



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

December 2017

Frederick City Mayor-elect Michael O'Connor



What a difference a year makes! While the results of last month's elections cannot undo the damage caused since 2016, they do point to a path forward. When Democrats vote, Democrats win! We certainly witnessed that across the country and here in Maryland, with history-making elections, including a Democratic sweep in City of Frederick.

Frederick and Annapolis both conducted municipal elections in November, with popular Republican incumbents seeking re-election being defeated by Democratic challengers. The Boards of Aldermen in both cities also saw Democrats gaining seats, including a first in many generations winning of all six positions on the ballot in Frederick. It was an honor to lead our Democratic ticket to victory: a diverse, committed, progressive slate including two incumbents, two people of color, and all energized for action. Kelly Russell, Derek Shackelford, Roger Wilson, Donna Kuzemchak, and Ben MacShane will be strong leaders and partners as we move Frederick forward together.

On the campaign trail, I was frequently asked about taking on the challenge of running, given the mayor's relatively strong record over eight years and his amiable personality. From the beginning, also as a two-term incumbent, our approach was to talk about our record and what we wanted to accomplish, and not our opponent. This was a message of collaboration and civic engagement, expanding economic vibrancy, opportunity, and sustainability. We also heard throughout the city about the desire for more urgency on the issues facing Frederick.

After the September primary, there was unprecedented collaboration among the Maryland Democratic Party, Frederick County Central Committee, and our six campaigns focusing on messages of inclusion and activism. And the final get out the vote strategies delivered decisive and complete victories.

The more all of us have watched the national political debate, the more apparent it has become that we must be for something, and not just against this President. It is worth remembering that a majority of voters in 2016 rejected divisiveness and intolerance, which means a progressive message, a Democratic message, wins.

This will need to be part of the recipe for our local offices in 2018 as we look to retain Democratic seats in the Maryland legislature, on the County Council, and in the County Executive office. We must know that Republicans will adjust to the results from last month. They may even try to copy our approach. But we must be equally determined because, in the end, we know our ideas are better for working families, for small businesses, for seniors, for children, and for those in needs. And thanks to the president, we will remain energized, knowing that when Democrats vote, Democrats win!

I am thankful for so much, including all your encouragement and support. May the holiday season bring you peace, joy, and a prosperous, progressive New Year.

###



A word from the editor:

The Banner will be on hiatus in January, but will return with the February 2018 edition on February 1.

Thank you for the feedback you've sent me throughout the year. I appreciate it very much.

Mari Lee

The Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) wishes you and your family



and a very



FCDCC members:

Myrna Whitworth (Chair), Michael Sowell (Vice Chair), Deborah Carter (Sec.), Tony Soltero (Treas.), Lauren Beacham, Josh Cramer, Tom Gill, Bob Kresslein, Mark Jafari, Mari Lee, Melissa Joseph Muntz, Deborah Reynolds

December 2017 at A Glance



Democratic Holiday Party

Saturday, December 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Richland Golf Club, 50 Glenbrook Drive, Middletown, MD
(See invitation on page 6)

Democratic Candidate Exploratory Workshop

Sunday, December 3 at 1:00 p.m.

Hood College - Whitaker Campus Center
Rosemont Avenue, Frederick

United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Monthly Meeting

No meeting in December.

North Frederick Co. Dems (NFCD) Meet-Up

Saturday, December 9 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.)

Young Democrats of Frederick County Monthly Meeting

Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m.

Clagett Enterprises, 7540 N. Market Street, Frederick

South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Meet-Up

No meeting in December.

Women's Democratic League (WDL)

Monthly Meeting & Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m.

C. Burr Artz Library – Community Room
110 E. Patrick Street, Frederick
(See flyer on page 9)

Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting

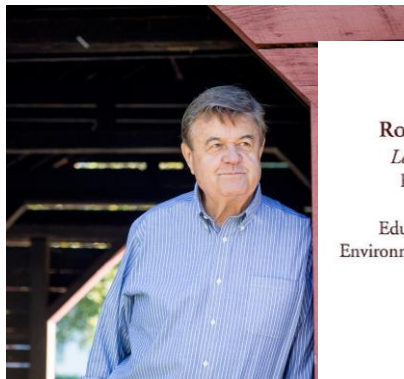
No meeting in December.

