



# The Rossmoor Republican

Seniors for a Government of Principle above Politics

SEPTEMBER 2025

Website: <http://rossmoor-republicans.us>

Email: [rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com)



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## KYRIAKOS TSAKOPOULOS, FORMER COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TRUSTEE, WILL TALK ABOUT "HIGHER EDUCATION AND POLITICS" AT OUR REPUBLICAN CLUB DINNER ON SEPTEMBER 16

Former Columbia University Trustee Kyriakos Tsakopoulos will discuss "Higher Education and Politics" at our Republican Club dinner on September 16, at 5:15 p.m. in the Event Center's Tahoe Room.

Tsakopoulos, known as "KT" to his friends, will speak about "Higher Education and Politics." This is a subject with which he is very well acquainted as a former trustee of Columbia University. KT holds a B.A. in Political Science from Columbia University and a J.D. from the University of the Pacific/McGeorge School of Law. He is a lawyer and member of the California and U.S. Supreme Court bars. KT now works in his family's real estate company, which has recently donated land in Roseville, California, to be the western campus of Hillsdale College. Hillsdale is one of a very few colleges in the U.S. which does not accept federal money.

KT lives in his hometown of Sacramento, California, with his wife and three children. His sister Eleni Kounalakis is currently the Lieutenant Governor of California, so he navigates the complications of a bipartisan family.

Join us September 16 for dinner catered by the Creekside Grill. Dinner will be a choice of beef lasagna with ragu sauce or vegetarian lasagna with truffle Alfredo sauce (vegetarian option); squash, zucchini and onion medley, Italian chopped salad with choice of balsamic vinaigrette or ranch dressing, bread and butter, tiramisu cake, and coffee. Social hour begins at 5:15 p.m., with dinner at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$50 for members and \$55 for guests. Cost for people coming at 6:50 p.m. for the program only is \$5. For info contact Susie White at [swhite1451@comcast.net](mailto:swhite1451@comcast.net) (preferred) or 925-954-8282.

A signup sheet for our September 16 dinner accompanies this Newsletter. Signup sheets may also be picked up in our Republican Club box in the Gateway Clubhouse or downloaded from our website at: <http://rossmoor-republicans.us>. **DINNER RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 12 NOON, SEPTEMBER 9. If you are planning to mail your dinner reservation, please email Susie White at [swhite1451@comcast.net](mailto:swhite1451@comcast.net) to let her know BEFORE September 9, so she can save a place for you and your guests.** Persons who wish to come at 6:50 p.m. to just hear the speaker may register in advance or at the door.

**For those who attended our August 19 dinner please see page 3 for an announcement about a refund for the missing salmon entree.**

When you send in your check and signup sheet for our monthly dinners please remember to write down the names of all the persons who will be joining you for dinner. That allows our Republican Club volunteers to make dining table assignments and prepare name tags prior to our dinner.

## SEPTEMBER DINNER EVENT

Join us for Dinner on  
Tuesday, September 16,  
featuring Kyriakos  
Tsakopoulos, speaking about  
"Politics and Education"



**Chris Bratton**  
President  
2025

## President's Message: DO REPUBLICANS NEED THERAPY?

I attended the Town Hall on Medicare and Social Security put on by our Congressman Mark DeSaulnier last month in Rossmoor's Event Center. DeSaulnier did not start well! He began by disparaging Republicans and saying they needed therapy.

I groaned. I suffer through these Town Halls frequently for the sole reason of making DeSaulnier aware, by written questions, that not all people there agree with his liberal policies and voting record.

I wrote down a few questions and one got chosen out of possibly a hundred to be answered. My question was: "You contradicted yourself. You put me down by saying that I need therapy because I am a Republican and then went on to say later that we need more civil discourse and to work together. How will you bridge the gap and begin to work alongside the good ideas of Republicans for the good of ALL your constituents?"

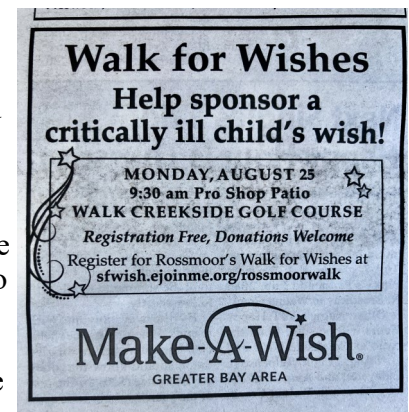
DeSaulnier hemmed and hawed about how he used to be a Republican and that the need for therapy is a necessary thing for many reasons. He then had the moderator reread my question, which he hadn't yet answered. He mentioned some role models over the last 30 years who were examples of bipartisan working together and said he would maybe try to do that. But he also said he was elected to do and vote the way he is. In other words, to not to do anything that we Republicans would want. More contradictions or are they just lies when he is put on the spot?

