



WWW.CulverCityDemocraticClub.com  
Find us at www.MeetUp.com/CulverCityDemocratic Club and as Culver City Democratic Club on FaceBook.com

**General Meeting – Wednesday, March 11, 2015**

**Tenants' Rights Forum  
also Georgia Brewer of AllCare Alliance**

**President's Message:**



Housing in Los Angeles County is now unaffordable even for those residents in the middle class. One needs to make at least \$33/hour to afford the average

basic apartment at about \$1,700/month in L.A. County, according to a recent report by researchers at USC. Yet, the minimum wage is only \$9/hour. So buying a house at that income level is pretty much out of reach.

Over at UCLA, researchers concluded that Los Angeles is the nation's least affordable rental market, due to lower median incomes, compared with San Francisco and New York City, and the scarcity of federally-subsidized and rent-controlled housing. The Great Recession worsened L.A. County's affordable housing shortage, as people who lost their homes in the financial crash turned to rentals. Unfortunately, the problem of unaffordable housing only exacerbates wealth inequality.

Culver City is one of the most desirable places to live in California, with its tree-lined

streets, walkable downtown, and many venues for fine eating and entertainment. Though I do not live in Culver City - I spend a great deal of time and money as a visitor - I am aware that it is a struggle for some residents to pay for living in such a wonderful place, as it is in the rest of L.A. County. The issue of rising rents in Culver City came up at a recent city council meeting. At the March 11 General Meeting, we will continue the discussion of rental housing in Culver City with a forum on tenants' rights that I'm sure will be highly informative. The concerns of middle-class homeowners are given a lot of attention in the mainstream media and in Democratic Party discourse, but we also need to pay attention to the interests of renters as well.

In addition to the tenants' rights panel, we will have a short presentation from the AllCare Alliance about what's next in the movement to achieve universal health coverage in the wake of the Affordable Care Act. Although the ACA has dramatically reduced the number of uninsured Americans, 4 million Californians will remain without coverage even [See **President**, Page 2]

Monthly General Membership Meeting:  
**7:00 PM Wednesday, March 11, 2015**  
6:45 PM – Refreshments  
Rotunda Room  
Veterans Memorial Building  
4117 Overland Avenue  
Corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd.

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Club Notes

**March Meeting Sponsors:**  
Diane & Herb Rosenberg in honor of their great nephew's new baby.

**Renew your membership!**  
Please use the form on page 4 or to renew online click "Join/Renew" on our web site.

**Electronic Newsletter:**  
Submit your email address to Info@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com and ask to get the newsletter by email! Save a tree and save our club the postage!

**Comments expressed in the Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Culver City Democratic Club.**

[**President** from Page 1] after the law is fully implemented. Even though the rate of premium increases has slowed somewhat, many Americans still struggle to pay medical bills. And some of those newly covered - either under expanded Medicaid or ACA-subsidized plans - have trouble finding doctors who will treat them because of these health plans' low reimbursement rates. Personally, as one of those people who had an ACA-subsidized plan

once, still had a hard time finding a doctor, and still has out-of-pocket medical bills - I prefer Medicare for All.

### **Lee Sanders' Memorial Service** by Diane Rosenberg

On Sunday February 1st, Herb and I drove to Ojai to attend Lee Sanders' memorial service which was given by his school alumni. Lee's sister, brother-in-law and many of his lifelong friends and associates attended as well.

### **Di's Corner:** By Diane Rosenberg

On Sunday February 22 the Club held its Annual Installation and Awards Luncheon at the Courtyard by Marriott here in Culver City. Our own Ronnie Jayne was the emcee and she did a wonderful job.

Among the attendees were Scott Houston, Director & Board Secretary Division 4 West Basin Municipal Water District; Jimmie Woods Gray, Los Angeles City Fire Commissioner; Jim Clarke, Culver City City Councilmember; Nancy Goldberg, Culver City School Board Member; Darryl Cherness, former Club President and current Civil Service Commissioner; Maral Karaccusian District Director - Office of Congresswoman Karen Bass; Candidates for Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees. Andra Hoffman and Sydney Kamlager.

