



## The Santa Clara County Democratic Party Will Not Back Down



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### **Government Shutdown Ends**

We're grateful our local Congressmembers and Senators Padilla and Schiff stood strong to the end as we confronted Trump and his agenda through the Government shutdown. While the defectors who joined with Republicans to end the shutdown gained some concessions, e.g., to resume SNAP benefits and protect federal workers, they left the question of ACA subsidies for another day. Still, Democrats took on Trump and highlighted in stark relief that we're the ones fighting for food security, access to healthcare, and affordability, while Trump and the Republicans get rich(er) through corruption and tax cuts they don't need, teeing us up for an epic fight to retake the House and Senate in 2026. It's on!

### **Blue Wave 2025**

The good news is that voter dissatisfaction in Trump's and the Republican Party leadership's inaction in face of the longest federal government shutdown ever was heard loud and clear at the ballot box on November 4th in Santa Clara County, California, and all across the country.

Polls in Santa Clara County and the rest of the state show:

- SCCDP endorsed candidate for Santa Clara County Assessor, Neysa Fligor, is heading to a general election on December 30th,
- Measure A is well above the percentage needed to pass, and
- Proposition 50 has passed with flying colors.

The Blue Wave also swelled across the country, with Democrats in

- New Jersey maintaining leadership by electing Mikie Sherrill and attaining a super majority by gaining Democratic seats in its General Assembly,
- Virginia flipping leadership by electing Abigail Spanberger and gaining 13 more seats in the House of Delegates, and
- NYC electing Zohran Mamdani as their mayor against the newly Independent Andrew Cuomo.

**What do all these elections have in common?** Each and every campaign made sure they knew what their local constituents cared about and needed and either had plans toward fixing those issues or, in the case of the ballot measures, fixed the issue.

While we are riding high on these victories, it is important to know that these campaigns were hard fought. Our work is not over; we can't just ride the wave. Our party in every area that it operates must continue to be on the ground researching and understanding what constituents need and create plans of action to ensure the Blue Wave swells again in 2026.

### **Food Security?**

While the shutdown may be over, it will take time for critical programs, such as food assistance, to get back up and running again. This leaves SNAP beneficiaries, almost 42 million Americans, and others who depend on Federal assistance programs in a precarious and uncertain position.

39% of SNAP recipients are children under 18 and 20% are Seniors over 60.

20 States, including California, are issuing full SNAP benefits for November, using various sources of State funding.

Meanwhile, people all over America stepped up to help SNAP and WIC beneficiaries, and Federal workers going without pay. If it is within your means, you can help too by [supporting local Food Banks](#) with donations of food and money. This will allow Food Banks to buy in bulk, and to address the greatest areas of need. If you need help, or are looking for ways to help, visit our [Food Security Resources page](#).

### **ACA Subsidies Set to Expire**

The deal to reopen the government left the fate of ACA subsidies, still an open question. Without significant compromise by the Republicans the premiums for your health insurance under the Affordable Care Act will increase substantially in 2026.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress significantly increased these premium subsidies and extended them for the first time to people earning more than 400% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL). These changes were meant to last two years, but were extended through 2025. Because the Republican led Congress has not extended these subsidies, they are set to expire on Dec. 31, 2025. Unless Congress takes action before then, subsidies will revert to pre-pandemic ACA levels.

**What does that mean?** The cost to remain enrolled in Covered California is about to increase, and in many cases skyrocket because rising health costs have forced premiums to rise. Individual impacts will vary widely depending on age, income, and location. You can see examples of the variance [here](#) with

some people paying hundreds of dollars more and others thousands more. What can we do? Urge our local Congressmembers and Senators Padilla and Schiff to continue to push the Republicans for the continuation of ACA subsidies in 2026, while also seeking a more permanent solution to our health care issues.

## Neysa Fligor Enjoys Strong First Place Primary Win for County Assessor

Neysa Fligor, a SCCDP endorsed candidate, rode the blue wave to a primary victory on November 4th, for Santa Clara County Assessor, rising to the top of a 4 candidate contest.

As the Los Altos vice mayor, assistant assessor, and a former attorney for the Santa Clara Assessor's Office, Fligor has both the passion and experience to efficiently run the office. She promises to take three critical steps as assessor. She will close the roll on time to ensure Santa Clara County local governing entities receive critical funding for schools, hospitals, and public facilities. She will resolve appeals to assessments promptly. She will continue the implementation of new technology solutions in the assessor's office (which has been operating on a decades old system) to quite literally bring the Assessor's Office into the 21st century. If that weren't enough, she also hopes to increase transparency and improve customer service.



Neysa's fight for assessor is not over. A runoff election set for December 30th will determine whether she can put her plans into action. She urges voters to do their research and spread the word about this election, as only through active voter participation will the most qualified assessor be chosen. Visit her [website](#) to learn more.

## Under The Radar

Now let's check in on the mess that is the Republican party.

- Jeffrey Epstein was giving Russians advice on Trump. <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/11/12/jeffrey-epstein-donald-trump-russia-emails-00648919>
- The Oversight Dems, shared the evidence showing Trump knew about Epstein's crimes. <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/11/12/us/politics/trump-epstein-emails.html>
- House Republicans know they're going to get crushed in the midterms. <https://thehill.com/homenews/house/5597170-republicans-healthcare-2026-election/>

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