

SRV DEMOCRATIC CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY 2011

(www.srvdems.org)

July Meeting: Thursday, July 28, 2010, 6:15 pm at Crow Canyon Country Club

Topic: The Fifteen Biggest Lies about the Economy: And Everything Else the Right Doesn't Want You to Know about Taxes, Jobs, and Corporate America

Speaker: Joshua Howard, author



By nearly every conceivable standard, the American economy has gotten steadily worse from the time Reagan took office to the present. The anti-government, pro-corporate agenda has damaged our nation too long, and yet, turn on Fox News and you'll find them still hawking the same foolish theories, baseless accusations, and bald-faced lies. The Fifteen Biggest Lies about the Economy dissects each malicious fiction to reveal how the Right is just plain wrong on the economy — wrong on jobs, wrong on the debt, wrong on taxes, wrong on trade. However, Holland goes beyond the most recent Republican talking points to explain the issues with the depth and nuance that you'll need to see through the nonsense rhetoric going to hear about the nation's economy for some time to come.

We also have another impressive young speaker:

Benito Delgado-Olson, Executive Director, K to College

Benito is an impressive young gentleman who has been the driving force behind a non-profit organization doing good things for our local school students. Many of us have worked with him on stuffing school bags and are impressed with his efforts. We wanted to give our club a chance to meet him and to support his worthwhile organization.

Benito Delgado-Olson is the cofounder and Executive Director of K to College. An Oakland native and graduate of several public schools, Benito has a lifelong interest in the public benefit (nonprofit) sector and education. Benito graduated with a double major from the University of California, Berkeley in 2007. During his senior year, he founded the student group that would eventually evolve into present day K to College. From its beginning, Benito has recruited a diverse and professional board of directors, developed and implemented the proven K to College business model, secured public and private partnerships at the state and local level and fundraised several million dollars for program operations.

Dinner is \$25 per person for members and their invited guests, \$30 for others.

We also have a few seats available for people who wish to only listen to the speaker. A \$5 donation is requested for these seats.

RSVP: Mail checks, made out to Jim Donnelly, to 373 Century Circle, Danville, CA 94526
Or call him at (925) 570-9289

Please RSVP no later than **Monday, July 25, 2011.**

In this Issue

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- New Web Site
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- Senator Barbara Boxer- Congressman George Miller, Saturday, July 23, 2011
- Annual Picnic- Contra Costa Democratic Party- Saturday August 13, 2011
- SRVDC Annual Bar-B-Que, Saturday, September 10, 2011
- Reports from our elected officials
- Coming Events

Presidents Corner

Last week I attended an awards ceremony put on by the New Leader's Council (NLC) in San Francisco. Each year the NLC recognizes 40 people under 40 in the U.S. for the hard work performed by this diverse group of young leaders: elected officials, inspiring community organizers, and non-profit and policy leaders who exemplify the spirit of progressive political entrepreneurship. Benito Delgado, one of our speakers this month was one of six people in the Bay area who were recognized for their service to our community. It was quite an impressive group of people and it gives so hope for our future to see these young people doing for others. I urge all of you to come and hear Benito describe his efforts to bring school supplies to needy Bay area children.

As I read about and listen to the news concerning the debate about raising the debt limit, I get so completely fed up with the garbage going on in Washington. The Republicans have generated something out of nothing once again and this time may well further damage our fragile economy. This B.S. about raising the debt limit just to try to put President Obama on the hot seat and gain points for the next election. For the eight years of the Bush administration these people were spending money like drunken sailors, conducting to absurd wars while running up the deficit to historic levels. And now all of a sudden they once again they are screaming about fiscal responsibility. Just as in California, they chant their mantra "No New Taxes" while we all watch our country continue to fall apart due to lack of maintenance and repair. They don't seem to get it that it costs money to maintain infrastructure and that it is so much more cost effective to repair a bridge BEFORE it falls down.

These idiots running around saying it doesn't matter if we default on our commitments while spouting slogans about fiscal responsibility make me want to throw up. Enough of this garbage. It is time to get real and address the deficit like responsible adults. Everyone is going to suffer dearly if we default. Watch what happens to you retirement funds if the debt limit does get sorted out and we default. Senator Sessions of Alabama spouts off about how the poor and middle class need to bear the burden and not expect to tax the rich for their benefit. The man disgusts me, what in the h___ does he know about how hard it is for the poor. He sits in his little dream world fawned upon by lobbyists, having a real health care plan and a guaranteed pension while the poor and middle class watch their standard of living going into the toilet.

