



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CALPEEK.COM IS TAKING OFF THE NEXT TWO WEEKS FOR VACATION. GOING TO LA JOLLA TO VISIT WITH COUSINS FROM FT. WORTH, KANSAS CITY AND WACO. WILL RETURN AUGUST 11.

CAMPAIGN 2014: PEREZ HALTS RECOUNT TO END CAMPAIGN FOR CONTROLLER. IT WASN'T TO BE.

Editor's note: Many *Calpeek.com* sources thought BOE Member Betty Yee(D) would end up with the Demo primary nomination and face Fresno Mayor Ashley Swarengin in the Nov. 4th general election. They were right. Here's our analysis & commentary...

...There's no doubt that **Calif.'s Recount System** is broken. Perez was 481 votes behind Yee when the recount began in Kern and Imperial counties. Team Perez was hoping that the recount in those counties would give the former Assembly Speaker momentum to continue counting in 13 other counties. That didn't happen. If that had happened, the recounting might have dragged on for another twenty weeks or more. What Perez tried wasn't appreciated by the Calif. Demo Party. Now that the recount is finished, lawmakers will try to reform the complex recount system...

...Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins(D-San Diego) is hoping that Asst. Speaker Pro Tem Kevin Mullin(D-SF) can start the ball rolling. The problem is **time**. After the lawmakers return next week only four weeks are left in the session. Hardly enough time for this issue...

...Back to Yee. Her win was a big victory for consultant Parke Skelton. Yee was outspent by Perez about 10-to-1, with little or no tv, but loads of slates and many good newspaper endorsements. Why Yee won is simple: her many years in Sacramento working for BOE members and then eight years elected in her own right. And the Calif. Demo Party stayed neutral, thanks to Chair John Burton. Yee also had lots of covert support from African American voters because of her ties to former Speaker Willie Brown. L.A. Co. African Americans voted in big numbers for Yee...

...Perez also had negatives. He, as well as Swarengin, have no apparent qualifications for Controller. It's not about balancing the budget, but rather wonky work on taxes and tax formulas. The Controller is the fifth member of the Franchise Tax Board. Second, Perez made enemies as Speaker, more than normal, sources say...

...Yee had strong Bay Area links and ran up big margins in San Francisco and Marin. Perez kept it close in Santa Cruz, Monterey, SLO, Santa Barbara and San Diego. But in the past four years Yee showed up at almost every party function in the Rural counties all over Northern Calif. Rural Demos vote in blocs and they voted for Yee...

...Perez's ethnicity was probably a net plus for him, but his **portly** appearance hurt him. Had Demo Tammy Blair and Green Party candidate Laura Green not been in the primary, our sources think Yee would have won by 100,000 votes or more. Blair and Green had a combined 232,000 votes...

...The right kind of Latino can win an open primary – like State Sen. Alex Padilla running for Secretary of State. And it helped that's Padilla's politics are more centrist than liberal. Padilla got 340,000 more votes than Perez...

...Yee's win should be a cautionary sign to Swarengin and South Central Valley Republicans. Swarengin is an attractive GOP candidate, but Demo consultant Garry South had it right when he predicted, and *Calpeek.com*, agrees, Swarengin isn't going to win in November. Stay tuned...

MALAYSIA AIRLINER SHOT DOWN BY MISSILE FIRED BY UKRAINIAN REBELS LINKED TO RUSSIA

Editor's note: Russian President Vladimir Putin has his fingerprints all over this terrorist incident in which Ukrainian rebels used a Russian made ground-to-air missile to bring down a Boeing 777 airplane with 298 passengers aboard. It was Malaysia Flight #17 and was the second Malaysia airliner to be lost with all passengers aboard. Only difference is that the first Malaysia Air jet disappeared over the Indian Ocean and has not been re-

covered. Flight 17 exploded in mid-air and wreckage and bodies have been scattered all over the place in rebel-held territory. Here's our commentary...

...Putin is a thug and it is because of him and his policies that the cold war is now on the front burner on high heat. Don't think there will be a shooting war, but relations between the U.S. and its allies and Russia are the worst since the **Cuban Missile Crisis** of 1962. I was in college at Texas in Austin at that time and I remember calling home and telling my parents goodbye...