Frederick County Dems at the Food Bank

Every Friday in December 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

RONALD N. YOUNG
Legislative District 3
Frederick County

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee



The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 301
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3575 · 301-858-3575
800-492-7122 Ext. 3575
Fax 410-841-3193 · 301-858-3193
Ronald.Young@senate.state.md.us

District Office
253 East Church Street, Suite 100
Frederick, Maryland 21701
301-662-8520
Fax 301-662-8521

2018 Sponsored Legislation

Slots for Homeless Veterans bill expands the existing licenses for instant ticket lottery machines from Veterans Service Organizations to western shore Fraternal Organizations. Part of the net proceeds will fund Maryland's veterans homelessness program.

Senior Tax Retirement bill expands the current definition of retirement plans to include individual retirement accounts as allowable exemptions from income taxation. The bill also increases the maximum amount exempted from \$33,000 to \$75,000 over 5 years.

Vocational Training, Apprenticeship, Associate Degree Tuition Assistance bill creates an optional county program that waives tuition for qualified student but has counties sharing the costs equally with the state. A 2016 study found that for every \$1 Maryland invests in community colleges the state receives a 370% return on investment through increased earnings and taxes, and from a reduction in public costs on health care, public safety, social services, and unemployment.

Joint Resolution to Increase the Number of Women on Corporate Boards acknowledges the wealth of state, national, and international data that says that women on corporate boards is good for business. The resolution asks Maryland companies to not only improve their stockholder's dividends but Maryland's economic health and future by meeting the goals established in the Resolution.

Maryland Small Business Fairness Act of 2018 seeks to correct the competitive disadvantage Maryland's small businesses face because large multistate retail and food service corporations are legally allowed to transfer their Maryland profits back to their home state and avoid paying Maryland taxes - taxes Maryland's small business owners are required to pay.

Maryland Independent Film Makers recognizes that small and independent film companies are a growing industry for Maryland, yet they rarely meet the production levels required under the current Film Production Activity Tax Credit. This bill updates the Film Production Activity Tax Credit to provide funding and eligibility specifically for local Maryland film makers.

Cannabis Business Tax Deduction Conformity bill seeks to treat new Cannabis businesses like all other Maryland corporations regarding business tax deductions and expenses.





Delegate Carol Krimm – District 3A

Season's Greetings, Frederick County Democrats!

Congratulations to the 2017 winners of the Frederick City election. And who are those winners? The entire Democratic ticket – O'Connor, Russell, Shackelford, Wilson, Kuzemchak and MacShane. I am looking forward to working with them for the benefit of our constituents.

We must keep up the momentum for the 2018 state elections. Stay active and talk to your friends and neighbors. We need to stay strong to address the concerning agenda of the Trump administration.

The tax "cut" proposal in the United States Congress is the most recent assault on middle class America. However, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is also under attack and may require state legislative action immediately. The law signed into law in 1997 with bipartisan support and provides federal matching funds to states to provide health coverage to children in families with incomes too high for Medicaid. This program is in danger of not being reauthorized by Congress. This inaction would affect 140,000 Maryland children and impact the state budget of \$241 million less in matching federal funds. We will have to work hard on my committee, Appropriations, to fill this gap and continue to provide coverage to these low-income children.

I continue my work on several joint committees in preparation for the General Assembly session that begins January 10, 2018. At a briefing of the Joint Committee to End

Homelessness, we heard Montgomery County has ended homelessness among veterans. I am working with the County Executive and County Council to establish a Veterans Commission in Frederick County. I hope our first task is review and implement the Montgomery plan and end veterans' homelessness in Frederick County.

I am also working with some colleagues and industry representatives on a task force to address broadband access in rural Maryland. We will have bills regarding accessibility and request to extend the work of the task force for the consideration by the General Assembly.

Some transportation updates – The Monocacy Boulevard/Route 15 will be opening in phases beginning April, 2018, including a 400-car park-and-ride (a commuter bus will be assigned to take people to Shady Grove Metro). Our next county priority is the interchange at Rte. 85 and I-270. The contract for that project has been awarded and expected completion is at the end of 2021. Expansion of capacity (adding lanes or using shoulders) on Route 15 through the city is funded for a planning study. Alternatives are being considered as well as accelerating the planning study process.

I will be having a pre-session fundraiser at Magoo's Restaurant on January 5, 2018, 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. for breakfast. I would appreciate your support.

Enjoy the holidays with your family. Time is precious.

