



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

July 2020

Central Committee

(Front Row L – R)

Lauren Beacham, Bill Reid, Deb Reynolds,
Mari Lee, Tom Slater, Deborah Carter,
Regan Riley (Back Row L-R)
Renee Knapp, Gabriel Cassutto, Tony
Soltero, Josh Cramer, Antonio Bowens



The Chair's Corner-

Welcome to summer! We hope you are all well. We're continuing to find ways to campaign and otherwise conduct important business under these difficult circumstances.

The Western Maryland Democratic Summit was last weekend. The Zoom webinar was recorded, and you can watch the video on Facebook if you missed it. The Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina Democratic Party executive directors had a wonderful discussion about how we can work together to elect Joe Biden and heal our nation. We also heard from Senators Chris Van Hollen and Ben Cardin, Congressmen David Trone and Jamie Raskin, Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot, Attorney General Brian Frosh, and so many others. It's definitely worth watching, and be on the lookout for action items connecting you to volunteer opportunities.

Speaking of connecting, we are – very carefully – going to open our office this month! You can read all about it in this issue of the Banner; our office manager, Maureen Grayzeck, explains it all. If you need a Biden yard sign or Board of Education candidate info, or if you want to come make phone calls or write postcards, we'll be there for you. Bring your own mask!



The biggest issue we've had to deal with when it comes to keeping the Party going in the age of COVID, of course, is fundraising. Money is just not coming in, but our expenses haven't gone away. Without our usual opportunities to get together for Plow-Fish events and the annual gala, the bank account is shrinking just when we need it to grow.

I know so many in our community are hurting, but if you're one of the lucky ones – if you've been able to keep your job through this – please consider helping out at <https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute>. Every dollar counts.

As you probably recall from previous presidential races, Maryland is considered a "safe" state, and the Democratic nominee almost never sends any resources our way. So many of you have been contacting us to ask when the Biden campaign materials would be arriving, and we will have our first batch at the office opening. But please bear in mind that we pay for every one of those signs. If you can make a donation when you come to pick up yours, we will be sure that it goes right back into purchasing more.

Things are changing every day, so check our Facebook page for updates. And please, stay safe.

-Deborah Carter

July 2020 At-a-Glance



The Women's Democratic League (WDL)

Monday, July 20th at 7 p.m.

For info please visit WDL.Frederick.org

Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting

Thursday, July 16th at 6:00 pm

The meeting will be virtual.



Senator Ron Young- District 3

I am presently serving on the Judicial Proceedings Committee in the Maryland State Senate. With the death of George Floyd and the subsequent demonstrations and protests across the country resulting from the manner in which the police officers handled the situation, it is apparent that action needs to be taken here in Maryland and across the United States.

Judicial Proceedings Committee Chair Senator Will Smith has prepared the following [letter](#) proposing changes to policing in Maryland. Some highlights of Senator Smith's proposals include:

- Banning chokeholds and strangleholds.
- Require de-escalation.
- Require a warning before shooting.
- Exhaust all means before shooting.
- Making parts of police personnel records open to the Maryland Public Information Act when an officer uses deadly force, engages in sexual assault, dishonesty, discrimination, or improper use of force.

In addition, I am considering introducing a bill to require psychological screening as part of the interview process to exclude applicants that show overly-aggressive behavioral tendencies. Screening should also continue at determined intervals for existing officers. Officers with multiple disciplinary charges should be removed from the street or assigned to desk activity.

-Ron



WDL
Women's Democratic League
Frederick County, Maryland

1923-2018

July 20th Monthly Meeting

7:00pm-8:30pm

More information to come!
Check back on our website and Facebook
www.wdlfrederick.org
WDLFrederick on Facebook

Questions? Email us at wdlfrederick@gmail.com



Delegate Ken Kerr-

District 3B

Well, it's July, so summer is fully upon us. The Fourth of July is just around the corner, and the warm and humid weather does not seem to have dampened the Covid-19 epidemic. In Maryland, new cases and hospitalizations are on the decline. But as health experts and government leaders say, this is no time for apathy as cases are exploding in States that rushed to open. So please continue to wear masks and observe social distancing. You really are saving lives.

