

# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

November 2017

### **Central Committee**

(Seated L – R) Myrna Whitworth – Chair, Lauren Beacham, Mari Lee, Melissa Joseph Muntz, Deborah Carter - Secretary, Deb Reynolds

(Standing L-R) Tony Soltero – Treas., Bob Kresslein, Josh Cramer, Michael Sowell – Vice Chair, Tom Gill, Mark Jafari



### Chair's Corner

We are coming down to the wire. One week from now, Frederick City residents will be going to the polls to elect a mayor and five aldermen. I have only one word for those of you living in the city - VOTE! For you county residents, encourage everyone you know from the city to get out and vote for the Democratic ticket of Michael O'Connor for mayor, and aldermanic candidates Kelly Russell, Donna Kuzemchak, Derek Shackelford, Roger Wilson and Ben MacShane. They are an impressive team, energized for action to move Frederick forward, and they will represent and serve Maryland's second largest city with distinction. Our candidates have been working hard getting their messages out, and the camaraderie, goodwill and unity they exhibit bodes well for a dynamic, progressive City Hall. But first we must get them elected! After the abysmal primary turnout, let's make this a landslide victory for Democrats that will provide the momentum to take us into the 2018 election cycle. Results from early voting this past Friday and Saturday are encouraging - the numbers more than double the turnout for primary early voting, with

an almost three to one advantage for Democrats. Let us hope that is a harbinger of positive results on November 7.

The state Democratic Party and the county Central Committee have been working with the candidates to get out the vote. Our comprehensive voter canvass, which began in August, was modified to focus on the city races, and teams have been door knocking on behalf of the Democratic ticket since the end of September. This past weekend, we held a rally in front of the law offices of Slater and Slater before taking off on our GOTV canvass. Our candidates. Congressman Jamie Raskin, county and state elected officials, and about thirty enthusiastic volunteers were on hand. Somerset Mayor Jeffrey Slavin brought words of support from Democratic party municipal officials across the state, and Congressman Raskin managed to get in some serious canvassing in downtown Frederick.

We would like to thank Tom and Stephen Slater for their generosity in offering their office to the state party team every Saturday as the launch point for our canvass. Regional Field Director Samantha Hubbard has worked hard to identify volunteers and keep them supplied with walk lists and literature. She now is pulling out all the stops for the rest of the campaign with daily GOTV literature drops through November 7. She will be moving to Café 611 during the week. Please let her know you are available to help out! You can reach her by text at 443-251-6331 or by email at shubbard@mddems.org.

The Central Committee also has mailed out Democratic-specific sample ballots to over 8,000 city residents and will have a second mailer in their mailboxes by late this week. In addition, we will be cosponsoring an election night party at La Paz restaurant. Hope you can join us there to watch the results come in.

We also will be celebrating the city results at our final Plowman-Fisherman event of the year on Wednesday, November 15 at the Delaplaine Visual Arts Center. Our special guest will be state Democratic Party Chair Kathleen Matthews. It promises to be an interesting evening as we assess the November 7 results and what they tell us about the races we have ahead of us in 2018. See you there!



Campaign Rally, Saturday, 10/28/17



Saturday, November 11



Turn your clock back one

hour before going to bed on Saturday night, 11/4/17.

### **November 2017 at A Glance**



# United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Monthly Meeting Monday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m. (Note: new time this month only)

Café 611, 611 N. Market Street, Frederick (Social time/dinner @ patron's expense at 6:00 p.m.)

NOTE: Parking may be prohibited in lot across the street.

### North Frederick Co. Dems (NFCD) Meet-Up Saturday, November 11 at 9:00 a.m. NOTE: New location – Thurmont Kountry Kitchen, 17 Water St., Thurmont

(Please bring a non-perishable item for the area food bank.)

### South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Meet-Up Tuesday, November 14 at 8:00 a.m. IHOP Restaurant @ Westview Promenade 5277 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick

# Women's Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. Café 611, 611 N. Market Street, Frederick (Social time/dinner @ patron's expense at 6:30 p.m.)

