



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

July 2021



Frederick County Democratic State Central Committee

(From left to right: Lauren Beacham- Secretary, Renee Knapp, William Reid, Deb Reynolds, Gabe Cassutto, Mari Lee – Vice Chair, Tony Soltero – Treasurer, Tom Slater, Josh Cramer, Deborah Carter – Chair, Regan Riley, Antonio Bowens)

Chair's Corner

Chairwoman Deborah Carter

Thank you so much to everyone who came out for our first post-pandemic Plow-Fish fundraiser

on June 28! It was beyond wonderful to see so many of our favorite Dems in person again.

Special thanks to our hosts Jim and Tracy Racheff and to our special

guest Wes Moore. Check out the photos on page 2.

If you haven't already bought your ticket for the Maryland Democratic Party Welcome Back

Bash on July 18 (rain date July 25), stop reading now and click <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/md/pbbqbash>! Join us for BBQ, ice cream, drinks and music as we celebrate and get energized for the 2022 elections. The bash is in Bowie,

with the address provided upon RSVP.

Locally, we hope to see you out and about on First Saturday, where we'll be socializing, handing

out information about the Frederick City election, and registering voters on the corner of Market and Patrick. We may even have a few treats for your children (and your dogs).

We'll also have a tent at the Walkersville carnival July 5-10, so come by and say hello! The tent

will be staffed each evening from 6:00 until 9:00, with elected officials and candidates from across the county stopping in to visit. It's the only carnival we're attending officially this year, so let's make the most of it.

I'm pleased to report that both the North and South County Dems groups have started meeting again. North County meets the second Saturday of the month; the next meetup is at 8:30 a.m. on July 10 in the back room of Thurmont Kountry Kitchen (17 Water Street). South County currently meets the second Tuesday for breakfast at the IHOP on Buckeystown Pike. The July 13 meeting will begin at 8:00; since it's the group's first get-together since the pandemic, the discussion will focus on next steps, including whether or not to keep that meeting schedule.

And there's more: the Young Dems are meeting in person now as well, at our office (1080 West Patrick, suite 4). Join them on Monday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Finally this month, we're planning a picnic at Utica Park on July 24. Save the date and follow our Facebook page or check our website calendar for updated info.



Don't forget to check the calendar on our web site to keep up with Democratic meetings, candidate events, and more!

<http://www.frederickdemocrats.org/events/calendar>



The BIG Picture Elected Officials



Frederick County residents:
Confused about who your
elected officials are?

Click [here](#) to find your
representatives



Senator Ron Young

It has been great seeing Frederick get back to a sense of normalcy as the state of emergency comes to an end now that a majority of Maryland adults are fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. Still, the virus poses a serious threat to those who remain unvaccinated, especially with the emergence of the Delta Variant, which is not only the most contagious variant to date but expected to become the dominant strain in the United States in the coming weeks and months. However, the CDC is, at least for now, continues to recommend that only those who are not fully vaccinated must still wear a mask. Marylanders 12 and older are currently eligible to receive the vaccine and should do so as soon as possible.

My office is still receiving a large volume of calls from constituents detailing their difficulty contacting the Department of Labor regarding their unemployment insurance claims. In light of this, I am disappointed that Governor Hogan has decided to end pandemic unemployment assistance; funds the state received from the federal

government. We could have continued to use these funds through the summer as many Marylanders continue to look for work. Many of those who have contacted my office have claimed that their vehicles were repossessed and are in danger of losing their homes. Some claim to have resorted to maxing out credit cards and cashing out 401k retirement plans to help make ends meet as they look for work or wait for the Department of Labor to distribute their back pay (funds owed to claimants but have not been dispersed). If you or someone you know is still having trouble contacting the Department of Labor to resolve an unemployment insurance issue, please contact my office as staff is in daily communication with the Department of Labor and can submit claimant information to the Department to help reduce wait times.



Delegate Karen Lewis-Young

I'd like to thank those of you who joined me at my June 21st birthday fundraiser. Fundraising is a real challenge during normal times. It has been even more difficult during the pandemic.

Earlier this year, I knew that I wanted to invite Congressman Jamie Raskin

to be the keynote speaker at my next fundraiser. Given his popularity during and after his brilliant performance at the second impeachment hearings, I knew that I would have to book him early. In mid-March, we had no idea if it would be safe to hold an in-person event by June. Therefore, we decided not to take that risk.

