

# Siskiyou Democrats Grassroots News

Issue #4: Fall 2022

## Taking Care of Yourself in the Aftermath of The Fires

It's been a tough summer in Siskiyou County. It seems that this summer, we have been faced with more evacuations, warnings, and loss of lives and structures than ever before. It's has been hotter, the vegetation drier, and the humidity lower than in years before.

We all know someone who's been impacted, or we have experienced it directly: being evacuated, losing a home, or most tragically, losing a friend or family member. Many of us need to be aware that this wildfire experience can cause PTSD, a mental health condition that's triggered by a terrifying event — either experiencing it or witnessing it.

We mostly focus our recovery efforts on the physical replacement of houses and belongings. But mental health is important, too, to get through these hard times. Here are some local resources if you or anyone you know needs help:

- **Siskiyou County Behavioral Health: (530) 841-4100**
- **Six Stones Wellness Center: (530) 841-0810**
- **Heal Therapy, Inc. : (530) 842-3455**

For more helpful info, go to the Klamath River Community Hall FB page. (Many thanks to **Deb Mullaney-Sliney**).

**The DCCSC will be donating \$1,000 to the Siskiyou County Resource Collaborative**, to help the county's many fire victims. Thanks to all our donors who have made this donation possible. If you or anyone you know were impacted by the fires, or you want to donate to those who lost their homes, the Siskiyou CRC is a great organization. Go to:

[Siskiyou County Resource Collaborative](#)

## Getting Involved in the 2022 General Election: Let's Help Create a BLUE Tsunami!



Even with all that's going on with the fires in our county, we're still working to help create a blue tsunami across the nation. More climate disasters are coming, and we've made a great start with the Infrastructure and IRA packages.

But we must keep up the momentum. Democracy itself is on the ballot. And, among so many critical issues, one – the overturning of Roe vs. Wade – must be addressed NOW by a Democratic majority in the US Senate and House of Representatives. And YOU can help! First, encourage your friends and family to VOTE! Next, see below.

### IN THIS ISSUE: This may be our last free and fair election

**On page 2** you'll find a list of CADEM endorsed candidates and propositions. **Page 3** offers a guide to a few key competitive races nationwide, **critical in keeping the Democratic majority in the House and Senate**. Candidates' websites offer many ways you can support them, through phone calls, postcard writing, and donations. These races will determine whether we make it through this time or not, so please help in any way you can.

In local elections, the DCCSC is tracking efforts by the Patriots and other extremist groups to take over school boards and other key positions. **See page 3** for info on that. **On page 4** we recap a bit of summer fun at our DCCSC-sponsored BBQ. And for the big picture, you'll find **info on the IRA on page 5**, followed by a message from Max Steiner.

**ONLY SEVEN WEEKS TO GO! DO EVERYTHING YOU CAN!**

# NOVEMBER 2022 Election: What YOU Can Do

## #1 – VOTE and Encourage Friends and Family to VOTE!

The California Democratic Party has endorsed the following [statewide/district candidates and propositions](#):

**Governor** Gavin Newsom | **Lieutenant Governor** Eleni Kounalakis | **Secretary of State** Dr. Shirley N. Weber  
**Attorney General** Rob Bonta | **Treasurer** Fiona Ma | **Insurance Commissioner** Ricardo Lara  
**Controller** Malia Cohen | **Superintendent of Public Instruction** Tony Thurmond  
**Congressional District 01** Max Steiner | **Assembly District 01** Belle Starr Sandwith

### STATEWIDE PROPOSITIONS | Official CADEM Endorsements

1	<b>YES</b>	Protects the fundamental right to abortion and the fundamental right to contraceptives by adding those rights directly into the California State Constitution.
26	Neutral	Authorizes new types of gambling.
27	<b>NO</b>	Legalizes online sports betting. Out-of-state corporations would get 90% of the profits leaving little to fight homelessness, and directly attacks the sovereignty of CA Native American tribes.
28	<b>YES</b>	Provides additional funding for arts and music education in public schools.
29	<b>YES</b>	Dialysis patients deserve protection under the law. Prop 29 will help ensure they receive safe treatment in dialysis clinics under the care of a doctor or another highly trained clinician in case of emergencies, without risk of infection, and without discrimination.
30	<b>YES</b>	Taxes annual personal income over \$2 million to fund wildfire prevention, clean air and climate change programs.
31	<b>YES</b>	Protects kids from Big Tobacco by ending the sale of candy-flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and minty-menthol cigarettes, saving countless lives and hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars annually.

