



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

December 2025

CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

The Central Committee continues to be active in the community. Since last month's newsletter, we tabled at First Saturday, marched in the Brunswick Veterans Day Parade, planned and held canvasses and phone banks for the Frederick City Municipal General Election, staffed our HQ, attended Democratic campaign launches and candidate events, attended a community vigil, had or joined in necessary meetings, and volunteered at non-profit events.

Tonight, we have the pleasure of honoring Yvette Lewis as our 2025 recipient of the Beverly Byron award. Yvette has been a lifelong grassroots activist and has served in various roles throughout her years of service and leadership. To name a few, she is a DNC Member, Senior Policy Advisor for Special Projects for Senator Angela Alsobrooks, and former Maryland Democratic Party Chair. We have a few remaining tickets if you want to help us celebrate her. Click [here](#) to donate online.

Please know that we are co-hosting a Democratic Holiday Party Potluck this Wednesday, December 3, at 6 PM, at ERUCC, 15 W. Church Street, Frederick. The event is free and open to Frederick County Democrats. Parking is available in two nearby decks: Court Street and West Patrick Street. Space at ERUCC is limited. We ask everyone to RSVP in advance by clicking [here](#) and sign up to bring the food item(s) of your choice [here](#). The United Dems, Women Dems, North Frederick County Dems, and South Frederick County Dems are the other co-hosts. At the potluck, we are hosting two holiday drives:

1) Homeless for the Holidays - Please consider bringing items for this critical collection drive if able. More details [here](#).

2) Dems Help is collecting grocery gift cards. They will distribute them to designated community organizations. Please consider supporting if able.

We are happy to announce that the Young Dems of Frederick County is looking to reactivate and restructure. Please join them for an exploratory meeting tomorrow evening (Tuesday, 12.02.25) at 6:30 PM on Zoom. RSVP by emailing info@frederickdemocrats.org.

Switching gears. We give a hearty thank you to Frederick City voters for electing our all-Democratic team on November 4! They will hold the line against Republican federal overreach and continue to uplift and support all city residents and neighborhoods.

Congratulations to:

- Mayor- Michael O'Connor

- City Council District 1 - Katie Nash
- City Council District 2 - Cesar Diaz
- City Council District 3 - Peter Brehm
- City Council District 4 - Scott Lasher
- City Council District 5 - Sarah Hempel Irani
- City County At-large - Derek Shackelford and Libby Taylor

We also want to thank and recognize the soon-to-be outgoing Democratic City Council Members Donna Kuzemchak, Ben MacShane, and Kelly Russell, for their years of service and dedication to the City.

Click [here](#) for a complete breakdown of the November 4 certified official results.

After the polls closed, we gathered at Frederick Social. While the results of the three contested races weren't known, it was still a fun evening to come together, socialize, and support our candidates. We thank those who joined us that evening.

Continuing with my theme of thanks - My thanks also extend to our financial sponsors and contributors. Without your monetary support, we can't do what we do or be competitive in local and statewide elections. We appreciate your giving, whether you give \$10, \$1000, or somewhere in between. We are ever so grateful, especially during these troubling times.

(Continued on the next page)

It's only natural that I make a plug to others - there's no time like the present to donate. We welcome everyone to consider becoming a [Club Blue member](#), an annual [trustee](#), or making a one-time, occasional [donation](#).

To our volunteers, you're the best! We thank and appreciate all you've done to help us this year at our HQ, community events, and Get Out The Vote efforts for the Frederick City Municipal Elections. And to my Central Committee members, thank you for your tireless work as we worked to get City Democrats elected and served our community throughout the year.

Our next Central Committee regular meeting is on December 16, at 6:30 PM. This meeting will be held on Zoom. Join us to share your thoughts and/or listen in as we discuss our business and activities. Everyone must register in advance [here](#). We will not have a meeting in January.

In addition to the two holiday drives mentioned above, our local HQ is a collection site for a coat drive this month. All coats will be given to Asbury United Methodist Church as part of their coat drive. You may drop off coats anytime during our hours: Tuesdays, 5-7 PM, Thursdays, 5-7 PM, and Saturdays and Sundays, 10 AM—2 PM. Note: Our HQ will be closed Sunday, December 21, through Sunday, January 4, reopening on Tuesday, January 6. Monetary donations are not accepted for any of our non-profit drives, and we will not provide a tax-deductible receipt.

