

The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: DSCCFC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

April 2024

CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

I'd like to start this month with a big thank-you to the Democratic candidates who participated in our recent Congressional District 6 Forum, the well over 100 residents who attended, and the local Democratic Club leaders for their planning efforts and help during the event. I received lots of positive feedback on the format and that the event helped several people decide on their preferred candidate.

We hope that residents will join us this Saturday, 6 April, as we host a forum for Democratic U.S. Senate candidates at Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC) Community Room, 15 W. Church Street, Frederick. Doors open at 10:30 AM, with the forum at 11 AM. Confirmed participants are Angela Alsobrooks, Michael W. Cobb, Sr., Marcellus Crews, Brian Frydenborg, Robert K. Houton, and Andrew Jaye Wildman. Others may still confirm and attend. Registration is not required, but we hope to have a general headcount. Please register <u>here</u>. Look for a flyer elsewhere in the newsletter with more information.

Later Saturday afternoon, we will have a table at First Saturday in downtown Frederick. Look for us in front of Middletown Valley Bank, 9 N. Market Street. Stop by to say hello, pick up candidate or Party literature, sign up to volunteer, or all of the above.

A few weeks ago, we announced that we were going to host a Town Meeting/Listening Session tomorrow night (Tuesday, 2 April), at 6:30 PM; however, we must postpone it due to an unexpected conflict. We will follow up with a new date and time later this week.

Our next monthly meeting is Tuesday, 16 April, at 6:30 PM, in the Community Room at the Common Market, 5728 Buckeystown Pike B1, Frederick. Come share your thoughts and/or listen in as we discuss our business and activities.

Our Annual Gala will be on Monday, 29 April, at Dutch's Daughter with Special Guest Ken Ulman, Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party. During the event, we will recognize the recipients of these awards: Outstanding Democrat, Outstanding Volunteer, Rising Star, and Stephen A. LeRoux Legacy Award. Tickets are \$95 (\$85 for Club Blue Members). Sponsorship and advertising opportunities are available. You can learn more <u>here</u>.

We are seeking volunteers to help us with Get Out The Vote (GOTV) activities for the primary. Check out our <u>activities</u> and sign up as a volunteer. We will follow up with more details of each activity after we receive your information.

The 2024 Presidential Primary is just around the corner. There are three <u>ways</u> to vote. Choose <u>one</u> option that best suits you.

Option 1: Vote Early (Thursday, 2 May – Thursday, 9 May) at any of the four <u>Early Vote Centers</u> in Frederick County. All are open from 7 AM – 8 PM, including the weekend.

Option 2: Vote by Mail (Mail-in ballot). Here are four essential steps outlined on the State Board of Elections website that you should know when completing your Mail-in ballot: 1) Use a Black Ink Pen to Mark your Ballot (Do not use a Sharpie), 2) Sign the Return Envelope. Do Not Sign the Ballot, 3) Seal Your Return Envelope, and 4) Send your Ballot using the Postage-Paid Return Envelope or drop it in one of the approved **Ballot Drop Boxes**. The Frederick County Board of Elections website says, "There are 10 convenient, secure, and monitored [Drop Box] locations under 24-hour surveillance." Your ballot must be postmarked on or before Tuesday, 14 May, or placed in an approved Drop Box by 8 PM on Tuesday, 14 May. You can use this link to track your mail-in ballot.

Option 3: Vote on Election Day (Tuesday, 14 May) at your <u>assigned</u> <u>polling location</u>. The polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM.

Be sure to let your unaffiliated friends know they can vote in the Board of Education primary, and make sure they know which candidates to support. We have a list of recommended Board of Education candidates on the last page of the newsletter. You can vote for any <u>three</u> in the primary. Please do not choose more than three. Overall, the top six of the current BoE candidates will make it past the 14 May primary, and three of those will be elected in the general.

The local Elections Office still seeks election judges (workers). You can get the details, including how to apply, compensation, and more, on the Frederick County Board of Elections <u>website</u>.



