



Town & Country Democrat

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June 2006

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GO PHIL GO!

Although the race didn't quite live up to the hype of a neck and neck contest, it was after midnight when State Treasurer Phil Angelides strode to the stage to claim



victory in his competition with Steve Westly for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

By morning, the ugly battle over California's airwaves between the two was water under the bridge with Angelides flying to Los Angeles to meet Westly for a showing of solidarity and the promise that both would be campaigning for Phil in the coming months.

Angelides led Westly by 3% from the time the returns began to come into the Secretary of State's office and through the early hours of the evening. By morning, Angelides had secured a 4.5% margin and his party's nomination. Not a bad result as the Secretary of State announced the voter turnout as one of

the lowest in state history.

Other Races:

Town and Country members were proud to hear many of their endorsed candidates will move on to the general election in the fall—T&C members are designated (TC). Charlie Brown (TC) (4th Congressional District) will now set his sights on John Doolittle in a battle that the national party may decide to spend some money in. Brown fought off two challengers for the nomination, fellow Democrats Lisa Rea and Michael Hammersly. Bill Durston (TC) (3rd Congressional District) will challenge Dan Lundgren. Doris Matsui (TC) will again run in the 5th Congressional District but this time as an incumbent.

In state races, Darrell Steinberg (TC) easily won his primary to succeed Deborah Ortiz in the Sixth Senate District. Brandon Bell will run for the

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Town & Country to Screen NOW's The Sunshine Gang on June 14th

Don't miss Town & Country Democratic Club's June 14th membership meeting! The highlight of the evening will be a screening of a 30-minute PBS Emmy Award-winning weekly newsmagazine, NOW segment, "The Sunshine Gang".

How far can and will the government go to keep its secrets? On this show,

meet some ordinary people showing extraordinary courage in fighting government stealth and secrecy. They include two mothers who lost their sons in the Iraq War, a Massachusetts mayor with safety concerns about a local energy plant, and a retired Virginia

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From the President...

I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something; and because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something that I can do.

-- Helen Keller (1880–1968)

Town & Country Democratic Club is working on two major events this summer and needs your time and talents!

The 12th Annual Town & Country Democratic Club Awards Dinner (yes, it will be a dinner this year) will be held on Wednesday, July 26 at 6:00 p.m. The keynote speaker will be California Attorney General and candidate for State Treasurer, Bill Lockyer.

This year, we will honor two local Democrats who continue to make outstanding contributions to our community. Joan Lee will receive the Robert T. Matsui Award for Public Service. As most of you know, Joan is a relentless fighter for progressive causes, with a particular emphasis on health care and senior issues. She is a longtime Town and Country member and serves as our Legislative Committee Chair. Joan also represents Gray Panthers California as Legislative Liaison.

This year's Great Grassroots Award will be presented to Kevin Murphy, Town & Country's immediate past President and newsletter editor. Kevin is a delegate to the California Democratic Party; a member of San Juan Unified School District's Facilities, Transportation and Finance committee and serves as Carmichael's community representative to the Sacramento Parks Foundation.

Town & Country Vice President and Event/Fundraising Committee Chair, Arnie Godmintz, will lead this effort. Please contact him at 916-332-5980 to volunteer to help with mailings, phone calls,

soliciting auction and raffle items, decorating and setup, or one of the many other tasks needed to make this another successful fundraiser.

We are also coordinating the Democratic booth at the 2006 California State Fair. The fair runs from Friday, August 11 through Monday, September 4 (Labor Day). The fair will be closed Mondays, except Labor Day.

Come out and enjoy the fun as we construct/decorate the booth on Thursday, August 10!

We also need one person willing to open the booth each weekday morning, one to close each weeknight, one for weekend openings and one for weekend closings. Opening or closing only takes 10-15 minutes each day. Although it doesn't take much time, it does take dedication and the ability to commit to doing it every weekday or weekend.

If you can assist with one of these functions, please let me know. You may contact me via email - tcbwriter@sac.sticare.com or by phone at 916-419-4064.