Well, friends, this is our final Banner of 2025, and we won't see you again until 1 February, 2026. But please stay in touch at frederickdemocrats.org, and keep an eye on our Facebook page for news. Check out our [calendar](#) for upcoming campaign launches, meetings, and more. Have a happy, healthy, and safe Holiday Season!

P.S. It's not too early to think about being an election judge (aka poll worker) for the 2026 gubernatorial elections. You can get the details, including how to apply, compensation, and more on the Frederick County Board of Elections [website](#).



Tom Slater, Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

The Rest of the Story: Does a Leopard Ever Change It's Spots/Passages

The old saying “a leopard never changes its spots” means that a person’s fundamental character traits, especially negative ones, are unchangeable. This column is a reverse of that old saying, in that as I continue to research about recent political history in Frederick and in Maryland, I have come across some examples of the leopard actually changing its spots for the worse. By that I mean, people who started as strong supporters of the Democratic Party, who held or sought leadership positions in the Party, and have modified, or in some cases, completely abandoned their adherence to those principles. We tend to applaud when the reverse happens. We welcome and embrace former Republicans who now identify with the Democratic Party.

On the national level, the prime example of a leopard that did change its spots was Ronald Reagan. Reagan started as a card-carrying union member and leader, and a strong supporter of FDR, and then got lost in

the wilderness (primarily because he didn't like being taxed for his excess wealth and income). He eventually came to represent principles antithetical to the Democratic Party. Let me give you some examples of a couple of leopards (Democrats) who changed their spots a little closer to home:

George S. Wills was the President of the Young Democrats of Maryland from 1966 to 1967. He was born in Baltimore, graduated from McDonogh School and Penn State, where he forged a friendship with the school's president, Milton Eisenhower. After receiving a Master's Degree in American Government from the University of Virginia, he received a PhD. from Johns Hopkins University. It was while working on his Ph.D. that he became involved in the Young Democrats of Maryland and became its president. His involvement in the Maryland Young Democrats preceded my involvement by a few years, so I have no personal knowledge of him, but I knew him by reputation. When did he change his spots? Perhaps it was when he became a White House fellow during the Nixon Administration or when he made the career decision to represent clients like Giant Foods, J.C. Penny, Raytheon, W.R. Grace and Ernst & Young. Maybe the spots began to change when he became involved in the campaigns of Republicans Helen Bentley and Robert Ehrlich or when he arranged for Washington College to give honorary degrees to George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush. As someone said, upon his death in 2021, “he liked wealth, power, and fame, and he enjoyed being in those circles.” Wills' spots perhaps did not change, as he had a distinguished and storied career in Baltimore, and by all accounts, he was well-liked and was a charming and accomplished businessman and person. Maybe his spots just faded a bit.

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Someone whose spots definitely changed was Rick Wiles. I first met Rick in the late 1960s when he was the President of the Washington County Teen-Age Democrats. As a young teacher and activist Democrat, I attempted to mentor Rick and encouraged his involvement in politics. We both testified in 1970 before the James Commission on Party Reform, which was created by the Maryland Democratic Party to determine how to make the Maryland Democratic Party more effective. Rick advocated for lowering the voting age to 18 (it was 21 at that time), for having more young people on the central committee, and suggested that local Democratic central committees were not as responsive to rank-and-file Democrats as they should be. He was a strong proponent of increased emphasis on voter registration. All good, right? Where is Rick today? According to Wikipedia, Rick Wiles is one of America's foremost far-right conspiracy theorists and pundits. He is the Christian fundamentalist pastor of the non-denominational Flowing Streams Church. He is the founder of TruNews, a website promoting racist, homophobic, and anti-Semitic conspiracy theories. His spots have totally changed.

Another local example of a leopard's spots changing is Frederick's Blaine Young. Born into a strong Democratic family, his father was Mayor of Frederick and served in the Maryland Senate. Two of his brothers (Brian and Brad) served on the Democratic State Central Committee, his brother Brad was a leader on the Frederick County Community College Board of Trustees and on the Frederick Board of Education, and currently serves as an elected At-Large member of the Frederick County Council. Blaine was active in the Frederick County and Maryland Young Democrats and was elected to the Democratic State Central Committee in 1994. He was the Vice Chairman of the Central Committee when Chairwoman Jan Ambrose resigned due to being

appointed to a position in the Maryland judicial system. Blaine became the Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee. Blaine was elected, as a Democrat, to the Frederick City Board of Alderman. Then things changed. Blaine changed his party affiliation from Democrat to Republican, hosted a talk show on a conservative radio station, and got caught up in the Tea Party movement. He was subsequently elected to the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners and lost to Jan Gardner in Frederick's first County Executive race in 2014. Another leopard (Democrat) changed his spots.

