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General Meeting – October 9, 2013

Screening "Four Days in Chicago"

with Q&A by Nicholas Golding, Editor

President's Message: Playing Petty Politics with Obamacare



We have witnessed five years of political grid-lock coming to a head with the recent shutdown of the government as the nation

mischaracterized and distorted. Politics gets petty like that sometimes. While the President of the United States has tried to ignore the pettiness, he can't ignore the reality. The Republicans have been able to distort the reality of what the Affordable Care Act means and can do for Americans.

prepares to launch its first nationwide comprehensive health care plan, the Affordable Care Act. This should be a period of great celebration, but it's not. It's a period of grand distortions.

Since the Republicans can't deal with the truth of the Affordable Care Act passing, they are going to spend every waking hour trying to tear it down, trying to distort what it is, what it will cost, and what it ultimately mean for the people's "quality of life" health care. When you can't fight the truth, you distort the reality, hoping the lie becomes the truth.

When the Affordable Care Act passed three years ago, the middle class and poor people finally got something that says society hasn't forgotten about them. Forty three million uninsured people now could receive care and shop for their provider. That's a major accomplishment, but it has never been recognized as such.

The Republicans have spent the past three years licking their wounds while trying to distort the reality of what universal health care means to the nation. They have even sought to racialize the distortion by tying it to the President in a way that (See President, Page 2)

The entire time health care reform was debated and legislated, it was

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

7:00 PM Wednesday, October 9, 2013

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

Renew your membership! Please use the form on page 4 to supply your renewal information.

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!

Culver City Democratic Club Endorsements: Culver City Unified School District Board of Education Karlo Silbiger Claudia Vizcarra Vote Tuesday, November 5

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) reminds you who he is and where he came from. You can't separate the health care policy from the man who signed it into law.

The Republicans even gave it a name, hoping it would be his downfall in re-election; and that it would cause people to reject it on its face before even understanding what it could do for them. They call it Obamacare.

As the January launch comes closer to reality, the Republicans have raised the stakes. Just when you think this Congress can't become more grid-locked than it already is, the Republicans are using the Congressional powers to run the government as leverage points to undermine the funding of the

Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare. It is holding up the budget approval process until Obamacare is defunded. The House has already passed an emergency budget bill that only takes the government's 2013-14 funding through December 2013 and it is missing funding for Obamacare.

On the Senate side, Senator Ted Cruz is attempting to filibuster a budget that includes the Obamacare funding. The Republicans may refuse to raise the debt ceiling. The last time that happened, the nation fell off the "fiscal cliff" into a forced sequestration. There were massive layoffs and forced government service cuts. Economists are predicting that if it happens again, the recession could return and hurt the American public even more.

The Republican's don't care. This is about political survival for them. They don't care how many people they hurt in the process, if it means they get the President. The goal is to try to turn the people against the Affordable Care Act before they can enroll in it, because they know once the people enroll in it they are going to find out it's better than they had been told and the lies were solely for the purpose of political deceit.

The funding schedules have been released and it is being reported that the Affordable Care Act will cost less than previously forecast. So, already the lies about Obamacare have begun to be proven false. When the people find out the Republicans lies about Obamacare were untrue, the Democratic Party will go into 2016 on a real high. Particularly when you have the Presidential hopefuls of the other party (Cruz and others) leading the lie.

The politics of distortion can only play out for so long before the truth takes hold, and that's generally not long at all. The President knows this, but distortions are hard to ignore. The pettiness can create grand distractions away from more meaning business (like a peaceful solution in Syria).

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

Our September General Meeting was a candidates forum for the Culver City School Board. The rotunda room was packed with over 100 members waiting to vote. There were 6 Democratic candidates at the forum and 3 positions open.

Five of the candidates are Club members. Kathy Paspalis, Karlo Silbiger, Steven Levin, Claudia Vizcarra, and Robert Zirgulis. The sixth Democratic candidate is Vernon Taylor. Kathy and Karlo are running for re-election. There is one additional candidate that is not a Democrat.

The first ballot resulted in endorsement of our long time member Karlo Silbiger. Claudia Vizcarra was endorsed on the second ballot. The Club congratulates both Claudia and Karlo on their endorsements. This was one of the biggest turnouts for endorsement that the Club has seen in a number of years.

At the meeting were Councilmembers Meghan Sahli-Wells, Jim Clarke, and Andrew Weissman.

Gary Walker emceed the candidates forum. We are proud of our President Bill Wynn who handled the entire evening so that everything went very smoothly. I thank Disa Lindgren and Pat Levinson for their help.

The Club sends condolences to our 2nd V.P. Sylvia Moore and her mother, Doris Moore, on the passing of their great uncle, Thomas Person.

For the past year or so I have been having trouble with my left shoulder. Our orthopedic doctor, Dr. Richard Emmanuel, referred me to a specialist who does only shoulder surgeries, Dr. John Itamura. Dr. Itamura works out of White Memorial Hospital in East L.A. I am scheduled for shoulder surgery on Tuesday, October 22.

