0CT0BER 2021

## THE BANNER

#### An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

BY AUTHORITY: FCDCC, TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER



## CONTENTS

- **3 CHAIR'S CORNER**
- 4 MAYOR MICHAEL O'CONNOR
- **5 FREDERICK CITY CANDIDATES**
- 6 DELEGATE KAREN LEWIS YOUNG
- 7-9 THE REST OF THE STORY: SHERMAN MASON AND THE YDS
- **10 FREDERICK CITY GENERAL ELECTION INFO**
- **11 UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY**
- **13 OCTOBER CALENDAR**
- **14 FREDERICK FAIR PHOTOS**

## CHAIR'S CORNER

Chairwoman Deborah Carter

Of course, before 2022, we still have the Frederick City election. Can you help us

make phone calls to get out the vote before November 2? Or knock on doors to distribute literature about our excellent candidates? The office is open Mondays 3:00-7:00 and Saturdays 10:00-2:00 if you just want to stop in and pick up a walk list or bring a few friends and start phone banking. But keep your eye open for extended hours as the election gets closer. We're at 1080 West Patrick, suite 4.

And if you're a Frederick City voter, you will be receiving your ballots any day. Please don't wait - vote for the Dems,



Happy October! First, I want to thank everyone who came out to see us at the Great Frederick Fair. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who staffed the tent - too many people to name - and to the elected officials and candidates who stopped by to visit with folks. It was a welcome return to Remember that our monthly Central Committee meetings are always open to the normalcy. (Check out the photos on the last page!)

While some clubs that have been virtual are now cautiously meeting in person again, we have made the difficult decision to cancel the annual gala for the second year in a row. It's clearly the right thing to do in order to keep all our supporters safe, but it leaves us in serious financial difficulty going into the big 2022 election year.

Next year, we'll have all the county and state races: Board of Education, County Council, House of Delegates, not to mention sheriff, state's attorney, governor, and more! Without our traditional fundraising events, we simply won't have the resources to defeat the likes of Cindy Rose, Michael Hough and Dan Cox. That's why we'll be asking our most loyal donors to help us out once more.

If 100 of you can give \$100 this month, we'll raise \$10,000 to help maintain - or even increase - the Democratic lead in county and state government next year. You can donate right here, right now: https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/ contribute.

sign the oath, and pop your ballot in a dropbox as soon as you can. Mayor O'Connor; alderfolk Kuzemchak, MacShane, Russell, and Shackelford; and newcomer Katie Nash will do an outstanding job for us all!

public. Please consider joining us in our office to see what we're up to, especially if you've been thinking about getting more involved. Usually, we meet on the third Thursday of the month; however, this month's meeting will be in our office on the second Thursday, October 14, starting at 6:30 p.m.



#### Frederick City MAYOR MICHAEL O'CONNOR



I am enormously grateful for the support I have received from this community. It is humbling to have served the residents and businesses of Frederick for the last four years as Mayor, and for eight years prior as a member of the Board of Aldermen. I look forward to continuing for four more years.

To my family: Tammy, Clare, Erin, I could not do this without your love and support. You are my anchors.

Now we need to unite towards November so we can continue the progress we have made over the last four years to address issues of equity, opportunity, and resilience, for all our community.

I have been clear in my commitment to reimagining housing and human services. I appointed a police committed to the principles of 21st century policing. And I know that maintaining a high quality of life for every neighborhood includes investing in mobility improvements, parks and recreation, and public safety.

Thank you to all of the other candidates for your hard fought campaigns. The process works and the City will remain in good hands when hard working and knowledgeable people participate. Congratulations to Katie Nash, Alderman Derek Shackelford, Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak, Alderman Kelly Russell, and Alderman Ben MacShane for demonstrating that and for your well-earned victories. I look forward to working with you, on behalf of our community, to November and beyond. I am asking you to support this team, financially, as volunteers, and with your vote or voice. We have the chance to make history by sweeping City elections for a second consecutive cycle and retaining the Mayor's office for the first time since 1985.