## #2 HELP with CAMPAIGNS

There are many close campaigns throughout the US. Your help is needed to maintain majorities in the US House and Senate! This is critical if we want to make certain **women's rights are human rights**, and that women can make their own healthcare choices; and if we want to **protect our health and election officials** from threats of violence, our **teachers** from censorship, and **our children** from mass shootings. Please help wherever you can!



## Key Races: US Senate and House of Representatives

**US SENATE:** These are seen as competitive **US Senate** races we need to win. You can support these candidates by visiting their websites (click on the names) and find out how to help with their campaigns.

Arizona – [Mark Kelly](#)  
California - [Alex Padilla](#)  
Florida – [Val Demings](#)  
Georgia - [Raphael Warnock](#)  
Nevada - [Catherine Cortez Masto](#)  
New Hampshire - [Maggie Hassan](#)  
North Carolina – [Cheri Beasley](#)  
Pennsylvania - [John Fetterman](#)  
Wisconsin – [Mandela Barnes](#)

**US HOUSE (CA):** These are a few candidates with competitive races in CA that you can support:

District 1 – [Max Steiner](#)  
District 3 – [Kermit Jones](#)  
District 22 – [Rudy Salas](#)  
District 27 – [Christy Smith](#)  
District 42 – [Robert Garcia](#)

### How YOU can help Max Steiner!

For Max Steiner's campaign, we will be:

- Sending postcards
- Making phone calls to Get Out the Vote
- Participating in events Max will be attending
- Talking to friends and family to encourage them to vote for Democrats

*Send a note to [siskiyoudems@gmail.com](mailto:siskiyoudems@gmail.com) if you want to volunteer, and we will get back to you!*



## SISKIYOU COUNTY: LOCAL RACES

The November election will include City Council and School Board races. Since anti-democracy forces are working hard on the local level to undermine our freedoms, we all need to stay informed and vote for strong, pro-democracy candidates in every public office. In Siskiyou County, there is especially deep concern about extremist attacks on public education. Yes, it's happening here!

This recent article in CalMatters describes the goal of the California GOP to overtake school boards in the state, which is deeply concerning. As we know, their tactics can become extremely aggressive. (CalMatters - [Back to school: California Republicans bet big on local board races.](#)) A few such provocateurs have disrupted board meetings in South County and Scott Valley, and they are also running for office. So, if you live in one of the districts below, we recommend you vote for the following candidates:

### Siskiyou Union High School District

- **Carrie Williams, Kristen Debortoli-Roccomini, Mindy Hamann**

### Mt. Shasta Elementary School District:

- **Jessma Evans, Mona Gutierrez, Nancy Swift**

### Scott Valley Unified, Area 2

- **Kip Van de Water**



**Fort Jones and Yreka City Councils:** Two of our active grassroots Democrats are running for positions on these two City Councils. If you live in their districts, **please support them!**

Fort Jones City Council: **Madeleine Ayres** | Yreka City Council: **Robin Richards**

Interested in volunteering for these local candidates? Send an email to [siskiyoudems@gmail.com](mailto:siskiyoudems@gmail.com).

## BBQ with the SISKIYOU DEMOCRATS is a SUCCESS! Big THANKS to Karen Zeigler for Organizing the Event!

*A note from Karen Zeigler: Thankfully we were able to get together, in spite of the many challenges on the BBQ weekend. As Chair of the Fundraising Committee, I'd like specially to thank Dale Zeigler, Dale Walker, and Patti Crossen for their help with cooking and serving, and Neldena Anderson for organizing the wonderful dessert auction. And the DCCSC thanks the many volunteers who contributed time and energy to set-up, decoration, cleanup, and publicity. THANK YOU ALL!!*

**Summary of the event from Katherine Shelton:** After over 2 years of organizing and communicating virtually, Siskiyou County Democrats were finally able to gather on July 30 at Weed's Carrick Park for an in-person BBQ fundraiser. Despite the outbreak of the destructive McKinney Fire, supporters and volunteers gathered to share a delicious meal, catch up on their lives, meet candidates, and get re-energized for the upcoming midterm elections. To our Yreka evacuees: we missed you!