In addition to organizing the entire booth, Town & Country has chosen Saturday, August 18 and Sunday, August 19 as the club's days at the fair so we need volunteers to work the booth on those days. We will need at least two people to work each four-hour shift. The weekend shifts will be 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.; 2:00-6:00 p.m. and 6:00-10:00 p.m.

I will be handling the scheduling

for the booth again this year, so if you are interested in working the booth on one of the Town & Country days OR any other day during the fair, please contact me at tcbwriter@sac.sticare.com with your shift choice. I will also need your date of birth, California Drivers License # and residential zip-code (to meet Megan's Law requirements), along with your phone number and an address where the State Fair tickets should be mailed.

Now that we've made it through the Primary election, I hope all Town & Country members will volunteer to help with one or both of these worthy efforts.

As always, the proceeds from the Annual Awards Dinner will be used to provide financial support to the Northeast Democratic Headquarters and local Democratic candidates.

The main function of the booth at the State Fair is to register new Democratic voters, to promote Democratic values and to provide a conduit for Democratic candidates and organizations.

Everywhere Democrats convene, we find endless conversation about all that is wrong with our country, our state and society in general. This is your chance to do something about it – to support our club, our party and our candidates. As Joan Baez says, "Action is the antidote to despair."

Arnie and I look forward to hearing from you!



Watch Your Mail!

Town & Country's Annual Awards Dinner

Celebrating 40 Years of Service... Wednesday, July 26th, 2006.

Poverty Level Easier to Meet in California

by Tim Ransdell

The federal poverty threshold determines eligibility for several federal programs, including the Food Stamp Program, the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and Head Start. Because these programs do not adjust for regional cost of living, they inadvertently provide very different levels of service to families facing different costs. For instance, rent for a year in California is often more than half the total federal poverty threshold.

Dr. Reed's research shows that California's poverty rate soars from

15th to 3rd in the nation when regional cost of living - omitted from federal calculations - is factored in and the most current poverty data are used. Examining poverty and income trends from 1969 to 2004, the report also finds that, in contrast to the rest of the nation, California has a higher poverty rate today than in the late 1960s and 1970s. Between 1969 and 2004, income declined four percent for low-income families, rose 16 percent for families at the median, and rose 41 percent for high-income families. In the rest of

the country, however, income grew for low-income families, according to Dr. Reed's findings.

California also differs from the rest of the country in its growing number of working poor. In 1969, only 12 percent of poor families in California had a full-time worker, compared to about 20 percent in the rest of the country. By 2004, over 30 percent of poor California families had a full-time worker, while the rest of the nation held steady at 20 percent.

Confidence In GOP Is At New Low in Poll

by Richard Morin & Dan Balz

Public confidence in GOP governance has plunged to the lowest levels of the Bush presidency, with Americans saying by wide margins that they now trust Democrats more than Republicans to deal with Iraq, the economy, immigration and other issues, according to a Washington Post-ABC News poll that underscores the GOP's fragile grip on power six months before the midterm elections.

Dissatisfaction with the administration's policies in Iraq has overwhelmed other issues as the source of problems for President Bush and the Republicans. The survey suggests that pessimism about the direction of the country -- 69 percent said the nation is now off track -- and disaffection with Republicans have dramatically improved Democrats' chances to make gains in November.

Democrats are now favored to handle all 10 issues measured in the Post-ABC News poll. The survey shows a majority of the public, 56 percent, saying they would prefer to see Democrats in control of Congress after the elections.

The poll offers two cautions for

the Democrats, however. One is a growing disaffection with incumbents generally. When asked whether they were inclined to reelect their current representative to Congress or look around for someone new, 55 percent said they were open to someone else, the highest since just

before Republicans captured control of Congress in 1994. That suggests that some Democratic incumbents could feel the voters' wrath, although as the party in power Republicans have more at risk.