Thank you and together we will keep moving Frederick forward! www.oconnorforfrederick.com





#### Frederick City A NOTE FROM YOUR CANDIDATES

Your City of Frederick Democratic Team is hard at work reaching voters - and we need your help! This Primary Election cycle we saw record turnout, most likely attributed to the newly expanded options for voting. We are experiencing such an exciting time to witness new voters take interest in their local elections. City grassroots work is incredibly crucial as we look forward - achieving greater voter engagement in the City of Frederick in 2021 supports our State/County Democratic candidates in 2022. We remain grateful to the Frederick County Democratic Central Committee and many activists who have been involved in our respective campaigns. Mayor O'Connor is leading a unified team to serve our City residents and we appreciate expanded partnerships for the future. As an update, our General Election Day is Tuesday, Nov 2nd. Our general election ballots must be mailed to registered voters between 21 to 30 days before the election per City code (that's likely between Oct 4th- Oct 13th). We would love to have your help reminding our voters to return their ballots and/or make a plan for voting! For the next few weeks, we will be providing our literature at voters' doors (contactless only) and making direct calls to voters. If you can volunteer, reach out to Josh at jbokee@gmail.com for the schedule of opportunities.



This Banner submission has been authorized by all six candidate committees.

## District 3A – Frederick DELEGATE KAREN LEWIS YOUNG



While state legislators have been busy making sausage (the expression for the process of developing legislation), September was an eventful month at the federal level. The withdrawal from Afghanistan, a border crisis, the infrastructure plan, the debt ceiling, and a spike in COVID cases from the delta variant could all have significant consequences for the 2022 midterm elections.

At a time when the former President seriously fragments Republicans, it is critical that Democrats get ahead of the messaging and unite around our common goals. Here are two examples:

Both the Republicans and the media were quick to criticize the Afghanistan withdrawal. While we expected Republicans to disparage President Biden's every action, the mainstream media was negligent in reporting the background.

As David Rothkopf points out in The Atlantic, unlike his three immediate predecessors in the Oval Office, all of who also came to see the futility of the Afghan operation, Biden had the political courage to fully end America's involvement. Although Donald Trump made a plan to end the war, he established an exit date that fell after the end of his first term and created conditions that made the situation Biden inherited virtually impossible.

Despite major challenges, Biden has overseen an operation that has managed one of the most remarkable logistical accomplishments in recent history. By the agreed upon departure date of 8/31, the total number of Americans and Afghan allies rescued exceeded 122,000. In the days following the fall of Kabul, critics claimed that the Biden administration failed to properly coordinate the departure of the last Americans and allies from the country. We were all quite surprised by how quickly the Taliban took control as we expected some resistance from the American trained Afghans. Nevertheless, Biden's detractors argued that better planning would have slowed the Taliban victory and might have made our departure smoother.

They all conveniently forgot the previous administration's deal with the Taliban included the release of 5,000 fighters from prison. Rarely reported was the fact that Trump had drawn down U.S. troop levels from about 13,000 to 2,500 during his last year in office and had failed to collect America's equipment on the ground. Nor were we reminded of the delay caused by Trump and his adviser, Stephen Miller, who actively obstructed special visas for Afghans who helped us.

In a stark contrast from recent years, an American president has done the hard thing, the right thing by setting aside politics and placing both America's interests and values first. Let's make certain that this is the narrative!

At this writing, the fate of the infrastructure bill remains unknown. We have allowed critics to label it a \$3.5 trillion socialist-spending bill. When voters actually look at the components (free community college, universal preschool, extended child tax credits, and investments in clean energy), the goals receive strong support. Once again, we have failed to control the message. The focus of the conversation should be about what these investments achieve for all Americans, not merely the dollar number.

## The Rest Of the Story SHERMAN MASON AND THE YDS

Tom Slater, Frederick County Democratic Central Committee Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

On July 18, 2021, J. Sherman Mason passed away. Sherman, a lifelong resident of Frederick County, left a legacy of family, community, religion, and music. He was a longtime pastor of the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, leader of the local N.A.A.C.P. and gifted musician, as well as being the father of Jay Mason, the current president of the Board of Education of Frederick County. What most people probably don't know or remember is that Sherman was an active member of the Frederick County Young Democratic Club in his youth. Sherman was a pivotal player in a significant incident that occurred while he was a member of the Young Democrats.