Photo from Democratic Forum for CD6 Candidates



Democratic Forum for CD6 Candidates (This photo is courtesy of Delegate Kris Fair)





Tom Salter, Frederick County Democratic Central Committee / Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

The Rest of the Story – In Case You Missed It II

Last month my column was entitled "In Case You Missed it" and I repeated most of a column that I had written in September 2020 about Larry Hogan and then added a postscript. That was "In Case You Missed It I." Today's "In Case You Missed It II" will involve references to some recent writings that you may not have seen. May's Banner column, which will be "In Case You Missed It III," will be a reprise of portions of columns I wrote in June and August of 2020 about the delegate selection process and Frederick County Democrats who have been delegates to the Democratic National Conventions, with an update.

Writing of interest that you may have missed:

...Dan Rodricks, a columnist for the Baltimore Sun, from whom I am taking this information, recently wrote a commentary about "Duty to Warn," a Baltimore-based group of clinicians and researchers who have joined forces to defend President Biden from false accusations that he has dementia and to warn the nation about Trump's obvious cognitive decline. Psychologist John Gardner, an assistant professor for 28 years at Johns Hopkins University, says, "Mainstream media push a false equivalency that Biden and Trump are 'two old men' prone to mistakes, presenting equally unappealing choices." Gardner says that "comparing Biden to Trump is comparing apples to rotted oranges." Noting Biden's lifelong struggle with stuttering and lifetime history of gaffes, Gardner notes that Trump, when he was a Manhattan celebrity, exhibited verbal skills at a high level, but now those skills seem to have greatly diminished. Gardner points out that Trump has shown a decline in baseline verbal fluency and notes that his vocabulary now is impoverished; he often has difficulty finishing a thought, sentence or even a word and, typical of dementia patients he repeats and overuses superlatives and filler words. Gardner concludes, "When you are literally unable to form words and what you're saying is so incomprehensible that it's impossible for someone to understand what you are saying, that's not rambling. Those are serious signs of dementia. If you saw them in a relative, you would run, not walk, to a specialist to get them tested and start thinking about longterm care." Dr. Lance Dodes, a psychiatrist and retired professor at the Harvard Medical School says "The evidence for dementia in Donald Trump has become overwhelming. Unlike normal aging, which is characterized by forgetting names or words, Trump repeatedly shows something very different: confusion about reality." Suzanne Lachman, a New York psychologist posted this: "Trump will begin a sentence, and then seemingly forget how the sentence began and invent something in the middle, and then go off on a tangent that results in an incomprehensible word salad. This behavior we observe frequently in patients who have dementia." "If this guy presented in my office with the symptoms we observe in his public appearances, I'd refer him at once to a neurologist for a full workup," wrote John Biggs, a social

worker and retired psychotherapist who was based at Sheppard Pratt for 30 years. "I wouldn't write him an Okto-return-to-work note, much less declare him fit to occupy the country's highest office." These mental health professionals feel a "Duty to Warn" the public about Trump's apparent decline in mental acuity.

...Dwight Weingarten, writing in the Hagerstown Herald Mail and USA Today Network points out that over \$100 million is coming to Maryland as a result of the first federal appropriations package recently signed into law by President Biden which includes 167 projects known as "congressionally directed spending" or "earmarks." At least one project is in every county in the State, including Baltimore City. Included in the appropriates package was over \$57 million for 31 infrastructure projects on Maryland's Eastern Shore, 59 projects valued at over \$65 million for the Baltimore region, 34 projects valued at over \$35 million for Montgomery and Prince George's counties, and over \$20 million for 20 projects in Western Maryland. More projects are included in the just recently passed congressional spending bill.

... The Baltimore Banner reports that Maryland's General Assembly is one of the nation's most diverse legislatures (only trailing California and New York) with 34% of state lawmakers being persons of color, the highest in the nation. 44% of Maryland's lawmakers are female (82). Only two states have a higher percentage of female legislators, but those states are much smaller than Maryland - New Hampshire and Maine. None of Maryland's 64 Black members are Republicans. In fact, in the whole country, there are only 30 Black Republican state legislators. There are 8 female Republican legislators in Maryland (10% of the total women legislators, whereas in the nation, 20% of women legislators are female). Maryland is one of 8 states where Democratic party legislators are both

majority Black and majority female (Nevada, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, New Mexico, North Carolina, and Illinois).

