

Next Meeting

Manhattan Bread & Bagel
1812 N. Sepulveda Boulevard
Manhattan Beach
Wednesday, September 24
7:30 PM

This month's meeting will be an endorsement meeting! We will meet and consider endorsement for the only Democrat running for the Beach Cities Health District, Dr. Michelle Bholat. We will also consider endorsing Hermosa Beach City School District Measure Q.

In addition, we will have a panel discussion of the pros and cons of the AES "Harbor Village" proposal for Redondo Beach.

This will be an information-packed evening— please plan to attend, bring a friend, and *arrive early* so we can fit in a very full agenda!

Best regards,
President—Kathryn Campbell
Vice President—Dency Nelson
Secretary—Teresa Bird
Treasurer—Edna Murphy

Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, 9/20, Coastal Cleanup Day, Miramar Park, 201 Paseo de la Playa, Torrance, with Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi.

Sunday, 9/21, 3:30 PM at Skyline Mobile Home Park, 2550 Pacific Coast Highway, Rec Room, Torrance, CA, Meet and Greet with Sandra Fluke. RSVP Teresa Bird 310-968-4731.

Saturday, 9/27, 10:00 AM—Noon

The Environmental Priorities Network presents:

OVERTURN The Supreme Court

A forum to get big money out of politics.

Hear about :

- The Problem: too much money in our elections
- The Cause: Supreme Court Decisions in 2010 and 2014
- The Solution: A Constitutional Amendment
- Good News: CA Legislature has already voted to call for a Constitutional Convention.

For more information or to reserve a table, contact Lillian Light at llight@verizon.net or 310-545-1384

Sunday, 9/21, 10:00 AM

Sandra Fluke Campaign Event

Please join Dale and Ken Petrulis in support of Sandra Fluke for State Senate. To help Sandra win in November, they are hosting a Phone Bank and Canvassing Event at their home, 607 Ruby Street, Redondo Beach, 90277. Dale will provide brief training on the phone software and also on the canvassing tool and our message to the voters. Canvassing volunteers will pair up to share the experience.



Friends and supporters joined in to help staff BCD's table at Fiesta Hermosa over the Labor Day weekend. Ray Waters and Dency Nelson did the heavy lifting, remaining at the booth all day during all three days of the Fiesta.

Unfortunately, the Free Speech Area experienced restricted foot traffic due to the relocation of the shuttle stop; very few people wandered by our location. We actually made common cause with our would-be adversarial neighbors including the Republicans and the Open Carry advocates: free speech is free speech, and we all felt bypassed unfairly. None of us had a fair chance to get our message out.

For callers, please bring your laptop and smart phone (if you don't have one, notify Dale). She will provide bottled water and snacks.

Please RSVP by Friday, September 19. Dale can be reached at dale.petruilis@gmail.com or 310-694-6313.

9/21 March for Climate Change

Ray Waters writes:

We are a bit far from NYC and a massive march to take place there. There was a meeting to view DISRUPTION at St. Cross Church last Monday evening. It was decided that we should have a presence locally to add to the impact of the march. Here is what we propose to do:

"Communities along the Sepulveda Blvd / Pacific Coast Highway corridor will join the #PeoplesClimateMarch on Sept 21st! As world leaders gather in New York

(Continued on page 4)



Colin Hernandez reported from Sandra Fluke's campaign

AUGUST RECAP

Beach Cities Democrats

Minutes courtesy of Teresa Bird

President Kathryn Campbell welcomed elected officials and reps, and Colin Hernandez from Sandra Fluke's campaign.

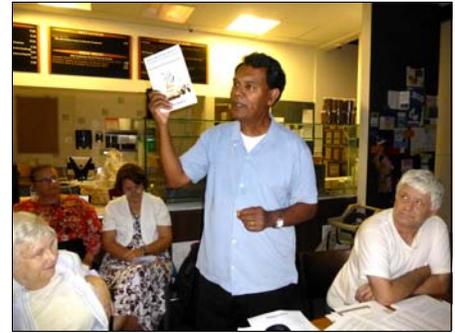
Dency Nelson provided an update on AB 1839, which involved tax incentives to keep film industry jobs in California. He said that the tax break will more than pay off by keeping the enormous number of television and movie productions local.