I don't think I'm the one who needs therapy. Or you. What we need to do is get our Voter ID initiative on the ballot and stop Newsom's redistricting scheme so that we can get more Republicans elected! The Recall Becton initiative is currently going through some changes, but this is also something needed in our county.

Even if the political process appears at times to be slow and unyielding there are still ways we can help those around us. Some of us recently participated in the Walk for Wishes to help fulfill Wishes for sick or dying kids. No politics, just kindness and hope for kids and their families. Also, be sure to attend our September 7th Meet and Greet to hear Kelly Perkins talk about her nonprofit

organization Carson's Wings of Hope. Following her son Carson's death from fentanyl poisoning she is working to educate teens, young adults, and families about the dangers of fentanyl and prevent deaths due to the use of that drug. Her organization also works to address the problems of mental illness. Come and hear her story and discover practical ways to help until the time when the fentanyl crisis is past us.

What's the area in which you are making a difference? Contact me or our Newsletter Editor Richard Rubin and tell us your story.



### Carson's Wings of Hope

We're on a mission to educate communities about the dangers of fentanyl and other opioids, and to fight back against this crisis by putting life-saving naloxone (Narcan) into as many hands as possible. Every second counts.



Join us in  
turning  
heartbreak  
into hope.

In memory of Carson -  
and in hope for others -  
we're building  
awareness, offering  
resources, and saving  
lives one conversation,  
one training, and one  
dose at a time.

Learn more and get involved:

Together, we can  
prevent overdose  
deaths and  
support those  
affected.

[www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com](http://www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com)

[carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com](mailto:carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com)

[@carsonswingsofhopefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/carsonswingsofhopefoundation)  
on Instagram



## AN APOLOGY AND CREDIT FOR THOSE WHO ATTENDED OUR AUGUST 19 DINNER

The Republican Club Board wishes to apologize for the problem with the meal at our August 19 dinner in the Event Center. Due to a supply issue with the promised salmon entree, the Creekside Grill elected to provide an emergency replacement entree without notifying and obtaining the approval of our Republican Club leadership. Creekside has since offered to waive its

August dinner charges to the Club. In response, the Republican Club Board has decided to provide the following three options to dinner attendees at our August 19 dinner event:

**Option 1:** If attendees of our August 19 dinner will be attending our September 16 dinner, the cost of your September dinner will be waived upon request. There will be an appropriate box to mark on the September dinner signup sheet, which accompanies this newsletter, for those wishing to take that option.

**Option 2:** If an August 19 dinner attendee doesn't plan on attending our September 16 dinner, or needs compensation for other guests at the August dinner, please send an email to our Treasurer, Toni Hessler, at [sop1toni@yahoo.com](mailto:sop1toni@yahoo.com), requesting reimbursement for the August dinner. Toni will promptly mail you a check for a full refund.

**Option 3:** If an August 19 dinner attendee doesn't opt for either of the two choices above and wishes to regard this as a donation to support our club in its many endeavors, you don't have to do anything. If you chose to do that, we thank you.

Sorry this problem occurred. But it is encouraging that our caterer, the Creekside Grill, has taken full responsibility for this unfortunate incident and has offered to reimburse our members.



**Maddie Moore & Brenda Jahn  
at Our Republican Club  
Farmers' Market Table**

## ROSSMOOR FARMERS' MARKET REPUBLICAN CLUB TABLE

The Rossmoor Farmers' Market is now held in Peacock Plaza and open on Fridays from 9:30 am to 1 pm. The Republican Club will be there with our information table every Friday in September. You can register to vote at our table if you are new in Rossmoor. We also hope to have local political figures and candidates visit our table from time to time. If you are interested in helping man our table, please contact Madie Moore at [madiemoore@yahoo.com](mailto:madiemoore@yahoo.com).



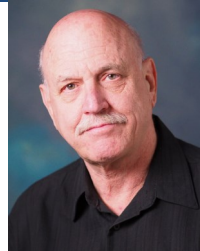
***New Members***

**Antoinette Zirkle  
Dave & Dede Woodhead**



# THE U.N. IS NOT OUR FRIEND

By Mark Fernwood



Many people think of the United Nations as a forum to discuss concerns, avoid international conflicts, and peacefully settle disputes. In reality, the U.N. has consistently taken extreme anti-US and anti-Israel positions.

Of the 194 U.N. members, few enjoy Western values and liberty, so it should not be surprising that most reliably vote against U.S. interests.