...Mother Jones, in its June 23, 2024, issue, reports that the major funders of "No Labels," the political group that is trying to put forward a "unity ticket" for president and vice-president are primarily donors who have been funders for the Republican Party, although some have contributed to Democrats. Major donors to "No Labels" include Loews Corporation, Fluor (an engineering and construction giant), Abry Partners (a private equity firm), SailPoint (a tech firm), and Fortress Investment Group. A strong supporter of 'No Labels" is Michael Smith (a billionaire founder of Freeport LNG, a large national gas company) who has also given more than \$5.5 million to Mitch McConnell's super-PAC. Smith and his wife have given money to Democrats but also have contributed to Glenn Youngkin, David Perdue, Thom Tillis, and Tom Cotton. A stalwart Republican donor on the "No Labels" contributors list is Tom McInerney, a private equity investor, who regularly had donated to the Republican National Committee, GOPlinked super-PACS, Kevin McCarthy, Paul Ryan, Tim Scott, Mitt Romney, John McCain, and Jeb Bush. The most recent tax return filed by "No-Labels" in 2021 shows that they received contributions of \$11.3 million that year.





UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

Hello Frederick Democrats!

The election season is upon us once again and is as busy as ever! UDFC is hosting a regular meeting this coming Monday, April 1st, at Café 611 in downtown Frederick. Our guests will be Frederick County School Board Vice President Rae Gallagher and Board Member Dean Rose. Each of the Board members will be talking for 10 minutes each, then followed by a 15-20-minute Q & A session with the audience. The meeting is at 611 North Market Street, and street parking is available. Keep in mind that parking in the lot across the street is at your discretion and you may or may not get a ticket! The lot belongs to nearby businesses! The doors open ~6:15, for social time and ordering food and beverages at your expense, and our program starts at 7 PM!

The Democratic Central Committee of Frederick Co. as well as UDFC, WDL, South County Dems, North County Dems, and the Young Dems of Frederick County joined forces to host a Forum of CD-6 Candidates on Sunday. March 24th at the Community Room of ERUCC. Eleven Candidates participated, and there were more than 150 people in attendance. Please see the front-page article in the Frederick News Post, March 25th, for a recap of the event!

There is another event on Saturday, April 6th, also at ERUCC, hosting the candidates running for Senator Ben Cardin's U.S. Senate seat. The doors

open at 10:30 AM and the Forum

begins at 11 AM. This event is also hosted by the Dem. Central Committee, UDFC, WDL, South and North Co. Dems. and Young Democrats! Hoping to see you there on April 6th!

A number of UDFC members attended a Board of Education Meet and Greet at the Urbana Library, the afternoon of March 17, 2024, hosted by the group, Urbana Progressives. We got to hear 13 of the 17 BOE candidates introduce themselves. They also had time before and after speaking to Meet and Greet attendees. It was an energetic gathering with lots of info to share! Thank you to the Urbana Progressives!

SAVE THE DATE:

Sunday, July 28th UDFC Picnic at the Ballenger Creek Community Center 3-6 PM. We bring the chicken, beverages, paper products - everyone who attends is asked to bring a side dish to share! The picnic is free to all 2024 UDFC Members. Others may join for \$30 for an Individual membership or \$50 for a family. There will be food, music, candidates, and lots of fun!! Note: We have an indoor venue, so Rain or Shine!!

- Maureen Grayzeck President, UDFC









WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF FREDERICK COUNTY

Our guest speaker at our March monthly meeting was Malcolm Furgol Executive Director of Coalition for a Healthier Frederick. Mr., Furgol spoke about initiatives in Frederick County to improve preventive care and health equality.

The Women's Democratic League of Frederick County, United Democrats of Frederick County, Young Democrats of Frederick County, and North & South Frederick County Democrats are planning to hold a Forum for the Board of Education candidates later this month. Details will be forthcoming.