###



Get
connected!

and



with

Frederick County Democrats

Like us on Facebook



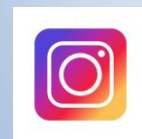
Follow us on Twitter



Visit our website



We are now on Instagram too!



Click on the icons for a direct connection.



Delegate Karen Lewis Young – District 3A

Robin Hood in Reverse

Congressional Republicans have positioned their recent tax plan, the “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act,” as a boon for American workers and a tax cut for the middle class. In reality, the plan is heavily designed to benefit the wealthy and corporations. The corporate tax rate would be cut from 35% to 20% at a cost of more than \$1.4 trillion over ten years. The alternative minimum tax on high-income individuals would be repealed at a cost of \$696 billion. The tax on estates worth more than \$5.5 million, at a cost of \$151 billion, would be repealed. A special new loophole would be created that overwhelmingly benefits wealthy owners of pass-through business entities, such as limited liability companies and partnerships, at a cost of hundreds of billions of dollars.

The House majority plan is hardly a good deal for middle-class and working Americans. It fails to cover the full cost of the tax cuts for the wealthy and corporations, adding to the deficit and putting middle-class priorities such as Medicare, Medicaid, education, and infrastructure at risk. In fact, if this plan were to pass, Medicare would face an automatic \$25 billion cut next year.

While the plan increases the standard deduction and provides a modest increase in the Child Tax Credit, overall tax benefits erode over time because the plan calls for slower inflationary adjustments. More

importantly, under the guise of “simplification” the plan takes away a range of tax benefits that are important to middle-income and working Americans, such as personal and dependent exemptions; the deduction for high medical expenses that arise from hardships such as a catastrophic diagnosis or a loved one entering a nursing home; the student loan interest deduction that benefits millions who are just entering the workforce after obtaining an education; and the deduction for state and local sales and income taxes

For some families, the loss of these important tax provisions outweighs any benefit from the standard deduction and the Child Tax Credit. In fact, the Tax Policy Center found that 36 million middle-class and working families nationally would experience a tax increase under the House tax plan by 2027.

Let’s take a look at how these bills would affect Marylanders. Both bills increase taxes on many working- and middle-class families:

- 692,000 filers in the bottom 80% of the income distribution in Maryland would see a tax hike in 2027 in the House bill.
- 769,900 filers in the bottom 80% of the income distribution in Maryland would see a tax hike in 2027 in the Senate bill.

The tax bills cut Medicare, lead to coverage losses, and increase health care premiums:

- The House bill would cut \$468 million from Medicare next year in Maryland.
- By 2025, there would be 226,000 more uninsured people in Maryland.
- A typical, unsubsidized family of four nationally would see marketplace premiums increase by an extra \$1,990 in 2019.

Key deductions for residents in Maryland are at risk of being eliminated:

- 220,545 filers in Maryland claimed an average of \$9,742 in medical expense deductions in 2014.
- 218,188 filers in Maryland claimed an average of \$1,105 in student loan interest deductions in 2014.

Housing would become more expensive:

- 1,322,100 filers in Maryland claimed an average of \$12,443 in state and local tax deductions in 2014.
- Home prices would fall more than 10% in the short term.

These bills are not good for the middle-class and working families nor are they good for Maryland!

###



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

or

Central Committee -

info@frederickdemocrats.org

There are still a few tickets left to the Democratic holiday party!

Tickets can be purchased online via PayPal by clicking [here](#) to access the payment button.



Congratulations to our WINNING candidates – Mayor-elect Michael O'Connor and Aldermen Donna Kuzemchak, Ben MacShane, Kelly Russell, Derek Shackelford, and Roger Wilson! And thank you to all who made phone calls, knocked on doors, and VOTED!



The South Frederick County Democrats will not meet in December. The best of Holiday Greetings to all. We will resume in January 2018.



Join fellow Dems for dinner, dancing, and socializing at the

Frederick Co. Democratic Holiday Party

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

Richland 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:** DJ

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 Saturday, 11/25/17** to Mark Jafari at uniteddemsfrederick@yahoo.com or 240-630-4280.

Sponsored/hosted by the United Democrats of Frederick Co., and co-hosted by Women's Democratic League of Frederick Co., Young Democrats of Frederick Co., and North & South Frederick Co. meet-up groups.



Join the Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee for a FREE Candidate Exploratory Workshop this Sunday, December 3.