A Johns Hopkins University and Georgetown Law School graduate, Bobby Zirkin was President of the Young Democrats of Maryland from 1994 to 1995. He spoke at the 1996 Democratic Convention. Zirkin was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1998 and served there until being elected to the Maryland Senate in 2006. Zirkin served in the Maryland Senate until he resigned in January 2020. While in the Maryland Senate, he became chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee. While in the Senate, according to Maryland Matters and the Baltimore Sun, he frequently clashed with progressive groups, legislators, and activist groups. Delegate Joseline Pena-Melnyk called him a "Democrat in Name Only." While in the Senate, he sharply criticized 2018 Democratic candidate for Governor of Maryland Ben Jealous. After leaving the Senate, he formed a Democrats for Hogan group in 2024, when Larry Hogan challenged Angela Alsobrooks for the U.S. Senate. During the 2022 election Zirkin and a few other former and current Democratic legislators mailed campaign literature endorsing Republican and Trump supporter Michael Hough for Frederick County Executive when Hough ran against Democrat Jessica Fitzwater. In October of this year, Zirkin wrote a scathing article in the Baltimore Sun where he criticized U.S. Senator Van Hollen for his stance regarding Israel. In the article

Zirkin accused Van Hollen of making consistent false statements and reckless lies, of genuflecting to the ultra-far-left fringes of the Democratic Party, and of playing ugly politics and the politics of hate and division when Van Hollen endorsed Mamdani for Mayor of N.Y. after Mamdani won the Democratic Party nomination for mayor. Zirkin said that Van Hollen disgraced himself and the people of Maryland. Just recently Zirkin announced in the Baltimore Sun that he would be writing a column ("Across the Aisle" with Bobby Zirkin) in the Sinclair Media owned (read that "right-wing") Sun. Having Democratic voices commenting on a regular basis in the Sun is not a bad idea, but I'm suspicious that Zirkin's spots have changed so much that his future columns might do more damage to the Democratic Party. I don't have a ready explanation for why some leopards (Democrats) change their spots, but am never happy to learn they have.

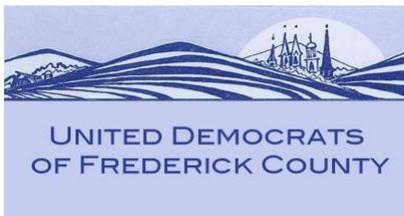
Passages: In recent weeks, the local Democratic Party has suffered some losses. Barbara Baker, from Brunswick, hadn't been heard from recently, but in the 1990s she chaired a Democratic State Central Committee task force on voter registration, was active in the fight for charter government, and was recommended by the central committee to be on the Board of Elections. She was 83.

Norine Haas's life was a testament to compassion, intellect, and unwavering service. Trained as a nurse, she was also a classical pianist. She was an active Rotarian and Committee for Frederick County 2000 member, worked for the United Church of Christ, was president of the Torch Club, served as executive director of the Ausherman Foundation, and was the chief executive officer of the Frederick County Mental Health Association from 1987 to 1999. She

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served on many boards associated with mental health and human services and was an unsuccessful candidate for the Board of Education in 2000. She was a regular attendee at Democratic functions, and her husband (Rev. Ted, who died in 2022) often gave the invocation. Norine was a U.D.F.C. member and served on its board of directors.

Suzanne Bohrer passed after a lengthy battle with cancer. She was a nurse and animal lover. She and her husband, Shannon, enjoyed their small farm in northern Frederick County. Shannon and Suzanne were married for 53 years. She was 74.



UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

Dear United Democrats and Friends!

At our November 3rd Business meeting, we were happy to welcome two of the Frederick City Municipal candidates who could not make it to our October gathering: Libby Taylor, now an At-Large member of the city council, and Sarah Hempel Irani newly elected member of the City Council for District 5. Both council members addressed the gathering of UDFC members, with a Q & A session afterwards with the audience. Thanks very much to them both, and the others who joined us in October as well!