Despite the fact that we are all "zoomed out," I feel that the event was successful. I credit that to the fact that Congressman Raskin is always informative, captivating, and entertaining.

By now, I am sure that most of you are aware that I declared my candidacy for the Maryland state senate in 2022. Actually, the congressman announced it for me. This was not a difficult decision for me for a variety of reasons.

First and foremost, I have always been inspired by the satisfaction of being able to assist others. Given the greater workload in the senate, there is more opportunity to do just that.

Also, because there are 141 delegates and 47 senators, senators must cover a larger spectrum of policy areas in committee assignments. After 35 years in the private sector, extensive experience in community service, and 11 years as an elected official, I am very comfortable representing a wide spectrum of policy topics.

The other motivating factor for me has been the support that I have received from so many of you. For the past two years I have been humbled by the strong encouragement that I have received to run for this position.

About a month ago, I asked Melanie Galloway to join me as my campaign manager. I worked with her on the

2018 presidential campaign and was inordinately impressed by her persistence and commitment. I am confident that Melanie will bring her incredible energy and organizational skills to our campaign.

On a final note, we have never had a woman senator from Frederick County. Yet we have certainly had some outstanding female candidates. It's time for that dynamic to change!

If you are interested in joining our campaign, or just learning more about it, please reach out to me at klewisyoung@hotmail.com or Melanie at danmelgalloway@verizon.net.

Thanks for your consideration and have a great summer!



City of Frederick Mayor Michael O'Connor

Forward to Normal

This month, after nearly 17 months of adaptation and innovation, Frederick City government operations will begin to operate in ways that resemble pre-pandemic. I am both exhilarated by the change and nervous.

So many of our residents and employees have worked hard to carry on, as best as possible, with business as usual. Vaccines are now plentiful and many of our residents and employees have done what they can individually to bring us to this place.

But many have also lost so much to the pandemic, from loved ones, including my mother-in law, to schooling for themselves and family members, to jobs and businesses. And vaccination rates, while growing, are not where we need them to be for real herd immunity to develop. The long-term impacts will also remain unknown and unknowable for some time.

A Community Supporting Re-opening

My administration moved quickly to provide support in all the ways we could with the resources available at the start of this, and we are looking to continue supporting our community through every appropriate means.

- City buildings will re-open for public business beginning after the July 4 holiday weekend, including in-person meetings of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.
- Innovations implemented during the pandemic will remain as we undertake a phased re-Opening
- We will continue to ask the public to use the call-in feature for our meetings through August.
- In August, other boards and commissions will resume in-person meetings. This approach will allow our staff to best evaluate how to incorporate remote participation so that the best of our adaptations can be retained.

- We are also asking our staff, vaccinated or not, to wear masks in public facing operations when barriers or distancing are not possible.

The city will also still encourage residents who need to access city services to use the online and remote services available, such as paying water bills or filing permit applications, though our payment windows and permit offices will be resuming more normal operations in July also for those who wish to come in.

- To accommodate the varied needs of our residents, offices, retailers, and restaurants, the pop-up dining, loosening of food truck regulations, and flexibility of payment options will continue for at least 30 days.
- I have authorized Fourth Saturday Market Street closures from Patrick to Third Street in July and August to assist in the ongoing recovery of downtown businesses.

With the onset of the pandemic, the city-initiated utility and rent relief in collaboration with Frederick County and the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs. With additional federal relief dollars coming to the city, I am continuing to evaluate needs in this area with senior leadership to allocate resources accordingly.

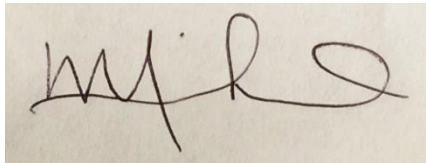
From Challenges Come Opportunity

Finally, we will soon undertake the evaluation and site selection necessary to expand health clinic services on Frederick's west side, though our still new Department of Housing and Human Services. We are launching a mobile crisis response team, a partnership of the Frederick Police Department, HHS, Frederick

County's Division of Fire and Rescue Services, the Mental Health Association, Frederick County Health Department, and Sheppard Pratt.

