



**THE ELEPHANT'S TRUMPET**  
 THE AWARD-WINNING NEWSLETTER OF A DIAMOND AWARD CLUB!  
 A Publication of the West Valley Republican Women Federated  
 Founded in 1952  
 Affiliated with National Federation of Republican Women,  
 California Federation of Republican Women



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**OUR NEXT GENERAL MEETING:**

**JANUARY 16, 2025**

*Featuring*



**Larry Pegram**

IP-CA was formed by concerned parents, grandparents, community, and church leaders to stand for the rights of parents, parents control over the educational experience of their children, transparency between the school and the parent, and raising STEM test scores. Larry Pegram is the Founder of the Silicon Valley Chapter, Informed Parents of Silicon Valley.

IP-CA knows that 'people is policy'; therefore, we work to remove from office school board members that do not share the belief that parents have the right, duty, and responsibility for the education of their children.

**Blue Pheasant**

22100 Stevens Creek Blvd.  
 Cupertino CA

11:30 Check-In  
 12:00 Call to Order

**Cost of Program: \$34.00**

*Includes the program, lunch, coffee or iced tea, taxes & gratuity!*

**Menu Options**

- *Shrimp Louie Salad, or*
- *Cheeseburger w/Fries or*
- *London Broil w/Potatoes & Vegetable*

**Must RSVP by Monday January 6<sup>th</sup>!**

**Lunches must be pre-ordered. Call Grace, 408-499-1695**

Checks payable to "West Valley RWF" can be mailed to:  
 Grace Russo - 2393 Karen Dr. #3 - Santa Clara, CA 95050

Food is ordered in advance, so no refunds will be issued for cancellations received after Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup>.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**ROBIN McCARTHY**  
*West Valley RWF President*



### RESOLVE TO MAKE RESOLUTIONS THAT MATTER!

I don't know about you, but I am done with resolutions. No more New Year's resolutions for me! Looking back, my resolutions have always focused on areas of my life that I would really like to change, but somehow, I set the bar so high my resolutions are not achievable. For example, I would like to be more dedicated in my study of the Bible. So, I declare that I will set my alarm for 4:00 a.m., every day and get up and study (why is it that my bed is the most cozy and warm at this early hour?). I start this ritual on January 2nd, because come on, who *really* wants to start a resolution on a holiday? Not me. Another ridiculous resolution – I declare I will be in the best shape of my life, by June. So again, I declare, no sugar, no alcohol, no processed foods, and I swear, I will work out two hours a day. I declare I will start this at 5:00 a.m., each day, right after my study time. It is no wonder my resolutions fall by the wayside after one measly week. All these resolutions may be good for me, but not very sustainable.

This new year, my focus is different. I want to capitalize on the change that has begun in America, and the world. I am so grateful we have a new president, and our future is so bright. But I want to help make California great again (MCGA)! It feels a bit overwhelming to think of all the things that need to be carried out to put us back on track. But look how fast things are happening in the nation and in the world, all because Trump was elected again. It is difficult to keep up with all the changes daily. Trump is one person, but the leaders he is surrounding himself with are impressive.

I have been reading headlines that claim Kamala Harris is considering running for Governor of this great state in 2026. My first thought was “NO! No no no no no no!” But then I heard Steve Hilton say he is also considering running for Governor of California. Now that is GREAT news. What a race that would be. The same thing that is happening in our nation can happen in California. All it would take is a strong conservative leader, willing to surround himself or herself with very smart people and our state can be back to the great state we know it can be.

So, I declare my focus for 2025 is MCGA. Let us bring back the great things we love about this state. Let us do what we can to support the good that our leaders are doing to make our state great again.

This is a journey we all share together, and we need your help. Seriously, we have a great board of directors working hard to educate and inform our members on the issues that we face in California. Tell us what you would like to learn more about. Share your ideas with us. When you hear or see a great speaker, help us connect with those speakers and educators. And, even better, consider becoming part of this board. This is *your* club, your opinions matter.