2013 Club Officers and Committee

Chairs:

President: Bill Wynn

President@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

First VP: Lee Sanders

FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

Second VP: Sylvia Moore

SecondVP@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

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Lee Welinsky

Membership Secretary:

Diane Rosenberg
Membership@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

Newsletter: Greg Valtierra

Haskell Wexler's "Four Days in Chicago" at General Meeting

The Culver City Democratic Club is hosting a free screening of Academy Award-winning filmmaker Haskell Wexler's Occupy-themed documentary, "Four Days In Chicago" at the Club's General Meeting. The film documents the Occupy Movement's demonstrations in Chicago against the 2012 NATO Summit. Following the screening will be a Q&A with the film's editor, Nicholas Golding.

Four Days in Chicago is lifelong activist Haskell Wexler's personal look at Chicago over four days in May 2012 -- four days filled with politics, protest and police. The Occupy movement, the National Nurses Union, Iraq Veterans Against the War, Code Pink and others converged on Chicago to tell President Barack Obama and Mayor Rahm Emanuel to stop the insane spending on wars around the world, and bring the money home for housing, schools and healthcare. The film criticizes Emanuel's decision to bring police in from other states, and spend \$27 million in security arrangements to secure the city against citizens speaking out. The protest was a huge event in Chicago, but received no national press coverage, save for sensationalized images of a

menacing Black Bloc. Four Days in Chicago raises a key question: is the government of the people, by the people, and for the people -- or is it of, by, and for the 1%?

Nick Golding is a Los Angeles native and a second-generation film editor. After studying film at San Francisco State University, Nick moved back home to Los Angeles and was hired as an editor on "Forty Deuce," a reality series being made by Golden Globe nominee Zalman King.

Most recently, Nick has had the honor of working with Oscar winning filmmaker Haskell Wexler. Under Wexler's direction and guidance, Nick's work has broadened to encompass themes of advocacy and social justice. The two collaborated on the documentaries "Four Days in Chicago" and "Medium Cool Revisited."

Nick's credits include work for Showtime, VH1, The Speed Channel, E! Entertainment, Bravo, Time.com, and Spike. He has edited films that have screened at SXSW, Chicago International, Cannes, and Woodstock.

Sylvia Moore to be Honored at LACDP Roosevelt Dinner

This year's Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt 2013 Democrat of the

Year Awards will take place Sunday, October 20, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel, 6101 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles. Culver City Democratic Club 2nd Vice President Sylvia Moore will be one of the honorees. The event, hosted by the L.A. County Democratic Party, will begin with a silent auction from 6-7 PM and follow with a dinner and awards program from 7-10PM. Tickets are \$125 per person. The deadline to RSVP is Oct. 14. Tickets can be purchased at www.actblue.com/page/Roosevelt2013LA, or contact Adam Seiden for a form at 213-382-4111 or fax 213-382-1278.

Club President Wynn Honored with Omni Award

Our President Bill Wynn was honored on September 8, 2013 with an Omni Award for Humanitarian Recognition along with Honorable Congresswoman Diane E. Watson and Academy Award Winner Louis Gossett, Jr., at The Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Music Center Banquet Hall.

It was the OMNI Youth Music & Actors Award's 10th anniversary celebration benefit gala in support of Music and the Arts in public school and after-school programs in LAUSD.

Special Election Primary Announced for December 3rd

Governor Brown has called for a Special Election for the 54th Assembly District to fill the seat vacated by Holly Mitchell's election to the State Senate. The Special Election Primary will be held on December 3, 2013. October 11 is the filing deadline for candidates to appear on the sample ballot. Further information on the Club's endorsement vote will be forthcoming.

"There is nobody in this country who got rich on his own. Nobody. You built a factory out there — good for you! But I want to be clear. You moved your goods to market on the roads the rest of us paid for. You hired workers the rest of us paid to educate. You were safe in your factory because of police forces and fire forces that the rest of us paid for."
- Elizabeth Warren

Renew your membership!

Now collecting dues for 2013. Dues for 2013 are due by January 1, 2013. 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.

Upcoming Events

► **Wednesday, October 9**
Monthly General Meeting:
Screening "Four Days in Chicago"

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room, Veterans Memorial Building. Public is welcome. Call Bill at (310) 253-9046 or email President@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

► **Saturday, October 19**
Monthly Board Meeting:

9:00 AM at the Camarella/Jayne's home. All members welcome. Call Lee at (310) 293-4436 or email FirstVP@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

► **Tuesday, November 5**
Election for CCUSD Board of Education:

Don't forget to vote for our endorsed candidates, **Karlo Silbiger & Claudia Vizcarra**. Be sure to take along a friend or neighbor.

► **Wednesday, November 13**
Monthly General Meeting:

7:00 PM at the Rotunda Room, Veterans Memorial Building. Public is welcome. Call Bill at (310) 253-9046 or email President@CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

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

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October 9, 2013 - Meeting Program:
Screening "Four Days in Chicago"
with Q&A by Nicholas Golding, Editor

Culver City Democratic Club Endorsements:
Culver City Unified School District Board of Education

Karlo Silbiger
Claudia Vizcarra
Vote Tuesday, November 5

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

Special Rate for New and Lapsed members: Remainder of 2013 plus 2014 membership \$45

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

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

Please renew for 2013 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.