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## General Meeting — Wednesday, January 10, 2018 California State Treasurer and candidate for Governor John Chiang will be the featured speaker

### President's Message by Amy Cherness: Goals for 2018

As the New Year begins, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Executive Board for all their hard work and contributions to the Democratic Club.

If I am re-elected at the January meeting, I look forward to resuming my duties as president in the coming year. I want to thank our members for nominating me. I will try to be worthy of your support.

Let me start out by telling you how I plan to increase our club membership and participation for 2018.

- Encourage club members to tell their friends, family, and co-workers who are Democrats, to join our club.
- Increase the number of people who are registered as Democrats and pre-register 17 year olds.
- Reach out to local Democratic clubs to get new members.
- Get members to volunteer in our community to increase the club's visibility.
- Use social media to help get our club introduced to a new group of activists.
- Involve other clubs and organizations to join our club to promote their ideas.
- Get the club involved in local, state and federal Democratic campaigns.

I want to see the Culver City Democratic Club put in the forefront for 2018.

My mission as president is to make 2018 the year of the Democratic Party, so that we as Democrats can be proud again and win!

Please help me accomplish my goal.

### GRAB YOUR PUSSYHATS JANUARY 20, 2018

The Women's March Los Angeles Foundation invites all the 750,000 Angelenos who helped us fill the streets a year ago to join us AGAIN on January 20th, 2018, in downtown LA! If you missed the last March it's not too late to be a part of history—and we need you. Together we will show the power of our collective voice!

#### WHEN

Saturday, January 20, 2018  
Gather: 9am  
March Kickoff: 10am  
Event: 10am — 4pm

#### STARTING POINT

Pershing Square: 532 S. Olive Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

#### ENDING POINT

City Hall: 200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**FIRST WE MARCH, THEN WE VOTE**

Monthly General  
Membership Meeting:  
**7:00 PM Wednesday,  
January 10, 2018**  
6:45 PM — Refreshments  
Rotunda Room  
Veterans Memorial Building  
4117 Overland Avenue  
Corner of Overland Ave. and  
Culver Blvd.

#### What's Inside?

- Di's Corner  
Page 2
- Nomination of Officers  
Page 2
- Candidate John Chiang  
Page 3

**Sponsor for  
January meeting  
Herb and Diane  
Rosenberg  
celebrating their  
52nd wedding  
anniversary**

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

# Health effects of fracking

*(This is a speech to the LA City Council by former Club president-Khin Khin Gyi in November. She was representing the Sierra Club)*

I am here today representing the Clean Break Committee of the Sierra Club and as a neurologist who has been in practice for the last twenty-seven years. I am also a board member of the Los Angeles Neurological Society, having been its president in the year 2000.

As a neurologist, I am alarmed by the continued hydraulic fracturing and unconventional oil and natural gas operations in and around Los Angeles County. A review article in this year's Rev Environ Health journal has linked fetal exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, a product of oil and gas production, to small for gestational age babies, reduced length, weight as well as head size.

Exposure to elevated levels of particulate matter from unconvention-

al oil and gas operations can lead to autism, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and anxiety. After hydraulic fracturing within 3,000 ft. of shale gas wells, there was an increase in the concentration of manganese in the drinking water wells. Manganese is a known neurotoxin, linked to the development of Parkinson's disease.

In the city of L.A., these oil and gas wells are located in low-income communities of color where we already carry an additional burden of being close to freeways with their inherent load of toxins. We can solve this problem of both social and environmental injustice by transitioning to renewable energy resources which will create local jobs and healthier communities. Therefore, I ask as a physician and an environmental justice advocate that we create at least a 2,500-foot setback for the time being with an eye to transitioning to renewable energy in the future.

## Di's Corner:

By Diane Rosenberg

On Sunday Dec. 10, 2017, The Honorable Karen Bass, Member of Congress, held her annual "End of Year Legislative Luncheon" at the Doubletree Hotel here in Culver City.

Attending from the club were our President Amy Cherness and her husband, Darryl, our former President Khin Khin Gyi, club members Steve Dunwoody, who is a candidate running for the 54th Assembly District, Neil & Theodorsia Rubenstein, Pete Rockwell and his wife Cynthia Hart, 1st V.P. Andrew Rosenberg, Recording Secretary Shannon Theus, Corresponding Secretary Craig Scott, and Herb and Diane Rosenberg. Culver City Councilmembers in attendance were Jim Clarke, Meghan Sahli-Wells (with her husband Karim Sahli), and Vice Mayor Thomas Small.

The club would like to thank Congresswoman Karen Bass for putting on her yearly luncheon for the people of Culver City. This is an event we all look forward to.

Thanks,  
Diane

## The Nominating Committee nominated the following Club members to be officers in 2018:

President:

**Amy Cherness**

First Vice President:

**Andy Rosenberg**

Second Vice President:

**Craig Scott**

Corresponding Secretary:

**Cynthia Hart**

Recording Secretary:

**Shannon Theus**

Membership Secretary:

**Diane Rosenberg**

Treasurer:

**Eric Fine**

In order to be eligible to vote for Club officers at our January meeting, a "continuing member" (a member who was in good standing in the preceding membership period, in this case, 2017) must have been a member in good standing for at least 25 calendar days prior to the election meeting and must have paid the dues for the current membership period (2018) prior to the vote at the election meeting.

