsy Marchand, Former Yolo County Board of Supervisors
- Dan Parrish, Former Mayor of Woodland
- Art Pimentel, Former Mayor of Woodland
- Jim Provenza, Yolo County Board of Supervisors
- Ed Prieto, Yolo County Sheriff
- Jeff Reisig, Yolo County District Attorney
- Matt Rexroad, Yolo County Board of Supervisors
- Don Saylor, Yolo County Board of Supervisors
- Stephen Souza, Former Davis City Councilman
- Tom Stallard, Vice Mayor of Woodland
- Rochelle Swanson, Davis City Council
- Cass Sylvia, Yolo County Public Guardian
- Oscar Villegas, Yolo County Board of Supervisors
- Dan Wolk, Davis Mayor Pro Tem

Why You Should Care (Deeply) About the Open Seat for Yolo County Judge

By Fredrick Cohen



Many of you know that I am running for election to be your next Yolo County Superior Court Judge. But not everyone knows why this is perhaps the most important electoral race in years, and how important it is for you to get actively involved.

There are two key reasons why this campaign is so important:

First, we have a critical need for a judge who is a family law specialist with the skill, experience, and fortitude necessary to protect children, families, and victims of abuse.

Second, we need to turn the tide of Republican judges on the bench. Currently, 8 of our 10 Yolo County judges are Republicans. As Democrats in a blue county, it is up to us to ensure that our judges are people who share our values and beliefs regarding the law and society.

A Vital Need for Our County Bench

I am a Certified Family Law Specialist, State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. My career is about protecting children, families, and victims of abuse. A family law judge makes life-changing decisions every

day that affect people's earnings, children, personal safety, and property. Yet, not one of our judges on the Yolo bench is a family law attorney, much less a certified family law specialist.

We owe it to our children, our friends and families, and the victims of domestic abuse to ensure that the judge hearing their case has the skill, experience, and special fortitude to handle the complex and emotionally difficult issues endemic to this area of the law. Too often, family law cases are, by necessity, assigned to a judge who is unfamiliar with the dynamics of such cases. These decisions nevertheless impact individuals and society every day, sometimes in profound ways.

We must stop the revolving door of well-meaning, but inexperienced judges assigned to preside in family law cases for a short time, who then leave as soon as their assignment ends, almost never to return to such cases in the future. Our children and families deserve a judge experienced in, and dedicated to, this area of the law.

Eight out of Ten Judges Are Republicans

When people complain about decisions issued by the high courts, they often forget that these cases originated at the trial court level. Many of these decisions are colored by the trial judge's background, personal values, and belief system, since the rules of appellate law are designed to mandate affirmance of a trial court decision whenever possible.

At times, the Court of Appeal affirms a trial court decision such that the decision becomes a part of California law, affecting all future cases. As politically engaged and informed citizens, it is therefore up to us to ensure that our courts reflect our social and political values.

As a Democrat, I am very proud that others who share my values have come out in support of my campaign. I have been endorsed by the Yolo County Democratic Party, the Davis Democratic Club, my fellow Aggies in the Davis College Democrats, the River City Democratic Club, the Woodland Democratic Club, and the West Yolo Democratic Club. I am also honored to be endorsed by State Senators Darrell Steinberg and Mark Leno, Assemblymember Roger Dickinson, Davis City Councilmember Brett Lee, West Sacramento City Councilmembers Mark Johannessen and Bill Kristoff, and Winters City Councilmember Woody Fridae. I can't thank everyone enough for this outpouring of support.

But to change our bench for the better, it is your help I especially need. Please email me at rick@cohen4judge.com or call me at (530) 574-9377 and let me know I can count on your support. You can also visit me on Twitter, Facebook and via my website at www.cohen4judge.com.

The final countdown to election day: mail ballots arrive early May and election day is June 3

Don't forget to vote!



A Caring and Livable Community for Davis

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Please talk with your friends and neighbors about your support for me. This grassroots campaign is about a vision for Davis that is neighborly, positive and community focused. Together we can create a Davis that is forward thinking and a place where everyone is welcome. You can help!

- Host a lawn sign
- Write a letter to the editor
 - Donate
- Join me at Farmers' Market on Saturday

May 2 Fundraiser – California Wine and Wisconsin Cheese Reception

Please join me at the home of Jay and Carri Ziegler

Friday, May 2, 4:30-6:30 pm, 3334 Grosbeak Court, Davis

Co-Hosted by Jim & Donna Provenza, Lucas Frerichs and Richard Harris

RSVP: sheilaallencitycouncil@yahoo.com or  Facebook [Sheila Allen Davis City Council](#)

Donation: \$ _____ (Maximum \$100 per person or \$200 per couple)

I can help: ___ host of coffee in my home, ___ help at table at Farmer's Market, ___ host a lawn sign,
___ add my name to endorsement list, ___ walk my neighborhood, ___ anything that is needed

Name _____ Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ On Facebook? Yes/No

Occupation _____ Employer _____ (required of donors by state law)

Checks payable: [Sheila Allen City Council 2014](#)

Mail to: Sheila Allen, 1108 Petra Ct., Davis, CA 95618

[Donate on-line](#) at www.sheilaallen.org

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(Barry Wilson continued from p2)

After that, I met Barry Wilson at various political functions around town. I would stand on the periphery of people that would gather around him in conversation and absorb what was being said. The man had tremendous wit, and I as a person that grew up rabble rousing and trying to tear down the establishment and the "evil" in power, I was tremendously impressed by a statement Barry made several times about people that threw hand grenades and those that build society. Barry could never exactly remember the witticism, but it changed the direction of my life.

There are many stories about Barry Wilson, but I think that he was misunderstood by many. He was a man that had an exceptional IQ. He was admitted to the University of Chicago at the age of 15 under a special program for people with IQs over 150. He tested out 18 points higher than that. He could have been a success at whatever career he chose but instead chose academia. If you are into tracing the lineage of PhDs through their major professors, he was the "grandson" of Linus Pauling and helped bring him out to speak against the Vietnam War on the steps of the California state capitol building. Barry had high standards and would broach no nonsense. He could quickly slice a person down to size with his sharp wit honed by his great intelligence. He was forever trying to educate people, even waiters and taxi drivers, trying to get them to realize greater potential in their jobs. He was a power in his day in the UC Davis Academic Senate. He was on first name basis with two of the most powerful speakers of the state assembly -- both Democrats -- this was before term limits, when they possessed the power of deities. As my friend pointed out on that day on the quad, Barry Wilson had "street cred."

On the afternoon of 27th of March, it was a Thursday, I received a phone call from the nurse at the care facility where Barry was staying. Barry had her telephone me because I was supposed to visit him later that evening. He told her to "call Yamagata and tell him to hurry over." I told the nurse that it would be another hour before I could leave work and head over and another 45 minutes in traffic after that. The nurse asked if I could talk to Barry, and I said yes. She held the phone up to his ear and I asked him how he was doing. After several minutes of silence I called out his name, "Barry... Barry..." and the nurse came on the phone and said, "he's gone." Now I can hear Barry's familiar chuckle in my head and the word -- "gotcha."

There will be a memorial service for Barry Wilson at the Unitarian Church in Davis on June 14th from 2-5 pm.

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Barry Wilson

Democratic Newsletter

**Champagne Brunch
Sunday, June 22
11:30-2:00pm**

**2014 photo gallery
Now posted on the
website**

**PLEASE RENEW your
MEMBERSHIP**

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

**See the website photo
gallery:**

www.davisdemocraticclub.org

Davis Democratic Club

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

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Circle your Level of Membership:

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