For 2025, my New Year's resolution is to help make California great again. Will you join me?



***“What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year.” — Vern McLellan***





***“Membership is everyone’s responsibility!”***  
***– Ingrid Lake, NFRW Membership Chair***

As West Valley Republican Women Federated celebrates its 73<sup>rd</sup> year, our parent-organization, the California Federation celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> year!

One of the ways our West Valley RWF would like to honor this historic achievement is to grow our own membership significantly. Help us achieve this goal by sharing your enthusiasm for all things Republican and invite potential new members to join us. If each of us is responsible for bringing in just one new member, we can grow by 100%! The goal is achievable, and we WIN if we grow by any significant percentage along the way!

What attracts women to our group? The opportunity to meet with like-minded women; the opportunity to hear from interesting and informative speakers and the opportunities to be of service to our group and to the community & neighborhoods we call home.

Share your enthusiasm, share your ideas for meet & greet events, for topics you’d like to hear about & speakers you’d like to hear from!



***VOICE YOUR CONCERNS TO OUR LEGISLATORS!***

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District 2: Betty Duong  
District 3: Otto Lee  
District 4: Susan Ellenberg, Board President  
District 5: Joe Simitian

## TRUMP'S WARNING

*Many people are confused by Trump's sudden interest in the Panama Canal and Greenland, but his purpose is deadly serious.*

Donald Trump has been making headlines recently with comments about the Panama Canal and Greenland. Many people are confused by his sudden interest in these countries.

He's addressing these issues in his typical Trumpian way, but his purpose is deadly serious. There is a simple five-letter answer to both: C-H-I-N-A.

Many people in Washington, D.C., believe we are headed to a third world war with communist China and its allies — Iran, North Korea, and Russia. But we are not prepared for it.

Our weapons supplies would be [exhausted in days](#) because our industrial base has been hollowed out. As we have reported, wargame simulations regularly show us [losing](#) to communist China and suffering “horribly bloody” losses in the simulations we do win.

### The Canal

In any global conflict, the Panama Canal and Greenland are vital strategic assets. The Panama Canal is more important than ever with Middle East sea lanes under attack by [Iranian proxies](#).

In his Christmas message, Trump referred to the Chinese troops illegally operating the canal. He's referring to the fact that Chinese companies, almost always connected to the Chinese military, now control ports at [both ends](#) of the Panama Canal.

But the Panama Canal treaty requires that the canal remain “permanently neutral.” Instead, one of the world's most important economic and military assets has been compromised by communist China.

U.S. military leaders have been [warning for years](#) that communist China's investments in South America put it “in the red zone” or “on the 20-yard line to our homeland.” Many of the facilities Beijing is building in our backyard could quickly be converted to military bases.

My political career was formed by Ronald Reagan. In 1977, Jimmy Carter surrendered the canal that we built at great cost. Predictably, the entire political establishment of the United States couldn't wait to embrace that surrender except for one guy — Ronald Reagan. Sadly, the treaty was ratified.

But Middle America was furious, and the surrender of the Panama Canal was one of the major issues that contributed to Reagan's election in 1980. So, this is not some bizarre idea. It is something Ronald Reagan deeply believed in.

Joe Biden and the left are all in on standing with Ukraine on the border with Russia rather than educating the American people about the canal's strategic importance and what is going on right now in Panama.

### Greenland

Communist China has had its sights set on Greenland for more than a decade. It has aggressively courted the sparsely populated, semi-autonomous island with promises of foreign investment. In return, the Danish embassy in Beijing set up a special fast track [program](#) for Chinese citizens to travel to Greenland.

Control of Greenland will be incredibly important in the next world-wide conflagration, as the island will play a major role in control of the Arctic and the Atlantic. One of NORAD's main intelligence and surveillance facilities is Thule Air Base, located on Greenland's west coast.



Moreover, Greenland possesses a wealth of “rare earth minerals” that are essential to many high-tech applications, including U.S. military [weapons systems](#). And communist China has cornered the market on these essential minerals.