Dency also announced an open seat on the Coastal Commission. Possible candidates include Nanette Barragan, Bill Brand, and Jim Light.

Edna Murphy then gave the Treasurer's report: Federal account: \$348.00, money in, balance \$3,203.00; State account, money in, \$60.00, balance, \$127.00.

Our guest speaker, author and radio personality Peter Mathews, spoke on "Dollar Democracy." Peter has spent 30 years as a college and university professor and is a featured Political Analyst with the "Head-On" radio show on KEIB AM 1150 in Los Angeles. He was the Democratic Party Nominee for the US Congress in 1998 and ran a close race in the Long Beach district.

He described how big corporations and their super wealthy owners have bought many American politicians through campaign contributions and lobbying. These politicians have voted to benefit their owners, not the American public. Their decisions have led to outsourcing good middle-class jobs, dismantling of our public education system, and deterioration of our health care.



August Speaker Peter Matthews

His book "Dollar Democracy: With Liberty and Justice for Some" was available for sale, and there was a lively question-and-answer session following his talk.

Melissa Uribe from Al Muratsuchi's office provided an update on his pending legislation.

Ray Waters reported from the L.A. County Committee that the Democratic Woman and Man of the year in the 66th AD are Kathryn Campbell and Torrance Democratic Club Jimmy Gow, who will be honored at the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Dinner on October 19 at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel.

Volunteers were requested for the upcoming Labor Day Fiesta Hermosa booth (see page 1).

Kathryn called out a thank you for Jim McGreevy's redesign of our BCD logo, which now adorns our newsletter.

We discussed a possible upcoming visit to West Basic Municipal Water District 101 in El Segundo.

It was announced that Al Muratsuchi's bill AB 2565 (electric car infrastructure) has been sent to the Governor.



President's Message

THREE EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO IMPROVE TURNOUT

I'm sure that everyone reading this message has heard the warning cry about this year's election. Lacking a presidential race, and given a gubernatorial race in which only 25% of Californians surveyed even know the name of Jerry Brown's opponent, expectations are that this year's turnout in California will be extremely low. Sadly, Democrats suffer more than Republicans in such a situation, as Democrats historically do a poorer job of turning out in low-profile elections than do Republicans. That creates a head wind for those of us who are working to get some wonderful Democratic candidates elected this November 4.

But I'm sure that everyone reading this column is saying to themselves, "Kathryn, I'm certainly planning to vote. But what can I do about low turnout in general?" So I'd like to suggest three simple things that you can do to help the cause this fall.

1. Tape the following site addresses to your computer!

RocktheVote.com Created especially for inexperienced voters, this site does a great job of answering voter questions such as where to find your polling place, how and where to register to vote, etc. And they even offer phone support if you need it!

RegisterToVote.ca.gov If you have a California Driver's License and a Social Security Number, you may register to vote or update your voter registration information online at this site.

Now when someone asks you questions about where to register, or where their polling place is, you'll have the answer right at your finger tips.

2. Remind your family, friends and neighbors of these key dates. This year they are:

Voters must register by October 20, 2014.



Requests for Vote-by-Mail ballots must be received by October 28, 2014.

Vote by Mail ballots should be *mailed* no later than Halloween (or scary things could happen to your vote!)

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.

If you have a friend or relative who recently moved, or a new neighbor you've made friends with, feel free to ask them if they remembered to update their address with the County Registrar so that they will get their Voter information and correct polling place information. Even better, **post the due date and include a link to the sites above to your Facebook page** before October 20 and remind your friends and family to take care of this important business!

3. Ask your friends to commit to helping you get "your" candidate elected.

You would think that rational people would vote for their own self interest and to help safeguard their community, wouldn't you? But research shows that social pressure plays a strong role in the voting decision for less committed voters. So this year, try telling your well-meaning-but-flaky Democratic friends and family about your friend Al Muratsuchi. Tell them how much it would mean to you if they would commit to supporting him too. Believe it or not, many of these folks are more likely to vote to show that they support you than to make sure the right person represents the South Bay in the California Assembly.