It's time for the responsible people in this country to stand up and scream: Enough!. Tell the idiots in D.C to get on with the job they were elected to do and start facing up to the future, one where every one of us has the opportunity to share in the wealth of this country and not watch the rich continue to just keep getting richer t our expense.

Ask yourself; "Is your standard of living better than it was for your parents and do your children have the promise of a better life that we were brought up to believe in?"

We need to pull together for next year's elections. Time is running out to make the changes necessary to put us back on a path leading to improved living standards for all of our citizens, not for just the wealthy one.

Wishing you all a good month and I hope to hear feedback from you on our efforts to put out this monthly newsletter. I have included a copy of the Contra Costa County Democratic party's Loop newsletter at the end of this newsletter and would welcome your comments about it.

Regards,

Jim Donnelly
President, SRVDC

Redistricting

The drafts of the proposed Assembly, Senate and Congressional redistricting maps have been updated and are getting closer to being finalized. Click on the link below to see how your future congressional, state senate and assembly districts will look

like. <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-redistricting-map,0,6145644.htmlstory>

These are the still drafts and you can comment on them by going to;

<http://redistrictingpartners.com/citizens-commission-first-drafts/>

Logging in and commenting on the districts. Your comments must be presented as a citizens comment and must not present arguments based on political considerations. Comment concerning "communities of interest" may be presented

New SRVDC Website

Our new website <http://srvdems.org/> is now up and running thanks to the efforts of Brodie Hilp our Vice President. Visit it to see upcoming events and to learn more about the activities of the club. Your comments on our web site, both positive and constructive, are appreciated. Let us know what additional information you would like to see included on the site.

Member Editorials

Each month we invite you to present your views on about any subject you wish to discuss. This is an important way to understand what are major concerns for our members. Surely there are things going on that make your blood boil. Let it out, express your opinions here.

Write something about anything that interests you and we will gladly place it here.

Senator Barbara Boxer- Congressman George Miller Fund Raiser

The DPCCC is hosting a fund raiser on Saturday, July 23 at the Shadelands in Walnut Creek. We urge all that can to participate in this event and show these congressional leaders our support. The money raised by this event will be used to open a campaign office for the 2012 Election.

Join us

Saturday, July 23, 2011

for a

Taste of California Summer

with Special Guest

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer

introduced by

U.S. Representative George Miller

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Shadelands Ranch

2660 Ygnacio Valley Rd.

Walnut Creek

Sponsored by the
Democratic Party of Contra Costa County

for more information go to
www.contracostadems.org

Be Part of the Taste of California Summer with
U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer:

Host Committee	\$ 1,000*
Sponsor	\$ 500
Advocate	\$ 250
Friend	\$ 100
General Ticket	\$ 50

Respond by July 15, 2011 by returning this card with a check made payable to the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County or go to www.contracostadems.org and click the donate button on the menu.

*Host committee members will be listed on future correspondence and have other special opportunities. Contact Melody at 925.299.1612 for more information.

Contributions to the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Due to the involvement of a federal officeholder or candidate in this event, we are limiting donations to the federal non-connected committee limit.

Contra Costa Democratic Party Annual Picnic, Saturday, August 13

Once again the Contra Costa County Central Committee is having a picnic as a means of raising money to support a campaign office for the 2012 election. Your support is needed if we are going to be successful next year. I urge each of you to purchase a ticket and participate in this fun event.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

80TH ANNUAL BBQ

WHEN: 11 AM - 3 PM, SATURDAY AUGUST 13TH

WHERE: ANTIOCH COMMUNITY PARK

801 James Donlan Blvd.

Antioch, CA 94509

Come celebrate this historic year with your Democratic Neighbors!

**When you bring food to be donated to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano Counties
you will receive 2 free drink tickets.**

**\$500 Sponsor _____ Table of 10 \$250 _____ Family of 5 \$60 _____
\$35 per person _____ \$15 per senior/student/youth _____**

**Please make checks payable to: Democratic Party of Contra Costa County, FEC# C00456764, FPPC#
990861**

**Fill out the information below and mail with payment to: Democratic Party of Contra Costa County
P.O. Box 1615
Martinez, CA 94533**

Name _____ # of Guests _____ Adult _____ Child _____

Business Name _____ Amount \$ _____

To enable us to comply with campaign reporting laws, please also complete the following:

Address _____ Employer _____

Occupation _____ Home Phone _____

Work Fax _____ Email _____

**Contributions to the Democratic Party of Contra Costa County are not deductible for federal income
tax purposes. Your contribution will be
used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the
Federal Election Campaign Act. Contributions
are limited to \$5,000 per calendar year. Corporate and union contributions are prohibited. Corporate
and union contributions are acceptable
under California law to be used in connection with nonfederal elections. California law permits
contributions up to \$5,600 per calendar year
for state elections.**

RSVP by Wednesday, August 6, 2011

**For more information contact Monica Wilson, Vice Chair, DPCCC, at: (925) 779-9268 or
Jim Donnelly, Treasurer, DPCCC, at (925) 570-9289
Paid for**

Reports from our Elected Officials

Congressman Jerry McNerney

Congress may consider new way to help jobless veterans

WASHINGTON, D.C.

June 21, 2011 11:53am

- Bill would help ensure that federal contractors are really hiring veterans**
- ‘This is an important step towards a more transparent system’**

The Secretary of Labor would be required to establish a website with information about the number of veterans employed by federal contractors under a bill introduced in Congress Tuesday by Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton.

Mr. McNerney sees it (H.R. 2243) as a way to better scrutinize hiring practices of companies with federal contracts.

Current law requires contractors to file reports with the Secretary of Labor on the number of veterans they hire

and employ, but this information is not easily accessible to the public, he says.

"The Veterans Employment Promotion Act will ensure that information on the number of veterans employed by federal contractors is widely available to the public. This is an important step towards a more transparent system and will help ensure that our veterans have access to good jobs," says Mr. McNerney.

A 2009 hearing by the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity examined federal contractor compliance with veterans' employment laws. During this hearing, representatives of several Veterans Service Organizations recommended better enforcement and oversight.

Congressman John Garamendi

Natural Resources Committee Adopts Garamendi Make It In America Amendment

WASHINGTON, DC – The House Natural Resources committee today adopted an amendment authored by Congressman John Garamendi (D-Walnut Creek, CA) which would encourage hydropower materials and equipment to be made in America. The amendment was part of H.R. 795, the Small-Scale Hydropower Enhancement Act, which calls for the Secretary of the Interior to perform a study that looks at hydropower capabilities of one megawatt or less. Congressman Garamendi's amendment would direct the study to discuss the "availability and importance of using materials and equipment produced and manufactured in the United States." The Committee approved the amendment by a unanimous voice vote. A pdf of the amendment is available [here](#).

"In America today, fourteen million workers are out of a job through no fault of their own," Congressman Garamendi said. "Even in this difficult economic climate, we have reason to hope and a reason to act. We can create manufacturing jobs and Make It In America again."

Garamendi added, "When we invest American taxpayers' money on national improvements, that money should be used to put Americans back to work – and that's exactly what my amendment aims to do. I commend my Republican and Democratic colleagues on the committee for adopting an amendment into H.R. 795 that could create jobs for Americans who desperately want employment."

More information on Congressman Garamendi's [initiative to Make It In America](#) is available [here](#).

State Senator Mark DeSaulnier

Governor Signs DeSaulnier Legislation to Reduce Retirement Costs for Contra Costa County, Monday, July 11, 2011

Senate Bill 373 Permanently Extends Cost-Effective Retirement Option

Governor Brown has signed SB 373 (DeSaulnier) to allow for the continued use of a negotiated compromise that lowers Contra Costa County's public safety retirement contribution. This compromise, commonly referred to as Tier C, was negotiated in 2006 between the County and public safety employees represented by the Contra Costa County Deputy Sheriffs Association. SB 373 will permanently extend Tier C public safety retirement benefits in the Contra Costa County Retirement System. The Tier C option was set to expire on January 1, 2012 without this legislation.

Tier C is a less expensive retirement benefit that has helped to reduce the county's structural pension costs," said Senator Mark DeSaulnier (D-Concord). "The extension of Tier C preserves the current compromise that is fair to

both parties and helps the county's fiscal situation."

In 2006, SB 524 (Torlakson) memorialized a compromise between the Board of Supervisors and employees presented by the Deputy Sheriffs Association which created a new public safety retirement tier, Tier C, for sheriff's employees hired after December 31, 2006. SB 524 included an expiration date of January 1, 2012 to allow time to determine if Tier C would deliver cost savings as intended. Both parties agree that Tier C is working very well.