Monocacy Plowman & Fisherman Event "An Evening w/Kathleen Matthews" Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. (See invitation on page 5)

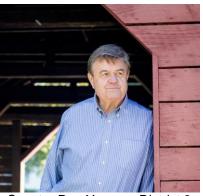
# Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting Thursday, November 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Urbana Regional Library, 9020 Amelung St, Frederick
Community Room (bottom floor – in the back)
Parking available behind the library for easy access to the community room.

### Young Democrats of Frederick County Monthly Meeting Sunday, November 26 at 2:00 p.m. Clagett Enterprises, 7540 N. Market Street, Frederick

Frederick County Dems at the Food Bank
Every Friday in November from 2 - 4:00 p.m.

Contact: Maureen Grayzeck – mgrayzeck2016@gmail.com
Frederick Food Bank Program operated by
Community Action Agency, 14 E. All Saints St, Frederick



Senator Ron Young – District 3



# WESTERN MARYLAND PROGRESSIVES

Dear Friends,

We are writing to ask your financial support for two excellent candidates. Ron Young is the only progressive Senator in the Maryland General Assembly from outside the major urban areas of the State. Karen Lewis Young is one of only four progressive Maryland Delegates from outside the major urban areas.

Both representatives, but particularly Senator Young, are targets of the Maryland State Republican Party and the Governor. The Governor wants to make the Maryland General Assembly veto-proof. Eliminating Senator Young will leave the Senate short of the 29 necessary votes regularly needed in the Senate. Eliminating the progressives in the House will weaken veto opportunities in that Chamber.

These two are excellent legislators that represent the State and their districts well. If you examine the record of these legislators they are among the hardest working, most productive, and respected members in the legislature. We urge you to join us in supporting them to ensure that Maryland stays strong.

Once again, that is Ron Young for State Senate and Karen Lewis Young for House of Delegates. We would appreciate your help to whatever extent possible. Contributions can be made payable to Western Maryland Progressives at P.O. Box 724, Frederick, MD 21705 or online at SenatorRonYoung.org.

Sincerely,

Congressman Jamie Raskin ryland's 8th District

Governor Martin Q'Malley

Brian Frosh

Maryland Attorney General

Governor Parris N. Glendening

hris Van Hollen

Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen and Congressman Jamie Raskin are only soliciting contributions up to \$2700 from individuals. Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen and Congressman Jamie Raskin are not asking for donations in excess of \$2700 or for donations from corporations, labor organizations, foreign nationals, federal contractors, or national banks.

Western Maryland Progressives, by authority of Kathy Rossen, Treasurer. Friends of Ron Young, by authority of Kathy Rossen, Treasurer.



### **Editor's Corner**

Gmail users - Our mail server may cause The Banner to be delivered to your email "Promotions" tab instead of your inbox. If you do not receive your monthly edition, please check for it in that tab. If it isn't there, please send me an email and I'll check your subscription. You may also view The Banner on our website by clicking here.

### **Banner Newsletter Ideas?**

Send me an email with your ideas, materials or feedback for consideration.

Hope you enjoyed reading! Mari Lee,

Mari@frederickdemocrats.org

Central Committee info@frederickdemocrats.org



Delegate Karen Lewis Young – District 3A

Maryland Health Insurance Protection Commission: A Proactive Approach to Dealing with Federal Efforts to Harm Health Care

One of the more significant pieces of legislation that passed during the 2017 legislative session was B 571. This bill established the MD Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission to monitor potential and actual changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA), Medicaid, the MD Children's Health Program (MCHP), Medicare, and the MD All-Payer Model; assess the impact of these changes; and provide recommendations for state and local action to protect access of residents of the state to affordable health care coverage.

The nineteen-member commission, which includes members of the legislature, the executive branch, and the public, must conduct a study that includes an examination of measures that may prevent or mitigate the adverse effects of changes to the ACA, Medicaid, MCHP, Medicare, or the MD All-Payer Model and the impact of the resulting loss of health coverage on the residents, public health, and economy of the state.

