

Sun City Democrats

www.suncitydems.org

September 2009



General Meeting:

The General Meeting is typically on the first Saturday of each month. The meetings are free and open to the public. For additional information on the Sun City Democrats, please contact President **Jodi Salyers** at 864-2812 or Communications Chair **Carol Flynn** at 864-3544.

NOTE: Summer Hiatus still in effect! There will be no General Saturday morning meetings in July, August and September; but look what's coming up!

Saturday, October 3, 2009

9:30 AM Coffee, 10:00 AM Speaker

Place: Sun City Activities Center Atrium

Program: **Becky Moeller** is president of the Texas AFL-CIO, overseeing the 220,000-member labor federation's legislative, political education and community service programs.



Moeller is the first woman to hold statewide elected office in the **Texas AFL-CIO**, having broken that barrier in 2003 when she became secretary-treasurer. During her four-year term in that office, she brought efficiencies and oversight to the state federation budget that kept programs going even after the departure of a substantial chunk of membership from the AFL-CIO umbrella.

Saturday, November 7, 2009

9:30 AM Coffee, 10:00 AM Speaker

Place: Sun City Activities Center Atrium

Program: **Dr Richard Dusansky** is Chairman of the University of Texas Economics Department; his specialty is Health Economics.



Special Event:

Friday, October 16, 2009

5:30 PM

Place: Sun City, **The Oaks** at Legacy Hills

Program: Back to Work Potluck

We've all had a summer break; now let's get back to work with some fun, drink, and good food! The Club will be providing appetizers and beverages for Happy Hour. Dinner will follow and will be provided by you; please bring a salad, vegetable, entree, or a dessert to share with others. No charge for this event, but of course donations will be cheerfully accepted.



Issues Group:

The Issues Group meets typically on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:00 PM in member's homes. For additional information on the Issues Group, please contact the host or hostess of the next meeting.

NOTE: Summer Hiatus! There will be no Issues Group meetings in July or August.

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

2:00 PM

Place: Jay & Mary K Pierson's, 103 Rain Lily Lane

Program: The Issues Group will be having its next meeting on Wednesday, September 23, at 2:00 PM at the home of Jay and Mary K Pierson at 103 Rain Lily Lane. The topic for discussion is "**Alternatives to the Way Our Education System Works.**"

Please let Jay know if you will be attending by calling 864-9909 or emailing: jaypie@aol.com.

SUN CITY DEMOCRATS OFFICERS

President: Jodi Salyers 864-2812 jodotcom@aol.com
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Past Pres: Mary Kay Pierson 864-9909 mkatpie@aol.com
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Membership: Frank Wentworth 864-3385 f_wentworth@yahoo.com
Programs: Craig Whitney 869-2690 cbwhitney@verizon.net
Special Events: Nancy Danley 864-1544 nrdanley@suddenlink.net

Please SUPPORT Your Local Club

Have you noticed that the **Sun City Democrats** have become a growing and vital presence in Sun City, Georgetown, and Williamson County? Wasn't it wonderful seeing so many Obama yard signs displayed in Sun City during the last election? Please join us by supporting our activities and help us continue to elect more Democrats by paying your annual dues.

Dues are **\$20** per member. You may pay at the sign-in table at the meetings or mail a check made out to Sun City Democrats to our Treasurer: **Margaret Donaldson**, 107 Rosecliff Drive, Georgetown TX 78633.

Support the Sun City Democrats POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Our PAC is known as **IMPACT: Informed Members Political Action Committee of Texas**. **IMPACT** is the way that the Sun City Democrats organization can legally contribute to candidates. Send donations to **IMPACT** Treasurer, **Don Lelong**, 101 Crosby Street, Georgetown TX 78633.

IMPACT's goal is to raise **10 Grand By 2010**, just after the primaries. That's about the same as we raised during the last election cycle. We are shooting for broad participation and modest, frequent contributions (of course large ones will be gratefully accepted too). Be on the watch for **IMPACT** mailings, fundraisers, and other opportunities to support Democratic candidates.



DEMOCRATIC PARTY INFORMATION

Texas Democratic Party

Boyd Richie, Chairman. www.txdemocrats.org
707 Rio Grande Street, Austin, TX 78701
Telephone: (512) 478-9800

Williamson County Democratic Party

Richard Torres, Chairman. Phone #: 512-964-5054
www.williamsoncountymdemocrats.org.