...After learning that at least one hundred AIDS workers and researchers were on that plane, including well known Joep Lange, a former president of the International AIDS Society, our sources are confident that Putin knew he was on the plane and was responsible because it is a well known fact that Putin and his skin head supporters are very anti-gay...

...Calif. U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) chair of the Senate Intel Committee said on CNN's State of the Union show that Putin ought to “**man up**” about the circumstances surrounding the shooting down of Malaysia Flight #17 over Ukraine. “Putin, you have to man up. You should talk to the world. You should say, if this is a mistake, which I hope it was, say it.” Regardless of sanctions or force, Feinstein said, “I think we have to continue with sanctions and that is difficult.”...

...The Brits stood up on Sunday with PM David Cameron saying the UK stands with the U.S. and other nations. But getting the entire EU united against Putin won't be easy. It is about the gas and oil. From a public relations point of view, Putin is still very popular in Russia. An 89% approval rating in the Gallup Poll. But in the U.S. as well as Western Europe, Asia, and Central America, Putin's reputation is in the toilet and unless he follows Sen. Feinstein's recommendation he's toast...

...The only U.S. persons to be sanctioned by Russia are U.S. Rep. Jim Moran of Virginia because Moran is accused by the Russians of financial funny business. There was no explanation from the Russians. In addition to Moran, others put on the sanctions list by the Russians were Retired U.S. Brig. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez, who commanded U.S. ground forces in Iraq in 2003; Retired Col. Janis Karpinsky, who commanded the Abu Ghraib prison; and Gladys Kessler, a federal judge who rejected Gitmo inmates' complaints about the prison...

...My only question about this deadly incident is why was the Malaysia jet flying over a war zone? Other airlines avoided that route, but not Malaysia Airlines Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2014: CALIF. INITIATIVE UPDATE

Editor's note: A couple items worth noting...

PROP. 49 Campaign finance: advisory election. SB 1272. Sen. Ted Lieu --- is the official name for a bill that calls for a special election at the same time as the Nov. 4th general election. The bill requires the Secretary of State to submit to voters an advisory question asking whether the U.S. Congress should propose, and the Calif. Legislature should ratify, an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to overturn **Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission** and other applicable judicial precedents, specified. If enough states were to approve this, it might cause the Congress to reverse the Citizens United decision...

YES & NO on Prop. 46 – The Congress of Calif. Seniors and the Consumer Federation of Calif. have endorsed YES on Prop. 46 to increase the amount of medical malpractice awards from \$250,000 to \$1.1 million dollars. In addition to hiking awards, Prop. 46 also requires drug testing of doctors...

...NO on Prop. 46 won endorsements from the Calif. NAACP and the Calif. Building Trades Council of Calif. “This initiative will cost state and local government hundreds of million of dollars and raise health costs for everyone,” said Robbie Hunter, president of the SBCTC. “That hurts job creation and will negatively impact Calif.'s future.”...

The Ballot Initiative Transparency Act – It is not law just yet, but this bill, SB 1253 by State Sen. Darrell Steinberg(D-Sacramento), has been approved by the full State Senate. The Assembly Committee on Appropriations will hear SB 1253 when Legislature comes back from summer recess the first week of August...

...The main elements in this reform bill are: to give voters more useful info about the initiatives so they can make informed decisions. The Secretary of State would use the website to tell voters about the individuals and groups behind each measure and let voters know about who is backing the measure with funds. The measure would also require that materials be written so that voters can understand what's going on. And the initiative proponents would have 180 days instead of 150 days to complete the process. This would allow the authors to fix any flaws in the measure and voters would be able to comment about the measure. And the authors could withdraw the initiative after petitions are certified, but before the ballots are printed...

...The key sponsors of the bill are Calif. Common Cause, the Calif. Chamber, the Calif. Business Round-

table, the Calif. NAACP, Think Long Committee for Calif., CSEA and Calif. Forward. The only opposition is from CTA. The Calif. Demo Party's E-Board recently endorsed this bill. Stay tuned..