SB 373 was sponsored by the Board of Supervisors and supported by the Deputy Sheriffs Association. This bill was unanimously approved by both the Senate and the Assembly before being signed into law.

Assembly Woman Joan Buchanan

Buchanan Honors The Brass Bear Deli as 2011 Small Business of the Year

(Sacramento, CA) - Assemblymember Joan Buchanan (D-Alamo) today recognized Mehran Hamzeh, owner of the Brass Bear Deli, as the Small Business of the Year for the 15th Assembly District.

"Mehran and Sheida Hamzeh are wonderful individuals and I am proud to honor them as the Small Business of the Year," Buchanan said. "Brass Bear sandwiches are excellent and Mehran and Sheida are huge supporters of the community. They are an important part of what makes the San Ramon Valley great."

The Hamzeh family has owned and operated the Brass Bear Deli in Alamo for 30 years. In 2009, the Hamzehs opened a second location in Walnut Creek. Hamzeh has built a strong business that helps contribute to the local economy by hiring high school and college students to work at the deli part time. He estimates that over 250 young adults in the San Ramon Valley have worked for him since he first opened the doors of the Brass Bear Deli, and he has enjoyed watching them grow.

"It is important to recognize the Brass Bear's continuous service to the young people in our community. Sheida and Mehran have given our youth a chance to work, learning responsibility and leadership. They are incredible role models for our kids," Buchanan said.

The Brass Bear Deli is open 7 days a week, 362 days a year. In addition to their full-service deli, they also provide catering service.

The Small Business of the Year awards are hosted by the California Small Business Association. In 2000, the Assembly resolved that the final Wednesday in May each year would be declared "California Small Business Day."

THE LOOP Issue 3

July 13, 2011

www.ContraCostaDems.org

- Truth Bytes from labor leaders
- Did you know?
- My family raised me union
- Willie Pelote on Privatization
- Pete Stark on Libya
- Redistricting
- Joan Buchanan on the CA budget
- Who are the (R) legislators?

AND much more



Submit articles, Truth Bytes or Did You Know items to [Marie McDonald](#) or [Ellis Goldberg](#); be sure to include source links. Articles from elected officials, labor unions and individual Democrats are encouraged.

An editorial board of Democratic Party of Contra Costa County Central Committee Members including the Chair review and comment on the material in THE LOOP before publication.

Labor unions have played an extraordinary role in the development of our middle class. Today labor is under siege. This issue of THE LOOP includes several labor perspectives.

Truth Bytes

Did You Know?

Trumka: Working People Want a Strong, Independent Labor Movement
by [James Parks](#), May 20, 2011

In a major address at the National Press Club today, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka charted an aggressive independent approach by working people and their unions to build the power of working people in the workplace and in the political sphere. Trumka told the live audience and thousands of viewers on C-SPAN and other news outlets:

Working people want a labor movement strong enough to help return balance to our economy, fairness to our tax system, security to our families and moral and economic standing to our nation. Our role is not to build the power of a political party or a candidate. It is to improve the lives of working families and strengthen our country.

[Full Story](#)

Social Security Scaremongering

W. Lee Hammond, President of AARP interviewed:

Q - Is it true that Social Security has contributed to the huge federal budget deficit?"

A - No. Social Security operates at a surplus and has not contributed one dime to our nation's budget deficit. Even in the current recession, the Social Security Trust Funds have continued to grow. In addition, Social Security benefits already are modest. The average retirement benefit is only about \$14,000. a year and for women, the average comes to less than \$12,000 a year. What is there to cut? And despite the scaremongering Social Security isn't "going broke". Even without any changes at all, Social Security could pay out full benefits until 2037. It will take only modest changes to endure that Social Security remains strong for us, our children and grandchildren."

[Full Story](#)

We are at war and it's class warfare
By Greg Feere Contra Costa Building and Construction Trades Council

We are at War in the United States of America and it is class warfare. Let's make it perfectly clear it doesn't make any difference if you are union or non union, what's at stake is the elimination of "Middle Class America" as we know it today.

[Full story](#)

MOST AMERICANS OPPOSE CONVERTING MEDICAID TO A BLOCK GRANT IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEFICIT

New Poll Finds Support For Medicaid May Be Linked to Broad Ties To The Program, With Half of Americans Reporting A Personal Connection

1 in 5 Adults Has Received Medicaid Benefits Over Time, And For Most, Experiences Were Positive, Although One Third Of Them Report Having Had Problems Finding A Doctor

[Source](#) – Kaiser Family Foundation

The Truth About the Economy by Robert Reich

in 2 minutes and 15 seconds.