As you probably have heard, unemployment applications have been rising since mid-March. We have been working with Department of Labor staff members to resolve problems with unemployment insurance applications. Clearly the DOL was overwhelmed by a tidal wave of applications and their systems were unable to handle the sheer volume of requests. And as we submitted constituent cases every week, the DOL staff continued to adapt and develop new procedures. To date, the backlog of cases has been resolved. Please contact us if you have an application for unemployment that has not been processed or if funds are not forthcoming.

Frederick County residents from District 3B have also been in touch about concerns with housing, access to state identification cards, solar power, and a variety of individual concerns – many have arisen out of the general shutdown that has made it more difficult to access services. We are pleased to be able to address these single cases and connect our constituents with the appropriate agencies.

Since the 2020 Session was shortened, some of the bills we submitted were still in the legislative process when the Session ended. We are already hearing from a number of you who are very interested in Brynleigh's Act, in funding apprentice teachers to serve in Frederick County, and there have been many requests to overturn the Governor's veto of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

On the positive side, House Bill 880 was enacted, expanding the definition of "family" to include: "a legal ward of an employee, a legal ward of an employee's spouse, or a legal guardian of an employee's spouse". The bill acknowledges the reality of modern blended families and takes effect in October, 2020. We also received more than 30 applications for Delegate Scholarships. It is so satisfying to be able to assist young people as they begin the next phase in their educations.

Finally, I would like to introduce my Legislative Aide, Anne Rouse. Anne worked in Delegate Karen Lewis Young's office last year during the 2020 Session and in a health-related government affairs organization before that. Anne is delighted to be working with me on behalf of the residents of Frederick County. During the shutdown, she can be reached at 443/949-6101 or by e-mailing our office at Ken.Kerr@house.state.md.us.

As a reminder, my district office in Fredrick is located at 4539 Metropolitan Ct, Suite 257, Frederick, MD 21704; the phone number is 301/858-3240. Please be in touch if we can help.

I hope each of you has a safe and enjoyable summer!

Ken

Frederick County Democratic Campaign Headquarters

Opening Saturday, July 11, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

1080 West Patrick Street, Suite E

240-877-7453

(next to the ALDI grocery store in the Hillcrest Shopping Center)

Hours: To start with, we will be open three days a week

Saturdays 10-2

Mondays and Wednesdays 12-5

**We are looking forward to opening up, even on a limited basis; however,
precautions for the HQ are being followed in this era of Covid-19:**

- **Masks must be worn**
- **Limited capacity of 10 people (for now)**
 - **Social distancing of 6 ft apart**
 - **Hand sanitizer available**
- **If door is locked, capacity has been reached; please knock**

We will have a limited number of Biden yard signs. Donations will be **most** welcome, since we are paying out of pocket to purchase them!

We will have information available on ways to get involved and help in this vitally important presidential campaign season. **Because of the pandemic, we cannot count on the door knocking and canvassing we have always done in the past. We must depend on other ways to reach out: postcards, letter writing, texting, phone banking, and Zooming to Democratic voters.**

Also, a massive effort is underway in Maryland and neighboring states to spread the word and Get Out The Vote, as well as garner support for important Senate and House races across the country.

We will have signups through Ivolunteer, similar to the way we have worked shifts at the Great Frederick Fair in the past. Postcard and letter writers will be expected to provide their own postage and envelopes.

More information as we go ahead!