The second warning for Democrats is that their improved prospects for November appear driven primarily by dissatisfaction with Republicans rather than by positive impressions of their own party. Congressional Democrats are rating only slightly more favorably than congressional Republicans, and 52 percent of those surveyed said the Democrats have not offered a sharp contrast to Bush and the Republicans.

Only a third wants the GOP to remain in the majority in Congress.

Nearly three times as many Americans say they will use the elections to express opposition to the president (30 percent) than to show support for him (12 percent).

The public mood indicates that the midterm elections are likely to be a referendum on the president and his

party. The poll suggests that, if Republicans can turn the election into a choice between the two parties, as they are attempting to do, they could frustrate Democratic hopes of capturing control of one or both houses of Congress. Some Democratic leaders already are warning against overconfidence, given how quickly conditions could change by November.

Bush's job approval rating now stands at 33 percent, down five percentage points in barely a month and a new low for him in Post-ABC polls. His decline has been particularly steep among Republicans, who until last month had remained generally loyal.



Club News

T&C to Get Registration Income

Thanks to the coordination efforts of Ralph Cyfers and his tremendous voter registration brigade of volunteers, the club is expecting to receive a check from the California Democratic Party in the amount of \$2,179.50.

During the past several weeks, club members have volunteered to register voters and help the club participate in the CDP's voter registration bounty program. Through the efforts of the volunteers, the club registered 500 Democrats. Approximately 60 of those registered changed their

affiliation from other parties to Democrat.

Ralph thanked all of the volunteers who helped register voters on the weekends and at special events during the week. While those volunteers were too numerous to mention here, special thanks is due to Lyn Stueve who volunteered her home to store registration materials and provided the location for volunteers to meet.



T&Cer Helps the New Orleans City Library to Restock

Town & Country member Peggy Gorman is working with the New Orleans City Library to restock their shelves. She will be going down to New Orleans in July with any books she is able to collect to that point.

Help her to bring books back to the New Orleans City Library by donating hardcover and paperback books for people of all ages (new or used). The staff will assess which titles will be designated for its collections. The rest will be distributed to destitute families or sold for library fundraising.

Bring your donated books to the next T&C meeting on June 14th and the club will get them to her. If you are unable to make the next meeting, please contact Peggy directly at 916-638-9022 to drop off or have her pick up your books. Thanks Peggy!

Town & Country Democratic Club 12th Annual Awards Dinner

Wednesday, July 26, 2006
6:00 p.m.

Eskaton Village Ballroom
3939 Walnut Ave.; Carmichael, CA

Honoring

JOAN LEE

ROBERT T. MATSUI AWARD FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

KEVIN MURPHY

GREAT GRASSROOTS AWARD

Keynote speaker

BILL LOCKYER

CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY GENERAL &
CANDIDATE FOR STATE TREASURER

Tickets for the dinner are \$50 per person.

Sponsorships, which include tickets to the dinner, are available.

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE
SACRAMENTO COUNTY NORTHEAST DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN HQ
AND LOCAL DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

For more information call Arnie Godmintz at 916-332-5980
or visit www.tandconline.org



**TOWN & COUNTRY
DEMOCRATIC CLUB**

Supporting Democratic Values
for more than 40 years

Having Trouble Getting Your Newsletter???



During the past few months, several members have reported damaged newsletters arriving in the mailboxes. If your newsletter has arrived damaged or shredded, please send an email to Kevin at skamurphy@hotmail.com or leave a message at (916) 536-4212. We will investigate!

Meeting Minutes from May 12, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Arnie Godmintz at 7:10 PM. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were officers Arnie Godmintz and Laure Olson.

The Vice President welcomed both old and new members and visitors. A motion was asked for, seconded, and the motion was passed to suspend the vote to accept last month's minutes (MSMP).

Officer reports:

Vice-president Arnie Godmintz reported on the California Democratic Convention. Speakers included Diane Feinstein, among others. Arnie was impressed with the role of the progressives. One way to achieve progress was in taking back precincts one by one and by organizing systems using high technology. He discussed the agenda of workshops, e.g. "Out of Iraq," how the vote of assembly districts were being eliminated, etc. Steve Wesley brought in some students to help his campaign. Angelides got 68% of the endorsement vote and was officially endorsed by the state party.