Annually, Frederick County Democrats held the Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner (JJ Dinner), which was the major fundraiser for local Democrats. In the 1960s and before, this event was planned by representatives of all of the Democratic clubs in the county (usually three or four) and the Democratic State Central Committee for Frederick County. In February 1969, the Young Democrats of Frederick County (YDs) were invited to send two representatives to a meeting at the Jeffersonian Club to plan the JJ Dinner. YD president Galen Clagett asked Gerald Daley and me to represent the YD club at that meeting. Gerald Daley was an African-American member of the YDs. Gerald and I attended the meeting, and I even purchased beers for Gerald and me as we sat at the club's bar. Shortly after the meeting, the president of the Jeffersonian Club, Phil Beard, called the

The Jeffersonian Democratic Club of Frederick County (Jeffersonian Club) was a political club that was organized in

1954 by most of the leading lights of the Frederick County Democratic party. It was the only club supposedly open to all adult Democrats in Frederick County. Women could join the Auxiliary. Many political events were held at the club's headquarters on 4th Street in Frederick City just east of East Street. The club had a full kitchen and bar, plenty of meeting space, and a membership of more than 1,000.

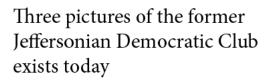


Former location of Ernie's Italian Kitchen on Rosemont Avenue, just west of Callahan's YD president to inform him of the time and date of the next meeting but told Galen "don't bring that black fellow." Apparently, according to Phil Beard, some of his members were upset that Gerald had not only attended the meeting but had sat at the bar in the club. Immediately, the YD club passed a resolution calling for all meetings of the planning committee for the JJ dinner to be held at a location where all members

had frequently invited the YDs to stop at the Elks Club after



campaigning. But actually, Sherman was inviting the YDs to join him at his new club, the Jeffersonian Club. Ron Young, Mary Storm, Bob Muench.



of the clubs represented would be welcome and that the JJ dinner should be open to all registered Democrats who purchased a ticket. Soon thereafter, Phil Beard called Galen Clagett and indicated that henceforth all planning meetings would be held in a public location open

to all. At the subsequent meeting, the planning committee, somewhat reluctantly, accepted the resolution proposed by the YDs.

PATRIOTIC

SOCIAL CLUB

Later in 1969, the YDs became very active in the Frederick City election. One goal of the YDs was to increase the involvement of the African-American community in local politics. Two of the YD members, Galen Clagett and Ron Young, filed to run as candidates for alderman. Ron Young was elected to the Board of Aldermen in that election. After the election, some YD members joined the Jeffersonian Club with the express intention of sponsoring African-American membership. To become a member of the Jeffersonian Club, sponsorship by a current member was required. Sherman Mason and Lord Nickens were sponsored for membership in the Jeffersonian Club.

About three weeks after Lord Nickens and Sherman Mason's membership applications were submitted, a YD meeting was held at Ernie's Italian Kitchen on Rosemont Avenue. After the meeting, Sherman Mason suggested that some of the YDs come to his club for a drink. Not knowing that he had received his Jeffersonian Club membership card in the mail, the YDs thought that the club he was inviting them to was the Elks Club on All Saints Street, which was predominantly African-American. During the recent Frederick City campaign, Sherman, Lord, and Gerald



and I met Sherman the at Jeffersonian Club. We entered the bar and sat down. but no one came to wait on us. Eventually, someone went up to Pete Shelton, the bartender and а

Democratic precinct chair in Frederick City, and asked that someone come over to take our order. Shelton said that he could not do that because the club does not serve African-Americans (he may have used other words). Someone asked Shelton if he would serve us if Sherman was a member and Shelton replied that Sherman could not be a member. At that point Sherman showed Shelton his membership card signed by the club president, Phil Beard. Shelton immediately left and called Beard on the phone (no cell phones at that time). A few minutes later, Shelton took me back to the kitchen so that I could talk to Beard on the phone. Beard said that the membership was signed by him by mistake. He did not realize that Mason was African-American. I said to Beard, "What's the problem; we just want a beer." Beard said, "They (meaning African-Americans) will break up the furniture." I told Beard that I would personally guarantee that no furniture would be broken and if any furniture was broken, I would pay for it. After that, Beard hung up saying that the Jeffersonian Club was a private club and does not allow African-Americans in their club. After I returned to the table and related Phil Beard's comments, the YDs decided to leave just as some members of the Frederick Police Department entered the club.