Mayor Meghan Sahli-Wells was the installing officer for the 2015 new officers: President: Sylvia Moore, 1st Vice-President: Khin Khin Gyi, 2nd Vice-President: Amy Cherness, Recording Secretary: Patricia Levinson, Treasurer: Eric Fine, Corresponding Secretary: Stephen Murray, Membership Chair; Diane Rosenberg. The Club congratulates them.

President Sylvia Moore was presented with a certificate from Assemblyperson Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, 54th A.D. The Democratic Activist Award went to Sandra Fluke. The recipient of the Trudy Cherness Democrat of the Year Award went to former Club President Bill Wynn.

I thank Pat Levinson for helping me at the table to sign people as they came in.

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Ronnie Jayne has been on the Los Angeles Consumer Affairs Commission for some time and now has been appointed Vice-Chair of the Commission. We congratulate her.

### **Seeking Submissions**

We would like your articles and letters to the editor. Let your voice be heard! Submissions will be published as space allows. Submissions may be edited for length.

The Club's Executive Board reserves the right to determine suitability of submissions for inclusion in the newsletter.

Everyone had many good things to say about Lee and it was clear he was well liked in the community.

Apparently Lee was very fond of being President of the Culver City Democratic Club. Giving Lee the plaque honoring his service to the Club was one of the best things we could have done for him. When he was in the hospice the only thing that he held on to and kept close to him was the plaque that the Club presented to him at our August General Meeting.

### 2015 Club Officers and Committee Chairs:

**President:** Sylvia Moore  
President@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**First VP:** Khin Khin Gyi  
FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Second VP:** Amy Cherness  
SecondVP@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Treasurer:** Eric Fine  
Treasurer@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Recording Secretary:**  
Patricia Levinson  
Secretary@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Corresponding Secretary:**  
Stephen Murray  
CorrespondanceSec@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Membership Secretary:**  
Diane Rosenberg  
Membership@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

**Newsletter:** Greg Valtierra  
Newsletter@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

## Final Two Club Officers

**Elected** by Diane Rosenberg

At our General Meeting on February 11 the Club conducted the election for the First Vice-President and for Corresponding Secretary. Khin Khin Gyi and Stephen Murray the candidates running for First Vice President. The Nominating Committee had recommended Khin Khin for the office while Stephen ran from the floor as allowed in our Club's by-laws.

Khin Khin Gyi was elected to the Club office of First Vice President. After the balloting for First Vice President had been completed and the winner announced, Stephen Murray ran for the open office of Corresponding Secretary and was elected. The Club congratulates Khin Khin Gyi and Stephen Murray and is glad to have them complete our Club's governing board.

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## About the AllCare Alliance

Excerpted from  
AllCareAlliance.org

"The AllCare Alliance is a diverse group of local, state and national organizations supporting public policies that assure comprehensive, high quality and affordable health care for everyone.

Our ever-growing coalition was founded by grassroots organizations with a long history of campaigning for healthcare equality.

We are united by the principles that people should be the first consideration in health care and that universal health care should be provided as a social good."

You can find links to some very interesting articles regarding healthcare including an article titled "Study: Single-payer system could save \$375B in annual billing costs."

AllCare Alliance can be contacted at  
Info@AllCareAlliance.org

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## Some Housing Facts

"While the cost of housing has continued to increase in Los Angeles, incomes have not risen in response — especially for low wage workers. The income of many renters, who make up more than 60 percent of the people in Los Angeles, has actually fallen over the past several years. This makes the cost of housing a growing burden for many people.

