



# The Passport

World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area ([www.wacmb.org](http://www.wacmb.org))

May 2017

## Congressional Politics and Foreign Affairs: The Inside Story

**The Honorable Sam Farr**

**U.S. House of Representatives (1993-2016)**

**Wednesday, May 31, 2017**

**11:30 am registration begins ~ noon luncheon ~ 1-2 program**

**Rancho Canada, Carmel Valley Road**

The U.S. Constitution parcels out foreign affairs powers to both the executive and legislative branches. It grants some powers, like command of the military, exclusively to the president. Others, like the regulation of foreign commerce, fall to Congress. Still others the Constitution divides among the two or simply does not assign. In recent years the separation of those powers has spawned a great deal of debate over the roles of the Congress and the president in foreign affairs, as well as over the limits of their respective authorities.



Mr. Farr was recognized as a leader in legislative efforts for educational excellence, environmental protection, and economic development. He served on the powerful House Appropriations Committee which oversees the distribution of the federal budget. He was the Ranking Democrat on the Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies Subcommittee. He also served on the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee.

Sam Farr represented California's 20th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives for 23 years until he retired in 2016. On this occasion he will reflect on the role of Congress in shaping American foreign policy and the factors that influence members and their parties such as special interests and local politics. He will also discuss recent trends among lawmakers in using their authority to influence U.S. foreign policy.

Following his graduation from Carmel High School, Mr. Farr earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Willamette University, Oregon. After college he attended the Monterey Institute of International Studies where he learned Spanish, joined the Peace Corps, and served two years in Colombia, South America. Sam Farr is a Democrat and fifth-generation Californian.

*(Please see page 3 for reservation details.)*

### Calendar of Events

<b>Thursday, May 4</b>	<b>Board meets in Conference Room, McCone building, MIIS. Open to members.</b>	<b>4:30 pm</b>
<b>Monday, May 8</b>	<b>Discussion Group on <i>The Looming Issues in U.S.-China Trade Relations</i> meets in Room 101, Social Science Building, MPC.</b>	<b>4-5:30 pm</b>
<b>Mondays, May 8 &amp; 22</b>	<b>Great Decisions Discussion Group meets at CSUMB Ryan Ranch.</b>	<b>4-5:30 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, May 10</b>	<b>WAC Book Club meets at Monterey Public Library, Community Room reviewing <i>America's War for the Greater Middle East</i>, by Andrew Bacevich..</b>	<b>5-6:30 pm</b>
<b>Wednesday, May 31</b>	<b>Luncheon and presentation by Sam Farr at Rancho Canada.</b>	<b>11:30-2 pm</b>

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## WHAT'S the N.O.B?

To our membership, *Great Decisions 2017*, produced by the Foreign Policy Association and distributed to our members as a briefing book is just that—back-up for an eight-week discussion session focused this year on continuity and change in American foreign policy. But to the editors and educators behind *Great Decisions*, we *Great Decisions* participants are very important guinea pigs.

Writing to *Great Decisions* participants in this year's briefing book, Dr. Lauren Prather, PhD in political science from Stanford University and now professor at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, says: *As anyone who studies public opinion about foreign policy knows, one of the key difficulties is that the public is often uninformed or misinformed about the topics. This is where you come in! The Great Decisions participants are some of the most informed Americans about foreign policy issues, and the National Opinion Ballot is the perfect opportunity to voice those opinions.*

The National Opinion Ballot is one of the few surveys in the U.S. that attempts to gather opinions of the educated public. And they gather these educated opinions through response to the paper ballot at the back of the briefing book. Now! It's your responsibility to fill out and mail in the ballot to the Foreign Policy Association, INC., 470 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016 or enter your answers to the National Opinion Ballot on line at [www.fpa.org/ballot](http://www.fpa.org/ballot).

Questions about the refugee crisis in Europe and how it relates to the European Union, or conflict in the South China Sea, or should the U.S. continue to provide security guarantees to Saudi Arabia and other Persian Gulf states are all explored in the National Opinion Ballot. After studying these issues, you should have opinions. So fill out a ballot. Now's the time to step up and be counted! Maybe you CAN make a difference!



Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Bosch has just been assigned by the Defense Language Institute as their liaison to the Board of Directors of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area. He replaces COL Roger Bowman, who leaves this summer to become the military attaché at the US Embassy in Prague, Czech Republic.

LTC Bosch is the Director of the Foreign Area Officer Program Office at DLIFLC, Presidio of Monterey, California. As such he is responsible for supervising and training and professional development of approximately 100 newly-assessed U.S. Army Foreign Area Officers as they complete their language training at DLIFLC. He is also the course director for the biannual Joint Foreign Area Officer Course (JFAOC), Phase 1.

According to COL Bowman, LTC Bosch has been serving as the Associate Dean in the European Language School at the DLI. He is a German linguist and an experienced foreign area specialist who has served in the embassies in Azerbaijan and Albania, as well as the HQ of US Army Europe in Heidelberg, Germany.

LTC Bosch holds many awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal and three Meritorious Service Medals. He has a Master's degree in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is married and has two sons.

We thank COL Bowman for his several years of support, and welcome his successor, LTC Bosch, aboard!

**May 31, 2017**  
**Registration 11:30 am**  
**Luncheon at noon**  
**Program 1 pm**

**RESERVATION FORM**  
**Reservations due May 26, 2017**  
Mail form & check or credit information to:  
WAC-P.O. Box 83, Monterey, CA 93942  
or Fax reservation form to (831) 643-1846.

**Members @ \$25 ea. —**  
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***Congressional Politics and Foreign Affairs: The Inside Story***

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**Vegetarian? (72 hours notice)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

The **Defense Language in Foreign Language Center (DLI)** presents its fabled **Language Day** on **May 12, from 10 am-3pm** at the **Presidio of Monterey**. The public is invited free and encouraged to arrive early for participation in a day of classroom demonstrations, cultural exhibits, outdoor entertainment, lectures and native foods. Language Day has been celebrated at the DLI for more than 60 years. It is produced by instructors from more than 93 different countries and students from every branch of the US Armed Forces.  
It's an enjoyable learning experience!

**THE BOOK CLUB . . .**

continues to flourish, meeting on the second Wednesday of each month at the Monterey Public Library Community Room from 5-6:30 pm. On May 10th members will discuss *America's War for the Greater Middle East* by Andrew J. Bacevich. In June, the discussion will focus on racism, with the fiction book *small great things*, by Jodi Picoult.

The book club meeting is free and open to the public. Contact Marie Colbert, 650-493-3984, or MarieJIMC@gmail.com for information.

*This program is not sponsored or endorsed by the Monterey Public Library of the City of Monterey.*

**LUNCHEON MENU**

**Caesar Salad**  
*With*  
**Italian Lasagna**  
**Vegetables and Garlic Bread**

**Chef's Choice Dessert**

**(Vegetarian)**  
**Vegetarian Lasagna**



## The Passport May 2017

*This is the monthly newsletter of the World Affairs Council of the Monterey Bay Area. Founded in 1951, the Council is a non-profit, non-partisan organization established to promote the presentation, discussion and study of international affairs. WACMB is a tax exempt 501(c)3 organization, EIN-0301206. Contributions are tax deductible as permitted by law. WACMB sponsors monthly luncheons, discussion groups and student scholarships.*

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Student memberships are limited to full-time students matriculating at an accredited college or graduate school. This includes special military membership for enlisted personnel. Grades E-1 to E-4 only.

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