There, that wasn't so hard, was it?! Of course, if you can volunteer even one afternoon to make calls, walk a neighborhood (especially your own), deliver lawn signs or have a "Meet the Candidate" coffee in your neighborhood or apartment complex, even just that couple of hours can make a huge difference. See you on the campaign trail!

Yours, Kathryn

P.S. If you are a research geek like me, Wikipedia covers some research studies on voter motivation and turnout that you might find interesting.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voter_turnout

Beach Cities Green

Dency Nelson

I am writing this column this month feeling very depressed, kind of like back in June when 18 abstaining California State Senate Democrats joined Republicans in defeating SB 2011, Holly Mitchell's moratorium on hydraulic fracturing. I said then that I felt like David of David & Goliath.

This month I'm feeling like the Little Dutch Boy with his finger in the dike. After last month's column where I extolled the benefits of embracing what is small, affordable and historic along our coastline, all I'm hearing from our Beach Cities communities' city councils is what seems to be an inevitable race to tear down and overdevelop with massive retail and hotels. With that said, I will do my best to focus on something very positive.

At 3:00 AM, Saturday, August 30, in the waning hours of the California Legislature's 2013-2014 session, AB 2145 suffered its final death. Termed-out 62nd AD Assemblyman Steve Bradford, the sponsor of this mega-utility-inspired Community Choice Aggregation killer was unable to find a floor sponsor in the Senate for his misguided, malignant legislation.

What does this mean for us here in the South Bay, and for the rest of California for that matter? It means that we will have the opportunity to experience what Marin County, Sonoma County and communities all over California are already enjoying, the cleaner, cheaper, job-creating alternative energy to what, heretofore, the mega-utilities like SCE, SDE and PG&E have been offering Californians. With AB 2145 out of the way, the path is clear for the South Bay Clean Power Working Group to move ahead pursuing feasibility studies to form a Community Choice Aggregation of neighboring South Bay communities. Community Choice energy programs allow local communities to take





**Beach Cities
Democrats**

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along with Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi and Sen. Ted Lieu, can be proud of the role they played in helping defeat AB 2145, paving the way for this clean energy revolution!

(March, continued from page 2)
City to confront climate change, the Golden State communities from the Valley through West LA and the Beach Cities down through Palos Verdes will join the tens of thousands of people demanding that world leaders sign a binding agreement to end greenhouse gas emissions and implement other policies to Stop Climate Change Now. We invite your organization or group of friends, families, coworkers and communities to adopt an intersection anywhere along the corridor to Demand Action Not Words! Sign up, and our organizer will contact you to discuss specifics for your corner."
RSVP here: http://www.avaaz.org/en/event/climate/Peoples_Climate_March_SepulvedaPCH_Corridor

(Green, continued from page 3)
control of the decision-making about the sources of their electrical power. What a Community Choice Aggregation, or CCA, does is to transfer authority over energy policies and power procurement away from the utility, in our case SCE, and onto the CCA. SCE would continue to provide long-range transmission, community distribution, and billing for a fee. What the CCA can provide to its customers is the "choice" of participating in portfolios of cleaner, renewable, and often cheaper energy sources, or to opt out and remain with what the existing utility provides. Two of the established CCAs in California, Marin Clean Energy and Sonoma Clean Power, provide their customers with 50% renewable energy at rates slightly lower than their utility, PG&E, while 100% renewable energy is offered at a slightly higher cost. That's what we can have here.

The point is, we can make that choice, and by making the choice for clean, renewable energy, we will expand that market, ultimately lowering the price and,

more importantly, rapidly accelerating the move away from dirty, dangerous fossil fuels and toward the clean, renewable sources such as hydro, solar, wind and tidal. All of this is a practical, affordable and extremely "doable" way to not only wean us away from our dependence on fossil fuel, to lower our carbon footprint and clean our air, but also to turn our rooftops into profitable energy farms, feeding the photovoltaic solar-produced electricity back onto the grid to be shared by our own community, saving us all money. How great will that be, putting that money back into our community rather than lining the pockets of the mega-utility bosses.

You'll be hearing more and more about South Bay Clean Power in the coming weeks and months, as Mayors and City Council members from Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Santa Monica have all signed on to participate in the feasibility studies and may very well soon be the active participants in South Bay Clean Power. And Beach Cities Democrats,