



Victory Gram



Meeting Monday, May 2 at 7:00 p.m. @ San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, 1 Love Street

House Republicans Attack on Education by Jim Riley

Although Americans have supported public schools from the Pilgrims' first school in 1635 to Thomas Jefferson's national school system to Constitutionally mandated state supported schools in Texas, Republican extremists are working on destroying our children's opportunities to get a good education. Many different people are saying, "ENOUGH!" Teachers are NOT the enemy!

As I talked with citizens in our Congressional District, I met a truck driver in a barbeque restaurant who said it best, "All we want, Jim, is a good education for our kids and a decent chance to make a living." Yet, education cuts from Congress *will* hurt our children's chances, especially when Communist China and others are doubling and tripling their investments in education. While Texans are required to run their schools on less, Republicans have also cut money for the Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program, which may impact our children even more! Universities will raise tuition and fees to make up for cuts, and Republicans have also decided to cut Pell Grants by \$795 for each of 9 million students!

Under the latest proposal by Representative Paul Ryan (R-WI), we would cut education and training investment by 53% more! "This proposal would cut investments. . .including for children with disabilities" (**Disinvesting in America**, April 14, 2011). Some even want to eliminate student loans!

Republican leadership is not listening to 'real' people. We cannot allow them to hurt our children!

Balancing the Budget?

Republican governors in many states have begun their administrations by granting large tax exemptions to corporations, thereby creating major state budget deficits. Among billions in Texas giveaways, \$113 million went to two oil companies who **did not request** these exemptions (After several years of record profits, who should ask for a tax break?) HB 3424 asks that these "exemptions" be deleted instead of cutting public education. The savings would nearly equal the "deficit." But, as in other states and on the national level, "spending" cuts are the only solution offered. Republicans **want** to close the deficits on the backs of students and unions.

Police should prepare to do more with less; public services will be cut just as more need will arise; we will need bigger jails. And where will the money come from to feed and house folks whose only crime is an allergy to hunger? Patients with mental illnesses may be on the streets without their medications. The new library may have opened right on time; some folks congregate in public places out of necessity. Will we reopen the dreaded mental facilities of last century? Emergency rooms may need to be expanded as the influx of patients increases exponentially due to cuts in Medicaid and Medicare.

I believe this to be a premeditated attempt to strip government programs that could not be touched in prosperous times. The governor and his party are using us in a political ploy that has little to do with the budget. The "lockstep" and "onespeak" responses from some elected officials are not leadership but, rather, Orwellian 1984 tactics 27

years late.

A conspiracy theorist might recall predictions by the Bilderbergers, the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) or the Trilateral Commission.* How can it be an accident that so many decisions detrimental to middle class Americans are being made in several states simultaneously? The notorious Koch brothers and their associates look very busy. Too much of a coincidence for me--we should pay special attention to the machinations behind the scenes and *follow the money!*

Floyd Crider

NALC Stamp Out Hunger 2011

May 14, 2011 is the National Association of Letter Carriers "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive. Postal carriers will leave those paper sacks in our mailboxes. You fill it with goods and they pick it up.

Now **we can help** with the next step. Thousands of pounds of food gets taken to the Concho Valley Regional Food Bank. There it is sorted for distribution. Volunteers are needed to help the food bank process such a big order.

This year the Tom Green County Democratic Club is looking to help the Food Bank take that next step. We are organizing a team of volunteers to help in the sorting. The sorting begins at 8am and lasts until 6pm, with the busiest time from noon until 6pm.

If you would like to volunteer your time, even an hour or two, contact John Perry at 374-5077 or vp@tgcdc.org. At last month's meeting, the club donated 29 pounds of food to the Food Bank and raised \$57.86 for the organization. Thank you to all who participated. We will continue to accept cash & food donations for the Food Bank.

Announcements

The guest speakers at this month's meeting are representatives from Goodwill of West Texas.

We will be having a clothing drive this month. In addition, we will continue to collect canned food & books.

Relay for Life May 20-21

Thanks to Floyd Crider, Ivey Mossell, Perry & Ann Flippin, John Perry, and Shala Hammond who hauled; and Rennie Hardie, Angela Livingston and Mozelle Vandever who sold garage sale stuff. Relay for Life will receive \$301.30 from this effort. Linda Shoemaker, Heather Guthrie, John Perry, and Nora & Leon Stinson donated good things. Please join our team or donate to FIGHT CANCER at <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/tgcdc>.

* John Birch Society sees the Trilateral Commission, The Council on Foreign Relations, and the business-oriented Bilderberger Conference as trying to create a one-world totalitarian state, or New World Economic Order. From the Left, their clubby atmosphere creates a climate of opinion that could make their efforts appear fascist.

The Executive Committee (officers and board of directors members) meet for planning on the Monday following each general membership meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Time — 6 P.M.

Place — Galilee Community Development Corporation
1404 S. Oakes

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