We have the Combined Democratic Clubs holiday Potluck coming up soon on Wednesday, December 3rd at ERUCC Church Community Room at 15 West Church Street from 6-8 PM. Parking is available at two nearby garages: the Church St. Garage and the

Court Street Garage. There is still time to RSVP and sign up to bring something if you can attend! See the links below for more information:

Please click here to [RSVP](#).

Please click here for the [Potluck Signup!](#)

Chances to help others:

- South County Dems have organized a “Dems Help” initiative. Their December project is to provide grocery store Gift Cards to those in need. If anyone would like to bring Grocery cards to donate- **please bring them with you to the Holiday gathering and give to Melanie Galloway.**
- The Central Committee is gathering personal hygiene items for teens in shelters: shampoo, toothpaste, and toothbrushes, hair care, brushes, combs, ponytail holders, lotion, deodorant, etc. If you could bring one or two items, it will help tremendously! When a lot of people make a small gesture, it becomes a very BIG one!! **We will have a donation box for these items at our Holiday Potluck! (You can also drop off donations at the FCDCC HQ at #8 West 5th Street...check their website for hours)**

Frederick makes the news AGAIN!

In the November Banner, I told you that MSNBC/MSNOW journalist Rachel Maddow featured Frederick Maryland in her No Kings Day review of events on the Monday after the marches. She shared video of Frederick in between Baltimore and Annapolis!

CBS human interest reporter, Steve Hartman, has a weekly show called “On the Road” that showcases inspiring stories about people from across the

county. This week, he highlighted a Frederick good Samaritan: a 42-year-old retired K-9 officer who used his own money and donations to refit a vehicle and put in washers, driers, and counter space. He drives around Frederick County visiting homeless encampments- doing laundry for the homeless! Thanks to Steve for sharing the story!

Make your own holiday a happy one!

- Maureen Grayzeck
President, UDFC



DELEGATE KEN KERR - District 3

In my last article, I gave an overview of what life is like during the go-day legislative session. I promised to follow up with an article about what goes on in the interim between sessions. I must start by pointing out that well-meaning family, friends, and members of the public often ask, “Are you enjoying your time off?” To which I reply, “The go-day session is over, but the work doesn’t stop—it just changes.”

Legislators get assigned to standing committees and commissions that meet throughout the year. We also get assigned to various workgroups and studies that meet over the summer and fall. These work groups and studies are usually the result of a piece of legislation that needs more work or more research to determine if the policy is needed or if the approach is the correct strategy to address the problem or issue.

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For example, the Speaker has appointed me to several standing statutory groups: The State Oversight Committee for Quality care in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities, The Joint Committee for Cyber Security, Information Technology, and Biotechnology, The Procurement Improvement Council, and the Maryland-Ireland Trade Commission. These groups are required to produce a report by December 1st detailing what they have accomplished over the past year.

I have also been assigned by my committee to serve on the Hospice Workgroup, the Women’s Health Focus Group, Healthcare Cyber Ecosystems Workgroup, the Adverse Decisions Workgroup, and to Chair the Workgroup to Study Major IT Purchases. We meet, we invite experts to weigh in, we deliberate, and produce a report with a recommendation by December 1st.

Here is a breakdown of my calendar from mid-April until December: 17 workgroup meetings, 9 public meetings, 32 grand-opening and ribbon cuttings, 36 individual meetings with constituents and interest groups, 5 commission meetings, 6 standing committee meetings, 17 site visits, 47 events where official representation was requested, and 6 conferences in Ocean City, Denver, and Dublin Ireland (if you’re wondering, only the Denver trip was paid for by the state). Looking ahead for what’s already on my calendar for the next six weeks until we return to Annapolis on January 14: I have three more workgroup/commission meetings, three upcoming public hearings, one meeting with an individual, three more committee meetings and six remaining events.

As I said, the work doesn’t end—it just changes. I should clarify that not all delegates have this workload. Many have other jobs to supplement the \$56,000 legislator salary and simply don’t have the time over the interim.

And members of the minority party is not asked to do much between sessions. But for those of us who can, we are called upon to serve not only in the 90-day session, but over the remaining 275 days as well.