We met the recipient of our very first scholarship, Sam Shelly, who shared with the crowd his passion for astronomy and his exciting plans to study at Vassar. If you'd like to donate to the Siskiyou Democrats' Scholarship fund, you can do so through ActBlue here: [ACTBlue-Siskiyou Dems Scholarship](#)

Then Max Steiner (Congress) and Belle Starr Sandwith (CA Assembly) spoke about why they're running for office and the issues that they're passionate about. Proper forest management and defending our democracy were hot topics!

Then we asked the candidates questions, shared a meal with them, and bid on a delicious selection of desserts. Thanks to all who donated those beautiful cakes and pies! And, thanks to the dedication and generosity of all in our amazing network of Siskiyou County Democrats, the County Central Committee raised \$3,210.09!



Alice Rogers, Chair of the DCCSC, greets Ron Smith from Shasta DCC at the BBQ.



Max Steiner, our candidate for Congress, shares his views. You can find out more by visiting his website: [maxsteinerforcongress](#)



**Belle Starr Sandwith** and Alice Rogers meet to discuss campaign ideas. Belle is challenging Meghan Dahle in CA Assembly District 1: [sandwithforassembly](#)



Thanks to all of you who turned out for the BBQ, even while the McKinney Fire kept North County folks at home, or facing evacuation. Your presence makes all the difference!

# Top National Story: DEMOCRATS PASS HISTORIC LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

By Abigail Van Alyn

THE big national story (so far) is, of course, Trump's continuing defiance of the law, this time via theft of Presidential records. But that's gotten so much coverage, we thought we'd go straight to something even more important for the future of our district, our country, and our world.

And that is passage of the **Inflation Reduction Act**, the greatest legislative achievement by either party in decades. Its impacts are as far-reaching as world climate, and as local as fire mitigation, water management, and help to farmers and ranchers to bring their practices in alignment with climate goals. There will be funding for conservation, carbon capture, biomass, and many other climate-related rural projects.

Even more personally, the IRA will soon bring down the cost of health insurance for those in ACA programs, and the cost of prescription drugs for seniors, by allowing Medicare to negotiate prices directly with Big Pharma. There are also big rebates and tax credits for many home energy-saving projects, like the cost of solar panels, insulation, and heat pump installation. Individuals get BIG federal help to lower energy costs (see links on page 6).

For rural communities, many large IRA programs will be administered by the USDA, the Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and other standing federal agencies. Recent conversations with spokespersons for the USDA revealed the complexity of constructing the funding pipeline from them to us, and that the process is only in its early stages. But so far the USDA expects that most IRA funds will be available through its REAP (Rural Energy for America) program, and through its Agriculture Farm Services programs. Agencies will offer loans and grants, and tax credits will be administered by the US Treasury.

California's Democratic legislature has also just passed a \$54-billion climate bill, which will bring many green jobs to the state, while the IRA, CHIPS, and other Biden legislative successes are bringing big manufacturing projects back to the US. Toyota, Honda, and GM (for EVs), as well as LG, Corning, and First Solar have all recently announced plans for new plants across the country. And this is only the immediate response to passing the IRA.

