

October 2025

Culver City Democratic Club

Active Democrat



www.CulverCityDemocraticClub.com

Email: CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com • Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/culvercitydems

Post Office Box 4254 • 6695 Green Valley Circle Culver City, CA 90230

General Meeting on Zoom — 7p.m. Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Program: TO BE ANNOUNCED

President's Message by Jeanna Harris

Texas said check, California responds balance!

Dear Members and Supportive Friends,
2025 has been quite a ride and it's not over yet. We are one month away from the November special election for Proposition 50 aka The Election Rigging Response Act. I want to be clear; this isn't just another ballot measure. Prop 50 is about defending the very foundation of our democracy.

We are witnessing the erosion of checks and balances that keeps our democracy healthy. They prevent any one branch from holding unchecked power, like the Executive branch. They ensure laws are debated, courts remain independent, and the Will of the People is respected. When you have extreme partisanship, gerrymandering, and politicians who put loyalty to their party over loyalty to the system, and our 'democracy' doesn't look very democratic anymore. The system is still there, but it creaks under the weight of polarization and bad faith actors who push it to the edge. Too much check and not enough balance is how I look at it.

By voting YES on Prop 50, Californians can send a powerful message: we will not allow partisan games to silence voters or distort our democracy. This measure gives our state the tools to respond when other states rig the system, protecting fair representation here at home. Texas decided to bend the knee to a pseudo-King with tiny hands but California says hell no! We believe in democracy and fair elections on the West Coast!

How can you help? There are canvassing, phone banks, and GOTV events happening everywhere such as the

Grassroots Dem HQ hosting weekly canvasses in Culver City and West LA. [Check it out HERE.](#)

But if your capacity is limited, sometimes the most helpful thing is making sure those closest to you vote. If each person gets at least one more person to vote then I know we WILL WIN!

More importantly, make sure you are registered to vote and your address is updated. [Check your registration HERE.](#) Ballots will start arriving October 2.

Hope to see you at our October membership meeting on October 8! In solidarity and with hope for democracy,
—Jeanna Harris, President



"The Culver City Democratic Club is proud to endorse Fatima Iqbal-Zubair for State Assembly. We know having such a strong progressive champion in the Assembly will benefit all Californians. Fatima has shown a deep commitment and dedication to expanding opportunities for people to succeed. She has advocated for more affordable housing, stood up for working families, and ensured young people can grow up breathing clean air and drinking safe water. As a teacher, immigrant, and mother, she will bring the lived experience and progressive leadership needed to deliver a more just California."

Jeanna Harris

PRESIDENT, CULVER CITY DEMOCRATIC CLUB



Fatima
FOR STATE ASSEMBLY

Culver City Democratic Club votes to endorse UNITE HERE! LOCAL 11 resolution for Fair Games at LA Olympics

by Cynthia Hart

The Olympics always accelerate policing, evictions, inequality, exploitation, and the erosion of democracy in every host city. The LA 2028 games are no different. At our September meeting, our Club voted to endorse UNITE HERE Local 11's resolution calling for:

- A transparent and open process in major Olympics contracts and venue agreements
- City and region-wide union and living wage jobs
- Housing for working families

Culver City could become one of those impacted host cities. Discussions are underway for our city to be the New Zealand Olympics headquarters, at a cost to our city of an estimated \$527,763. Most of this cost would be in police overtime. It is not certain that any resulting sales tax bump would be sufficient to fully offset that cost.

It is expected that the New Zealand Olympics activity would be centered at the Culver City Steps, owned by Michael Hackman, who was a major donor in the last election for Culver City Council. He did not contribute to any of our Club's endorsed candidates. [To read more about the resolution CLICK HERE.](#)

UNITE HERE! LOCAL 11

The members of the Culver City Democratic Club voted at their August 13 meeting to endorse Marissa Roy for Los Angeles City Attorney.