Since 2012, "Palestine" has been granted the status of a U.N. "non-member observer state" and treated pretty much like a full-fledged U.N. member, even though it is not even a country, but a region largely within the boundaries of Israel. U.N. agencies have also been caught out aiding terrorist organizations such as Hamas and the PLO.

The U.N. was founded in 1945 in San Francisco. The chief U.S. negotiator for creating the U.N. Charter was Alger Hiss. Hiss also served as the first acting U.N. Secretary General. In 1948 Hiss was convicted of perjury and exposed as a longtime Soviet spy. It therefore should not be surprising that U.S.S.R. was given three votes in the U.N., with the U.S. just having one.

The U.S. by far pays the largest share (28%) of the U.N.'s \$46.4 billion budget. We should ask ourselves why we should so generously finance an organization that is so hostile to our own interests?

See also:

U.N. Knew About Hamas Oct. 7 Attack in Advance:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Rx2fi3aDjw> (11 minutes)

U.N. Workers Accused of Helping Hamas:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5z3oMIGAi4Y> (5 minutes)

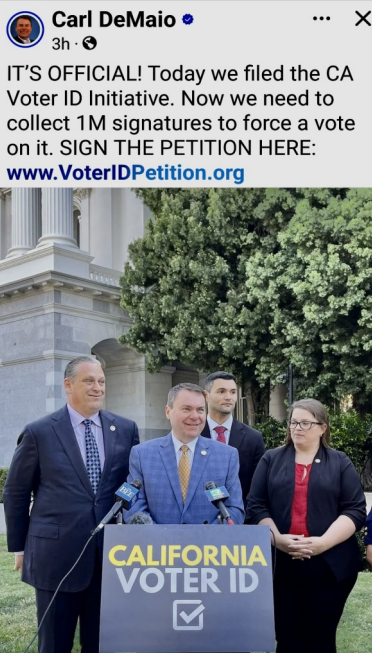
New York Post: Now that U.N. admits employee involvement in Oct. 7, it's time to end UNRWA:

<https://nypost.com/2024/08/07/opinion/now-that-un-admits-employee-involvement-in-oct-7-its-time-to-end-unrwa>

## CALIFORNIA VOTER ID INITIATIVE

The California Voter ID Initiative is intended to restore election integrity in our state by 1) requiring verification of the citizenship of anyone wishing to register to vote and 2) requiring use of government ID to verify an individual's identity when they cast their ballot in each election.

For more information go to:  
[www.VoterIDPetition.org](http://www.VoterIDPetition.org).



## Board of Directors

### Elected Officers

**Chris Bratton, President**  
925-200-2527

**Ching-Shu Wagner, Vice President**  
765-425-0407

**Joyce Ellis, Secretary**  
925-943-2126

**Toni Hessler, Treasurer**  
925-286-5105

### Directors

**David Minor, Program Chair and Delegate to CA GOP and Contra Costa County GOP**  
415-722-2037

**Mary Beth Hodge, Membership Chair**  
925-954-1158

**Bill McConnell, Special Projects**  
925-954-8787

**Richard L. Rubin, Editor, The Rossmoor Republican/Publicity**  
510-332-9994

**Dianne Brackin, Movie Chair**  
925-300-3144

**Jill Reiner, Ambassadors Chair**  
925-954-8892

**Paul Patt, Past President**  
925-785-8026

**Margie Sparkman, Correspondence Secretary**  
925-322-8255

**Nancy Fike, Webmaster**  
925-998-6927

**Madie Moore, Voter Outreach Chair**  
925-322-8720



**Dianne Brackin**  
Club Movie Chair

## REPUBLICAN CLUB SEPTEMBER MOVIE: "BY DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT"

The Republican Club will present the film "By Dawn's Early Light" in the Peacock Theater at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17. Admission is free and everyone is invited!

"By Dawn's Early Light" is a Cold War-era thriller depicting events triggered by a nuclear missile attack launched by a dissident political faction in the Soviet Union against the Ukrainian city of Donetsk. The attack is a false flag scheme, intended to implicate the United States as the aggressor, and events escalate from there. Martin Landau stars as the U.S. President. The film also features Powers Boothe, Rebecca De Mornay and James Earl Jones. Ken Tucker of Entertainment Weekly said: "There never has been a made-for-cable movie as sleek and efficient as By Dawn's Early Light. Fast-moving, complex . . . it's by far the best original movie project HBO has overseen."

"By Dawn's Early Light" is rated PG-13 and runs for 100 minutes. For information contact Dianne Brackin at Dbrack925@gmail.com or 925-300-3144.