MAYOR MICHAEL O’CONNOR

It has been a busy month. Let me begin by saying thank you. It has been an honor to serve as Mayor of the City of Frederick since 2017. The confidence placed in me by the voters of this City is not something I take lightly. I look forward to the opportunity to work with the returning and new City Council members. I know that our shared interest in addressing the affordability challenges our community faces, providing first-class services to those in need, and delivering City government operations peerlessly will remain top of mind through the upcoming transition, and for the next four years. I am grateful to the many volunteers who put in time over the campaign to knock on doors, make phone calls, attend events, and generally support both me and our democratic council candidates. I especially want to acknowledge Andrew Burgoyne who has been enormously supportive of my campaign, and our success is due in no small part to his energy and organization.

I invite the community to attend the Inauguration for the 64th City Administration on Thursday, December 11, at 11:00 AM, at the Weinberg Center for the Arts. A

reception at New Spire Arts, across the street, will follow.

With the Thanksgiving holiday now behind us, we look forward to all the December holidays, celebrations, and gatherings. I am deeply appreciative to Rise Up Frederick for hosting a candlelight vigil November 30, entitled “In This together: Healing and Hope in Divisive Times” at City Hall Park, and inviting me to make a few remarks.

For those who could not attend or who want to hear them again, I am sharing them here:

Good evening, everyone. Thank you for being here. I know none of us came tonight because things feel easy. We’re here because this has been a hard season for our country, and it’s been a hard season for many of us personally. And it’s okay to say that out loud. I don’t know about you, but over the last few months I’ve felt a lot of different things — worry, frustration, even grief at times. And if you’re feeling any of that, you’re not alone. You can hold those feelings and still hold hope. Both things can be true at once.

That’s what tonight is really about.

A candlelight vigil is a simple act, but it creates space for things we don’t always say in the rush of our daily lives. It lets us pause long enough to take a breath, to name what we’re feeling, and to remember that none of us carries the weight of these moments by ourselves. And I’ll tell you why I take comfort in being here with all of you: because Frederick has always been a community that shows up for one another. When national politics feel loud and chaotic, local government and local communities can feel like one of the few places where democracy is still personal, still grounded, still real.

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Here, the work isn't about cable news or which talking head said what. It's about whether a kid has a safe place after school. It's about fixing a streetlight, supporting small businesses, helping a neighbor who's struggling, making sure people feel seen and heard.

That may sound ordinary, but that's the point. Democracy isn't only the big moments — it's the steady, everyday ways we take care of each other. Tonight is not about pretending everything is fine. It's about acknowledging the very real anxiety and grief many of us feel, and then choosing to meet it with connection, compassion, and community.

You don't have to leave here tonight suddenly optimistic. That's not how this works. Hope isn't always a feeling. Sometimes it's a choice — and sometimes it's a practice. A practice of showing up. A practice of listening. A practice of believing that the people around you are worth staying connected to, even when the world feels divided.

So as we hold these candles, I want to invite each of you to carry whatever tonight gives you. Maybe it's comfort, maybe it's clarity, maybe it's just the reminder that you're not walking through this season alone. Thank you for being here. Thank you for taking care of each other. And thank you for continuing to build a Frederick where light and where hope still matter. I wish you all a joyous holiday season and a prosperous 2026.

-Michael
www.oconnorforfrederick.com



Jessica Douglas, Candidate, Frederick County Board of Education

Join Jess Douglass and her team for the Board of Education race! We will connect with voters, introduce Jess, and learn about voters' priorities - right at their doorsteps. We are headed to Urbana for the next three canvass opportunities. Meet us at the Urbana Regional Library at noon:

- Saturday, December 13

Please send an email to info@electjessdouglass.com to RSVP. Even if you're not sure you can make it, reach out to us so that we can get you all the information you'll need ahead of time.

Thank you!



Join **CLUBBLUE!** Our monthly 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 [here](#) for more details. Donate as little as \$5 a month and let the Frederick County Democrats do all the work!

Volunteers Needed!



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](#)



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>



Are You Considering Running for Office in 2026?

Check out the new "Contest Every Seat" [website](#) that the Maryland Democratic Party unveiled. It's loaded with information to help you take your first steps. I'm sure you'll realize it's a resource you'll want to bookmark and refer to often.

We'd also like to [chat with you](#) to discuss your candidacy options in Frederick County.