This has been an incredible challenge as threats to the ACA have been ongoing since the Trump administration took office. First, we fought off total repeal, and now we are dealing with the potential withdrawal of subsidies that

insurance companies receive to cover the previously uninsured.

In performing its duties, the commission has held public meetings and may convene workgroups to solicit input from stakeholders. The commission will function for three years and must submit a report each year on its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals. The next meeting is on December 5, and the first report is due on December 31.

While the commission has not officially voiced recommendations yet, here are some issues that will likely be addressed:

- Buttress the individual mandate – Without a larger pool to mitigate the risks, rates will be too high. The mix of younger, healthier individuals keeps rates lower for everyone.
- Reinsurance In order for insurance companies to provide low cost policies to those who are financially challenged, they require a government subsidy to cover
- Expand Medicaid to 200% of poverty level – This can help to reduce costs of health care for working families and can be done in ways to keep costs down.
- Further efforts to control costs of prescription drugs – There are new stories every day about how pharmaceutical companies have taken advantage of high demand for certain drugs. This opportunism needs to be curtailed.

While the ACA has its flaws, it has provided health care to millions of Americans. We can only hope that the bi-partisan proposal at the federal level has sufficient support to pass. If that does not happen, MD is one of the few states that is taking action to develop a contingency plan.

###





For tickets to the Monocacy Plowman & Fisherman club event -"An Evening w/Kathleen Matthews", Click here to commit online.

To pay by mail. follow the directions on the invitation.

RSVP to Melissa Joseph Muntz by clicking here.



### THE MONOCACY PLOWMAN AND FISHERMAN CLUB

IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING WITH

## KATHLEEN MATTHEWS

CHAIR. MARYLAND DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 6:30 TO 8:30 PM

DELAPLAINE CENTER FOR THE ARTS 40 SOUTH CARROLL STREET | FREDERICK MD 21701

\$75 COVERS YOU AND A GUEST FOR THIS EVENT. NO TICKET CHARGE FOR 2017 PAID PLOW/FISH MEMBERS.

> **RSVP**: MELISSA JOSEPH MUNTZ MLJ9290@GMAIL.COM

TICKETS: PLEASE MAKE CHECK TO FCDSCC MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 793, FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21705 WITH "PLOWFISH 2017" ON CHECK'S MEMO LINE.

OR PAY ONLINE: WWW.FREDERICKDEMOCRATS.ORG

AUTH. FRED. COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMM. TONY SOLTERO, TREAS.







# Coffee & Manno Meet Roger Manno

**Candidate for MD Congressional 6** 

Sunday, Nov. 19

2 to 4 pm

### **Dublin Roasters**

1780 N Market St Frederick, MD



Printed in house, Labor donated.

**Central Committee Member Corner:** 

The City of Frederick is an important economic engine to our region and state. As we move towards the city elections, it's important to understand how city voting affects the county writ large. With less than 15% of registered voters turning up to the polls, each vote carries a heavy weight and makes a bigger difference than you think. And these votes will make an impact on your everyday job creation, historic preservation, infrastructure projects, even tripping hazards on the sidewalk in front of vour house. Politics are local. And real change happens at a grassroots

The City drives how our economy grows, how we preserve green space, invest in transit, affordable housing, and other initiatives. Frederick City has overflowing schools, choke points for commuters, public transportation shortfalls, affordable housing crisis, and other issues that spill into the county and affects residents towns away. But among these issues are also opportunities like wooing large companies to set up a home base and create thousands of good paying jobs, working with the county on better transit and infrastructure projects to ease commuter burdens, continuing to preserve historic landmarks. encouraging smart growth, revitalizing neighborhoods left behind, continuing to work towards environmental conservation, and much more.

We need action and vision to make sure Frederick moves forward with everyone in mind. If I had a ballot to cast, my votes for alderman would be Donna Kuzemchak, Ben MacShane, Kelly Russell, Derek Shackelford, and Roger Wilson. For mayor, my vote would go to Michael O'Connor. I've heard each of them speak individually on their visions for the city on every issue imaginable. They are thinking about fixing present problems while setting us up for a bright future. Each bring a unique skill set and knowledge base that I think would be incredibly beneficial to the City and beyond.