## PETITION DRIVE TO RECALL CONTRA COSTA DA DIANA BECTON IS BEING REFILED

As we were going to press we received news that the petition drive to recall Contra Costa District Attorney Diana Becton is being officially refiled by the petition's organizers. The effort to recall DA Becton has recently received a major cash infusion and the strategy has changed. The new goal is to have the recall take place on the June Primary ballot (rather than by way of a special election), when voter turnout will be higher and the chances of winning will be greater. A team of paid signature gatherers is also being added, although volunteer signature gathers will continue to be very welcome. The Republican Club will provide further updates as we learn them.

**Supporters of the Diana Becton recall are invited to attend this gathering.**

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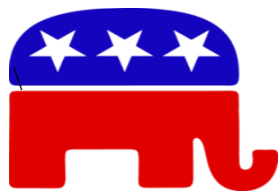
### RECALL DIANA BECTON FUNDRAISER

*Join us for a fundraiser to recall Contra Costa  
DA Diana Becton. Your support is crucial for  
raising the funds needed to collect 73,000  
signatures and place this recall on the ballot.*

**Beverages and appetizers will be served.**

**Friday, September 26**  
**6PM-7:30PM**  
**322 3rd Avenue South, Pacheco, CA 94553**  
**RSVP by September 20**  
**☎ 925-723-2921**  
**✉ recalldianabecton@gmail.com**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★



## WANTED: SERVERS BEHIND THE BAR FOR REPUBLICAN CLUB MONTHLY DINNERS

The Republican Club is looking for one or two volunteers to help tend the bar at our monthly club dinners. Our club servers arrive in advance of our monthly dinners to help set up the bar and receive any needed instructions. All necessary training will be provided. For information contact Republican Club President Chris Bratton at 925-200-2527.



## ROSSMOOR GATE PROCEDURES FOR NON-ROSSMOOR RESIDENTS

Rossmoor administrators have asked that Rossmoor clubs provide them with notice at least 7 days in advance of the names of non-Rossmoor residents who plan on attending a club event. Additional names can be added up to 2 business days before the event, but Rossmoor wants most of the names of non-resident attendees at least 7 days before. For those non-residents planning to be "speaker only" attendees at a monthly dinner, please notify Susie White of your plans as early as possible at [swhite1451@comcast.net](mailto:swhite1451@comcast.net) (preferred) or 925-954-8282. (You can still pay your \$5 at the door when you come.) For club events aside from our monthly dinners non-Rossmoor residents should email us at [rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com), preferably at least 7 days in advance of the event.

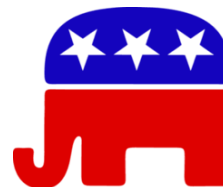
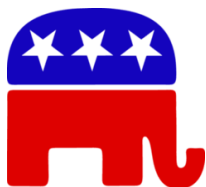


## DINNER GUEST SPEAKER RECOMMENDATIONS WANTED

David Minor, our Republican Club Program Chair, is looking for future guest speakers to appear at our monthly Republican Club dinners. Speakers who are available to speak in person are preferred, but appearance via Zoom can be arranged. Please send your guest speaker suggestions to David at [drminor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drminor@sbcglobal.net). Include the suggested speaker's name, contact information, and his or her position or area of expertise.

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!

<http://rossmoor-republicans.us>





## GAVIN NEWSOM: THE REAL THREAT TO DEMOCRACY

By Richard L. Rubin, Editor

*"True democracy means empowering voters, not politicians, to decide representation."*—California GOP Chair Corrin Rankin

California Governor Gavin Newsom loves to solemnly proclaim that he and his Democratic allies are standing up for “freedom” and “democracy.” But that is a joke. When it comes to the rights of Californian citizens to vote for the candidate of their choice, it is clear that what Newsom really stands up for is the “freedom” of California voters to support the Democrat Party, and have Democrat pols “represent” them—whether like they like it or not. Newsom’s hypocrisy has recently been on full display with his current plan to redraw California’s Congressional district map for the express purpose of reducing the number of California Republican representatives in the U.S. Congress from the present 9 out of 52 (17%) to a mere 4 out of 52 (7%)—notwithstanding that California’s Republican candidates for U.S. Congress generally receive about 40% of the vote.

The purported impetus for Newsom’s attack on California’s current nonpartisan redistricting commission is a recent move by the Texas state legislature to redraw Texas’ U.S. Congressional map so as to potentially net additional Republicans seats in the upcoming 2026 midterm elections. Texas law grants its state legislature the power to redraw congressional district lines at any time, notwithstanding that such lines are traditionally only redrawn every ten years following the U.S. Census. However, the present law of California gives Governor Newsom and his Democrat-controlled legislature no such power. In 2010 California voters enacted the VOTERS FIRST Act for Congress, which placed the power to draw congressional district boundary lines within the hands of the nonpartisan Citizens Redistricting Commission. Arguments in favor of this ballot proposition focused on removing politicians (*like Newsom*) from the redistricting process in order to insure fairer and more competitive elections. Proponents pointed out that unscrupulous politicians often gerrymander districts to protect incumbents and their own party, thereby stifling voter choice and political accountability. In creating an independent commission, the process would be more transparent, open to public input, and focused upon communities of common interest, rather than partisan political gain. The measure received strong support from “Good Government” groups, such as California Common Cause and local chambers of commerce, and bipartisan endorsements from leading political figures, including ex-Governors Arnold Schwarzenegger and Gray Davis. The VOTERS FIRST Act passed by a popular vote of 61% to 39%.

Well, times have changed and, as far as Gavin Newsom is concerned, the days of Good Government reform and fairness are long gone—the time has come to fight fang and claw for naked political gain and the burnishing of Newsom’s public image as a brass-knuckled partisan pit fighter. Newsom has announced that, following a rubber stamp from California’s Democratic-controlled legislature, he will hold a November 4th special election in which voters will be asked to remove the power to draw congressional districts from the nonpartisan Citizens Redistricting Commission and hand it over to the Democrat-controlled state legislature, with predictable consequences. This special election will cost California taxpayers \$230 million. Newsom purports to justify spending all this money and depriving California Republicans of their right to have their votes count for anything by self-righteously proclaiming: “They’ve [meaning Texas Republicans] triggered this response and we’re not going to roll over and we’re going to fight fire with fire.”

California Republican Party Chair Corrin Rankin has aptly pointed out that Newsom’s scheme threatens to set a dangerous precedent, stating: “While Governor Newsom frames this redistricting as a defensive move, it undermines California’s nationally respected, voter-approved Citizens Redistricting Commission, and if successful, sets a dangerous precedent that voters’ choices can be overruled whenever politicians find it politically convenient. . . . Our primary concern is safeguarding Californians’ constitutional rights against partisan manipulation disguised as defending democracy; true democracy means empowering voters, not politicians, to decide representation.”

At present, Democrat Party registration in California stands at 45%, with Republicans at 25% and 22% registered as independents. General elections for statewide office, such as those for Governor and U.S.

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## ***Gavin Newsom: The Real Threat to Democracy, continued:***

Senator, have generally split about 60% to 40% in favor of Democrats over Republicans. In the 2024 General Election, 39% of California voters voted for Republican candidates for U.S. Congress, but managed to win only 17% of California's Congressional seats. With the Democrats holding all of California's statewide offices, as well as super-majorities in the State Senate, Assembly, and California Supreme Court, it is clear that the 40% or so of California voters who generally support Republican candidates and their policies are almost entirely deprived of any political influence in this state.

This isn't the first time that Newsom has tried to disenfranchise California Republicans. In July 2019, Governor Newsom signed the Presidential Tax Transparency and Accountability Act, which required presidential candidates, as a condition for obtaining ballot access in California's primary elections, to publicly release five years of federal tax returns. This was squarely aimed at removing then-President Trump from California's primary ballot, given that Trump had exercised his right (granted to all U.S. taxpayers) to maintain the confidentiality of his income tax returns. In enacting this novel ballot requirement, Newsom piously declared that in "extraordinary times," state officials "have a legal and moral duty to do everything in their power to ensure leaders seeking the highest offices meet minimal standards, and to restore public confidence." Such garbage! Like any typical demagogue, Newsom professed lofty and noble ideals while carrying out his political dirty tricks. Newsom's real target wasn't Trump, who was virtually assured of the 2020 Republican Party presidential nomination in any event. Newsom's real play was to exploit California's open primary system which directs the top two vote getters in congressional and state legislature races to advance to a runoff in the November General Election, even if this results in a General Election matchup between two candidates of the same political party. Newsom's ploy to remove Trump from California's primary ballot would have almost certainly depressed Republican voter turnout in the Primary Election, and thereby produced more Democrat versus Democrat contests in the General Election and, accordingly, even fewer Republican California officeholders.

Newsom had been put on notice by his predecessor, Democratic Governor Jerry Brown, who had vetoed a similar measure in 2017, as well as by numerous constitutional scholars, that excluding Trump from the ballot for failing to disclose his tax returns was clearly unconstitutional because the U.S. Constitution lays out the explicit qualifications to be President and it would create chaos to allow 50 individual states to add additional criteria at their choosing. But Newsom—who had taken an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution when becoming Governor—couldn't care less. He wanted to show Democrat voters that he was down for the cause and willing to fight dirty. Predictably, in November 2019, the California Supreme Court unanimously ruled that Newsom's Presidential Tax Transparency and Accountability Act was blatantly unconstitutional.