- Shelly Beaird-Francois, President, WDL





We are looking for volunteers, to help us staff our Democrat booth at various events, canvassing, and our Get Out the Vote efforts. Please click on the link below for more information and to sign up.

Volunteer Today



JANIE MONIER Supporting Student Success BOARD OF EDUCATION

My name is Janie Monier, and I am a candidate for the FCPS Board of Education. As a PTA President, RN, and a mother of two young boys, I have actively worked on fostering connections between our school, families, and the community. Drawing from my experience as a registered nurse, I have witnessed the impact of inadequate support for young students in achieving their aspirations.

It's essential for our schools to reflect the diversity, goals, and needs of our students. To meet these goals, I will advocate for policies and funding to empower schools in preparing students for success in school and beyond the classroom.

This includes ensuring parents and students are informed about available resources, from special education to mental health services, and expanding academic opportunities. I aim to foster access education that meets the student's needs and ambitions.

I support innovative approaches to recruit and retain talented educators, addressing issues like affordable housing, transportation, and childcare. I will advocate for policies that allow educators greater autonomy in the classroom and professional development that aligns with their career objectives and students' needs.

Every student and staff member

deserves a safe school environment that directly addresses bullying and harassment, while supporting their social and emotional well-being. By nurturing the holistic development of our students, educators, and staff; our schools can become a shared vision for a promising future.

To learn more about me and my campaign for the Board of Education: please visit <u>www.janiemonier.org</u> FB: Monier4BOE Instagram: @Monier4BOE





Mohammad Mozumder, Democratic Candidate for Congressional District 6

My name is Mohammad Mozumder. I'm a retired scientist at the US Department of Energy running for Congress to represent Maryland's sixth district, where I live.

I'm running to stop the genocide Israel is committing. Israel is a shockingly violent, criminal enterprise. Only regular people can stop it now. The career politicians certainly won't. I'm the only anti-Zionist candidate in the race.

My next priority is expanding transit, including extending the Metro Red Line to Germantown and Frederick, as well as building a new 30-minute highspeed rail line from Hagerstown to DC.

My third priority is reducing inflation. America's record low unemployment is inflationary - employers have to raise wages a lot to find workers. We can fix that through more immigration.

Please vote for me. I have a very smart team behind me. You can see more of our ideas on my website at www.mozumder4md.com.

Thank you.



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

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



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 <u>here</u>.

Banner Newsletter Ideas?

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

Hope you enjoyed reading! Shelly Beaird - Francois,

shelly@frederickdemocrats.org or

Central Committee info@frederickdemocrats.org

Your are Cordially Invited Meet and Greet Cecelia Reidler for BoE



Sunday, April 14th 3-5pm 10701 Gambrill Park Rd Snacks and Beverages RSVP <u>creidler@gmail.com</u>





The Committee to Elect Chad King Wilson for Board of Education



Join **CLUBBLUE!** Our sustainers are activists and everyday people who contribute a monthly monetary donation to help the Party sustain its competitiveness in current and future local and statewide elections. Click <u>here</u> for more details. Donate as little as \$5 a month and let the Frederick County Democrats do all the work!



You Are Cordially Invited to



Before the Ballot

A Forum for Democratic Candidates for U.S. Senate - Maryland

Confirmed participating candidates: Angela Alsobrooks, Michael W. Cobb, Sr., Marcellus Crews, Brian Frydenborg, Robert K. Houton, Andrew Jaye Wildman

Saturday, 6 April 2024 | Doors Open 10:30 AM | Forum 11 AM

Evangelical Reformed United Church of Christ (ERUCC) Community Room, 15 W Church Street, Frederick

Free & Open to the Public

Seating is limited. While registration is not required, we hope to have a general headcount, so we ask you to register in advance. You may scan the QR code or visit FrederickDemocrats.org. Registration does not guarantee a seat. First come, first served.



Light refreshments are available while supplies last. Parking is available in the Church Street & Court Street Parking Decks nearby. The forum will be live-streamed on FrederickDemocrats' Facebook page, barring any unexpected circumstances.

Special Accommodations – Individuals requiring the services of an ASL interpreter should contact Frederick County Democrats at 240–288–1148 or info@frederickdemocrats.org, no later than Monday, 1 April. We will do our best to secure services, but cannot guarantee it.