The next several months will continue to present opportunities and challenges as we emerge from a global health crisis that unfortunately continues uncontrolled in many parts of world. As we pause this month to remember the freedom and privilege that comes with living in the United States, I cannot ignore that even in Frederick, not all can share in those same benefits. That is why I want to think of this time as going forward to normal, a normal where all in our community can live, work, and thrive together.

www.oconnorforfrederick.com



Tom Slater- Frederick County Democratic Central Committee and Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

The Rest of the Story – News and Opinion

I read a lot of newspapers on a regular basis and frequently/obsessively clip articles that I find of interest. This month's column is a compilation of some of those articles:

...In a tough, but in my view fair, editorial in the Baltimore Sun in June, reacting to Maryland Congressman Andy Harris's vote against honoring U.S. Capitol Police with the Congressional Gold Medal, the editorial says that Congressman Harris "represents Maryland's 1st congressional district in much the same way that saltwater mosquitoes represent the Chesapeake Bay region – annoyingly and sometimes painfully." The editorial goes on to say: "If there's a pattern to the 64-year old Baltimore County Republican's behavior, it's to lowball his district's collective IQ often behaving outrageously – backing false claims of election fraud or seeking to bring a handgun to the House chamber or, as he did just this week, castigating the University of Maryland and other Maryland colleges for requiring COVID-19 vaccinations of students because he considers it a potential health risk for young men to get vaccinated. And did we mention he's a doctor?"

...Mike Gerson, who is a lifelong Republican, in a June column in the Washington Post, compares what he calls the "nightmares" that Republicans have about wokeness and critical race theory to the "nightmares" that progressive Democrats have about the growth of right-wing authoritarianism and fascism. He rightfully concludes that "Right-wing authoritarianism is the force that could undo the American

system. In a contest of nightmares, it is not even close."

...In the June 20 edition of the Baltimore Sun, a letter writer, a lifelong Democrat, bemoans the fact that Democrats are quick to heap praise on Republicans like Mitt Romney and Liz Cheney who challenge the Trump Republican orthodoxy but, on the other hand, are intolerant of Democrats, particularly Senator Joe Manchin, who dare to deviate from the Democratic party line. The writer calls Democratic criticism of Manchin "intolerance and hypocrisy."

...Former UDFC member Stephen Budiansky has just published another book, after his much-praised book about Oliver Wendell Holmes. His most recent book, Journey to the Edge of Reason: The Life of Kurt Godel, is described in the N.Y. Times Book Review as a "vibrant biography."

...David Brooks, another Republican-leaning columnist, in March in the N.Y. Times, regrets the fact that the United States is having difficulty reaching herd immunity because "that basic sense of peoplehood of belonging to a common enterprise with a shared destiny is exactly what's lacking today." He concludes by praising President Biden: "The Biden agenda would pour trillions of dollars into precisely those populations who have been left out and are most distrustful – the people who used to work in manufacturing and who might now get infrastructure jobs, or he ones who care for the elderly. This money would not only ease their financial stress, but it would also be a material display that someone sees them, that we are in this together. These measures, if passed, would be extraordinary tangible steps to

reduce the sense of menace and threat that undergirds this whole psychology.”

...The former chairs of the Republican and Democratic parties in Pennsylvania, in a thought-provoking column in the Washington Post on June 1, advocate for open primaries. Describing both Republican and Democratic primary voters as “increasing partisan,” they conclude by saying: “Our system of closed primaries is simply not working. It is exacerbating the political divide, shutting out millions of voters and increasingly placing the Democratic and Republican parties at odds with American voters. Instead, candidates should be focusing on winning over independents. What better way to impact our partisan political culture than to let all voters vote.”

...Unfortunately these past few months we have again lost some good souls:

John W. Whitworth, loving husband of former Democratic Central Committee Chair Myrna Whitworth

Barbara Hoffman, former Executive Director of the Maryland Democratic Party and powerful and influential Maryland State Senator

Sharon Brackett, gender rights advocate and member of the Baltimore City Democratic State Central Committee

Steve Wilhide, with his husband Alan Garrett, active in the Frederick County Democratic Party before they moved to Florida

David Key, AARCH champion and activist dedicated to preserving local African-American history

Lorraine Smith Nicklas, mother of Circuit Court Judge William R. Nicklas, Jr., who before being appointed to the court was a local supporter of the Democratic Party
Joan Adams, grandmother of Alexis Adams Slater

Judge Paul A. McGuckian, longtime judge in Montgomery County who often sat on the bench in Frederick County and before becoming a judge was a Democratic activist who attended the 1976 Democratic National Convention as a supporter of Jimmy Carter

All will be missed.

