

Northwest Democrats News



Oct., 2011
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Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

Oct. 15th Program: Rep. Charlie Gonzalez

Don't forget to attend our Oct. 15th meeting when we will hear from Rep. Charlie Gonzalez

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 am at Luby's at Ingram Park Mall.

2010-2012

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Special Project: Food Bank

This month we are collecting items for the San Antonio Food Bank. Monetary donations are always appreciated, but the items most in need are:

Peanut Butter
Chili
Canned Stews
Canned Soups
Canned Luncheon Meats
Full Meals in a Can/Box
Tuna
Beans & Rice
Macaroni and Cheese
"Pop Top" Food Items
Full Meals in a Can/Box

FYI: The San Antonio Food Bank service area reaches north to Kerrville, south to LaSalle County, west to Uvalde, and east to Seguin. This area covers 16 counties.

Any questions, contact Adam Castillo, adamcastillo55@yahoo.com

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:
TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

A Few 'Joyce' Words

by Joyce Dorrycott

Listening to all the media pundits today the message is “the American people are angry.” Well, I am angry, too. But I am angry about different things.

I am angry at Democrats who aren't wholeheartedly supporting their president. I am angry at the Republicans and the Tea Partiers (and don't think for a minute that the original Tea Party group in Boston wouldn't disown the new Tea Party crowd!) who have only one agenda – defeat our president's re-election effort no matter the cost to the country or to the American people.

I am angry at the racists who hide behind economic and constitutional rhetoric - a constitution only discovered by many of these people since they decided to oppose our president. I grew up in Alabama; I understand the racism hidden behind the words. They can't get past the idea that our president is half black.

Well, I neither worked for nor supported President Obama in 2008 because he was black. I supported him because of his goals for America, for his views on public policy and because he inspired me to believe that after eight years of George Bush I could believe in government again. I still do not doubt his commitment to working to make things better for the American people.

It has been his misfortune to have Mitch McConnell in the Senate with enough votes to prevent the Senate from acting on any of the president's proposals and many of his appointees. Then, in 2010, with the rise of the Tea Party and their angry mean-spiritedness, a Republican controlled Congress was elected. Well, one of my goals is to send these Tea Partiers home along with Canseco in District 23. This has proven to be a major disaster for the country.

With their sole focus on cutting budget expenditures and refusal to raise any revenues, they are rapidly trying to remove all vestiges of the safety net. They want us to be a country full of children, who are poorly educated, have no medical care and little to eat. Oh, they don't see it that way – they just think everyone is like themselves and, if not, that is their problem. I have real problems putting their religious beliefs together with their lack of compassion and concern for others – except they care about the rich, of course.

And, I am angry at Democrats who are angry at the president for not standing up to the Republicans more and plan to stay home and not vote in November 2012. Talk about cutting off your nose to spite your face! We do not have a dictatorship. The president cannot force his will against our political system, and it is impossible to compromise with intractable opponents willing to sacrifice everything to have their way.

But, it is not just that we need to retain the presidency. We need a Democratic House of Representatives and to save the Senate from further losses. Right now we should all be “fired up and ready to go” – door to door, voter to voter – with the message of the worse things awaiting us if Republicans gain further control of our government. They are not the only ones who can be angry. We can be angry and turn that anger into a fire which sweeps Republicans out of office.

Are you ready? The president is ready and reportedly angry, too. This is my country. It is your country. Don't let them take it from us.

Après nous, le déluge

by Jacob Middleton

“After us, the deluge.” This quote comes from Madame de Pompadour, who is mostly famous for the pompadour hairstyle, but was also an official mistress to Louis XV. At the time she said this France was not in good shape and its financial system was on the verge of collapse, and eventually the nation would be plunged into revolution.

So what’s the point of bringing up Mme. de Pompadour and the French Revolution? It seems we keep failing to learn history and you know what that means (and forgive me, because this is going to be a very quick rehash of the lead-up to the French Revolution).

By the time of the French Revolution, debt had been hampering the French government. It spent heavily to lose the Seven Years’ War and spent more helping us in the American Revolution. Add to this more debt by building up its military beyond what was necessary.

What’s really funny, the finance minister/director of France, Jacques Necker, hid the cost of France’s involvement in the American Revolution from the French people. It gets even funnier; France also never implemented any new taxes to pay for its involvement in the American Revolution. Once Necker was dismissed, his successor decided to spend money to get France out of debt by spending, but not raising any revenue to pay for it.

Numerous attempts were made to enact tax reform and increase taxes, but these attempts never succeeded. After these failed attempts, Louis XVI called for an Assembly of Notables (i.e., a meeting of the influential wealthy people), hoping that these people would see the bigger picture and pressure the government for increased taxes. Shockingly these influential wealthy people said no to increasing their taxes.

Speaking of taxes, the peasants carried the burden not those in the upper classes (surprise, surprise). In fact, those in the upper classes were exempt from all taxes, except for one. Shockingly, justice was also for sale. In lawsuits both side paid the judge a bribe. Guess who got the better justice?

Plunging a country into two wars and not raising revenue to pay for it, all while hiding the cost of said wars (Afghanistan and Iraq), spending money with paying for it (Medicare Part D), not increasing taxes on the wealthiest and pushing for a more regressive tax system (Bush tax cuts). I’m so glad we’ve learned from history.

So what is the point? Bad pro-longed fiscal policy led to the people saying enough is enough. The same thing is happening now with Occupy Wall Street. This is not to say the Occupy Wall Street movement will result in the overthrow of the government and beheadings. The Occupy Wall Street is the people saying enough is enough.

And if you don’t think the wealthy, moneyed interests aren’t scared and doing everything they can to stop this movement, think again. They’re being called mobs, anti-American, anti-capitalist. Why are they scared? Rep. Peter King (R-NY): *We have to be careful not to allow this to get any legitimacy. I’m taking this seriously in that I’m old enough to remember what happened in the 1960s when the left-wing took to the streets and somehow the media glorified them and it ended up shaping policy. We can’t allow that to happen.*

They’re sacred. Did you ever see any Tea Party group being pepper sprayed? Did you ever see any Tea Party group arrested en-masse? Tea Party protesters spat on members of Congress and carried loaded guns to rallies. Why weren’t they sprayed and arrested? Because their protests didn’t challenge the wealthy, didn’t challenge the Wall Street firms, the big banks; their protests supported the status-quo.

If these protesters are just some modern-day hippies, why are they being pepper-sprayed and arrested? I also want to ask every Republican and every person who pushes for voter ID, eliminating same-day voter registration, or shortening the window for early voting: if you think the majority of the people support your position, why are you limiting and suppressing the right to vote?

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Reminder:

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

**Official Dedication of Judge Andy Mireles
Elementary School**

12260 Rockwall Mill, San Antonio, TX 78253

6:30 p.m.