Karen Simpson
State Delegate

December 4, 2025 | Thursday 6PM

Special Guests:
Madame Speaker Adrienne Jones
Chair Luke Clippinger, House Judiciary Committee

Address Upon RSVP

Tickets Guest \$100 | Sponsor \$500
Champion \$1000
bit.ly/KSimpson26

Friends of Karen Simpson
Donna Flaharty, Treasurer
PO Box 1358, Frederick, MD 21702
Karen4Maryland@gmail.com

RSVP for the event [here](#)



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!
Shelly Beaird-Francois,
shelly@frederickdemocrats.org
OR
Central Committee -
info@frederickdemocrats.org



HOLIDAY PARTY
Let's gather!

Co-hosted by Frederick County Democratic Party, United Democrats of Frederick County, Women's Democratic League of Frederick County, and North & South Frederick County Democratic Clubs.

HOLIDAY PARTY POTLUCK
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025
6 PM - 8 PM
ERUCC, 15 West Church Street, Frederick
Parking is available in two nearby parking decks:
Court Street and West Patrick Streets

FREE & Open to Frederick County Democrats | Space is limited.
RSVP: Scan the QR code or visit frederickdemocrats.org.
Potluck Signup: Please use the link provided on the RSVP form to sign up to bring your preferred item(s).

We are hosting two donation drives to support those in need. Please consider the option(s) of your choosing if you're able.

- 1) Homeless for the Holidays** - The Frederick County Democratic Party will have a Homeless for the Holidays collection box at the party. Please consider bringing items for this critical collection drive. More details here - <https://shipfrederick.com/event/homeless-for-the-holidays/>.
- 2) Dems Help**, a local group, is collecting grocery gift cards. They will distribute them to designated community organizations.

By Authority: FCDDC, McCarrie Patterson, Treasurer

RSVP for the potluck [here](#). Sign up to bring potluck items [here](#).

Happy Holidays!

Please join the Frederick County Democratic Party at a special event to honor our 2025 Beverly B. Byron

Award recipient - **Yvette Lewis**

(DNC Member, Senior Policy Advisor for Special Projects for Senator Angela Alsobrooks, and former Maryland Democratic Party Chair)



Monday, December 1, 2025

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Dutch's Daughter, 581 Himes Avenue, Frederick

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres / Cash Bar

Scan the QR code for tickets, sponsorships, & ad details, and/or see the back of this invitation.



By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

- Gold Sponsor: \$1000 - Eight tickets + Full-page ad in the program book + Event recognition
- Silver Sponsor: \$600 - Four tickets + Full-page ad in the program book + Event recognition
- Bronze Sponsor: \$350 - Two tickets + Full-page ad in the program book + Event recognition
- General Admission: \$85 pp (\$75 for Club Blue Members)
- Young Professional: \$55 pp (Age 18-40)
- Full-page Ad a la carte: \$125 (Size: 5 1/2 x 8 1/2)
- Patron: \$30 (Name listed on patron's page in the program book)

Sponsorship/ticket/ad/patron donations may be paid online by scanning the QR code or frederickdemocrats.org. Or mail a check payable to FCDCC, PO Box 793, Frederick, MD 21705. Please write "Byron Event 2025" on check's memo line.

The deadline for sponsorships, tickets, and other payments is Monday, November 17. Please send the camera-ready art to Deb Reynolds at dndreynolds@verizon.net.

Contacts

Mari Lee 240.415.8077 ~ Deb Reynolds 240.626.9498



Note: This award will be given annually to a female Democrat who has demonstrated over a period of years a commitment to the Democratic Party and particularly to the empowerment of Democratic women to serve in elected office.

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

Beverly Byron Awards

2025 Recipient - **Yvette Lewis, Former President Maryland Democratic Party**

Pay Online [Here](#). Or mail a check payable to FCDCC, PO Box 793, Frederick, MD 21705.

Please write "Byron Event 2025" on the check's memo line.

New Year. New Session

A Brunch Gathering with Senator Karen Lewis Young

Join us for a New Year's brunch as we kick off 2026 and look ahead to the upcoming legislative session. We'll gather in support of Senator Karen Lewis Young, celebrating her service to Frederick County and her continued leadership in Annapolis.