[Watch the video](#)

Watch him connect 6 dots:

1. Economy doubles since 1980, but wages are flat. *Where did the money go?*
2. All gains from the economy go to the super rich. *And....*
3. With money comes political power. *Taxes on the super rich slashed, revenues evaporate. This leads to...*
4. Huge budget deficits. *Middle class agitated - fight for scraps.*
5. Middle class divided. Buying and borrowing slow. *Resulting in:. Buying and borrowing slow. Resulting in:*
6. Anemic recovery.

Big Oil – corporate welfare

The TV news programs have been abuzz recently with clips of the Senate hearings about the huge tax-breaks and subsidies given to the big oil companies.

The CEOs of ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil, BP America, Chevron and Shell were called before the Senate finance committee to explain why they should continue to receive current tax-breaks and subsidies paid by the American taxpayers. It is indeed shameful that now, when drivers across the nation are paying over \$4.00 a gallon for gasoline, the oil companies are recording record profits, well over \$100 BILLION a year. Meanwhile us common folks struggle to pay our bills, and are forced by circumstances to buy their gasoline at outrageous prices. [Full Story](#)

A message from California Assembly Member Joan Buchanan AD 15 7/11/2011

Fellow Democrats,

As all of you know, June was an eventful month.

I believe the people of California are tired of the polarization that exists in our state and national capitol and desperately want their government to work again. They want us to use common sense and solve problems. That is why, like it or not, they passed initiatives to change how we draw districts, passed the open primary, and, most importantly, passed Proposition 25 which allows the legislature to pass a budget with a simple majority vote.

Having served on a local school board for almost two decades, I understand how important Proposition 25 is because local governments and agencies cannot complete

their planning and budgeting until the State does its job. I also understand the importance from the perspective of a state assembly member. Constantly giving permanent tax cuts for temporary revenues is not a good budgeting practice. Tax cuts should be targeted to help infant industries, but too often, tax cuts become a company's profit margin. That is not good business for anyone.

So 2011 became the year that the legislature passed an on-time budget with a simple majority vote in many decades. The Governor proposed a budget in January and in his May revision that included extension of temporary revenues. This was because he recognized our obligation to resolve the structural deficit, pay off our mountain of debt, and provide essential services like education and public safety. This required a two-thirds vote and, unfortunately, the Governor was not able to secure two Republican votes in each house.

Despite the "celebration" of having an on-time budget, let there be no mistake that this budget includes significant pain. There were deep cuts to Health and Human Services and higher education and a realignment of services from the state to local agencies where they can be provided more effectively. Funding for K-12 schools remained at the 2010-11 level. The budget also included the elimination of Redevelopment Agencies along with a second bill that allows local agencies to opt into a new RDA with specified conditions. This is controversial, will require cleanup language, and will be challenged in court. Finally, the budget assumes additional new revenues based on increases in May and June receipts. If these revenues do not materialize, automatic cuts will be triggered in 2012.

Overall, 2011-12 spending will be at the 1972-73 level. The budget will close 75 percent of the structural deficit, but there remains much work to do. We still need to close the remaining 25 percent of the structural deficit, pay off over \$20 billion in borrowing and \$15 billion in deferred payments, and repay the federal government for \$11 billion in unemployment insurance loans. If we don't want to leave this debt to our children, some type of temporary revenues will need to be explored in the future.

US Congressman Pete Stark on Libya



The U.S. has now been involved in Libya for over 60 days. We have provided 93 percent of the cruise missiles, 66 percent of the personnel, half the ships, and half the planes. All this military might, yet we were never attacked. We also never had a constitutionally required authorization for the use of military force. We are at war in

Libya – one that I oppose in the strongest terms – yet we never had a declaration of war.

Today I voted in support of H. Con. Res. 51, introduced by Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), which would have required the President, pursuant to the War Powers Act, to remove our troops from Libya within 15 days. Congress would then review how our nation should move forward. I cosponsored this important resolution, but to my great disappointment, it failed by a vote of 148-265.

Sincerely,

Pete Stark - June 3 2011



Fred Norman read this poem on Memorial Day at the crosses in Lafayette.

Once Upon A Time

One day a little girl in class approached her teacher and whispered as if a secret, “Teacher, what was war?”. Her teacher sighed, replied, “I will tell to you a fairy tale, but I must warn you first that it is not a tale you will understand; it is a tale for adults -- they are the question, you are the answer -- Once...”