Lauren Beacham



Tom Slater – Frederick Co. Democratic Party Historian

# The Kirwan Commission – The Rest of the Story

Next month, the papers will be filled with stories about the report of the Kirwan Commission. What is the Kirwan Commission? The Kirwan Commission was appointed last year with the mission to review and assess current education financial formulas and accountability measures in Maryland and evaluate how each local school system is spending its funds, including the increased State funds provided through the Maryland Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act. The Commission is also charged with reviewing the Study on the Adequacy of Funding for Education in the State of Maryland, required by the Maryland Bridge to Excellence in Public Schools Act. which was released in December 2016. Further, the Commission will consider how the federal Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 will affect primary and secondary education in Maryland and how best to prepare students to compete in the workplace and the global economy.

The 20-member Commission is called the Kirwan Commission because its chair is William English "Brit" Kirwan. See Brit's middle name to see why he is called "Brit." Also serving on the Commission are Frederick County Board of Education member M. Joy Schaefer and Maryland Secretary of Budget and Management, David R. Brinkley, who is an ex-officio member of the Commission. The Commission will make recommendations for

legislative and policy initiatives to increase the availability of innovative educational opportunities and make adequate and equitable the funding for state public education.

I had the pleasure for about eight years of working closely with Brit Kirwan when I was a member of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents and Brit served as the Chancellor of the System. I have rarely met a more universally admired and respected individual as Brit Kirwan. Coming to conclusions that will address the compelling needs of Maryland public education will not be an easy decision for the Commission to make, but I am confident that Brit's superb leadership skills will result in a report that will set the stage for Maryland's continued excellence in public education.

Brit is the son of former University of Kentucky President A.D. Kirwan, who was a brilliant historian and college football coach. After receiving his Ph.D. in mathematics from Rutgers university, Brit came to the University of Maryland, College Park as an assistant professor of mathematics in the 1960's. At UMCP Brit rose to become department chair, provost, and university president. After a tenure as President of The Ohio State University, Brit returned to Maryland in 2002 to become the chancellor of the University System of Maryland until he retired in 2015.

Brit is one of the nation's most recognized and respected educational leaders. He served as chair of the Knight Commission on College Athletics and was the winner of the TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence and the 2009 Carnegie Corporation Leadership Award, which included a \$500,000 grant to fund USM academic priorities, including the William E. Kirwan Center for Academic Innovation. He has served on numerous other national educational committees and local business groups. He is now Regents Professor of Mathematics at UMCP.

When the Commission's report is released next month, I am sure that it

will be an important issue in next year's gubernatorial election. Support for K-12 public education will be a key factor as Democrats recapture the chief executive's office in Maryland. ###







Frederick County Democratic Party Podcasts.

Be sure to listen in as we discuss all things of interest to local Dems.

Listen on <u>Soundcloud</u>, <u>iTunes</u> or on your podcast app. Be sure to follow us too!





The October 2 business meeting was focused on an Environmental Issues panel moderated by Gary Magnuson, a UDFC board member. The speakers were from the Sierra Club Catoctin Group (Dan Andrews, Chairperson, and Kathleen Rall, Political Director), Clean Water Action Frederick County (Emily Ranson, Maryland Program Coordinator) and Maryland League of Conservation Voters (Ben Alexandro, Water Policy Advocate). The groups touted some political wins for environmental causes in the last few years and the continued vigilance to keep our air, land and water. They also discussed the importance of responsible growth and partnering with developers to ensure woodlands are maintained and replaced when new developments are made. It is our responsibility as citizens to contact our elected officials to demand stricter environmental regulation to limit pollution and to move our communities away from fossil fuels.

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 6, at 6:30pm. This is a special time. We are showing the film 13<sup>th</sup> which is a thought-provoking documentary where scholars, activists and politicians analyze the criminalization of African Americans and the U.S. prison boom. We will follow with a discussion led by Christopher Ervin, criminal justice reform activist. The UDFC meets at Café 611, 611 North Market Street in Frederick. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. for dinner and socializing; meeting starts at 6:30 (November only).