Immediately after the above incident, the YDs called the chair of the Democratic State Central Committee, Austin Powell, but

he said that there was nothing that the Central Committee could do. The YDs also called all local Democratic election officials but received no commitment of firm public support. Also called was the newly elected Democratic mayor, E. Paul Magaha, who had just been elected with the active support of the YDs and the newly energized African-American community. Mayor Magaha said to give him a week and he would work things out. In approximately one week, Sherman Mason received a call informing him that he was a member in good standing of the Jeffersonian Club and that he could attend all future meetings. On that same day, other members of the Jeffersonian Club received the following notice: "At a special meeting ... we found it necessary to close the membership of the club for the balance of the year. This comes about due to the rapid growth bringing the size into conflict with fire and other regulations. Please do not take any more applications until notified. Old members who have not paid their dues may reinstate their membership for a limited time by paying their dues at the club."

Not satisfied with the actions of the local Democratic party or the Jeffersonian Club, the YDs wrote a letter to Austin Powell asking him to call a meeting of all Democratic clubs in the county to discuss the issue of having membership open to all Democrats. Austin Powell did not respond to the YD letter. In 1970, the Maryland Democratic Party created the James Commission on Democratic Structure and Constitutional Reform, chaired by Maryland State Senate President William James. I testified at a James Commission hearing and relayed the incident involving the Jeffersonian Club. The Frederick News-Post editorialized: "It's almost enough to make a black citizen return to the Republican Party of Abraham Lincoln" and described the Jeffersonian Club's new membership policy as "having a strong odor of fish."

Eventually the Maryland Democratic Party established a Clubs Committee and requested a copy of all the bylaws of all Democratic clubs in the State of Maryland. The Maryland Democratic Party now requires that no Democratic clubs in the state discriminate against minority membership. As for the Jeffersonian Democratic Club, it soon dropped Democratic from its name and became the Jeffersonian Patriotic Social Club. The Democratic Party stopped having events at the club. Part of the rationale for this change was the fact that the club relied in part on revenue from tip jars, and legislation by the Maryland General Assembly required that all clubs that had tip jars had to be charitable organizations. The Jeffersonian Democratic Club changed its bylaws and name to comply with this requirement. As far as I can tell, the Jeffersonian Patriotic Social Club as an organization is no longer in existence. The building still exists and is for lease. 🧲



#### Condolences to the families of Edyth Rickert, Evelyn Cline, Jim Brady, Royd Smith, Patricia O'Neill, and Christina Baker.

Edyth Rickert was a long-time Democratic activist in Washington County and former member of the Democratic State Central Committee.

Evelyn Cline was a loyal Democrat in Frederick County, who until recent years was a regular attendee at Democratic events.

Jim Brady was Governor Glendening's Secretary of the Department of Economic and Employment Development and, after changing his party affiliation from Democratic to Republican, was a strong supporter of Governor Hogan and a Hogan appointee to the Board of Regents of the University System of Maryland.

Royd Smith was Harry Hughes's campaign coordinator for Western Maryland in 1978 and served in the Maryland House of Delegates as a Democrat from Frederick County from 1987 to 1991.

Patricia O'Neil served on the Board of Education in Montgomery County from 1998 until her death in 2021.



www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute

#### Join The Monthly Sustainers

YOUR MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION WILL HELP US KEEP FREDERICK COUNTY BLUE IN 2021 AND 2022!



BY AUTHORITY FCDCC TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER

#### **VOTE FOR THE DEMOCRATS!**

#### Mayor:

Re-elect: Mayor Michael O'Connor

Board of Aldermen:

Re-elect: Alderman Ben MacShane, Alderwoman Donna Kuzemchak, Alderman Derek Shackelford, and, Alderman Kelly Russell

And Elect: **Katie Nash** 



#### GENERAL ELECTION

November 2, 2021

General Election Day is Tuesday, Nov 2nd. General election ballots Should be arriving in the next few weeks, don't wait to return them!