While the Culver City City Attorney is a staff member who represents the City government, the Los Angeles city attorney is an elected advocate for the people.

Roy is a civil rights attorney, a former Deputy City Attorney, and now a Deputy Attorney General who has taken on billion-dollar companies, defended sanctuary cities, and helped put stolen wages back into workers' pockets. She has spent her career protecting tenants from illegal evictions, fighting for workers' rights, and aggressively challenging Trump and other right-wing extremists.



Endorsed by
the Culver City
Democratic Club
[Click here for
Marissa's website](#)



The Primary election isn't until June, but her endorsements are numerous and include Los Angeles County Supervisor Lindsay Horvath, California State Senators Lola Smallwood-Cuevas and Caroline Menjivar, Assemblymembers Sade Elwahary and Tina McKinnor, Culver City Vice Mayor Freddy Puza, Former Culver City Mayor Yasmine-Imani McMorris, Culver City Councilmember Bubba Fish, Los Angeles City Councilmembers Eunisses Hernandez and Ysabel Jurado, the Working Family Party, and major unions including SEIU-UHW, United Auto Workers 6, United Teachers of Los Angeles, Roofers & Waterproofers Local 36, and SMART Local 105. <https://marissaroy.com>

The first campaign finance reporting pe-

riod ended shortly before the Democratic Club meeting, and filings revealed that Roy had raised more money than the incumbent she is attempting to unseat and that she had twice as many donations under \$100.

Club members who spoke in favor of endorsing Roy mentioned her track record, her impressive campaign, and the scandals surrounding her opponent.

Learn more about Marissa Roy in her long form interview with Former City Councilmember Mike Bonin [here](#).

Di's Corner:

by Diane Rosenberg

"Fiesta La Ballona" was August 22-24. It's a yearly event in Culver City held in Veterans Park, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City. On opening evening Culver City Mayor Dan O'Brian, California Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, and City Council Member Freddy Puza officially opened the Fiesta.

As always, the Culver City Democratic Club had a booth. Club President Jeanna Harris was there most of the weekend. Other active members who helped at the booth were Corresponding Secretary Haifaa Moammar, former Club President Jeff Schwartz, School Board Member Brian Guerrero, Recording Secretary Shannon Theus, Jack Galanty, Leah Pressman our Political/legislator, Diane Rosenberg Membership Chair, Culver City Councilmember Bubba Fish, Former Culver City Mayor and Councilmember Alex Fisch, Culver City Vice Mayor Freddie Puza, Newsletter Editor Pete Rockwell, our Treasurer Cynthia Hart. Around 5pm our Congressional Representative Sydney Kamlager-Dove visited our booth.

Comments expressed in the newsletter are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Culver City Democratic Club

Cardboard, markers, and rage—the art of the homemade protest sign

Edited by Pete Rockwell

There's something about a homemade protest sign that just hits home.

In the year 2025—where AI writes your news, your fridge judges your sodium intake, and billionaires are still trying to privatize air—it turns out that nothing says “power to the people” like a crooked piece of cardboard with a message written in Sharpie and a little too much glue-stick residue.

You can tell a lot about a person by their protest sign. Are they the “clever pun and angry font” type? The “quotes John Lewis in cursive” type? Or the underrated “chaotic toddler scribble but with real conviction” type?

The beauty of protest in 2025 is this: no one is showing up for perfection. We're showing up for each other.

There's power in glitter. Homemade signs are messy, joyful, full of grammar crimes, and deeply democratic. They reject polish. They reject corporate branding. They say, “I made this with what I had—printer paper, poster board, the inside of a pizza box—because what's happening in the world demands I say something.”

In 2025, we're still fighting for voting rights, reproductive freedom, climate sanity, and the fundamental idea that empathy is not a partisan issue. In the face of that, a handmade sign becomes a

battle flag for the hopeful and the fed up.