CAMPAIGN 2016: DRAPER SUBMITS NAMES TO QUALIFY HIS CALIF. SPLIT BALLOT MEASURE

Editor's note: *Calpeek.com* sources are divided on whether Silicon Valley millionaire Tim Draper's initiative to split Calif. into six states is a good idea or just crazy, the dream of a very rich venture capitalist. Here's our analysis and commentary. Thanks to Carla Marinucci and John Wildermuth of the S.F. Chron and Patrick McGreevy of the L.A. Times...

...Draper submitted 1.3 million signatures about 10 days ago and is waiting for county registrars to count them. He used \$4.9 million dollars of his own to hire paid professional signature collectors. He needed 807,6145 valid signatures. There is no doubt in *Calpeek.com's* mind that Draper will be on the 2016 ballot...

...At his news conference in front of the Sacramento Co. Registrar of Voters office, the news media bombarded Draper about his motives – wondering if he was thinking of using this 6-state scheme to launch a political career. Draper denied this and said the state is dysfunctional because of its size with 33 million people. Slicing Calif. into six separate states would make governments closer to the people. Sources say they have heard that line before...

...With six states, does that mean Calif. will get 10 more U.S. Senators???

...Draper says Calif. has an unfriendly business climate. But *Calpeek.com* sources say Calif.'s economy is doing just fine – unemployment is down to 7.4%. Draper said that diversity can't make up for what he calls an unfriendly business climate, failing schools and crumbling infrastructure. “Our opponents – much like the Luddites – would have us sweep all this under the rug,” he said...

...Calif. would be divided into six states: Jefferson in the far north; North Calif.; Silicon Valley; Central Calif.; West Calif.; South Calif....

...Silicon Valley would be the wealthiest of the six states, followed by the West Calif. Don't know how Jefferson would survive. Except for Central Calif. all the other five states have coasts. Central is landlocked...

...Sources say Draper is smart, but wonder if he has bitten off too much. Only time will tell. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2014: NEW VOTER REGISTRATION DATA
Editor's note: Here are the registered voters in Calif. as of 5/19/2014. This is the 15-day report of registration...

<u>Political Parties</u>	<u>Registered</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
American Indep.	475,914	2.69 %
Americans Elect	3,674	0.02%
DemocraticParty	7,692,670	43.41%
Green	109,764	0.62%
Libertarian	116,733	0.66%
Peace & Freedom	78,345	0.44%
Republican Party	5,036,610	28.42%
No Party Preference	3,749,215	1.16%
Miscel.	459,0171	2.59%

...FYI: The total number of Calif. Registered voters is 17,722,006. Statewide, in raw numbers, Demos have a registration edge of 2,656,060 over Republicans. Stay tuned..

CAMPAIGN 2014: LIST OF CANDIDATES WHO WON PRIMARIES FOR CALIF. STATEWIDE OFFICE

GOVERNOR – Jerry Brown(D) vs. Neel Kashkari(R).

LT. GOVERNOR – Gavin Newsom(D) vs. Ron Nehring (R)...

ATTORNEY GENERAL - Kamala Harris(D) vs Ronald Gold(R)...

STATE CONTROLLER – Ashley Swearengin(R) vs Betty Yee(D)...

TREASURER – John Chiang(D) vs. Greg Conlon(R)...

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER – Dave Jones(D) vs. Ted Gaines(R)...

SECRETARY OF STATE – Alex Padilla(D) vs. Pete Peterson(R)...

BOARD OF EQUAL #1 – Chris Parker(D) vs. George Runner(R).

BOARD OF EQUAL #2 – Jack Theis(R) vs. Fiona Ma(D)...

BOARD OF EQUAL #3 - Jerome Horton(D).

BOARD OF EQUAL #4 – Diane Harkey(R) vs. Nader Shahatit(D)....

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION – Tom Torlakson(Incum) vs Marshall Tuck...

CAMPAIGN 2014: U.S. HOUSE UPDATES

Editor's note: Here are some items that you might have missed...

☒ **7th CD Update** – This story about U.S. Rep. Ami Bera's fundraising lead over GOP rival Doug Ose is by Christopher Cadelago in the Sacto Bee's Capitol Alert. The story reports that in the last quarter Bera raised \$700,000, nearly 10 times more than Ose. Ose took in \$450,000 in the last quarter and has cash-on-hand of \$200,000 vs. nearly \$2 million cash-on-hand for Bera. Ose has deep pockets and may have to dip into his bank account to stay even with Bera...