You're invited to learn more about

- Which offices are up for election in 2018
- What is involved in each job
- What the qualifications are
- How we can help candidates

See time, date and location on the flyer to the right. RSVP – info@frederickdemocrats.org.



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

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!

Hey!

Want to make a difference?

Become a candidate for office in Frederick County!



By Authority: FCDDC,
Tony Solkano, Treasurer

Find out more at this **FREE** Candidate Exploratory Workshop
on Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
at Hood College, Whitaker Campus Center

Lunch with Senator Young

On Facebook Live:

Jan. 8	Jan. 22
Feb. 5	Feb. 19
March 5	March 19
April 2 at Noon	



 SenRonYoung
senatorronyoung.org





Frederick City Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak

THANK YOU, DEMOCRATS!

I wanted to take the opportunity to offer a more personalized message in this issue of *The Banner*.

Tuesday night, November 7, 2017, will forever be a memorable occasion for many reasons. Democratic candidates in the City of Frederick were swept into office, from the Board of Aldermen to the office of the Mayor. The level of diversity now represented on the Board of Aldermen is historic, the possibilities for the future of the City of Frederick are at an all-time high, and all of this is because of you. Democrats overwhelmed Republican opposition by extraordinary margins in voter turnout. If not for a robust combination of Frederick County Democrats supporting Democratic city candidates and city Democratic voters who came out to support those Democrats on the ballot, none of this would be possible.

It is my sincere honor and privilege to be amongst such a phenomenal team of Aldermen-elect: Kelly Russell, Derek Shackelford, Roger Wilson and Ben MacShane; and I am beyond thrilled to serve with our new Mayor-elect, Michael O'Connor. Indeed, I am humbled beyond words.

This victory shows all of us that, as Mayor-elect O'Connor so passionately stated on election night "when Democrats come out to vote, Democrats win." I thank our outgoing Board of Aldermen and departing Mayor Randy McClement for your collective work on behalf of our great

city. Now, I look forward to doing my very best to continue to give the residents of the City of Frederick a voice; standing for our kids, working families, affordable living, the arts, smart growth and equality – the fight for what's right. I have no doubt that, with this new team, selected by you – united Democrats – the mark of historic progress is the road paved ahead.

Thank you, from the bottom of my heart.

Donna K.

The **BIG** Picture – Elected Official Infograph



Frederick County residents: Confused about who your elected officials are? Click [here](#) for a complete breakdown.



Introducing the Emerge Maryland Class of 2018

Emerge Maryland, the premier candidate training program for Democratic women seeking elected office announces our 6th class, a diverse group of women from all over Maryland.

Including 2 from Frederick County, Karen Yoho and Victoria Venable.

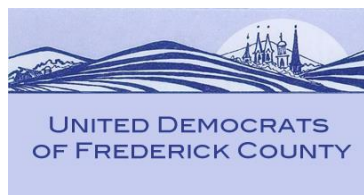


Help us keep our tuition low so that more women can take their seats at the decision-making tables in Maryland.

Please, consider making a monthly donation of \$10 or more.

Use this link : <http://bit.ly/EmergeMD>





The monthly meeting on Monday, November 6, was a special screening of the documentary *13th*, which was followed by a group discussion lead by community activist, Christopher Ervin. The film detailed how the system of slavery was not simply abolished by the 13th Amendment, but replaced with the expansion of the prison system. There have been some critical times in the history of our nation when we made a change that appeared to be beneficial and progressive, but the ultimate result was more repression and a deeper racial divide. We must be willing to look beyond the surface at our current decisions to see how they could lead to something more malevolent down the line. It is all of our responsibilities to do this critical thinking and to not simply rely on what other people tell us.

There will not be a meeting in December. Instead, we will hold our Annual Democratic Holiday party on Saturday, December 2, at Richland Golf Club in Middletown from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Please see the ad in the Banner for further details.

Our next monthly meeting will be Monday, January 8th. 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 7:00. The program for January has not been finalized.

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 UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com, by phone at 240-630-4280, or by mail at P.O. Box 3882, Frederick MD 21705. We're also on [Facebook](#), so please "like" the page and interact with us there!