She said, once upon a time... [Full Poem](#)

Beware the Invisible Hand of Privatization

by Willie Pelote, Sr. Assistant Director of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

In California, the state government currently spends more than \$34 billion a year paying private contractors to do jobs that civil servants can perform for half the cost. Another \$900 million of taxpayer funds is wasted annually propping up the state’s failed enterprise zone program. Common sense dictates that any proposal to balance the state budget begin here. [Full Story](#)

My family raised me union

by Jo Carson

Retirement started with a blowout party put on by my family. I wore my very special tee-shirt. It is one my union brother bought for me at the NEA convention two years ago. He knows the story of my family and knew I would appreciate it. The shirt is bright yellow and on the back it says, in big bold letters ‘MY FAMILY RAISED ME UNION.’ [Full Story](#)

Redistricting

By Shawnda Westly, Executive Director, California Democratic Party

Many of you have been following the work of the Citizen's Redistricting Commission this past year. The Commission is charged with drawing all Congressional and Legislative districts that will be in place for the next ten years – for the first time ever, political parties will play no significant role in the process of redistricting.

These stories were recently released. To view the first draft of the Congressional, Legislative and Board of Equalization district maps click below:

<http://wedrawthelines.ca.gov/maps-first-drafts.html>

Release of new maps creates political 'tsunami':

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_18249488

New California Lines Create Upheaval:

<http://www.rollcall.com/news/California-redistricting-new-map-released-206364-1.html?pos=hftxt>

New redistricting maps promise to reshape California politics:

<http://www.thecalifornian.com/article/20110611/NEWS06/106110318>

California Legislature may see more swing districts under draft political maps:

<http://www.sacbee.com/2011/06/11/3692563/california-may-see-more-swing.html>

New CA Redistricting Maps “Worst-Case Scenario” for Latinos:

<http://www.greenlining.org/news/in-the-news/2011/new-ca-maps-worst-case-scenario-for-latinos>

Redistricting map offers drama, but it's just a draft:

<http://www.bakersfield.com/news/local/x43955945/OUR-VIEW-Redistricting-map-offers-drama-but-its-just-a-draft>

To survive, state GOP must reinvent itself:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-republicans-20110612,0,4554144.story>

REDISTRICTING: Draft map would alter Inland congressional delegation:

http://www.pe.com/politics/miller/stories/PE_News_Local_D_redistrict12.41c1711.html

Redistricting: Rohrabacher says he's staying put:

<http://www.oregister.com/news/rohrabacher-304110-district-redistricting.html> wanted to share a selection of news stories summarizing the Commission's first draft.

Who are the California Republican Legislators?

by Ellis Goldberg

California Republican Legislators refused to let the voters decide about the tax extensions suggested by Governor Brown. Republican Legislators are to blame for the *all cuts budget* that was just passed and all the damage and pain the cuts will cause in California.

!4 Senators and 27 Assembly Members have blocked all attempts at increasing revenue to fund critical state functions. Check out the list of these legislators with links to their official state funded web pages and a list of cities and towns they represent including some zip codes. The geographic information was found on Wikipedia.

[View list in MS WORD format](#)

Will Elizabeth Warren head Consumer Protection?

By Marie MacDonald

Relating to the appointment of Elizabeth Warren to head the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Republicans have blocked this appointment by threat of the standard filibuster but also by stopping the Senate from adjourning to prevent Pres. Obama from appointing her as a recess appointment.

[Full story](#)

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY NEEDS YOUR HELP

By Marie MacDonald

Unless our county is given an odd number by the Redistricting Commission which is currently reviewing various plans to redistrict our state, we will be given an even number which will mean that Contra County will not have direct State Senatorial representation for the 2 years between 2012 and 2014. We have a number of vital issues facing our county in the next few years. Please email the Redistricting Commission telling them that we are community of common interests comprised of 1,049,025 citizens and asking them to give our county an odd Senatorial district number. Send <mailto:redistrictingCA@gmail.com>



**Shadelands
Ranch
Walnut Creek
Saturday
July 23
3 - 5 PM**

**This event will support the
2012 campaign offices in
Contra Costa County.**

**Please join Us for a
Taste of California Summer Event
with Special Guest
U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
introduced by
U.S. Representative George Miller.**

See [Flyer](#) for details,

**RSVP required 925 299 1612
or visit www.ContraCostaDems.org**

***Sponsored by the
Democratic Party of Contra Costa County.***