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Mark your calendar.

Jan. 23: First time guests free to this meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$15

Feb. 27: SVARW regular monthly meeting, 9:30 to 11 a.m., Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave., San Jose. Check-in from 9 to 9:30 a.m. Cost: \$15

SVARW Sunshine

Norine Bacon is SVARW’s official ray of sunshine. When a member is ill or has lost a loved one, Norine reaches out to them with a card and a personal call. Please don’t hesitate to call her if you know someone in need. Her number is 408-377-7111.

Welcome to new SVARW members:

- Erika and John Ammirati
- Thelma Bernhardt-Kennedy and Bradley Kennedy
- Betty Chan
- Anna and Cliff Kramer
- Renee Pappas
- Mary and Nick Pound

Upcoming events at SVARW

Author explores Trump’s Israel policy

For our first meeting of the year, SVARW will host David Rubin, who will be traveling here from his home in Shiloh, Israel. Wounded along with his small son when they were fired upon by Palestinians, Rubin went on to found Shiloh Israel Children’s Fund to help children traumatized by terrorism.

Rubin will be speaking on the subject of his latest book, “Trump and the Jews.” He is frequently interviewed on Fox News and you may have caught his interview on Tucker Carlson Tonight on Dec. 12, when Rubin explained that the wall Israel built on its southern border has totally prevented illegal aliens from entering Israel.

Invite your friends to our Jan. 23 meeting. At our first meeting of the year, first-time guests are admitted free. A first-time guest is someone who has never attended an SVARW meeting or event.

Rubin is the former mayor of Shiloh, Israel. While the Palestinians and the mainstream media continually refer to towns in this area as “West Bank settlements,” this is the Biblical heartland of Israel: Judah and Samaria.

Jews are passionate people and have been on the front lines of the debate over the presidency of Donald J. Trump. Some of his bold policy decisions, such as recognizing Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and confronting Iran, have been influenced by Jews who are close to him. However, most American Jews voted for his opponent, raising the obvious question, “How can a president that has been so good to the Jews fail to receive their support?”

“Trump and the Jews” clearly explains the complicated, yet fascinating relationship with this president and a complex people that,

Event details

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 23
Time: Check in begins at 9 a.m.; program begins at 9:30 a.m.
Where: Three Flames Restaurant, 1547 Meridian Ave. San Jose, CA 95125.
Cost: Tickets are \$15 each and include buffet breakfast. Event is free to first-time guests, Reagan, Patriot Gold and Sponsor members, but please RSVP through the SVARW website.β

after 1,000 years of sovereignty in Israel, almost 2,000 years of success, persecution and slaughter in exile, and a miraculous return to the land of Israel, is still struggling with identity.

It’s time to renew membership

Membership in SVARW expires Dec. 31 of each year, so if you haven’t renewed yet for 2019, this is the perfect time to sign up for another year.

There are several levels of membership available, all of which are detailed on SVARW.com or in the application brochure. Pick up a brochure at the Jan. 23 meeting, where you’ll be able to make a payment, or renew online.

If you have questions, please email membership@svarw.com

Silicon Valley
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Republican Women
P.O. Box 3194
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Executive Board

Jan Soule, President
Rosa Brown, First Vice-President
Wendy Brukwinski, Second Vice-President
Sherrill Martinez, Recording Secretary
Susan Calderon, Corresponding Secretary
Lisa Seago, Treasurer
Diane Owen, Parliamentarian

The board meets at 9 a.m. typically on the first Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Contact Jan Soule at President@svarw.com for details.

See speakers online

A volunteer has begun to format videos of our meetings for the website. Visit SVARW.com to see some of our previous speakers.

Newsletter email: newsletter@svarw.com



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President’s message: SVARW member elected to school board



Linda Chavez, center, at her swearing in ceremony for the Alum Rock Union School District board, stands with some members of her campaign team.

Local good news in midterm

**By Jan Soule
President, SVARW**

“Those with hope have the most influence.”

When I saw that quote recently, I was immediately struck by how much it applied in the political world as it does in other areas of culture.

Just think about this: If we join the doom and gloom crowd in lamenting over the outcome of the recent mid-term elections, who would be interested in participating in SVARW programs and events? Or, joining us in a lobby day or as a volunteer in the next election?

Hope illustrated

In the midst of the darkness on Nov. 7 as the election results rolled in, the bright light for SVARW was the election of member Linda Chavez to the Alum Rock Union School District Board of Trustees. The situation in the school district is desperate. The Santa Clara Civil Grand Jury was calling for three trustees to resign in light of mishandling of bond money. In the

heart of Silicon Valley, the district had more money to spend per child than most districts, but the worst student achievement in the entire state.

The deck was stacked against Linda as she sought one of the three open seats on the board:

- Crowded field of eight candidates vying for three seats.
- Outspent by opponents two to one.
- Just a handful of volunteers.
- District with only a 17 percent Republican registration.
- Not endorsed by the Mercury News.
- Most of her yard signs were stolen.