The Women's Democratic League welcomes to its Board of Directors

Rosario Campos Jennifer Brannan April Clemons Cindy Powell Kerri Burson

We are exceedingly grateful for the wisdom and guidance of the following members during their tenure on the WDL Board of Directors

Florence Schell Maggi Hayes Millicent Hall

Candidate Forum

Congressional District 6

David Trone Aruna Miller

Roger Manno Nadia Hashimi

Andrew Duck

January 17, 2018

6:30pm-8:30pm

Hodson Auditorium

Hood College

Hosted by The Hood College Democrats and the WDL

WDL Holiday Party!

December 20th

6:30pm-8:30pm

C.Burr Artz Library

Community Room

Our guest speaker

Juliana Downey

Happy Holidays!

FCPL does not promote or endorse the views of WDL or our guest speakers or presenters



Frederick County Democratic
Party Podcasts.

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

Listen on [Soundcloud](#), [iTunes](#) or on your
podcast app. Be sure to follow us too!



January 2018 At-A-Glance



United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Monthly Meeting **Monday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m.**

(Note: Because the first Monday in January is the New Year holiday, our January meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday.)

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.

South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Meet-Up **Tuesday, January 9 at 8:00 a.m.**

IHOP Restaurant @ Westview Promenade
5277 Buckeystown Pike, Frederick

North Frederick Co. Dems (NFCD) Meet-Up **Saturday, January 13 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.)

Women's Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting **Wednesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.**

Café 611, 611 N. Market Street, Frederick
(Social time, & dinner @ patron's expense, at 6:30 p.m.)

Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting **Thursday, January 18 at 6:00 p.m.** Location TBD

Young Democrats of Frederick County Monthly Meeting **Sunday, January 28 at 2:00 p.m.**

Clagett Enterprises, 7540 N. Market Street, Frederick

Frederick County Dems at the Food Bank **Every Friday in January 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

Liberals, we are going to be taking a break from Drinking Liberally over the holidays! Until December 6, our weekly happy hours will go on as scheduled. But please join us for our final 2017 happy hour on December 6 with gubernatorial candidate and current MD state senator [Rich Madaleno](#)! After that, there will be a few weeks without a happy hour (I know, we'll miss you terribly) and we will be back to our regularly scheduled program starting Wednesday January 31, 2018. We hope to have some special announcements to make in the meantime, so join our facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/DrinkingLiberallyFredMD/>), sign up for our newsletter (http://livingliberally.org/chapter/email_signup/5752), and stay tuned!



**DRINKING
LIBERALLY**
DRINKINGLIBERALLY.ORG

HOLIDAY BREAK!

JOIN US FOR OUR LAST HAPPY HOUR OF 2017

DECEMBER 6

WITH GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE

RICH MADALENO

WEEKLY HAPPY HOURS WILL RESUME AT
CAFE NOLA, WEDNESDAYS 7-9PM
STARTING **JANUARY 31, 2018**

STAY TUNED FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Speaker of the House Michael E. Busch

invites you to join

Delegate Karen Lewis Young District 3A

at a Re-election/Back to session kickoff and fundraiser



January 8, 2018

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Harry Browne's

65 State Circle, Annapolis

**Special Guest: HGO Chair Shane Pendergrass
and Subcommittee Chairs**

**RSVP by January 2, 2018 to 301.639.2155
or karenlewisyoung@gmail.com**

**Friends of Karen Lewis Young
PO Box 3662
Frederick, MD 21705**

___ Yes, I/we would like to attend at
the following contribution level:

- ___ \$1000 Sponsor
- ___ \$500 Patron
- ___ \$250 Supporter
- ___ \$100 Friend
- ___ \$50 Constituent

No, I/we are unable to attend,
but \$ _____ is enclosed

Attendee Name(s): _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of Karen Lewis Young

**By Authority: Friends of Karen Lewis Young, Kathy Rossen, Treasurer,
PO Box 3662, Frederick, MD, 21705**

Why Democrats Should Care about the Board of Education Election

Because Democrats care about quality public education

It isn't enough to care about it in the abstract, although the big, philosophical, national conversations are necessary. We must also care about it right here and now, where it directly affects our children and our community.

Because good public schools make society better

If you think you don't need to care because you have no kids in the school system, think again. Your whole life is affected by the quality of local education. Think about all the people you interact with on a daily basis: at the post office or hair salon, in a store or restaurant; you expect them to have certain skills. When you run errands, don't you want people to be able to answer your questions clearly and operate office equipment correctly? If you own a business, don't you need well-qualified employees who can comprehend a variety of issues? High standards in our public schools prepare graduates to meet your high standards.