Lyn Stueve reported on the Progressive Caucus. Messages were added to the platform:

impeachment, a single payer healthcare system, a timeline for Iraq, etc.

Lyn also reported about the impeachment forum held at the Crest Theater. The crowd numbered about 1000 people, overflowing the theater. She reported on the discussion of how the state can request the House to investigate the President and the Vice-President. They also discussed where the next convention would be held.

Committee Reports:

Joan Lee delivered the Legislative Committee report. The committee meetings take place on the first Monday of every month at her home. The committee is still focusing on eight issues, including flood protection, affordable housing, fair wages, voter turnout, affordable healthcare, Iraq, immigration, and Medicare Part D. T&C President Tiffany Craig-Brown is to prepare a statement outlining areas of concern, especially Medicare Part D and the fact Bush refuses to help states pay for it.

Andy Alderman delivered the Membership Committee report dealing with the Juneteenth Festival on June 17.

Ralph Cyfers talked about the

club's voter registration efforts, acknowledging all the stalwart helpers, including Lyn Stueve, Leonard & Beverly Thomas, Margie Metzler, & Andy Alderman. They lent their expertise and shared their experiences with new citizens who were sworn in at the courthouse. They noted they didn't see any Republicans there. Ralph noted "they've all been indicted". He also discussed the reward program noting they have registered 380 Democrats at \$3.50 per registration and 308 at \$4 per registration, totaling \$1424.

Lyn Stueve reported for the Communication Committee and said T&C had press releases heard over the radio at KCTC 1320 Talk Radio. The press releases are emphasizing the theme that T&C Democrats have Democratic values. The committee will be emailing and asking for ideas regarding this issue.

New business:

Arnie discussed the Annual Fundraising Awards Dinner at Eskaton on July 26. Bill Lockyer will be the keynote speaker. Ninety percent of our fundraising happens here in support of the

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Join the Town & Country Democratic Club!!!

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 E-Mail Address _____
 Strengths/Experience _____

**The Town & Country
 Democratic Club
 encourages the
 participation of
 young members.**

Please check one box and circle the correct membership below: NEW RENEWAL

Annual Dues: \$25.00 Individual \$30.00 Family
 \$20.00 Senior Individual \$25.00 Senior Family

Signature _____

Please mail to: Town & Country Democratic Club
 P.O. Box 1286
 Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1286

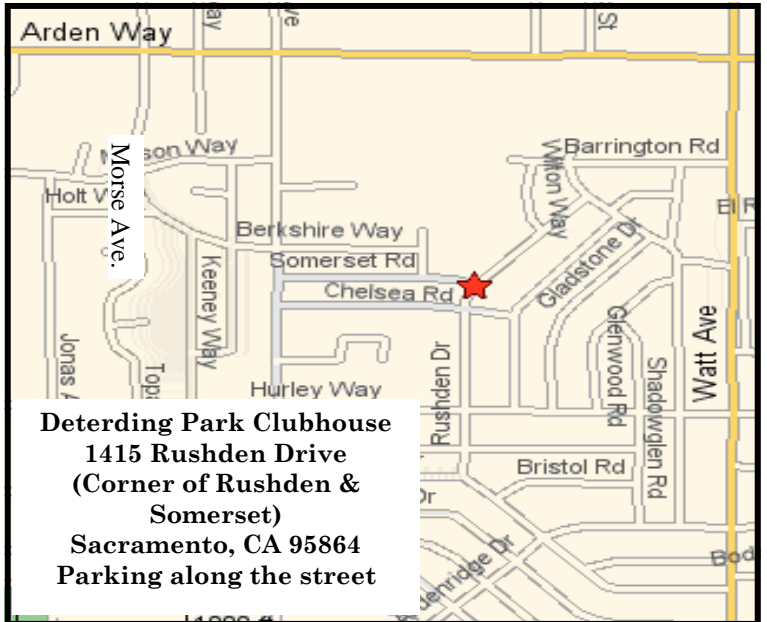
Date _____

The State of Medicare at T&C's March 8th meeting con't...

couple who uncovered something very fishy in their hometown. Also, hear from a Republican Congresswoman who charges the White House is resisting Congressional efforts to keep warrantless eavesdropping in check.