JANUARY

11

AT 1 PM

7th Sister Restaurant 228 North Market St, Frederick Md 21701

SPECIAL GUEST: CONGRESSWOMAN APRIL DELANEY

RSVP by Jan 5th, 2026 with email address to 301.639.2155 or karenlewisyoung@gmail.com

www.lewisyoungforsenate.com

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

- ___ \$2500 Champion
- ___ \$1000 Supporter
- ___ \$500 Advocate
- ___ \$250 Friend
- ___ \$100 Guest

Donate Online

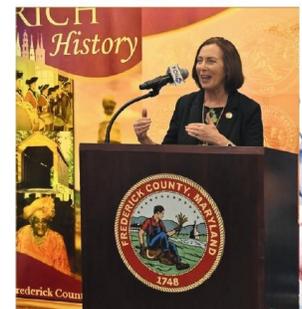


Sorry I can't attend but I would like to make a contribution of \$ _____

Name(s): _____

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

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



KEN KERR

STATE DELEGATE

Re-Election Kickoff Brunch.

Please join me as I announce my re-election campaign. In my third term I will continue to make healthcare affordable, streamline state procurement and promote small businesses, and improve the lives of veterans and working families.

You are all invited to attend. Please contribute if you can, I know, between DOGE and the Shutdown, a lot of people are not currently in a good financial situation. Whether you can contribute or not, you are welcome—RSVP to delegatkerr@gmail.com for an accurate food count.

Checks can be Mailed to:
Friends of Ken Kerr
PO Box 1272
Frederick MD 21702

Or Contribute Online:
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/brunch25>

Authority: Friends of Ken Kerr, Helen Kerr, Treasurer

Let's BRUNCH

Friday December 5th
10:00-11:30am

Clarion Inn Frederick Event Center
5400 Holiday Dr, Frederick, MD 21703

December 2025 At-a-Glance



Please join the Frederick County Democratic Party,
United Democrats of Frederick County,
Women's Democratic League of Frederick County,
North County Frederick Democrats
South County Frederick Democrats
for our HOLIDAY PARTY POTLUCK

Wednesday, December 3, from 6:00 pm - 8:00 p.m.

ERUCC, 15 West Church Street, Frederick
Free & Open to Frederick County Democrats
Please click here to [RSVP](#).
Please click here for the [Potluck Signup!](#)

Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC)
Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting

Frederick County Democratic Party
Beverly B. Byron Award Event
Recipient: Yvette Lewis
Monday, December 1 at 6:30 p.m.
Dutch's Daughter, 584 Himes Avenue, Frederick.

Get
connected!

and

Frederick County Democrats

Like us on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter



Visit our website



Follow us on Instagram



Click on the icons for a direct connection.

Check us out on YouTube too!



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



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE 2026 COUNTY/STATE PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Frederick County voters will cast their votes in 2026 for Governor, Comptroller, Attorney General, Congressional District 6, Maryland General Assembly, Frederick County Executive, Board of Education, and more.

Candidate filing deadline: Tuesday, February 24

CURRENT FILED DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES

GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR

Ralph Jaffe, Donald Palmore

COMPTROLLER

Brooke Lierman

MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL

Anthony Brown

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS – DISTRICT 6

George Gluck
Daniel Krakower
April McClain Delaney
Ethan P. Wechtaluk

HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 3

Kris Fair
Ken Kerr
Karen Simpson

STATE SENATOR – DISTRICT 4

Lara Westdorp

HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 4

Jerry Donald
Andrew Duck
Alleria Stanley

CURRENT FILED DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES (CONTINUED)

COUNTY COUNCIL AT LARGE

Renee Knapp
Brad Young

COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 1

Jenn Alcorn

COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 2

Jamie Shopland

COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 3

Christian Benford
Josh Bokee
Natasha Valencia

COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 5

Johnny Mercer

JUDGE OF THE ORPHANS' COURT

Lois Jarman

DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Deb Reynolds

CURRENT FILED CANDIDATES REGISTERED AS DEMOCRATS FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN 2026

Chloe Celeste
Casey Day
Jessica Douglass
Nathan Foltz
David Migdal
Chad King Wilson, Sr.

Click [here](#) to view a current list of all candidates, regardless of affiliation, for all offices on the general election ballot in November 2026, as outlined on the Maryland State Board of Elections' website.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

A LOOK BACK AT FREDERICK DEMS IN THE COMMUNITY IN NOVEMBER 2026

1st row: 1st 3 photos: Frederick City Canvassing & Phonebanking | 4th photo - First Saturday | 5th photo - Brunswick Veterans Parade
2nd row: 1st 2 photos - Supporting DCC Member Amanda Stone-Gines - "Peach's Free Little Pantry Opening" - Middletown | