

THE KENDALLIAN

The Monthly Newsletter of the Democratic Club of Kendall County

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 29

Statewide demonstration in favor of a Public Option in Austin. Call Judy McMillan at 830 336-4375 for details on getting to and from the rally and forming carpools.

September 3

The summer break ends on September 3 when the club meets at 7:00 PM in the Board Room of the Boerne ISD at 123 Johns Road. John Courage, who is running for the Democratic nomination for Texas Senate District 25 will speak at the meeting. Call Mary Lowery at 830 537-5271 for details.

September 4 thru 6

Kendall County Fair. Democrats will have a float in the parade which will be held on **Saturday September 5** along Main Street in Boerne. Help put the float together on **Friday September 4** at Stephen Rogers house. See details under Club News section. Events like parades are a good way for us to keep reminding people that there is a strong and active Democratic presence in Kendall County.

September 10

The Kendall County Area Democratic Woman's Club will meet at the Holiday Inn Express in Boerne at 10:00 AM. The agenda includes proposed amendments to the Texas constitution. Call Jean Robitaille at 830 981-4971 for details.

September 15

Blue Tuesday social get-together for Democrats at the Dodging Duck Pub on River Road. 6:00 PM. Anything you want to talk about as long as it is Democratic.

Please Accept My Apologies

Jack Morgan

I may just anger some of you. If you're easily offended, please stop reading now.

Okay, since it's a smaller crowd of us left, I've got to tell you: Our President has failed in the way he played the health care debate. He was exactly right during the primaries and his instincts were right to tackle Health Care right away. But then he let it get away from him. Obviously he underestimated the ability of the Republican opposition to convince the great disengaged electorate that despite his every word, despite the earnest need for Health Care reform, and despite the fact that we're all slowly going broke to pay the inflated salaries of Health Care moguls...that in actuality, what Mr. Obama really wanted to do was create Death Panels to send old folks to their just rewards a little early.

If you read that last sentence again, it's so bizarre, so ludicrous as to be a hilarious joke if only it weren't describing reality.

Iowa's Senator Grassley fears Obama will set up committees to "pull the plug on Grandma," but then when that doesn't play, tries to blame the phraseology on the President. Other Republican leaders embrace the Death Panel concept oh-so-slightly, and yet others give it weight by not denying it.

Have we all been drinking dumb juice or something?

Why on God's green earth has the Health Care debate been allowed to be such an Olympics of stupidity? Why hasn't the news media asked tough follow-ups to the senators playing to the fabulously ill-informed? Is it only up to Olbermann and Maddow to put these folks' words and deeds into their proper context?

And where are Texas' two senators? Cornyn refers to it as a "Government Takeover of Health Care" and KB Hutchison is screaming about higher taxes. 'Scuse me, but why aren't either of them screaming about higher health care costs? Why aren't either one of them declaring that record earnings by insurance and big pharma, while our insurance premiums have gone up 100% in the last 10 years...is too much? I suppose they're keeping their constituency in mind. Don't confuse constituency with voters, because they damn sure aren't representing us right now.

And so President Obama needs to change tactics. He needs to stop playing so nice and call this what it is: Democrats are fighting for the little guy; Republicans are fighting for the rights of insurance and big pharma to rake us over the coals. Obama needs to stop giving up things like single payer and government option even before Republicans concede anything. And in fact, if he gives up the government option, I support the Democrats in Congress who are saying they'll vote against a Democratic bill which cuts it out.

There. I've said it. I hope I haven't made too many of you mad. I really **really** like President Obama. But there's simply too much at stake to not call it as I see it. From my vantage point, it's our collective future that's on life support. And there's an insurance functionary who'd just as soon pull the plug if he gets half a chance.

Club News

John Courage will be the speaker at our September 3 meeting. John has announced that he will run for the Democratic nomination for the Texas Senate seat for District 25 (our district). **Let's show John we strongly appreciate his long time efforts on behalf of San Antonio and Hill Country area Democrats by having a good turnout.**

County Fair Parade. We will put the float together beginning at 1:00 PM on Friday September 4 at Stephan Roger's house at 102 Sabine Road Boerne (call 830 537-3915 for directions)--**please offer to help.** We also need people to both ride on and walk along side of the float during the parade. The parade will march along Main Street on Saturday morning September 5. The starting point for our float is on North Main Street between W. Advogt and School Street. Our space number is 57. Be there by 9:00 AM. It is especially important that we have strong participation in our float in view of the **disgusting comments** that were made recently to Michelle Koch **by a Republican** who thinks that Kendall County is Republican country and Democrats need not apply. We need to show them **we are just as much a part of this community as they are.** Please call Claire Gluck at 210 246-7749 or Josephine Renfroe at 830 249-3118 for more information.

Thanks to all who participated in demonstrations at the Town Hall Meetings held by Lamar Smith and Ciro Rodriguez. Both representatives surely must have been impressed with the amount of support for the Public Option in their districts. But we have to do more to counter all of the false allegations about the Public Option being spread by the insurance companies and the Republicans—how could any intelligent citizen really believe that the government of the United States, whether Democrat or Republican lead, would set up "Death Panels." Despite the way too extensive reporting about these "Death Panels" by the media, polls show that support for the public option hasn't dipped.

If you receive this newsletter in time, please consider participating in the statewide rally for the Public Option in Austin on Saturday August 29. The event will include a rally on the grounds of the state capitol at 2:00 PM and an address on Health Care at 3:00 PM by Congressman Lloyd Doggett at the nearby United Methodist Church. Call Judy McMillan at 830 336-4375 for details and organization of carpools.

Membership in the Club is payable yearly starting in January. We suggest an annual contribution of \$20 per person (payable to KCDC). If you enjoy receiving the *Kendallian* as a way of keeping up with local Democratic activities but cannot be an active member, we would appreciate a contribution to cover the cost of the stamps. If you would prefer to receive the *Kendallian* by E-MAIL or if you would like for us to take your name off our mailing list please let us know. **Sarah White is our treasurer. Her address is 138 Stonegate South, Boerne, Texas 78006. Her phone is 830 755-8794.**

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