As was the case with his attempt to remove Trump from the ballot, Newsom may ultimately come up short with regard to his redistricting scheme. His special election measure may fail to pass, the courts may intervene and stop his power grab, or Republicans may maintain control of Congress in 2026, notwithstanding any California gerrymandering. Still, when the dust clears, Newsom may benefit because when he faces off against the likes of Pete Buttigieg, Kamala Harris, and Tim Walz in the 2028 Democratic primary dogfight, Newsom will be able to boast that he is willing and able to fight hard and dirty and that may be enough to win him the Democratic presidential nomination over such lackluster opponents.

Enthralled by his boundless lust for power, Newsom has forgotten that, as Governor of California, he serves *all* the people in this state. That entails an obligation to treat equitably and fairly the 40% of the citizenry who chose not to support the Democrat Party and their policies. His moral obligation to serve all California citizens trumps Newsom's loyalty to his political party and even his own grandiose ambitions. We are not talking about matters of political policy or ideology, such as taxation, regulation, or education, as to which it can be argued that election results provide a mandate for legislating leftwing political policies. No rational argument can be made that Newsom's gerrymandering scheme or his attempt to remove Trump from the ballot involve choices advancing public policies or ideology. They are naked power grabs, which (if successful) serve only the interests of the Democrat Party and Newsom's personal ambitions. No reasonable case can be made that these actions are good for the people of California considered as a whole. The brutal fact is that Newsom has decided that he wants to be President and he has no regard for any constitutional, moral, or ethical constraint which might stand in his way.



# LEFTIST CRIME RATE PROPOGANDA

By Bill McConnell, Ph.D.



One of the favorite lines of the Democrat/Socialists and the Fake News talking heads these days is: “Crime is actually going down.” The following column appeared in our October 2024 Newsletter. What we said then remains true today. I feel the need to repeat this to make one small contribution to your mental health by assuring you that your skepticism is the only rational response to the “crime is going down” claim. Some, but not all, of the reasons for this are contained in this column.

**MYTH:** “Crime is actually going down” is something you hear from many sources on the left lately.

**FACT:** Maybe, maybe not.

I spent most of my career doing various types of social research—psychological, criminal justice, program evaluation. I love doing good objective unbiased research and producing valid data. I thought it would be one of the things that would help save the world as people had more good data to solve problems. Unfortunately, much current research and data production has been corrupted by politics. Many of today’s so-called researchers are tainted by politics and their own biases. The worst part is that these “researchers” are not well-schooled by the formerly great academic institutions which they attended on how to be objective and unbiased. These “researchers” have apparently not learned and/or do not respect the immutable rules for doing quality research.

This has resulted in a world where much of the “data” and “facts” we are pummeled with are not based on sound methodology and are not reported accurately.

There are many ways to assess the quality of what you are reading. One such test is the CRAAP test, developed by people at California State University in 2004. The CRAAP test has 5 main components:

**Currency:** Is the source up to date?

**Relevance:** Is the source relevant to your research?

**Authority:** Where is the source published? Who is the author? Are they considered reputable and trustworthy in their field? Are academic sources published in peer-reviewed journals? (Unfortunately, this factor doesn’t carry the same weight it used to because many of the “peer reviewers” suffer from the same inadequate education and training, and fail to adhere to the most basic rules of objectivity and fairness.)

**Accuracy:** Is the source supported by evidence? Are the claims cited correctly?

**Purpose:** What was the motive behind publishing this source?

**Source:** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CRAAP\\_test](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CRAAP_test)

## Crime Data

One of the areas which is the most problematic is crime data. Working with crime data is a complex topic and I am focusing on it here to make a point. When you see headlines like “crime is going down (or up)” this is far too often based on a carefully cherry-picked sliver of data plucked out of some report. At the outset, it should be noted that any global headline such as this is probably wrong.

One reason crime data is problematic is that there are many sources for crime data. However, there are three main databases that most serious researchers use when reporting on crime:

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### *Is this Statistic Accurate, continued:*

#### FBI Uniform Crime Reports:

(<https://www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/more-fbi-services-and-information/ucr>)

For decades, the FBI orchestrated the Uniform Crime Reporting system (UCR). This was a nationwide program wherein all law enforcement agencies reported the crime incidents they processed. This system was recently replaced by the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). There is significant, general nonreporting to the NIBRS. Some well-documented high crime counties with large populations are not reporting, which masks their gun crime and street gang data, including firearm homicide rates. The federal government cannot legally force state, county, or local governments to perform this work for them. As such, reporting is voluntary and the systems that the Federal government has in place to encourage reporting are ineffective and have been so for a long time.