Another contributing factor to the housing crisis is the lack of family sized apartments — two, three

and four bedroom homes that can accommodate families with children. While close to half of all households in Los Angeles have three or more people, nearly two thirds of the apartments in the city have one or fewer bedrooms. This mismatch adds to the severe overcrowding problems caused by high rents and home prices." -  
*Excerpted from lahd.lacity.org*

"California's high housing costs help explain why the state has the highest Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM) poverty rate in the nation. Unlike the traditional poverty rate, the SPM takes into account local housing costs: poverty thresholds — the incomes below which families are considered to be living in poverty — are higher where housing costs are higher, reflecting the fact that families typically spend more in these high-cost areas to keep a roof over their heads. For example, the SPM poverty threshold is \$24,336 for a four-person family who rents their home in a California metropolitan area, compared with \$19,985 for a comparable family in an Oklahoma metro area. SPM thresholds also vary within California: In the San Francisco metro area, a family of four who rents their home is considered to be living in poverty if their income is below \$33,562, while the threshold is much lower — \$23,344 — for a similar family in the Merced metro area....

More recently, rapid job growth in California's major urban areas has caused rents to jump higher, outpacing average wage gains. Typical rents rose by 6 percent or more in six of California's major metro areas between July 2013 and July 2014." - *Excerpted from CaliforniaBudgetBites.org*

### Renew Your Club Membership for 2015!

Our membership chair, Diane Rosenberg, will gladly accept your renewal. You can use the form on Page 4 to update any of your contact information and select the level of membership OR click "Join/Renew" on our web site [CulverCityDemocraticClub.com](http://CulverCityDemocraticClub.com)

Dues are due by January 1, 2015

For questions please call Membership Secretary  
Diane Rosenberg at (310) 398-5328

**Renew your membership!**

Now collecting dues for 2015.  
Dues for 2015 are due by  
January 1, 2015. Current  
dues must be paid by  
renewing members before a  
vote to get a ballot at the  
general meeting. New and  
lapsed members must have  
paid dues at least 25 days in  
advance to vote at a meeting.

Culver City Democratic Club  
P.O. Box 4254  
Culver City, CA 90231-4254

**Wednesday March 11, 2015 - Meeting Program:**

**Tenants' Rights Forum  
also Georgia Brewer of AllCare  
Alliance**

**Upcoming Events**

► **Wednesday, March 11**  
**Monthly General Meeting:**  
**Tenants' Rights Forum**  
7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,  
Veterans Memorial Building.  
Public is welcome. Call Sylvia at  
(323) 384-3457 or email  
President@CulverCityDemocratic  
Club.com

► **Saturday, March 28**  
**Monthly Board Meeting:**  
10:00 AM at Pat Levinson's home.  
All members welcome. Call Khin  
Khin at (310) 945-6087 or email  
FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticCl  
ub.com

► **Wednesday, April 8**  
**Monthly General Meeting:**  
7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,  
Veterans Memorial Building.  
Public is welcome. Call Sylvia at  
(323) 384-3457 or email  
President@CulverCityDemocratic  
Club.com

► **Wednesday, May 13**  
**Monthly General Meeting:**  
7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room,  
Veterans Memorial Building.  
Public is welcome. Call Sylvia at  
(323) 384-3457 or email  
President@CulverCityDemocratic  
Club.com

Culver City Democratic Club  
**Application/Renewal Form**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I declare that all the individuals listed for membership are registered Democrats.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Dues:** Dues may be waived for financial hardship  
 Member \$30  Student \$20  
 Supporting Member \$75  Sustaining Member \$125  
Additional Contribution: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to:  
**Culver City Democratic Club**  
P.O. Box 4254, Culver City, CA 90231-4254  
**OR** Click "Join/Renew" on our web site CulverCityDemocraticClub.com.

For questions please call Membership Secretary Diane Rosenberg at  
(310) 398-5328

**Please renew for 2015 if you haven't already done so.**  
The dues period runs concurrent to the calendar year.  
Renewals are due by January 1, of each year.