

Subj: **Democratic Women of the Desert - Political Action Update**
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Political Action Update

January 26, 2010

- **Walk Against Hunger**

Walk Against Hunger was a huge success for FIND Food Bank and its agencies. Final accounting is not yet complete but \$50,000 is the word so far. DWD Past President Sandra Stone and her husband, Mike, were walkers. DWD member Tookie Marcelline organized a group of five walkers. Thank you to the walkers and to DWD members who financially supported the walkers.

- **Demand CBS Pull Controversial Ad**

In the past, CBS has denied other organizations, like MoveOn.org and United Church of Christ, the chance to get their word out during the Superbowl because the network considered their messages to be too controversial. But it seems its definition of "controversial" has changed. CBS approved an ad by the conservative group Focus on the Family, attacking a woman's right to choose. The Superbowl is the most-watched television program in the country. CBS's decision to run the anti-choice ad is biased, unfair and unethical. [Tell CBS to cancel the Superbowl ad from Focus on the Family >>](#)

- **Democratic Women of the Desert – February Event -**

<http://www.democraticwomenofthedesert.org>

Saturday, February 13, 2010, 10:00 AM

Agua Caliente Casino, 32250 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage

Brunch Buffet

Guest Speaker: Alisha Wilkins, Public Relations Manager, Planned Parenthood of San Diego & Riverside Counties, "Protecting Women's Reproductive Rights"

RSVP: No later than Monday, February 8 – Call (760) 990-4707 or email

dwdrscp@gmail.com

- **Two Elections in April 2010**

Rancho Mirage City Council – 3 Seats - Election April 13, 2010

The following candidates have filed:

Scott M. Hines (D) **Public policy consultant - www.electhines.com . Endorsed by the Riverside County Democratic Central Committee**

Ira Laufer (D) Retired broadcaster, Rancho Mirage Planning Commission

William L. Bramer (R) Retired management partner with Accenture

Mark Carpenter (R) Real Estate Developer, Rancho Mirage

Kenneth Gregory (R) Attorney

G. Dana Hobart (DTS) Attorney
 Ron Meepos (DTS) Public Account

California State Senate District 37 - Special Election April 13, 2010

Last Day to File – March 1, 2010

The 37th State Senate District includes Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Desert Hot Springs, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta and the unincorporated areas of Bermuda Dunes and Desert Center. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes (50% +1), no special general election will be held. If no candidate receives 50% plus one vote, then the top vote getter for each party will be on the June 8, 2010 ballot. The following candidates pulled papers, no candidate has returned papers:

Justin Blake (D)	Palm Springs School Board member
Art Guerrero (D)	Candidate in 2008 for 37 th SD, 54 45% Guerrero
Svetlana Nevenic (D)	Registered nurse, author and activist for health care
Martha Peters (D)	No information
David Peters (R)	Hemet Unified School District Trustee, candidate in 37 th primary 2008
Russell Bough (R)	No information
Donovan Horspool (Libertarian)	No information
Douglas Jones (Libertarian)	No information
Matt Monica (American Independent)	

- **800 Volunteers Needed at the CDP Convention in Los Angeles – April 16-18**

Come join Chairman John Burton and the members of the California Democratic Party as we begin to take action for 2010! Our State Convention depends on the overwhelming turnout of our dedicated volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, [please complete the volunteer form](#) by March 1, 2010. If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Guerrero, Deputy Political Director at (916) 442-5707 or email volunteer2010@cadem.org.

- **Stop the Flood of Corporate Money into Our Democracy**

The Supreme Court announced a disastrous rollback of campaign finance laws. Their 5-4 decision gives corporations free rein to spend unlimited amounts of money on elections. We can undo some of the damage if Congress passes public financing of elections. Sign the petition urging Congress to move quickly to pass public financing of elections: <http://pol.moveon.org/fairelectionsnow/> A compiled petition with your individual comment will be presented to Congress.

- **Be a Part of California's Redistricting Process!**

Redistricting is a once-in-a-decade opportunity to redraw the state's legislative districts. This single act may do more to influence the make-up of the legislature and its agenda over the next 10 years than all of the elections during that period combined. Every single policy issue is affected by who is elected to the legislature, and every single legislative election for the next decade is affected by redistricting. It's that simple. **For the first time, this critical task will not be performed by elected officials but by a new Citizens Redistricting Commission.** Applications are accepted until February 12, 2010. The top applicants will be asked to participate in interviews in the summer and final selections will be announced in December 2010. Additional information can be found on the CDP website at www.cadem.org/redistricting. Go to www.wedrawthelines.ca.gov to apply.