A new member (a person who was not a member in good standing in the preceding membership period, 2017) must be paid up and in good standing at least 25 calendar days prior to the regular meeting in which an election of officers takes place.

## Candidate for Governor John Chiang will speak to the Culver City Democratic Club January 10

John Chiang is running for governor. He was elected California's Treasurer on November 4, 2014. As the state's banker, he oversees trillions of dollars in transactions every year. Meet John Chiang January 10th at the Club's monthly meeting and hear about his plans if elected governor.

According to his website John Chiang has an impressive record. As Treasurer, John has made it easier for taxpayers to hold their government officials accountable by launching a website to make pay, benefits and borrowing costs for state and local governments available online, going back three decades. When Wall Street banks — like Wells Fargo — began ripping off Californians by millions of dollars Wells Fargo was cut off from their most profitable lines of business with the largest state in the union — California. When he was Controller, when government officials refused to do their job he held them accountable. For example, when then Governor, Arnold



**John Chiang, California's State Treasurer, is running for Governor**

Schwarzenegger, threatened to cut State workers' pay as leverage in a budget battle, John refused to implement the illegal order. He even held his own party accountable by withholding the pay of state legislators when they failed to pass a balanced state budget on time as

required by the state constitution.

As a child of immigrant parents, John and his siblings grew up in a much different time. His parents arrived in this country dreaming of a better future. While their determination and relentlessness led the family to a middle class neighborhood with better schools, they still experienced bigotry, as the first Asian-American family on the block.

John has plans on how to address problems of Californians who feel economically out of reach of the opportunities enjoyed by past generations. Come to the January 10th meeting and learn more about his plans for increasing homeownership, college affordability and a dignified retirement. He even has a plan to end fracking.

Join other Club members January 10th and hear from John Chiang himself. Read more about John Chiang at his website: <https://johnchiang.com>

## The City Council tackles oil drilling in Culver City and decides to wait 120 days

by Cynthia Hart

On November 13, 2017, the City Council of Culver City seemed ready to close the comment period with undue haste and take Culver City one step closer to embracing the hazards of fracking. The Council agenda item was a proposed extension of the 60-day comment period on a 2,000 page Environmental Impact Report that could impact the livability of Culver City for long into the future.

"There are three 'no' votes on the extension already. We know that." A veteran Council-watcher told me gravely before the meeting began.

I started to put in a card with the City Clerk to speak, then thought better of it and instead ceded a minute to someone more familiar with the issue.

Then the Council went on to congratulate itself for having banned polystyrene food take-out boxes in Culver City. So the same Council that banned little boxes stood on the brink of endorsing fracking. Isn't that like straining a gnat and swallowing a camel?

The night wore on. Comment after comment came in and every single

one argued for a time extension. No one spoke to oppose the extension until it was the Council Members' turns to speak. Two Council Members were about to "term out" and were eager to have this issue concluded before they left office. They worried that the next Council Members would have too much to do what with the budget and all. In the end, Mayor Cooper proposed a 120 day extension and Council Member Clarke seconded the motion which passed.

Now we have a breathing space. Now we have to get busy!

# Assemblyman Ridley-Thomas announces resignation

According to the Los Angeles Times, Assemblyman Sebastian Ridley-Thomas abruptly announced his resignation from the California Legislature on December 27, citing health reasons.

Ridley-Thomas, a Democrat from Los Angeles, informed Speaker Anthony Rendon Tuesday night.

“The reason for this difficult decision is that I am facing persistent health issues,” Ridley-Thomas, 30, said in a written statement on Wednesday. “On December 18th, I underwent surgery for the fifth time this year. Although I expect a full recovery, my physicians advise that I will need an extended period of time to recuperate.”

Earlier this year, Ridley-Thomas was absent from work for more than two weeks. Staff members initially said the absence was a personal leave, then said the time off was due to unspecified medical reasons. His resignation letter on Wednesday offered no additional details.

Ridley-Thomas’ departure will require a special election in 2018. He is the fourth Southern California legislator to leave office this year. The election of Rep. Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles) to Congress also required a special election. The other two lawmakers — Assemblymen Raul Bocanegra (D-Pacoima) and Matt Dababneh (D-Woodland Hills) — stepped down in the wake of allegations of sexual misconduct, which both men have denied. A special election to fill Bocanegra’s seat will be held on April 3, with a potential runoff on June 5. A special election date has not yet been set for Dababneh’s seat.

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

**General Meeting — Wednesday, January 10, 2018**  
**California State Treasurer and candidate for Governor John Chiang will be the featured speaker**

## 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

Lifetime Member \$500

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](http://CulverCityDemocraticClub.com).

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

**Please renew for 2017 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.