In-person voting will be held at: Trinity School Voting Center - 6040 New Design Road, Frederick, MD 21703

Early Voting October 27-30, 2021: 7AM- 8PM

Day of Election Voting November 2, 2021: 7AM- 8PM

10





#### UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

## UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

WD

ANNUA

The UDFC would like to congratulate all the winners of the Frederick City primary and pledge our support to get all the Democrats elected in November. In addition, we would like to thank all the candidates who heard the call of public service and ran for office. We enjoyed co-hosting the mayoral and aldermanic debates this summer with the Women's Democratic League and Young Democrats.

We hope you will join us for an in-person meeting on Monday, October 4, at Café 611 (611 North Market Street). This will be our first meeting in person since March 2020, and we have a great program scheduled for you. Brooke Lierman, candidate for comptroller, and Mike Rosenbaum, candidate for governor, will be speaking to the members. We know the 2022 elections are still a few months away, but there will be lots of candidates running for office next year, and we hope to have them all at UDFC meetings. We are expecting several of the winners of the city primary to be in attendance. If you are interested in volunteering with any of these campaigns, this will be a great time to meet them. As always, the doors open up at 6:00 p.m. with a social/networking hour, then the business meeting and program start at 7:00 p.m.

We have not finalized our November schedule yet, but we will keep you posted on future programs via Facebook and email.

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! 🔀



#### EDITOR'S Corner



Violet Williams, Frederick County Democratic Central Committee Member

#### Hello there!

So Sorry there's no fun page this month! Too much going on, not enough space! You'll have to have your fun through getting involved in our upcoming events!

Happy reading,

Violet

#### <u>did you know?</u>

According to The City of Frederick, the town "was ransomed [for \$200,000] from burning during the war and became a hospital town for the wounded soldiers" from the "Civil War battlegrounds of Monocacy, Antietam and Gettysburg."

#### Please join us !

Enjoy wine, art, a<mark>nd political convers</mark>ation in our new home for a fundraiser kickoff.

#### Karen Lewis Young for State Senate, District 3



October, 16, 2021 1-3 PM or 3-5 PM 2681 Brook Valley Road, Frederick, MD 21701

Friends of Karen Lewis Young

www.lewisyoungforsenate

facebook.com/klewisyoung • Twitter@kmlcr

PO Box 3662 Frederick, MD 21705

RSVP by October 11th with email address to 301.639.2155 or karenlewisyoung@gmail.com Vaccines and Masks Required.

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

- \_\_\_\_ \$2000 Benefactor
- \_\_\_\_ \$1000 Champion
- \_\_\_\_ \$500 Partner
- \_\_\_\_ \$250 Supporter \$100 Friend
- \_\_\_\_ \$100 Friend \$50 Constituent

Sorry I can't attend but I would like to make a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Friends of Karen Lewis Young P.O. Box 3662, Frederick MD 21705 or donate online at www.lewisyoungforsenate.com

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

#### GET INVOLVED:

https://frederickdems.ivolunteer.com/

#### <u>GET INFORM</u>ED:

https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District

https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/frederick-democrats-podcast/id1255766786?mt=2

#### GET BUSY:

https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/events/calendar

#### <u>Get connec</u>ted:







## THINKING About Running For Office?

Have you ever thought about running for office? Next year, all the county races are up for grabs - not just the big ones like County Exec and Sheriff, but probably a few you've never considered (but might be perfectly qualified for)! Check it out, and let us know how we can help.

https://elections.maryland.gov/candidacy/candidate\_filing.html?fbclid=IwAR3mpKmS6Ks-2JKETfxM33uVLFQbQ3TwRt7W7kISXvYLY-BIB315kMFRNWLtU



## **OCTOBER AT A GLANCE:**

Can you make it out to any events this month? We would love to see you!

# 4 UDFC Meeting 4 Last Day to Register to Vote in Frederick City General Election 9 North FC Dems Monthly Meet-Up 13 FCDCC Monthly Meeting 18 WDL Annual Community Awards 23 South FC Dems Monthly Meet-Up

FREDERICK COUNTY DEMS AT THE FOOD BANK Every Friday in October 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

#### **OFFICE HOURS:**

The FCDCC Office will be open: Every Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Every Monday from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m

https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/events/calendar

