Maureen Grayzeck

Office Manager

mgrayzeck2016@gmail.com



Tom Slater- Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

The Rest of the Story

The Rest of the Story – Congratulations, Observation, and Passings

...Congratulations - to Bob Kresslein for his selection as one of two male Democratic National Committee members for the State of Maryland. He earned this by devoting many years to the local and state Democratic Party. To the best of my knowledge, he is the first person from Frederick County to be a member of the DNC, at least since World War II. Also Frederick will have six delegates or alternates to this year's Democratic Convention (either in person or virtual): Diane Fink, Helen Kerr, Bill Reid, Karen Lewis Young, Tom Slater, and Jessica Fitzwater (Alternate). In one of my future columns I will discuss the recent history of Frederick County Democrats attending Democratic National Conventions.

Picture #1 – Bob Kresslein, Congresswoman Beverly Byron, and me at her fundraiser at the South Mountain Inn in 1988.



Picture #2 – Bob Kresslein campaigning for Tom Harkin in 1992



Picture #3 – Bob Kresslein and Tom Slater with a young Illinois state Senator at the 2004 Democratic Convention



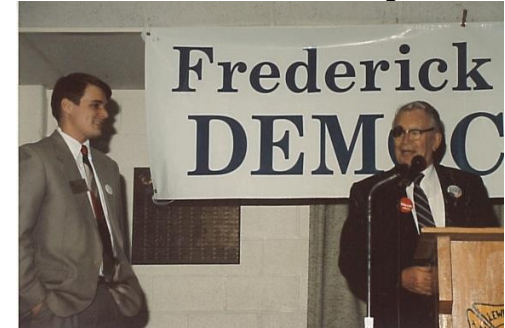
Picture #4 – Bob Kresslein with Nancy Pelosi at the 2004 Democratic National Convention



...Congratulations - to former Frederick County Central Committee member, Michael Sowell, for his recent appointment to the Frederick County Planning Commission. Historical perspective: Before the election of three Democratic County Commissioners in 1958 (Delbert Null, A. Irvin Renn, and Mehrl Ramsburg) Frederick County had no commission responsible for planning and zoning. The three Democratic, against much opposition, primarily from the

agricultural community, created the Planning and Zoning Commission. In addition, in four years spending on education went from \$1,340,742 under Republican control to \$2,575,466 with the Democrats. There were progressive Democrats in Frederick County, even in the '50s! The fact that Delbert Null eventually served time in a federal penitentiary is a story for another time.

Picture #5 – Former Commissioner Delbert Null receiving an award at the 1992 Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner from Central Committee member Brad Young



...Observation - If you needed proof that Trump's dog whistles about race don't resonate with America's racists and Neanderthals, just read a recent article in the Washington Post that reported that the biggest contributor to Trump's re-election campaign is Timothy Mellon, the great-grandson of former Secretary of Treasury, Andrew Mellon. Mellon has contributed \$30 million to PACs supporting Trump. Mellon has also self-published an autobiography where he said, among other outrageous things, that "black people were even more belligerent after the expansion of social programs in the 1960s and 1970s and that Americans who rely on government assistance were slaves of the new Master, Uncle Sam." Another quote: "Black Studies, Women's Studies, LGBT Studies, they have all cluttered Higher Education with a mishmash of meaningless tripe designed to brainwash gullible young adults into going along with the Dependency Syndrome."

...Passing - Charles Cline passed away last month at age 92. He was a true "Yellow-Dog" Democrat. Charlie owned a large dairy and later beef

cattle farm near New Market. A life-long Democrat, he ran for the House of Delegates in 1982 in a district similar to the current district 4. In a six-person primary, Charlie finished 5th and I finished 6th. The winners were Tom Hattery and George Littrell, who both served three terms in the Maryland General Assembly from that district until they were defeated in 1994 (Hattery for re-election to the House and Littrell for the Senate). Cline was one of five general election Democratic candidates for County Commissioner in 1986 but finished eighth, when five were elected. He also served for many years on the Frederick County Liquor Board, a gubernatorial appointment. Charlie was a true gentleman.

Picture #6 – Charlie Cline (far left) at the 1994 Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner with (from left) Frank Gladhill, Galen Claggett, Katherine Burrall, U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, Christine Sarbanes and unidentified man



...More Passings - The last of John F. Kennedy's eight siblings, Jean Kennedy Smith, has died. She was also 92. She had served as U.S. Ambassador to Ireland. In addition, Cecilla Januszkiewicz passed at age 70. She was married to Al Figinski, a long-time Democratic operative in Maryland, who worked for U.S. Senator Joseph D. Tydings in the 1960s. Central Committee member Mari Lee's brother has also died. Joe Volz, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist whose last journalistic endeavor was writing a column for the Frederick News-Post has died, at age 85. Condolences to all of the families for their losses.

40 Years ago in the Banner: The annual picnic was scheduled for Huskey Park in Frederick. \$5.00 for fried chicken and all the trimmings, including beer and soda. Delegates to the 1980 Democratic National Convention scheduled for August in New York City were selected by caucuses in each of Maryland's eight congressional districts and the At-Large delegates were selected by the Democratic State Central Committee of Maryland. One of the delegates was from Frederick County – more on that in a later column.

-Tom Slater

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



For more information: cdc.gov/coronavirus

Stop the Bounce Back of COVID 19

On April 15, the SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) positivity rate was 27.4%. The Frederick County Health Department is reporting, as of June 25, that the positive test rate rose from a low of 3.9% on June 22 to a current 4.4%. Now is not the time for complacency; we are not “out of the woods.” Please continue to practice social distancing and wear an appropriate facemask that covers your nose and mouth. Let’s work together to prevent a “bounce back” of COVID-19 infections in Frederick, Maryland.

“I wear my facemask to protect you. You wear your facemask to protect me”

-Dr. Jay C. Butler, CDC-



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!

Important Note: Please help us by spreading the word about the necessity of voting by mail. We must fight the false notion that it will lead to fraud. Contact your representatives and let them know that you support national vote by mail for the general election this November. Fight lies with truth.

-Gabriel Cassutto



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!

Gabriel Cassutto,

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or

Central Committee -

info@frederickdemocrats.org



and



with

Frederick County Democrats

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Click on the icons for a direct connection.

Check us out on YouTube too!



WE NEED YOU

KEEPING FREDERICK COUNTY BLUE

www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute

We appreciate your monthly contribution now more than ever!
We look forward to resuming fundraising events when we can.

Thank You and Stay Safe!



By Authority : FCDCC Tony Soltero, Treasurer

EMERGE MARYLAND HAS BIG PLANS FOR DEMOCRATIC WOMEN IN FREDERICK.

www.EmergeMaryland.org



EMERGE MARYLAND - WOMEN LEADERS FOR A DEMOCRATIC FUTURE

We need you to be the fresh, new voice for Frederick citizens!

Maryland's premier candidate training program for Democratic women offers you an opportunity to take a 'taste' of our training.

This online offering is designed to help you determine your personal path to political leadership and how to get started.

Volunteer. Activist. Candidate.

One path can lead to the other. This summer offering is a one-day virtual training which includes workshops designed to show you how to lay the foundation and get a head start on your path to political leadership.

We know Maryland and Frederick because we live here, too.

We will help you navigate your local political landscape, grow and solidify your networks, help you to determine your goals whether it's running for office, being a more effective advocate on issues that matter or volunteering to help another woman run her campaign.

Find the leader in you and become part of the solution.

We will also help you to prepare for our full 5-month signature candidate training program. Choose the date that works best for you and sign up today.

Hundreds of women from all over Maryland have joined this powerful network.

We are inviting you to join us as well!



**Be the change you want to
see in Frederick!**

For more information

www.EmergeMaryland.org

Questions?

diane@EmergeMaryland.org

Look for our FREE online
information events.



July 20th Monthly Meeting 7:00pm-8:30pm

More information to come!
Check back on our website and Facebook
www.wdlfrederick.org
WDLFrederick on Facebook

Questions? Email us at wdlfrederick@gmail.com