#### National Victimization Survey: (<https://bjs.ojp.gov/programs/ncvs>)

The National Victimization Survey has been around for years. It gathers voluntary self-reports of criminal victimization based upon a carefully constructed national representative sample. This data, when compared to FBI data, typically shows various levels of agreement with regard to various major crimes.

#### WONDER (Wide-ranging ONline Data for Epidemiologic Research): <https://wonder.cdc.gov/>

The Center for Disease Control (“CDC”) gets its data from the medical community, including from coroner departments. Major gaps often exist between this data and the FBI data. For example, the CDC gun homicide counts are usually higher than the NIBRS counts—thus indicating that a significant accuracy problem exists.

There are many other sources of crime data. The problem with having so many sources is that it makes the job easier for unscrupulous cherry-pickers. They scan through these database tables until they find a few cells in one table which shows what they have been looking for. Then they build a story around that selective data which fits the narrative they were seeking from the onset.

So, when you are presented with “research” or “data” of any kind, you should take it with a grain of salt. Look for other sources which might contradict the data that you are being fed. This is especially true if there is reason to believe that your source might have a bias—like a police chief reporting on the performance of his or her own department. If you have a favorite source because you tend to see things that you agree with, they might have a bias—the same one that you do. It is hard to look for data that is contrary to what you want to believe, but it’s the right thing to do.



## **CALLING ALL REPUBLICAN BRIDGE PLAYERS!**

If you’d like to join a Republican Bridge Group where you can relax and not feel uncomfortable when politics comes up, please call Mary Beth Hodge at the number below. It’s time to circle the wagons—or “the elephants” as Crazy Kamala once said—and stick together.

Right now we have two bridge games set up:

The First Tuesday of each month from 1:30 to 4:00 pm—we have two tables.

The Second Monday of each month from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm—we have one table.

This will be a friendly comfy bridge group. You do not need to have Master Points to join. If you are interested in joining one of these groups, or being a substitute, call Mary Beth Hodge at 925-954-1158.

# REPUBLICAN CLUB TO HOLD FUNDRAISER TO COMBAT OPIOID ADDICTION AT SEPTEMBER 7 MEET & GREET

The Republican Club will be holding a fundraiser at our September 7 Meet & Greet to benefit Carson's Wings of Hope, a local nonprofit focused on educating teens, young adults and families about the dangers of fentanyl. Carson's Wings of Hope also distributes naloxone, a life-saving medication to treat opioid overdoses, and provides funding to help teens and young adults suffering from anxiety, substance abuse and other mental health issues. Kelly Perkins, founder of Carson's Wing of Hope, will be on hand to discuss her organization and answer questions.



Kelly Perkins and Her Son Carson

Carson's Wings of Hope was founded by Kelly, a Walnut Creek high school teacher, who lost her 21-year-old son Carson to an overdose of fentanyl laced with Xanax. Following Carson's tragic 2022 death, Kelly founded this organization, named after Carson, with the mission of saving other families from suffering similar tragedies. Information about the Carson's Wings of Hope nonprofit may be found at: <http://carsonswingsofhope.com>.

We will be holding this fundraiser as part of our regularly scheduled Meet and Greet on Sunday, September 7, from 4 to 6 pm in the Fairway Room in the Creekside Complex. Attendees are invited to bring something to share, such as an appetizer or snack. Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided. There is no admission charge and all Rossmoor residents are welcome to attend.

Carson's Wings of Hope is also holding a dinner concert in Danville on September 20, as described below. The correct website for Carson's Wings of hope is: <https://carsonswingsofhope.com>

## You're Invited: **Save a Life Dinner Concert**

A fundraiser for education, awareness and prevention of opioid overdoses.

- Live music to lift your spirits
- Catered dinner and dessert to savor
- Craft libations to toast to change
- Silent and live auctions ft. one-of-a-kind items

### Details

**Date:** Saturday, September 20th, 2025

**Location:** Danville, CA (Address provided with ticket)

**Time:** 5-9pm

Every dollar raised supports our mission to educate, prevent and equip - because **no one should lose a loved one to something preventable.**

[www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com](mailto:www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com)

## Carson's Wings of Hope

We're on a mission to **educate communities about the dangers of fentanyl and other opioids**, and to fight back against this crisis by putting **life-saving naloxone (Narcan)** into as many hands as possible. Every second counts.



**Join us in  
turning  
heartbreak  
into hope.**

In memory of Carson - and in hope for others - we're building awareness, offering resources, and saving lives one conversation, one training, and one dose at a time.

Learn more and get involved:

Together, we can prevent overdose deaths and support those affected.

[www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com](mailto:www.carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com)

[carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com](mailto:carsonswingsofhope@gmail.com)

[@carsonswingsofhopefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/carsonswingsofhopefoundation)  
on Instagram



# VOLUNTEER CORNER

## Volunteering

*is the ultimate  
exercise in democracy.  
You vote in elections once  
a year, but when you  
**volunteer,**  
you vote every day about  
the kind of community  
you want to live in.*

— Author Unknown



## SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Chris Crosbie is our September Volunteer of the Month! You will see Chris up front at all our monthly dinners, managing our drawings for Semper Fi and Fischer House, which provide support for U.S. military veterans. Chris does a great deal to make everything happen like clockwork: she has to make sure our different colored tickets are available, she manages our club volunteers who sell the tickets at our table and as rovers, and she announces the prize winners.

Chris is highly innovative and has recently come up with the idea of giving current conservative books as prizes. Chris is a diligent team member, showing up at all of our dinners and managing her tasks with efficiency and a huge smile on her face. We are fortunate to have Chris as a member and appreciate her dedication in carrying out the important role she fulfills for our club. Thank you Chris!

## PHOTOS FROM RECENT REPUBLICAN CLUB EVENTS



Maddie Moore & John Den Dulk at Our Republican Club Farmers' Market Table

Jean Follmer,  
Former  
Member of  
Lafayette  
School Board,  
Talks About  
"Politics and  
Education" at  
Our August  
Dinner



Republican Club  
President Chris  
Bratton  
Discusses  
Emergency  
Preparedness at  
Our August 27  
Box Lunch



Republican Club's August 27 Box Lunch Event





## CONTACT YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES



### **Mark DeSaulnier, U.S. Congressman, District 10**

Congressman.DeSaulnier@mail.house.gov  
Walnut Creek District Office  
3100 Oak Road, Suite 110  
Phone: (925) 933-2660

### **Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, CA Assembly Member, District 16**

Assemblymember.Bauer-Kahan@assembly.ca.gov  
Capitol Office:  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 319-2016

District Office:  
12677 Alcosta Boulevard, Suite 395  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
Phone: (925) 244-1600

### **Tim Grayson, CA State Senator, District 9**

Capitol Office  
1021 O St., Suite #7250  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: (916) 651-4009

Antioch Office  
420 West 3rd St.  
Antioch, CA 94509  
Phone: (925) 754-1461

Orinda Office  
51 Moraga Way, Suite #2  
Orinda, CA 94563  
Phone: (925) 258-1176



**REPUBLICAN CLUB of ROSSMOOR**  
**Gateway Complex Mail Box**  
**1001 Golden Rain Road**  
**Walnut Creek, CA 94595**

**Meet & Greet and  
Anti-Opioid Fundraiser  
Ambassadors  
Dinner Event  
Film: By Dawn’s Early Light  
Board Meeting  
Meet & Greet**

Sunday, Sept. 7, 4:00 pm, Fairway Room, Creekside  
Monday, Sept. 15, 11:30 am, Bunker Room, Creekside  
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 5:15 pm, Event Center  
Wednesday, Sept. 17, 4:00 pm, Peacock Theater  
Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1:00 pm, Bunker Room, Creekside  
Sunday, Oct. 5, 4:00 pm, Fairway Room, Creekside



**REPUBLICAN CLUB MEET & GREETs**

Our Meet & Greet's are held in the Fairway Room in the Creekside Clubhouse. Admission is free. All Republican Club members and their guests are invited to attend our monthly Meet & Greet's, held the first Sunday of each month (usually!). Non-alcoholic beverages are provided. Please bring something to share—an appetizer or nuts, chips, etc. You may also bring your own (BYO) wine or beer to enjoy. Dress is casual, and there is no formal program, just an opportunity to gather with like-minded people. If you have a friend interested in joining the club, this is a perfect opportunity for your friend to get to know us! **Guests who aren't Republican Club members or Rossmoor residents should email us at [rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com](mailto:rossmoorrepublicans@gmail.com), preferably 7 days before an event, in order for us to provide their names to be admitted at the Rossmoor front gate.**

**MEET & GREET SCHEDULE**

<b>Sunday, September 7</b>	<b>Fairway Room, Creekside Clubhouse</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday, October 5</b>	<b>Fairway Room, Creekside Clubhouse</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday, November 2</b>	<b>Fairway Room, Creekside Clubhouse</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	<b>Club Room, Creekside Clubhouse</b>	<b>4 to 6 p.m.</b>