Also, let's be real—it's therapeutic. There is something deeply satisfying about writing “Hands Off My Democracy” in hot pink bubble letters while eating leftover fries and venting to your group chat. Add a little glitter glue if you're feeling spicy.

So yes, make your sign. Misspell something and cross it out. Cover it with stickers. Use both sides—double the fury. Show up. Because protests aren't about being perfect. They're about being Present. That's the kind of chaotic democracy energy we need.

The constitution was, after all, hand-written and homemade. Of, By, and for the People.

So, People: See you in the streets—cardboard in hand, heart wide open. `



Are you ready for the No Kings Rally Oct 18th? You saved the date, you made your sign. Now where do you go and when?

You're in luck! You have your choice of downtown Culver City, from 11 am to 12:30 pm, in front of Culver City Hall, or the rally and march at Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles. That one starts at 2 pm.

You can go to both!

At 12:30, when the Culver City demonstration is winding down, get on the train in Culver City and take it to Seventh Street/Metro Center Station. See if we can get more peaceful people on the street in LA than anywhere else in the country.

Peaceful people

A core principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to nonviolent action. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree with our values and to act lawfully at these events. Weapons of any kind, including those legally permitted, should not be brought to events.

This book could change everything for the better

Book review by Pete Rockwell

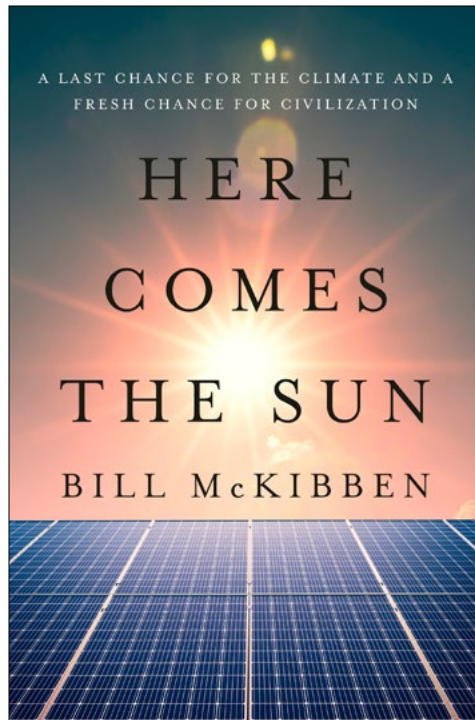
"As I wrote the first words of this book, late in December 2024, a warm rain pelted the Green Mountains of Vermont. It should have been snow, of course, but scientists had just announced that 2024 was the hottest year ever recorded—indeed, the paleo-climatologists said it had been the hottest year in the last 125,000.

"While I was still immersed in typing these pages, America inaugurated Donald Trump as president after he ran on the premise that global warming was a hoax. Oh, and Los Angeles caught fire; among the least important results of that conflagration was that the home of my earliest memories, up against the Altadena hills, burned to the ground.

"If I have a literary reputation, it's for a kind of dark realism.

"When I was still in my 20s—way back in the 1980s—I published what is sometimes called the first book on the climate crisis. It bore the cheerful title *The End of Nature*; in the decades since, with 20 books and countless essays and articles published, I have chronicled those early warnings as they came true. This moment would seem to be—indeed it is—the summation and the vindication of all that angst.

"And yet, right now, really for the first time, I can see a path forward. A path lit by the sun."
—Bill McKibben



That's how the introduction to Bill McKibben's newest book begins. The book is called: *Here Comes the Sun: A last chance for the climate and a fresh chance for civilization*. After writing more than a dozen books about the climate crisis since 1989—books that predicted the catastrophic changes to the climate that have become more and more evident—McKibben has written a book that's full of good news. It turns out that "Sometime in the early part of the 2020s we crossed an invisible line where the cost of producing energy from the sun dropped below the cost of fossil fuel." He goes on to state that the

two cheapest ways to produce energy—photovoltaic panels and wind turbines—are also the healthiest for the climate and the least wasteful.