Following the video, we will have an open discussion concerning what we viewed and a post-primary conversation about where we go from here. There's a lot to do between now and the November election and we want to hear your ideas as to what our priorities should be and how our time will be best spent to meet our goals as Democrats!

As usual, we'll meet at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday the 14th at the Deterding Park Clubhouse, located at 1415 Rushden Dr. (see the map at right). Mark your calendars for a fun and informative evening!



Funny Stuff: On Running a Country Smoothly...

On his trip to Great Britain, George Bush had a meeting with Queen Elizabeth. He asked her, "How does one manage to run a country so smoothly?"

"That's easy," she replied, "You surround yourself with intelligent ministers and advisors."

"But how can I tell whether they are intelligent or not?" he inquired.

"You ask them a riddle," she replied, and with that she pressed a button and said, "Would you please send Tony Blair in."

When Blair arrived, the Queen said, "I have a riddle for you to answer for me. Your parents had a child and it was not your sister and it was not your brother. Who was this child?"

Blair replied, "That's easy. The child was me."

"Very good," said the Queen, "You may go now."

So President Bush went back to Washington and called in Karl Rove. He said to him, "I have a riddle for you, and the answer is very important. Your parents had a child and it was not your sister and it was not your brother. Who was this child?"

Rove replied, "Yes, it is clearly very important that we determine the answer as no child must be left behind. Can I deliberate on this for a while?"

"Yes," said Bush, "I'll give you 4 hours to come up with the answer."

So Rove went and called a meeting of the White House Staff, and asked them the riddle. But after much discussion and many suggestions, none of them had a satisfactory answer. He was quite upset not knowing what to tell the President.

As Rove was walking back to the Oval Office, he saw former

Secretary of State Colin Powell approaching him. So he said, "Mr. Secretary, can you answer this riddle for me? Your parents had a child and it was not your sister and it was not your brother. Who was the child?"

"That's easy," said Powell, "The child was me."

"Oh, thank you," said Rove, "You may just have saved me my job!"

So Rove went in to the Oval Office and said to President Bush, "I think I know the answer to your riddle. The child was Colin Powell!"

"No, you idiot!" shouted Bush, "The child was Tony Blair!"



Editorial: Block the Vote

In a country that spends so much time extolling the glories of democracy, it's amazing how many elected officials go out of their way to discourage voting. States are adopting rules that make it hard, and financially perilous, for nonpartisan groups to register new voters. They have adopted new rules for maintaining voter rolls that are likely to throw off many eligible voters, and they are imposing unnecessarily tough ID requirements.

Florida recently reached a new low when it actually bullied the League of Women Voters into stopping its voter registration efforts in the state. The Legislature did this by adopting a law that seems intended to scare away anyone who wants to run a voter registration drive. Since registration drives are particularly important for bringing poor people, minority groups and less educated voters into the process, the law appears to be designed to keep such people from voting.

It imposes fines of \$250 for every voter registration form that a group files more than 10 days after it is collected, and \$5,000 for every form

that is not submitted - even if it is because of events beyond anyone's control, like a hurricane. The Florida League of Women Voters, which is suing to block the new rules, has decided it cannot afford to keep registering new voters in the state as it has done for 67 years. If a volunteer lost just 16 forms in a flood, or handed in a stack of forms a day late, the group's entire annual budget could be put at risk.

In Washington, a new law prevents people from voting if the secretary of state fails to match the information on their registration form with government databases. There are many reasons that names, Social Security numbers and other data may not match, including typing mistakes. The state is supposed to contact people whose data does not match, but the process is too tilted against voters.