Our current president has been sleepwalking for the past four years. Our president-elect is smarter than virtually all of his critics. He wants peace, but he knows we must get a lot stronger and show communist China that we are not pushovers. That’s why Donald Trump is bringing up these issues.

### Protecting Pro-life Policies

When President-elect Trump announced Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., as his nominee for secretary of Health and Human Services, many in the pro-life community were concerned because Kennedy’s position on abortion is nuanced at best.

But we knew Trump wasn’t going to abandon the pro-life positions he implemented in his first term, and there was no way he would appoint someone to a key position who would actively undermine the sanctity of life.

We got proof last week, although it didn’t get much attention.

During Kennedy’s meetings on Capitol Hill, pro-life senators are raising important issues with him. Sen. [Josh Hawley](#), a stalwart pro-life conservative, described his meeting with Kennedy in a series of online posts. He wrote:

*“Today I got to sit down with Robert Kennedy, Jr... He committed to me to reinstate President Trump’s pro-life policies at HHS. That includes reinstating the Mexico City policy & ending taxpayer funding for abortions domestically. He supports reinstating the bar on Title X funds going to organizations that promote abortion.*

*“He ... also said all of his deputies at HHS would be pro-life. He told me he believes there are far too many abortions in the US and that we cannot be the moral leader of the free world with abortion rates so high.*

*“RFK also pledged to reinstate conscience protections for healthcare providers.”*

In a broad sense, Robert K. Kennedy’s appointment is important because of his commitment to reforming the American medical system. He believes too many of us are dying too early because of bad policies set by multinational corporations that are invested in us not being healthy.

### Taking Faith Seriously

In a recent interview with [Fox News](#), Cardinal [Timothy Dolan](#), the archbishop of New York, said that his recent conversations with Donald Trump have led him to believe that Trump “takes his Christian faith seriously.”

Dolan added, “I think the assassination attempts kind of renewed in him.” Trump has expressed such sentiments himself in recent months. ([Here](#) and [here](#).)

In related news, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed his deep appreciation for Israel’s Christian supporters. In a Christmas message, [Netanyahu said](#):

*“My dear Christian friends, as you gather with your family and friends this Christmas, I wish the Christian community in Israel and around the world blessings for a Merry Christmas from the Holy Land.*

*“At a time when Israel is fighting on seven fronts, we deeply appreciate the steadfast support of our Christian friends around the world. You’ve stood by our side, you’ve stood by our side resiliently, consistently, forcefully as Israel defends our civilization against barbarism...*

*“Israel leads the world in fighting the forces of evil and tyranny, but our battle is not yet over. With your support, and with God’s help, I assure you, we shall prevail. From Jerusalem, city of peace, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.”*

Source: Gary Bauer, *Patriot Post*, December 27, 2024



## **YOUR DUES ARE DUE!**

Your 2025 Dues must be paid by March 31, 2025, to remain on the distribution list for NFRW and West Valley RWF communications. **The return on investment is second to none** - Memberships in West Valley RWF also enrolls you in membership with the California Federation and the National Federation of Republican Women! **Best deal in town!**

### **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE FEDERATION**

As a member you join a network of nationwide like-minded women from across the country who...

- Have a magnified voice as tens of thousands of us are heard across the country on issues important to women and in our support of Republican principles, initiatives and candidates;
- Are exposed to powerful networking opportunities with other Clubs and Members across the state and nation at biennial conventions;
- Exert influence on Republican legislators and party officials at the local, State and National levels;
- Learn valuable skills in Leadership, mentoring, membership recruitment, issue advocacy and more;
- Are able to engage with dynamic elected officials, party representatives, political experts and other nationally-recognized leaders;
- Have abundant opportunity to participate in our community service programs which promote Americanism, the Armed Services, literacy, private sector initiatives, volunteerism and more;
- Enjoy State and National Conferences and Conventions;
- Have access to NFRW's online resource library;
- Are offered free attendance to Campaign Management School;
- May attend free Training events - Empower Hour and Bitesize Tools;
- Attend Exclusive Programming with national leaders;
- Have a forum to serve as leaders in the political arena and to serve as mentors to the next generation;
- And who enjoy lifelong friendships across the country with Federated Republican Women!