Monthly meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Party headquarters, 110 South I-35 (corner of I-35 and Highway 620 behind McDonald's in Round Rock).

Williamson County Democratic Headquarters needs volunteer workers. Address: 110 North Interstate 35 (at Highway 620). Phone: 512-388-1993

Office Hours: Mon-Fri: 11 AM to 6 PM
Saturday 10 AM to 2 PM

Williamson County Obama Store is located at the Williamson County Democratic Headquarters, featuring T-shirts, hats, posters, calendars, etc.

PRECINCT 381

~**Kay Walker**, Precinct Chair
864-2874 klwalker@suddenlink.net

PRECINCT 394

~**Don Mohr**, Precinct Chair
868-2850 donmohr@netzero.net

PRECINCT 396

~**Billie Reaney**, Precinct Chair
868-0098 billie_reaney@msn.com

PRECINCT 399

~**Bill Blair**, Precinct Chair
868-9180 billblair3@verizon.net





July 2009

Committee on Energy and Commerce:

Benefits of HR 3200

America's Affordable Health Choices Act In the 31st Congressional District of Texas

America's Affordable Health Choices Act would provide significant benefits in the 31st Congressional District of Texas: up to **12,300 small businesses** could receive tax credits to provide coverage to their employees; **5,200 seniors** would avoid the donut hole in Medicare Part D; **700 families** could escape bankruptcy each year due to unaffordable health care costs; health care providers would receive payment for **\$75 million** in uncompensated care each year; and **109,000 uninsured individuals** would gain access to high-quality, affordable health insurance. **Congressman John R. Carter** represents the district.

- **Help for small businesses.**

Under the legislation, small businesses with 25 employees or less and average wages of less than \$40,000 qualify for tax credits of up to 50% of the costs of providing health insurance. There are up to 12,300 small businesses in the district that could qualify for these credits.

- **Help for seniors with drug costs in the Part D donut hole.**

Each year, 5,200 seniors in the district hit the donut hole and are forced to pay their full drug costs, despite having Part D drug coverage. The legislation would provide them with immediate relief, cutting brand name drug costs in the donut hole by 50%, and ultimately eliminate the donut hole.

- **Health care and financial security.**

There were 700 health care-related bankruptcies in the district in 2008, caused primarily by the health care costs not covered by insurance. The bill provides health insurance for almost every American and caps annual out-of-pocket costs at \$10,000 per year, ensuring that no citizen will have to face financial ruin because of high health care costs.

- **Relieving the burden of uncompensated care for hospitals and health care providers.**

In 2008, health care providers in the district provided \$75 million worth of uncompensated care, care that was provided to individuals who lacked insurance coverage and were unable to pay their bills. Under the legislation, these costs of uncompensated care would be virtually eliminated.

- **Coverage of the uninsured.**

There are 133,000 uninsured individuals in the district, 16% of the district. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that nationwide, 97% of all Americans will have insurance coverage when the bill takes effect. If this benchmark is reached in the district, 109,000 people who currently do not have health insurance will receive coverage.

- **No deficit spending.**

The cost of health care reform under the legislation is fully paid for: half through making the Medicare and Medicaid program more efficient and half through a surtax on the income of the wealthiest individuals. This surtax would affect only 2,110 households in the district. The surtax would not affect 99.3% of taxpayers in the district.

NOTE: This analysis is based upon the following sources: the Gallup-Healthways Survey (data on the uninsured); the U.S. Census (data on small businesses); the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (data on the Part D donut hole, health care-related bankruptcies (based on analysis of PACER court records), and uncompensated care); and the House Committee on Ways and Means (data on the surtax).



ONLY ONE SENTENCE BUT IT SUMS IT ALL UP!

“The Republican Party has hurt itself with its destructive contortions, being so-called pro-life while being anti-health care, anti-social welfare, pro-war, pro-guns, pro-torture, anti-environment, anti-global warming, pro-distortion of facts, pro-misleading the public about everything from war to health care and hypocritically anti-big spending while building up a huge deficit and promoting unregulated free-market banking, which led to global economic crisis, business failures, loss of jobs and homes, and the Democratic Party taking over to try to clean up the mess while they continue to blame it all on liberals.”

Thanks to **Christine Gilbert**, in a Letter to the Editor, **Austin American-Statesman**, published on 08-24-09.



Health Insurance Reform in 3 Easy Steps