Congress is considering a terrible voter ID requirement as part of the immigration reform bill. Senator Mitch McConnell, Republican of Kentucky, introduced an amendment to require all voters to present a federally mandated photo ID. Even people who have been

From the New York Times

voting for years would need to get a new ID to vote in 2008. Millions of people without drivers' licenses, including many elderly people and city residents, might fail to do so, and be ineligible to vote. The amendment has been blocked so far, but voting-rights advocates worry that it could reappear.

These three techniques - discouraging registration drives, purging eligible voters and imposing unreasonable ID requirements - keep showing up. Colorado recently imposed criminal penalties on volunteers who slip up in registration drives. Georgia, one of several states to adopt harsh new voter ID laws, had its law struck down by a federal court.

Protecting the integrity of voting is important, but many of these rules seem motivated by a partisan desire to suppress the vote, and particular kinds of voters, rather than to make sure that those who are entitled to vote - and only those who are entitled - do so. The right to vote is fundamental, and Congress and state legislatures should not pass laws that put an unnecessary burden on it. If they do, courts should strike them down.

Minutes from May 12, 2006 con't...

Northeast Democratic Campaign HQ. This event is also supported by and benefits other democratic clubs in the area. Again he talked of the need for volunteers for committees and especially people willing to "dial for dollars". The theme of the fundraiser is the 40th anniversary of the club.

A mailing party to send out sponsorship requests will take place on May 20th.

Presentations:

"Clean Money" by Sarah Nichols (head of Gross National Happiness Team and board member of Clean

Money campaign) has appeared on many news shows. She is a consumer advocate and lobbyist for public campaign financing.

She talked about what people get for their money and the corruption it inspires. She had many examples of the corruption and stranglehold money has on important issues like health care, pharmaceuticals, insurance, lenders, lumber, etc. She talked about how we needed voluntary systems and of how candidates can opt out of private money and opt into public money. There were many examples and much information. A Q&A period

followed this.

Announcements:

Margie had a flyer promoting Steve Reed, Sacramento Progressive, and Bill Maher's "I'm Swiss" movie.

The League of Women Voters meeting will feature Bob Case and Ann Rudin on Tuesday at 10 a.m.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made. MSMP. The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Laure Olson
Secretary

Contribution: It's Tough to Be a Republican in 2006

It Is Tough Being a Republican in 2006, because somehow, you have to believe concurrently that:

1. Jesus loves you, but shares your deep hatred of homosexuals and Hillary Clinton.

2. The United States should get out of the United Nations, but our highest national priority is enforcing U. N. resolutions against Iraq and Iran.

3. "Standing Tall for America" means firing your workers and moving their jobs to India.

4. A woman can't be trusted with decisions about her own body, but multi-national corporations can make decisions affecting all humankind without regulation.

5. Being a drug addict is a moral failing and a crime, unless you're a conservative radio host. Then it's an illness and you need our prayers for your recovery.

6. The best way to improve military morale is to praise the troops in speeches, while slashing veterans' benefits and combat pay.

7. Group sex and drug use are degenerate sins, unless you someday run for governor of California as a Republican.

8. If condoms are kept out of schools, adolescents won't have sex.

9. A good way to fight terrorism is to belittle our long-time allies, but then demand their cooperation and money.

10. HMOs and insurance companies make profits and have the interest of the public at heart.

11. Providing health care to all

Iraqis is sound policy. Providing health care to all Americans is socialism.

12. Global warming and tobacco's link to cancer are junk science, but creationism should be taught in schools.

13. It is okay that the Bush family's "Carlisle Group" has done millions of business with the Bin Laden family.

14. Saddam was a good guy when Reagan armed him and Rumsfeld reassured him he was our buddy, a bad guy when Bush's daddy made war on him, a good guy when Cheney did business with him, but, then a bad guy again when Bush junior needed a prop for his re-election campaign as the "war president"

15. A president lying about an extramarital affair is an impeachable offense. A president lying about WMD existence, to enlist support for an unprovoked, undeclared war and occupation, in which thousands of soldiers and civilians die, is, somehow, solid "defense" policy in a "War against Terrorism."