2025 Primary Member = \$60/year

2025 Sustaining Member = \$80/year (*for members wishing to offer additional financial support*)

2025 Associate Member = \$25/year (*open to republican Gentleman and to Women already Primary members of another RWF club*)

Founded in 1925, the **California Federation of Republican Women celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2025.** You join a historic institution, founded by Republican Women with the mission of supporting and electing Republican candidates, and educating members in the principles of the Republican Party. We are a diverse demographic of Republican Women from all walks of life and welcome you to our nationwide network of over 50,000 members and growing!

*Join us – use the form on the bottom of page 7!*

DEC. 30, 2024

# PERSON OF THE YEAR



DONALD TRUMP

## DONALD TRUMP IS TIME MAGAZINE'S PERSON OF THE YEAR

President-elect Donald J. Trump, who has both derided Time magazine and pined for its approval, was named the publication's person of the year on Thursday.

Mr. Trump also received the title in 2016, after his first presidential election victory, and now joins a group of 16 people who have been chosen more than once. The club includes the last three two-term presidents: Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama. (Franklin D. Roosevelt is the only person to have been given the title three times.)

Sam Jacobs, Time's editor in chief, wrote in the magazine that the choice was not a difficult one: "On the cusp of his second presidency, all of us — from his most fanatical supporters to his most fervent critics — are living in the Age of Trump."

Mr. Trump, who rang the opening bell at the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday morning, has had a tempestuous relationship with Time. After being named person of the year in 2016, he described the magazine as a "very important" publication and said it had granted him a "tremendous honor."

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com>

### JOIN OR RENEW NOW FOR 2025!

***"If you're not in a seat at the table, you're on the menu!"***

*-Senator Shannon Grove speaking on the importance of getting involved.*

Please fill in the following information and enclose with your check made **payable to West Valley RWF**.  
Mail to: **Kristina Jansons**, 1484 Pollard Rd. Suite 413, Los Gatos CA 95032



Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I am registered as Republican

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \$60\*     New Member \$60\*     Sustaining \$80or +     Associate\* \$25     College \$27     +Donation as desired

**[We do not use your e-mail for anything other than important Federation communications!]**

(\*Associate women: please note the name of the Federated club to which you are paying your regular membership dues: \_\_\_\_\_).

**\* Associate men: Republican Gentlemen are always welcome to attend our General Meetings, and we invite you to join us in a supporting role as Associate Members!**



Capitol Update



*From the Desk of Lydia Kanno, CFRW President  
December 2, 2024  
Provided by Santa Cruz RWF*

From **CONGRESSMAN KEVIN KILEY**

### All-Time Worst

With his pardon of Hunter, Joe Biden has cemented his status as one of our very worst presidents. Not do be outdone, Newsom is pressing his case for our all-time worst governor. He's now convened a "Special Session" seeking \$25 million to "Trump-proof" California.

In pledging to protect "California values," Newsom apparently is aiming to protect our national lead in gas prices, housing costs, taxes, homelessness, poverty, crime, or illegal border crossings. He won't succeed. In the House, I'll use every possible tool to Newsom-proof our state.

For instance, the new Department of Government Efficiency has [homed in](#) on the **most wasteful project in American history: California's "High Speed" Rail**. We're already investigating this boondoggle on the Transportation Committee; I look forward to killing it, once and for all.

As another example: I advocated for Dr. Jay Bhattacharya to be appointed head of the National Institute of Health, and President Trump just announced he's the pick. Jay was Newsom's number one [scientific critic](#), fighting for years against his obscene lockdowns and mandates.