Because an educated community is an employed community

The unemployment rate for those without a high school diploma is almost twice the unemployment rate of high school graduates.

Furthermore, better education means better pay for those who do find jobs. A high school dropout can expect to earn almost \$10,000 per year less than a high school graduate (and about half the annual salary of a college grad). In other words, good public education is good for the local economy.

Because schools cost less than prisons

The state of Maryland pays \$44,601 per inmate annually, while FCPS spends \$13,815 per student in that same year. Your tax investment is clearly better spent on education; but where there is insufficient education, there is more crime. The

incarceration rate of men without a high school diploma is more than three times the incarceration rate of men who completed high school. As Victor Hugo wrote, "He who opens a school door closes a prison."

Because the squeaky wheel already has too much grease

Although it is a nonpartisan election, vocal fringe groups can muster enough support to control a majority of the current board. Since so few people are informed about the BOE races and candidates, voter participation is low – and therefore, a small, ideological minority of county residents can become the majority of BOE voters. We can become just as committed to protecting our schools and elect a board that will do what is right for public education in Frederick County.

What You Can Do Follow the local issues and BOE decisions. You can watch their meetings online at www.fcps.org and read updates in the local press.

Seek out information on all candidates.

Check their web sites, attend a forum, pay attention to endorsements.

Consider running for the Board of Education yourself. The local Democratic party can help you learn what you need to do and organize a campaign.

###

A few random photos from the November 15, 2017 Monocacy Plowman & Fisherman club event – "An Evening w/Kathleen Matthews, Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party

Photo credits - unknown



Andrew Duck for Congress Meet and Greet December 2, 2017 11 am-1 pm

Andrew is a Democratic activist and Army Veteran, who has been working for the people of the 6th district for over a decade



**Whitaker Commons
Hood College
401 Rosemont Ave
Frederick, Maryland**

Light refreshments provided

Organized by Hood College Democrats



The Volunteer & Outreach team of the Frederick County Democratic Party, a subcommittee of the Central Committee, along with the Central Committee members wish to express our deepest appreciation to all the volunteers who assisted us with various activities – such as staffing the Democratic tent for community events, voter registration, community service at the Frederick Food Bank, and with our Summer of Resistance & Renewal, and for the Frederick City GOTV (Get Out The Vote) – for calendar year 2017!

Here's a recap of several of those efforts this year:

- Total community events = **12**
 - Total volunteers scheduled = approx. **160** Completed = **153** No Shows = **2** Cancelled = **5**
 - Total volunteer hours = over **850 hours**
- Forms/Sign Ups
 - New volunteer signups w/the local Party = **58**
 - Other combined signups (i.e. - to receive The Banner or info about local Democratic Party or clubs) = **25**

The statistics above do not include the number of volunteers or man/woman hours put in by our great group that assist in our community service outreach every Friday of every month at the Frederick Food Bank. We truly thank them for their participation, dedication, and efforts there. The stats also do not include the number of volunteers and countless hours put in by those who helped with the campaign efforts (Summer of Resistance & Renewal, and Frederick City GOTV).

Within the next few weeks, we'll be emailing volunteers a survey to seek feedback on your experience serving as a volunteer this year. We hope you'll take time to participate, and we look forward to receiving your responses. We also hope you'll volunteer with us again next year. Until then, please continue to stay connected with us by visiting our website - www.frederickdemocrats.org – often, email us with any questions – info@frederickdemocrats.org, or interact with us and fellow Dems on social media – [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

Feel free to also get involved with one or more of our local clubs - United Democrats of Frederick County, Women's Democratic League of Frederick County, Young Democrats of Frederick County, or monthly meet-ups with the North Frederick Co. Dems & friends, or South Frederick County Dems. Brief info on each can be found under the Get Involved tab on our website.

We can't thank all of you enough! It's because of your willingness to be a volunteer, your dedication and efforts that our party thrives! Together, we continue to build the Party, increase our visibility, and make a difference in Frederick County.

Mari Lee, Mark Jafari, Deb Reynolds
Volunteer & Outreach team coordinators
volunteers@frederickdemocrats.org

If you would like to become a volunteer, please let us know by clicking [here](#). We'd be happy to have you join us!



Volunteer & Outreach team members
Maureen Grayzeck, Helena Madison,
Marilyn Veek