Our Annual Democratic Holiday party will be held on Saturday, December 2, at Richland Golf Club in Middletown. Please see the invitation to the right.

Become a member! Dues are \$20 individual or \$35 family. As a reminder, dues are payable in

January of each year. You can contact us at <a href="UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com">UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com</a>, by phone at 240-630-4280, or by mail at P.O. Box 3882, Frederick MD 21705. We're also on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, so please "like" the page and interact with us there!





### Frederick Co. Democratic Holiday Party

December 2, 2017 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

### **Richland Golf Club**

(formerly Hollow Creek Golf Club) 50 Glenbrook Drive, Middletown, MD

This party is open to all Democrats / It is not a fundraiser for any club

Cost is \$28 per person (Dinner, dessert, tax & gratuity included)
Alcohol and soft drinks not included; cash bar available
Tickets may be purchased online by visiting: www.frederickdemocrats.org

**Dress:** business casual attire / **Entertainment:** to be announced soon

### Please bring an unwrapped toy for the Liz Whitelaw Memorial Toy Drive

(Toys will be given to children at Waverly Elementary School)

A headcount is still needed. **Please R.S.V.P. by November 25** to Mark Jafari at <u>uniteddemsfrederick@yahoo.com</u> or 240-630-4280.

Sponsored/hosted by the United Democrats of Frederick Co., and co-hosted by Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee, Women's Democratic League of Frederick Co., Young Democrats of Frederick Co. and North & South Frederick Co. clubs)



# Get your tickets to the holiday party!

Tickets for the holiday party can be purchased online via PayPal or by mail. Click <a href="here">here</a> to access the payment button or to view mailing instructions.



"A Celebration of the Women of Frederick County". Congratulations to our 2017 Honorees!

Rev. Barbara Kershner Daniel, Children of Incarcerated Parents Partnership, The Tourism Council of Frederick County

The WDL extends a heartfelt thank you to Elizabeth Cromwell and Lois Jarman for their insights on women's roles and accomplishments in Frederick County, and to all those who attended our October 18th celebration!

Additionally, we thank Julianna Albowicz from the office of U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen. Alderwomen Donna Kuzemchak and Kelly Russell, Alderman Michael O'Conner, County Council Woman M.C. Keegan-Ayer, County Executive Jan Gardner, Jody Oliver (UDWMD), MD Delegates Karen Lewis Young and Carol Krimm, and MD Senator Ron Young for their attendance. See you next year! ###



Photo from the WDL Celebration on 10/18/17



The **BIG** Picture -**Elected Official Infograph** 



Frederick County residents: Confused about who your elected officials are? Click here for a complete breakdown.



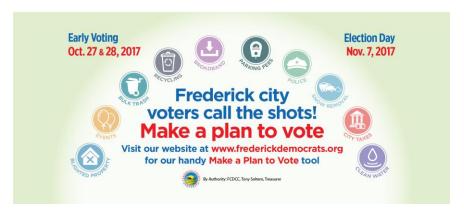
Tuesday, November 14, 2017 @ 8:00 A.M.

**IHOP Restaurant** 5277 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick (Westview Promenade)

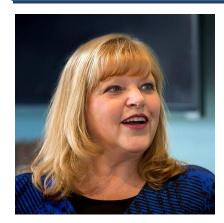
Come to the South Frederick County Democratic Meet-Up on the second Tuesday of the month for breakfast, lively conversation and discussion.

**Need more information? Please** contact Rolan Clark, rolan.clark@comcast.net.

All are Welcome. Come when you can and leave when you must.



Frederick City residents, you get to call all the shots! If you weren't able to early vote for the municipal general election, your last chance to do it is Tuesday, 11/7! Click here to access a handy Make a Plan to Vote tool!