I found out about this book around the end of August when I heard the author interviewed on Chris Hayes' podcast, [Why Is This Happening](#). He talks about his new book on [Bernie Sanders' podcast](#) as well.

The political implications

Donald Trump sold himself to the fossil fuel industry. During the 2024 campaign he told a roomful of oil executives that if they gave him a billion dollars he would give them anything they wanted. What they want is for him to destroy the solar power industry and the wind power industry. He's trying to do that by telling lies. I just heard him say that wind power—a form of solar power, because the sun heats the atmosphere unevenly and causes wind—is the most expensive form of energy. The truth is oil is the most expensive form of energy in spite of the fact that our government subsidizes the oil industry.

The book does more than tell the good news about the low cost of clean energy. It lays out the fact that people of good will now have an alternative to dirty energy (oil, coal, ethanol). An alternative that is not only cleaner and cheaper—it's an energy source that can't be hoarded. An energy source that doesn't require massive oil wells and refineries.

Culver City Democratic Club endorses Proposition 50

By Jeff Schwartz

On September 10, at their monthly general meeting, the members of the Culver City Democratic Club voted unanimously to endorse Proposition 50.

Proposition 50 will temporarily redraw California's Congressional districts to add five Democratic seats. This is to counterbalance Texas' move earlier this year to redraw their districts to add five Republican seats. Redistricting is traditionally done every ten years, when new census data is issued, but Republicans have broken this pattern because they fear losing control of the House in next year's midterm elections. Unlike Texas' redistricting, Prop. 50 will expire in

2030, returning control to California's Independent Redistricting Commission.

Texas does not have an Independent Redistricting Commission. Instead, it has been gerrymandered to favor Republicans. For example, their new plan puts the entire city of Austin in one House district, forcing two current Democratic Members of Congress to run against each other.

Culver City's State Assembly Member Isaac Bryan, a Lifetime Member of the Culver City Democratic Club, has become one of the main spokespeople for Prop. 50, appearing on many cable and network news programs. Bryan said:

"When an unprecedented power grab threatens to destabilize the foundations of our democracy, we can and must do everything necessary to stand in the way. That is who we are in California."

The members of the Culver City Democratic Club are proud to join Assembly Member Bryan and encourage Culver City's voters and organizations to also support Prop. 50. Vote-by-mail ballots will arrive in early October and are due back by November 4.

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New CCDC t-shirts are here!



We are now accepting orders for Club t-shirts in a new design, refreshed for our 70th anniversary.

Shirts are 100% cotton, union made in Boyle Heights.

They come in small, medium, large, and extra-large and, for the first time, we have Men's (boxy) and Women's (fitted) cuts.

Place your order by donating \$20 (or more!) via [Act Blue](#) and emailing us at CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com your desired size and cut. We will deliver in Culver City and nearby; other orders will be mailed.

We also have a few shirts remaining with the previous design (now known as “heritage” or “throwback”) shown below.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Club website: www.culvercitydemocraticclub.com

Club email address: CulverCityDemClub@gmail.com

Follow us on Bluesky: <https://bsky.app/profile/culvercitydemclub.bsky.social>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/culvercitydemclub/>

and Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CulverCityDems>



Help Prop 50 Get Passed!

[By Postcarding](#)

[By Phonebanking and Canvassing](#)

[By Donating to Prop 50 Campaign](#)



October 5 - 11 • Banned Books Week

Censorship is so 1984. Read for your rights.