**Big surprise - LaMalfa voted NO on all of this!**

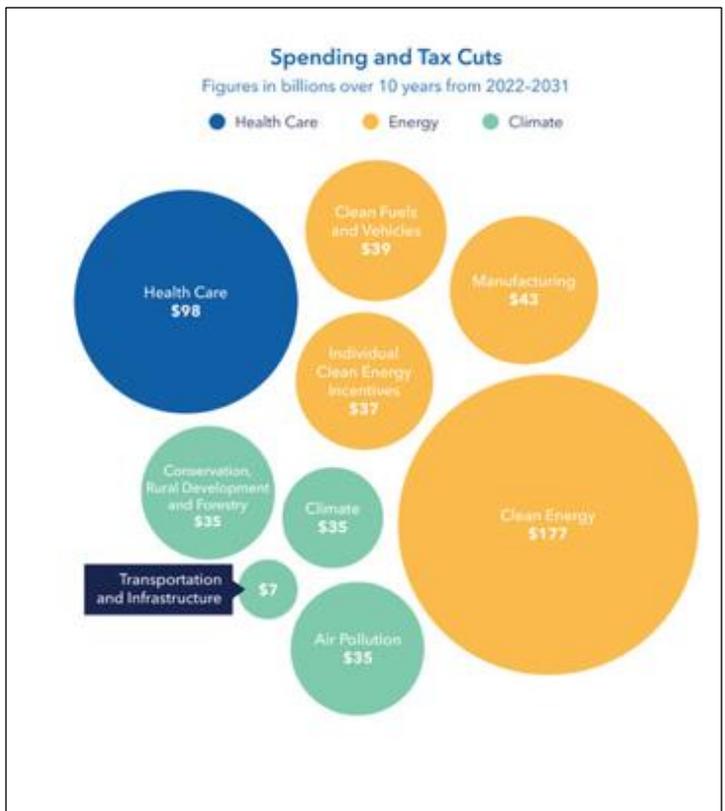
**WHAT'S IN THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT**

Key points about Joe Biden's ambitious climate, tax and healthcare plan

- The Act provides for new **spending and tax incentives** related to the adoption of clean energy technology
- It includes the biggest US investment ever on climate - **\$370 billion**, aiming a 40 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030
- There are some measures in the bill to ease the burden of soaring medical costs. It would provide **\$64 billion for health care initiatives** and ensure a lowering of some drug costs

**This bill tackles inflation by lowering the deficit and lowering costs for regular families**

NEWS 10



## A Message from Max Steiner

**Greetings to all my friends in Siskiyou County! First, I'm sending you all my best wishes, especially to those who've been impacted by the McKinney and Mill Fires, and other fires in the district.** When I'm elected, I plan to do everything I can to make a long-term difference in how we manage our forests, so we can bring them back to sustainable growth and health.

But meantime the midterm election is only weeks away, and I wanted to share some thoughts with you about the recently-passed **Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)**.

First, Democrats are delivering on their campaign promises to increase green infrastructure, make our forests more resilient to climate change, and ensure the next generation inherits a stronger economy and a healthier planet. This is what Biden was elected to do, and the IRA is the most substantive piece of legislation to come out of Washington since the Obama administration. Another huge impact will be to bring down the cost of health insurance and prescription drugs, an issue that affects so many of you.

This legislation is much bigger than anything passed by Trump, who only managed to pass a tax cut for the rich with bigger majorities in the House and Senate.

I've talked to a lot of Democrats who are disappointed that Biden didn't do more. Who, for example, wanted the multi-billion dollar Build Back Better bill. My response is that politics is the art of the possible, and compromise is a part of life. **The IRA is a first step** - let's build on this. I'm happy with this bill, and I look forward to expanding the parts that work - and tweaking the parts that don't - when I'm elected to office.

**Stay safe, and thanks for all you've been doing to send me to Washington.**

*Max Steiner*



**For further insight and information about the IRA, check out these helpful links:**

**For an overview of IRA funds coming to California:**

[Feinstein: Inflation Reduction Act 'Huge Win' for Families](#)

[LA Times: What the Inflation Reduction Act Will Do for Californians](#)

**For IRA help to individuals going green: (Thanks to Angelina Cook)**

[Buying a Heat Pump Could Get You Thousands in Federal Tax Credits & State Rebates](#)

[The Electric Explainer: Key Programs in the Inflation Reduction Act & What They Mean for Americans](#)

**For how the IRA will create manufacturing jobs:**

[Letter from an American on the Inflation Reduction Act and Jobs](#)

