

progressive democrats of the santa monica mountains



Co-sponsors proudly present

State Assembly District 50 Candidate Forum

Sunday, May 6, 1 p.m., at the Topanga Community Club House

Richard Bloom, Santa Monica's Mayor has overseen the increasing economic vitality of his city, all the while advancing the health and welfare of children and the elderly, providing record funding for education, affordable housing and protecting our precious environment.

As a California Coastal Commissioner, Chair of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Chair of the Westside Cities Council of Governments, and board member of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Mayor Bloom has represented every corner of the Assembly district providing regional and statewide leadership on a range of important issues.

Mayor Bloom is married with two children who attended Santa Monica public schools. He has operated his own small business as a family law attorney for over 30 years and has served as a Family Law Settlement Officer and mediator for the Los Angeles Superior Court.



Incumbent Assemblymember Betsy Butler, AD66, was elected to AD 66 in 2010, but decided to run in AD50 after the districts were redrawn last year. Butler has been an advocate for consumers, working families and the environment.

Her Toxin-Free Infants and Toddler Act, AB 1319, banning the use of Bisphenol-A (BPA) in baby bottles and sippy cups, was signed into law by the Governor on October 4, 2011. BPA is widely considered a health hazard linked to early puberty, childhood obesity, breast cancer, autism, hyperactivity and other long-term medical problems.

Her environmental record spans her entire career, which includes the time she spent working for the California League of Conservation Voters and the Environmental Defense Fund. Betsy currently is a board member of Equality California, served as President of the National Women's Political Caucus (LA Westside Chapter), and as Director of Development for Consumer Attorneys of California. She also served as an appointed member of the California Film Commission, where she worked to keep the film industry as a driver of the state's economy.



Torie Osborn is an innovative leader who has guided some of the nation's most effective non-profit organizations as they tackled tremendous challenges — the AIDS crisis, poverty and homelessness. Osborn served as long-term executive director of the Liberty Hill Foundation, one of the nation's most admired social-change foundations, and as senior policy advisor to Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa on homelessness, poverty and economic development. She has also been at the forefront of leadership in the LGBT community, serving as executive director of the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center at the height of the AIDS epidemic and as executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington D.C.



She currently works on governance and fiscal reform with California Calls, a statewide network executing a targeted strategy to change California's electorate by five percent to better match the state's demographics. Torie is recognized nationally for her community organizing approach to solving problems and for being at the leading edge of major fights for social justice for four decades. In addition to a BA from Middlebury College, Torie holds an MBA from UCLA's Anderson School. She is a 25-year resident of Santa Monica, California. Endorsed by: Sheila Kuehl, Bob Rosendahl.

Bradley Torgan, a native Angeleno, is a product of three of the public school systems serving Assembly District 50, the Los Angeles, Santa Monica and Las Virgenes Unified School Districts. Growing up with the Santa Monica Mountains at his back door, he learned from an early age the natural and recreational resources the district provides.



Torgan attended Duke University, where he majored in Public Policy Studies, was active in AIPAC, the American Israel Political Affairs Committee, and the College Republicans. He was also captain of the debate team and played prop for Duke rugby.

He went on to earn a Master of Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina and worked for several years as a city planner before beginning law school, also at the University of North Carolina. He moved back to Los Angeles in 1995 to begin his legal practice.

In 2005, he was appointed General Counsel for the California Department of Parks and Recreation, a position he held for more than three years and is currently in private practice in West Hollywood.

A long-time political activist, Torgan is Regional Co-Chair of the Republican Party of Los Angeles County and President of the Log Cabin Republicans of Los Angeles County. His experiences in both state government and as a political activist have convinced him that Sacramento needs a new generation of leaders who will put the interests of ordinary Californians ahead of special interests and who put common sense ahead of partisanship.

He is active in West Hollywood as a former Planning Commissioner and a current member of its Historic Preservation Commission. He is also active in his community as a member of Congregation Kol Ami in West Hollywood, and as coach to a local rugby team.

The Topanga Community House is located at 1440 Topanga Canyon Boulevard, Topanga 90290. Topanga next Sunday at 1PM Torie, Betsy Butler, Richard Bloom and even the Republican, Brad Torgan, will debate the issues and answer your questions. The winner will be our representative in Sacramento for THE NEXT SIX - EIGHT YEARS! If you live in the 50th AD this is your chance to meet the candidates. See the article below. The Community House is in Topanga Canyon just across from the Theatricum Bontanicum and south of Cheney Drive.

Please call Dorothy Reik for RSVP's and additional information (310) 291-1300
dorothyreik@pdsmm.org

* Photo's courtesy of the California State Assembly Candidates

Also see: http://www.topangamesessenger.com/story_detail.php?ArticleID=5162