<https://bannedbooksweek.org/>

October 7 • 6-7:30PM

Banned Books Read-In—Village Well Bookstore

RSVP: <https://villagewell.com/events/3713620251007>



October 8 • 7 PM

CCDC Membership Meeting on Zoom



October 11 • 7 PM

[Fundraiser to Support Re-Election of Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas](#)

October 13 and 27 • 7 PM

[Culver City Council Regular Meetings](#)

October 14 and 28

[CCUSD School Board Meeting](#)

October 18

[Art Walk and Roll Festival](#)

October 18 • No Kings

[Power Belongs to the People](#)

October 26 • 12-3 PM

Save the Date! Community & Conversation Luncheon

Join us for a warm afternoon of connection, conversation, and good food. We'll take time to appreciate our longtime members, welcome new friends, and share thoughts on the issues that matter most.

\$50 per person. More details to follow. We can't wait to see you there!

PLEASE JOIN

*Hon. Meghan Sahli-Wells, * Hon. Bubba Fish
* Hon. Freddy Puza, * Hon. Yasmine-Imani McMorris,
Disa Lindgren, Haifaa Moammar, Jeff Schwartz, Leah Pressman,
Michelle Weiner, Nancy Barba, Jeanna Harris,
Karyn Okelo

IN SUPPORT OF RE-ELECTING *Senator Lola Smallwood-Cuevas*

Sahli-Wells Residence
October 11, 2025 1-3pm

Address upon RSVP

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS

ALL IN!	\$5,900
HOST	\$5,000
CO-HOST	\$2,500
SUPPORTER	\$1,000
ADVOCATE	\$500
FRIEND	\$100

TO RSVP, EMAIL:

jelena@marvadiaszstrategies.com



Contributions are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. The California political reform act (Proposition 34) limits contributions to candidates for state senate. An individual, union, political action committee, association, committee, partnership, business or corporation may contribute a maximum of \$5,900 to Lola Smallwood-Cuevas for Senate 2026 per election. A small contributor committee may contribute a maximum of \$11,800 per election. Lobbyist registered to lobby the California state legislature may not contribute.

The state of the state is strong

by *Cynthia Hart*

As Governor Gavin Newsom observed in his final State of the State address, “California is menaced by a federal administration that dismantles public services, punishes allies across the globe, and sweeps the rule of law into the gutter... But California, this uniquely blessed state, is standing up.” [Click here for a video and the full text of Newsom’s State of the State Address.](#)

Nowhere is that more evident than in the work of our State legislature where our electeds have carefully crafted legislation to shield California in every way possible.

Take for example the “No Secret Police Act”—SB 627, which was endorsed by our Club. It will prohibit law enforcement officers from wearing masks or

other facial coverings while on duty. The new law, which goes into effect on January 1, 2026, also requires officers to be identifiable by name and badge number.

Or how about AB 260 that would allow pharmacists to dispense mifepristone and other abortion-related medications without including the patient’s, prescriber’s, or pharmacy’s names on the label. That would safeguard both healthcare providers and patients from legal actions initiated by states with stricter abortion laws.

And our own Assemblymember Isaac Bryan’s AB 246 (endorsed by the Club) would protect seniors and persons with

disabilities from eviction in the event that Trump’s demolition of the Social Security Administration succeeds in interrupting their monthly benefit payments.

There are more examples in this month’s Legislative Committee report. [Click here for the full report.](#)

In these times, we feel powerless at the federal level, but at the State and local level we still have power to act.

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Legislative Committee report

by *Leah Pressman*

October 13, 2025 is the last day for Governor Gavin Newsom to sign or to veto the bills the state legislature passed this year. Fifteen of the bills our club voted to support or oppose made it to the Governor’s desk for him to sign or veto.

The bills that made it to the Governor’s desk are in the table linked here along with the status of the bills.

If you want more information on any of these bills, click on the link or links provided in the fourth column. More extensive write-ups of these bills were in previous legislative reports that appeared in our newsletter.

[\(Click here for the full report of the Legislative Committee\)](#)

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**MAIL-IN BALLOTS
DROP OCTOBER 6TH
REGISTER TO VOTE TODAY!**



**YES
ON 50**



[REGISTERTOVOTE.CA.GOV](https://registertovote.ca.gov)