☒ **4th CD Update** – GOP U.S. Rep. Tom McClintock has a huge lead over GOP rival Art Moore in cash-on-hand --- \$4.269 million dollars vs. Moore's \$46,000 cash...

☒ **26th CD Update** – GOP Assemblyman Jeff Gorell of Camarillo has been endorsed by Combat Veterans for Congress PAC. Gorell is a Commander in the Navy Reserve. FYI: only 20% of U.S. House members are veterans...

☒ **17th CD Update**- An interesting story in the July 20th Contra Costa Times about the money raised and spent by incumbent U.S. Rep. Mike Honda and his Demo rival, Ro Khanna. Khanna spent \$3 million dollars in the primary and only got 28% of the vote vs. 48% for Honda...

...FYI: Honda's total spending to 6/30 was \$1,474,051 and Khanna's spending was \$3,037,963. Honda's spending per primary vote was \$33.80 vs. \$119.68 for Khanna...

...According to the story, Khanna has lots of work to do if he is to defeat Honda. And given the 20 point lead Honda now has and the money gap, Honda is a favorite to win an 8th term. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: RECENT SHORT TAKES WORTH NOTING

Editor's note: Here are some items you might have missed or just didn't read...

☐ **For June, Jobless Rate Goes Down to 7.4%** - The June numbers from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is important because with the June numbers Calif. recovered all those jobs lost during the recession which started in 2008 with the Wall Street crash. Calif. was one of the hardest hit states. In June of 2013, the unemployment rate stood at 9%. In May of 2014, the rate was 7.6%...

☐ **Fallout from the Israeli-Hamas War** – Collateral damage to Palestinian journalist Rula Jebreal. She was on the air with MSNBC host Roland Farrow and went ballistic saying MSNBC was giving more coverage to Israel than the Palestinians. Jebreal says her MSNBC contact was

cancelled. That's a nice way of saying she was fired...

☐ **Is Los Angeles in the Market for an NFL Team?** - Turns out that three NFL teams are working on year-to-year stadium leases. The teams are the San Diego Chargers, the St. Louis Rams and the Oakland Raiders. If the cities and the teams can't reach a deal, L.A. could be in line to get one of these teams. San Diego has Qualcomm Stadium, St. Louis has Edward Jones Dome; and Oakland has the Oakland Coliseum. The Raiders' one-year lease expires after the 2014-15 season...

...One big problem in Oakland: the City of Oakland just announced it wants to redo the contract they have with the baseball Oakland Athletics. The Athletics share the stadium with the Raiders. The Raiders want a new football stadium and are hoping they can get the city to tear down the old 1966 facility. Oakland is so dumb, they might lose both the Raiders and Athletics. Excellent story by L.A. Times Sam Farmer...

☐ **If the \$11.1 Billion Water Bond is on Nov. 4 Ballot, How Does Money Get Divided?** - Of the \$11.1 billion in bond money, \$3 billion dollars go toward a continuous appropriation for storage which means that the money flows there no matter what. Of the remaining \$7-8 billion dollars, that requires an actual appropriation by the State Legislature towards those projects for which the money is allocated. The Governor has to sign off on those appropriations...

☐ **Voting By Mail at 69% in June 2014 Primary** – It is the way most election officials would like see in future elections. The previous high for voting by mail was 65% in 2010. There is a bill making its way through the State Legislature to allow counties to use mail ballots in **special elections to fill vacancies**. The bill is AB 1873 and it has already passed in the Assembly...

SHORT TAKES: NEW JOBS & OBITUARIES

Here are a few items you may have missed...

◆ A sad note: One of those IDF soldiers who was killed fighting the Hamas in Gaza was an American from Los Angeles. His name was Max Steinberg, 24, from Woodland Hills. He graduated from El Camino High School and attended Pierce College. He joined the IDF in 2012 and was one of 13 members of the Golani Brigade who were killed. His parents are in Israel, where Max will be buried. R.I.P...