16. Government should limit itself to the powers named in the Constitution, which should include "banning gay marriages and censoring the Internet".

17. The public has a right to know about Hillary's cattle trades, but George Bush's Harken Oil stock trade should be sealed in his Daddy's library, and is none of our business.

18. What Bill Clinton or John Kerry did in the 1960s was of vital national interest but what Bush did in the '80s is irrelevant.

19. Trade with Cuba is wrong

because the country is communist, but trade with China and Vietnam is vital to a "spirit of international harmony".

20. Affirmative Action is wrong, but it is OK for your Daddy and his friends (here and in Saudi Arabia) to get you to graduate from Yale without studying much; to dodge the draft in the Texas Air National Guard; to bail out your company Harken Oil and the Texas Rangers; to get the Governorship of Texas and then to have the Supreme Court appoint you President of the USA.

21. You are a conservative, but it is OK to spend like there is no tomorrow and run up deficits that your grandchildren will have to pay, while at the same refunding as much tax money as possible to rich people who do not need it.

This illogical behavior can take a toll on a healthy mind. So if a friend of yours has been acting a bit dazed and confused lately, be nice: he or she may be a Republican!

Contribution Policy

The opinions expressed in editorials or other contributions do not necessarily reflect those of the membership of the Town & Country Democratic Club. Contributions may be edited due to space or content, are due by the 25th of each month for the coming issue, and can be sent to.....

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The Final Word: The Pointless Talk About Impeachment by Molly Ivins

As we all know, things can always get worse, and often do. I rather think it's going to be up to the Democrats to hold the metaphoric hands of this crippled administration until it limps off stage. The Republican National Committee has a new scare tactic for the faithful: You must give to the party, or else the Democrats will spend the next two years investigating the administration (horror of horrors). Those who recall the insanely trivial investigations of the Clinton years may indeed regard this as the ultimate waste of time and money (as even Ken Starr concluded, there never was anything to Whitewater), but in fact it could be a therapeutic use of the next biennium. In fact, the offenses are not comparable.

Suppose we really did stop to investigate why and how and who is responsible for the lies, the deformed policies and the inability to govern of this administration. There is a wealth of lessons to be learned about the dangers of ideological delusion and of contempt for governance.

Trouble is, the world is not apt to hold still for two years. It seems to me pointless to impeach Bush. In the first place, the Republicans so trivialized impeachment into partisan piffle, it would look like little more than payback. In the second place, I believe Dick Cheney is seriously off the rails, apparently deeply paranoid -- let's not put him in charge. The minimum we should expect of Bush in return for dropping impeachment (or not) is that he cease breaking the law. Despite the opinions of Dick Cheney, Alberto Gonzales, David Addington, etc., the president of the United States does not have the authority to set aside the law. (If Bush were impeached, I would use as evidence his astounding

statement in March that the matter of getting American troops out of Iraq "will be decided by future presidents and future governments of Iraq." What a contemptible statement.)

It would be easier to contemplate a two-year holding period if Bush hadn't already wasted so much time. Of particular note in this department is "the inconvenient truth" -- global warming. Wasting eight years in the face of what we already knew when Bush came in is not only insane, but also unforgivable. A recent poll showed the majority of Americans feel the war in Iraq will be the overriding issue of Bush's presidency. I suspect future historians will fixate on his global warming record -- not only doing nothing to stop it, but letting the hole get dug deeper, as well.

Barring emergency, I suspect the wisest thing Democrats can do in the next two years is to begin steadily undoing what Bush hath wrought -- on tax and spending, on global warming, and on surveillance and other illegal lunges for power. George W. Bush ran in 2000 as a moderate. He did not bother to inform us at the time that he felt the government of this country needed a much stronger executive above the law. Congress has sat by passively while this administration accrued more and more power. If members of Congress think the legislative branch should be equal, it's time for them to stir their stumps.