40 years ago in *The Banner*: Paul Sarbanes was the featured speaker at the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner (tickets were \$12.50 per person).

Former Delegate Clif Virts and former County Treasurer Charlotte Y. Kerrigan were the first recipients of the awards for contributions to the local Democratic Party.

Mayor Ron Young held a re-election fundraiser at the Frederick fairgrounds.

State Party Chair Senator Rosalie Abrams called for reforming the delegate selection process and appointed State Treasurer William James to head the delegate selection committee, of which I was a member.

In July of 1981, Congresswoman Beverly Byron held a Swiss Summerfest fundraiser at South Mountain Inn, and Maryland Attorney General Steve Sachs kicked off his re-election campaign.



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!

Josh Cramer,

josh@frederickdemocrats.org

or

Central Committee -

info@frederickdemocrats.org

July 2021 At-a-Glance



Frederick Democrats at First Saturday

Saturday July 3 from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m.

The Square at Market and Patrick Street in Downtown Frederick

Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting

Thursday, July 15 at 6:00 p.m.

1080 W. Patrick Street, suite 4, Frederick

Women's Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting

Monday, July 19 at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Mayoral Debate, in partnership with UDFC and YDF.

www.wdlfrederick.org for questions and info.

Frederick Democrats Picnic at Uttica Park

Saturday July 24

Visit <https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/events/calendar> for details.

Frederick County Dems at the Food Bank

Every Friday in July from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

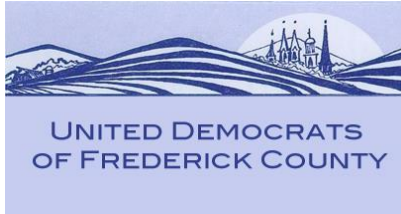
Contact: Maureen Grayzeck – mgrayzeck2016@gmail.com

Frederick Food Bank Program operated by
Community Action Agency, 14 E. All Saints St, Frederick

Frederick County Democratic Party Headquarters

Every Saturday in June from 10:00am – 2:00pm

1080 W. Patrick Street, suite 4, Frederick.



The June meeting of the UDFC was with two members of the Climate Emergency Mobilization Working Group. Barb Trader and Kevin Sellner presented the scope of the work group and took us through the timeline of when the findings will be presented to the County Council. They stressed the importance of looking at the impact people and businesses have on climate change. Climate change is not just a national issue. If all communities take corrective and adaptive actions locally, then we will collectively benefit from these actions. We look forward to hearing the presentation later this year and what specific recommendations the work group makes.

We will not have a July business meeting, instead we are partnering with the WDL and YDF to co-host the mayoral debate on July 19. The same groups will be co-hosting an aldermanic debate in August, but the date has not been finalized yet. Please look for our event on Facebook and in your email to register for the two events through Eventbrite.

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!



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!



and



with

Frederick County Democrats

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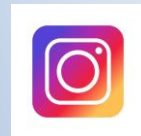
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WE'RE SAVING FOR A SUNNY DAY!

BE A MONTHLY SUSTAINER!

Your monthly contribution of \$5 or \$10 supports
local Democratic candidates!



**SUSTAINERS WILL RECEIVE A
FREDERICK DEMOCRATS TOTE BAG**

To join, visit www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute
By Authority: FCDCC Tony Soltero, Treasurer



The Maryland Democratic Party
invites you to the

WELCOME BACK BBQ BASH

Our **FIRST** in-person event!

Sunday, July 18
4:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Bowie, Maryland

mddems.link/bbq

Thank you to our signature sponsor






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WDL
Women's Democratic League
Frederick County, Maryland

1923-2018

Join us for our Monthly Meeting
Monday, July 19
6:30-8:30 p.m.

“Virtual Mayoral Candidate Forum”

Join WDL, UDFC, and YDFC for an online candidate forum featuring the Democratic mayoral candidates for the City of Frederick 2021 election




Visit our website to sign up for your virtual seat!

www.wdlfrederick.org

Questions? Email us at wdlfrederick@gmail.com WDLFrederick on Facebook

Emerge Maryland is the premier candidate training organization in Maryland. Come and see why! This summer offering is a one-day training that includes workshops designed to show you how to begin and strengthen your path to political leadership.

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The workshops will help you navigate your local political landscape, grow and solidify your networks and help you to determine your political goals.

Sign up today and reserve your seat!

Classes will be virtual.

<https://bit.ly/TasteofEMD2021>

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training this
summer.**



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