The Democratic State Central Committee of Frederick County (DSCCFC) and local Democratic clubs do not endorse candidates in a contested primary. By Authority: DSCCFC. McCamie Patterson. Treasurer

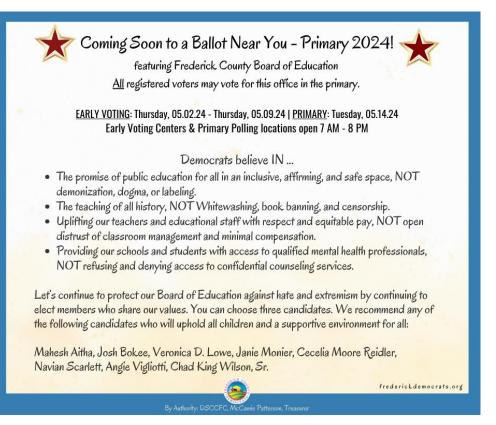
If the QR code does not scan, or you prefer to click a link, please use the link below to register in advance. While it is not required, we are looking for a general headcount. Please <u>register</u> in advance. It does not guarantee a seat. First come, first served.

ANNUAL GALA

You may pay for your tickets, sponsorship, or advertisement <u>online</u> or mail a check to the address on the invitation.







April 2024 At-a-Glance



United Dems of Frederick Co. Monthly Meeting Monday, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. Café 611 located at 611 North Market Street, Frederick

Women's Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting Monday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Café 611 located at 611 North Market Street, Frederick Please check WDLFrederick.org next week for a potential date change.

Democratic State Central Committee of Frederick Co. (DSSFC) Monthly Meeting Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Common Market Community Room, 5728 Buckeystown Pike B1, Frederick

Young Democrats of Frederick County (YDFC) Monthly Meeting Thursday, April 25 at 7:00 p.m. C. Burr Artz Library located at 110 E. Patrick Street, Frederick

North Frederick Co. Dems (NFCD) Monthly Meet-Up No Meeting Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd, Thurmont

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

South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Monthly Meet-Up No Meeting Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Rd, Frederick

Photos from Frederick Democrats Happy Hour on 03.07.24.







EXECUTIVE OFFICE

President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris - <u>Website</u>

<u>U.S. SENATE</u>

Choose only one

Angela Alsobrooks - <u>Website</u> Michael Cobb, Sr. - <u>Email</u> Marcellus Crews - <u>Website</u> Brian E. Frydenborg - <u>Website</u> Scottie J. Griffin - <u>Email</u> Robert K. Houton - <u>Email</u> Joseph Perez - <u>Email</u> Steven Henry Seuferer - <u>Website</u> David Trone - <u>Website</u> Andrew Wildman - <u>Website</u>

U.S. CONGRESS, DISTRICT 6

Choose only one

Peter Choharis - <u>Email</u> George Gluck - <u>Website</u> Ashwani Jain - <u>Website</u> Lesley Lopez - <u>Website</u> Tekesha Martinez - <u>Website</u> April McClain Delaney - <u>Website</u> Mohammad S. Mozumder - <u>email</u> Adrian Petrus - <u>email</u> Laurie-Ann Sayles - <u>Website</u> Destiny Drake West - <u>Website</u> Joe Vogel - <u>Website</u> Kiambo "Bo White" - <u>email</u> Altimont Wilks - <u>email</u>

DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE 2024 ELECTION

The Democratic State Central Committee of Frederick County does not endorse Democratic candidates in a contested primary election. We encourage you to get to know them and help the campaign of your choice in any way you see fit.



BOARD OF EDUCATION, FREDERICK COUNTY

Choose three from this recommended list.

Mahesh Aitha – <u>Website</u> Josh Bokee – <u>Website</u> Veronica Lowe - <u>Website</u> Janier Monier – <u>Website</u> Cecelia Moore Reidler – <u>Website</u> Navian Scarlett - <u>Website</u> Angie Vigliotti – <u>Website</u> Chad King Wilson, Sr. - <u>Website</u>