Am I jumping to conclusions? Can Karl Rove yet steer his party away from electoral disaster in the fall? I learned long ago never to call elections closer than six weeks out, and normally I stick to that rule. But I do not think George W. can be put together again, so Rove's only option is go negative against the Democrats -- no surprise there. At this point, they could attack Democrats on almost anything, but that would leave the large question, "Compared to what?" And, we must watch out for

those voting machines.

It would be interesting to see an election in which Bush is not a factor and the whole fight is over what Tom DeLay and the K Street Project have made of the Congress. If ever a gang of corrupt jerks deserved to be held accountable, this one does.

Election Results from p1

Assembly District against Roger Niello and Jim Cook edged out Kevin Tate and will run against Alan Nakanishi in the 10th AD. It is expected that Dave Jones (TC) will win reelection in the fall to the 9th AD with his primary victory.

Jimmie Yee will be filling Illa Collin's seat for Sacramento County's Second Supervisorial District after he defeated Larry Carr. Roger Dickinson and Don Nottoli easily won reelection to their seats for the First and Fifth Districts respectively.

In the City of Sacramento, incumbents Lauren Hammond and Ray Tretheway won reelection as did Steve Cohn after Bruce Pomer withdrew his challenge. Pomer still took 25% of the vote.

For the Sacramento County Democratic Central Committee, the six seats available for the 5th Assembly District were won by Kitty Gerwig (TC), Warren Harding (TC), Bruce Pomer, Owen Jackman (TC), Richard Wake and Ann Wangberg. The seats in the 9th were won by Harold Fong, Grantland Johnson, Virginia Moose, Bill Camp, Joan King and Don Douglas. The seats in the 10th Assembly District went to Katherine Maestas, Inez Reyes, Rick Larkey (TC), Nancy Bui, Anthony Perez & Ralph Cyfers (TC).

Congratulations to the candidates and especially those who are members of Town & Country. Let's rally around our candidates and give them support!



The Calendar



Stonewall Democratic Club
 Monday, June 12th, 6:30 pm
 Lambda Players Theater
 2427 17th Street, Sacramento
 Contact: (916) 441-1787
www.sacstonewall.org

Gray Panthers
 Tuesday, June 13th, 1:00pm
 Hart Senior Center
 27th & I Streets, Sacramento
 Contact: Joan Lee
 (916) 332-5980
www.graypanthersacramento.org

**Sacramento County
 Democratic Central Committee**
 Tuesday, June 13th, 6:00pm
 State Capitol Room 127
 Contact: Rick Wathen, Chairman
 (916) 442-0264
www.sacdems.org

Town & Country Democratic Club
 Wednesday, June 14th, 7:00pm
 Deterding Park Clubhouse
 1415 Rushden Drive, Sacramento
 Corner of Rushden/Somerset
 Contact: Tiffany Craig Brown,
 President
 (916) 419-4064
www.tandconline.org

**Women Democrats of
 Sacramento County**
 Monday, June 19th, 6pm
 Sacramento Teachers Assoc.
 5300 Elvas Avenue, Sacramento
 Contact: :joann@wdsc.net
www.wdsc.net

**Town & Country Steering
 Committee Meeting**
 Wednesday, June 28th, 7:00pm
 Location: Home of Arnie Godmintz
 5313 Fernwood Way, Sacramento
 Contact: Arnie (916) 332-5980
 All Members Welcome!
www.tandconline.org

Sacramento For Democracy
 Wednesday, July 5th, 7:00pm
 SEIU Local 250
 1911 F St, Sacramento
 Contact: (916) 326-5850
www.SacramentoForDemocracy.org



**Town & Country
 Democratic Club**
 P.O. Box 1286
 Citrus Heights, CA 95611-1286

Time Value Mail
 Address Correction Requested



SAVE THE DATE!!!
**Town & Country's
 Annual Awards
 Dinner, Wednesday
 July 26th at 6pm.**