# THE ONE QUESTION TO ASK ON ELECTION DAY

Who is going to fight for what's right? "This is the most important question to ask yourself when walking into the voting booth on Election Day," suggested Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak. Kuzemchak is running for re-election in the City of Frederick and, before casting your ballot on November 7th, Donna K is making an impassioned closing argument.

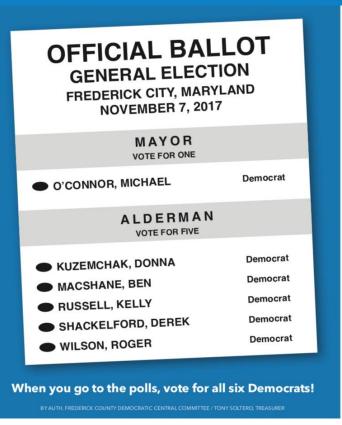
"Residents deserve a voice.
Residents must come first – and they deserve an advocate who will fight for what's right." Kuzemchak elaborated by saying, "Standing for working families is right. Standing for public education and affordable living is right. Standing for kids and equality is right. I take a bold stance in defense of these positions because citizens must know that, in me, they will always have a voice."

Kuzemchak's record in public life, and particularly over the last four years serving on the board of Alderman in the City of Frederick, has blazed a historic trail for progressive results. Donna K is known for her passionate advocacy for socio-economic fairness and her leadership to increase the number of affordable homes in the city, to removing a symbol of segregation from City Hall and working to lower resident taxes via her proposed Cost of Community Services study.

"Now, more than ever, we need a proven voice at City Hall who will stand for residents, their kids and families – but this can only happen if residents cast their ballot," Kuzemchak concluded. "The question to ask yourself on Election Day is clear: who is going to fight for what's right? I humbly ask for your vote on November 7th."

Learn more by visiting: vote4donnak.com.









City of Frederick General Election - November 7, 2017 Polls open at 7:00am § Polls close at 8:00pm

# Celebration 7:30pm

LaPaz Restaurant
51 South Market Street

Come join the Frederick County Democratic Central Committee, candidates, campaign activists, and other Democrats for a night of celebration as we watch the Election night returns.

### **Moving Frederick Forward Together!**

BY AUTH. FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE/TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER
By Authority O'Connor For Frederick, Tammy O'Connor Treasurer

The Frederick County Democratic Central Committee wishes you a Happy







Are you a ClubBlue member? If not, now's the time!

We are in the midst of the 2017 election cycle for the Frederick City municipal elections for mayor and alderman. In 2018, we have over thirty elected positions to vote on, including federal office holders, governor, county executive and county council, our Annapolis delegation and more. As we look ahead, a question we each should ask ourselves is what difference can we make now to work toward the common goal of electing progressive Democrats in all of these positions. One way to do that is to become a member of **CLUBBLUE**. Click here to learn more, and to join!

The City of Frederick holds partisan elections for the Mayor and five-member Board of Alderman every four years.

elections 2017

### **Democratic Nominees for the 2017 General Elections**



### **Mayoral Nominee**

**Michael O'Connor** – <u>www.oconnorforfrederick.com</u> Contact – <u>moconnor1966@comcast.net</u>

### **Aldermanic Nominees**

**Donna Kuzemchak** – <u>vote4donnak.com</u> Contact: <u>vote4donnak@gmail.com</u>

 $\textbf{Ben MacShane} - \underline{www.macshaneforalderman.com}$ 

Contact: ben@macshaneforalderman.com

**Kelly Russell -** <u>votekellyrussell.com</u> Contact: <u>kelly@votekellyrussell.com</u>

**Derek Shackelford** – <u>www.derek4alderman.com</u> Contact: <u>Derek4Alderman2017@gmail.com</u>

Roger Wilson – <u>www.wilsonforfrederick.com</u>

Contact: Michelle Corpora - michelle.corpora@gmail.com

**Dates to Remember** 

**General Election** 

Tuesday, Nov. 7 – 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Polling locator: Click here.

Need a ride to the polls on Tuesday?

Call Frederick Democrats at 240-288-1148 or email yourvoteisimportant@gmail.com.

For more information on city elections, click here.