- **Help for Haiti – White House Website**

For details go to: http://www.whitehouse.gov/haitiearthquake_embed

- **Help for Haiti – California Nurses**

We have all seen the terrible devastation wrought by the earthquake in Haiti. Humanitarian response is critical to saving lives now. Thousands need urgent medical care and the need is especially critical for children. The California Nurses Association (CNA) and National Nurses United (NNU) are providing medical services in Haiti. To date nearly 12,000 California RNs have signed up to travel to Haiti to offer much-needed medical assistance, the highest of any state. The California Nurses Association is currently accepting donations to help pay for current and future travel and for supplies to Haiti. [Donate to CAN's "Send a Nurse" program.](#)

[Read the Los Angeles Times article on the efforts of volunteer nurses from California.](#)

- **Vote at Home – Become a Permanent Vote-by-Mail Voter**

Every election is important. Become a permanent vote-by-mail voter and automatically receive your ballot for every election. There's no standing in line or taking time off work. Vote in the comfort of your home. Contact Suzan Wilkinson, DWD Political Action Chair, (760) 200-4126, swilkin2012@dc.rr.com

- **Club News**

Foundation for Democracy Luncheon - www.desertfoundationfordemocracy.org

Thursday, January 28, 2010, 12:00 PM

Desert Willow, 38-995 Desert Willow Drive, Palm Desert

Guest Speakers: Justin Blake and Arthur Guerrero – 37th State Senate Candidates

For more information contact Art Copleston, Chair, (760) 320-9969, asavage@dc.rr.com

Desert Stonewall Democrats – <http://dsd.desert-stonewall.org>

Friday, February 12, 2010, 5:00 PM

Golden Rainbow Senior Center, 700 E. Tahquitz Canyon, Palm Springs

Celebrating love, marriage, and progressive politics

For more information contact Ruth Debra, Chair, (760) 318-6794, ruthdebra@dc.rr.com

Palm Desert Greens Democratic Club - <http://pdgdems.org>

Friday, February 12, 2010, 9:30 AM

Palm Desert Greens Country Club Recreation Room

For more information contact Charlie Ara, (760) 341-4301, cara@sprintmail.com

Heritage Palms Democrats - www.heritagepalmsdemocrats.org

Celebrating Presidents Day and The Heritage Palms Democrats 2nd Anniversary

Monday, February 15, 6:30 PM

Heritage Room, Heritage Palm Country Club

Guest Speaker – Amalia Deaztlan, U.S. Census Bureau, "The Importance and the Impacts of the Upcoming 2010 National Census"

For more information contact JoAnn Pepper, President, (760) 200-3737, jpepper@dc.rr.com

Democrats in Sun City Palm Desert - <http://www.suncitydemocrats.org>

Tuesday, February 16, 2010, 5:00 PM

At the home of Colt and Betsy Stewart, Sun City Palm Desert

Fundraiser for Mayor Steve Pougnet, Democratic Candidate for U.S. Congress, California's 45th District, www.electpougnet.com

RSVP to Colt or Betsy Stewart at (760) 200-1017 or colt-betsy@dc.rr.com

Democrats in Trilogy La Quinta

Thursday, February 18, 2010, 7:00 PM

At the home of Chris Jones, 60523 White Sage Drive, La Quinta

For more information contact Mike Daugherty, President, (760) 771-8184

Palm Springs Democratic Club - www.palmspringsdemocraticclub.com

Tuesday, February 23, 2010, 6:00 PM

Call for location and speaker information: (760) 841-3180

Democrats of Desert Hot Springs

Saturday, February 27, 2010

Aqua Caliente Hotel and Spa – Restaurant, 14-500 Palm Drive, Desert Hot Springs

For more information contact Alex Bias, President, abias@roadrunner.com

• **For Progressive News:**

- ✓ Air America Radio is a progressive talk radio network, local affiliate is KPTR Palm Springs, 1340 AM.
- ✓ Anita Rufus is known throughout the desert communities as “The Lovable Liberal”. She can be heard on KNEWS 970 AM, 1140 AM, 1250 AM, and 94.3 FM every Saturday afternoons from 2:00-4:00 PM.
- ✓ MSNBC for progressive television.
- ✓ Progressive Democrats for America www.PDAmerica.org

For more information on DWD, call 760-990-4707, email democraticwomenofthedesert@gmail.com or visit www.democraticwomenofthedesert.org

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