And of course, crime and homelessness in California will soon improve, thanks to the passage of Prop. 36 and our victory before the Supreme Court in Grants Pass. Newsom actively opposed both and even came up with lawless schemes to keep our initiative off the ballot.

Finding himself not just a lame duck, but a figure of ridicule, Newsom is now spending his time [attacking me](#) on social media. Amazingly, his Ministry of Truth ("press office") went after me for criticizing his job record, even though we have the second highest unemployment in America.

Finally, with almost all ballots finally counted, I'm happy to report we received the most votes of any Republican running for Congress in California. Our margin of victory far exceeded all expectations in a district that was targeted from the beginning. Thank you for your support!



*"It wasn't even close": Kevin Kiley Celebrates CA Passage Of Proposition To 'Make Crime Illegal Again'  
– Follow this link to watch his remarks on the House Floor in November 2024:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9xB\\_5LJUfs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9xB_5LJUfs)*





*The 2025-2026 Budget  
California's Fiscal Outlook*

**Forecast Multiyear State Budget Deficit  
Overview of the Legal Analyst Office - "Annual Fiscal Outlook"**

In anticipation of the January 10 release of the Governor's 2025-2026 proposed budget.

The Fiscal Outlook's purpose is to project a baseline estimate of the budget before new policies or economic forecasts from the Governor. It identifies the budget's size and direction and gives the legislature the fiscal context of 2025-2026.

**Anticipated Deficits**

2025-2026: 2 billion dollars

2026-2027: 7.20 billion dollars

2027-2028 27 billion dollars

2028-2029 29 billion dollars

current spending is at approximately 3.5%

**\*Remember that projected budgets are generally in deficit and corrected before the budget year .**

Revenue is slightly up due to an uptake in the stock market, which increased upper taxpayer taxes. However, this is not an indicator of the economy improving.

State spending has accelerated beyond budget expectations but will not lead to a budgetary crisis for 2025-2026.

Future spending is expected at 6%, with revenue growth expected at 4%.

**\*Reasons for Expenses**

**In-Home Health Care** - Programs expanded for the aging population = increased Medical spending  
2023 health care minimum wage increase went into effect

**State Economy** - Under performance = Employment has not grown in 18 months; Government and healthcare employment has increased; Consumer spending is down; Business owner income is down

**Federal Influences on the Economy** - Expected increase in international trade – tariffs; Expected immigration enforcement will limit the labor market; Expected decreased funding for Medi-Care will lead to increased funding from the state.

**Monetary Policy** - If interest rate cutting stops, it will negatively affect the economy.

The challenge is to reconcile outpacing spending trends with modest revenue growth. 2024 Spring Legislature and the Administration reduced expenditures through reduction, delays in payments, borrowing, shifting, and deferrals.

Read more: <https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/4939>

**WEST VALLEY RWF**

c/o Bunny Hacker  
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Los Gatos, CA 95030-6922



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
**PLAN AHEAD - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

*All general meetings: Check-in 11:30am and Adjourn 1:30pm*

- January 8 West Valley RWF Board meeting, 10:00am, Boulder Ridge Golf Club, San Jose CA
- January 16 West Valley RWF General Meeting w/**Informed Parents CA** Founder Larry Pegram; and Bunny Hacker will speak on “100 Year History of the CFRW”
- January 20 INAUGURATION DAY! *What a **TRiUMPh!***
- January 20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day!
- February 5 West Valley RWF Board meeting
- February 14 Valentine’s Day
- February 15 CFRW Winter BOD w/Guest Speaker and CA GOP Candidates for office, 9:00am – Noon, via Zoom. All Members welcome to attend, providing dues are paid by January 31, 2025.
- February 17 President’s Day
- February 20 West Valley RWF General Meeting w/**Frank Aquila**, Founder of South San Juaquin Republicans and Author of “Sarah Palin – Out of Nowhere”

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**Visit Republican Women Federated:** [www.cafrw.org](http://www.cafrw.org), and [www.nfrw.org](http://www.nfrw.org)

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