What worked in Linda’s favor:

- Linda had a passion to see the problems in the district fixed. She worked very hard even going to conferences and events where she knew that conservative beliefs like hers were rejected. She won liberals over as they saw her heart for the children.
- Discovering a volunteer who could create messaging and

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In case you missed it: Christmas luncheon

SVARW celebrates season with fellowship, generosity

The warmth of the Christmas season was celebrated by nearly 100 SVARW members and guests at Maggiano's Little Italy in Santana Row on Dec. 12. The invocation was given by Brian Rechten, new SVARW member, representing 860 AM The Answer, and author of Devotions from Proverbs, a copy of which he presented to the luncheon attendees.

President Jan Soule and the Executive Board were sworn in by Santa Clara County Supervisor Mike Wasserman. The Executive Board for 2019 will be led by President Jan Soule. The First Vice President will be Rosa Brown and the Second Vice President, Wendy Brukwinski. Lisa Seago will continue her valuable role as Treasurer, and organizer of our Christmas Luncheon. Sherrill Martinez will continue as Recording Secretary, as will Susan Calderon, Corresponding Secretary, and Diane Owen as Parliamentarian.

Following the swearing in, Mr. Wasserman gave a summary of important issues facing our county during his last term in office. His second (and last) term work in promoting business expansion, new housing, county road repairs, and efficient management of the County Sheriff's Office and Social Services, is important in keeping our county taxes as low and efficiently managed as possible.

Every year, SVARW selects a charity to support at the luncheon and



At the Christmas luncheon, County Supervisor Mike Wasserman, left, swears in the 2019 SVARW Executive Board, from left, President Jan Soule, First Vice President Rosa Brown, Second Vice President Wendy Brukwinski, Recording Secretary Sherrill Martinez, Corresponding Secretary Susan Calderon and Treasurer Lisa Seago.

throughout the year. This year's charity, The JW House, provides a home away from home when loved ones are in the hospital or having surgery. Located on the campus of Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara, outpatients and family can visit at no charge to have a quiet place to rest, check emails, shower, or eat a meal. All area hospitals are supported. Daily meals are provided by restaurants, community volunteers and families. The homey atmosphere provides a feeling of normalcy to families facing medical crises.

The JW House was the dream of JW Knapen, a San Jose teen who battled several debilitating illnesses before succumbing to brain cancer in 2005. With the help of his physician, Dr.

Alan Wong, and his mother, JW's dream came true when the house opened in 2008.

Anne Marie Knapen, JW's mother, gave an inspiring and informative talk about its history, its mission and how our membership can support JW House. Bettina Kohlbrenner, Executive Director and Jill Popolizio, Executive and Marketing Director were both in attendance to answer questions.

More than \$700 was collected at the luncheon to support JW House. Donations and volunteers to prepare meals are always welcome. Please contact Kathy Imamura at kdimamura@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.



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Local good news

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door hangers from a Latino perspective.

- An out-of-the box campaign tactic to identify 54 people who would adopt a precinct and pray for the election.
- Her name was first on the ballot as the Registrar of Voters/ Secretary of State pulled “C” as the first letter.
- Lorena Chavez, running for East Side High School District, had signs up all over Alum Rock District because the district overlaps. Fortunately voters don’t pay that close attention.

On Nov. 7 her team was surprised to see Linda among the top three. Even more miraculous was that Linda was elected President of the school board by her fellow trustees!

Dear SVARW members...when fellow conservatives bemoan the state and national results of the mid-term election, remind them that there is hope and tell them about the victory of fellow SVARW member, Linda Chavez.

Nominating committee election

The January meeting will include an election for the 2019 nominating committee. This group will identify qualified candidates to run for SVARW executive board positions. If you want to serve on this committee, you must be present at the meeting to accept the nomination.

Please continue to support service members

It surprises many people to learn that deployed service members are not supplied with personal care items such as razors, toothbrushes, deodorant and other items. Operation Care and Comfort steps up to meet these needs by sending “care packages” to deployed service members. At each SVARW meeting, there is a colorful red, white and blue table for members to leave donations of items for the next mailing.

Since 2003, more than 1 million pounds of care packages have been shipped to U.S. Military personnel deployed in conflict regions. Be a part of this all-volunteer effort by either donating items, giving money or helping to pack boxes at the next packing event.

Some of the most requested items by troops are beef jerky, microwavable



meals, Mach III razor and cartridges, dental supplies, DVDs and CDs, AA and AAA batteries and AT&T phone cards.

Female service members have requested hair bands, clips, bobby pins, tampons, maxi and mini pads, oil-free face cleanser, makeup remover, nail kits, mascara and makeup.

Greeting cards, stationary, and holiday cards are also appreciated.

OCC also has benefits for local military families and veterans, including tickets to sporting and entertainment events. Learn more at occ-usa.org or email julie@occ-usa.org



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Contact your officials

Gov. Gavin Newsom, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814;

Phone: 916-445-2841; FAX: 916-445-4633; Email: www.govmail.ca.gov

Assemblyman Rich Gordon, 650-691-2121

Assemblyman Evan Low, 408-371-2802

State Sen. Majority Leader Bill Monning, 916-651-4017

State Sen. Jerry Hill, 650-212-3313

State Sen. Jim Beall, 408-558-1295

State Sen. Bob Wieckowski, 510-794-3900

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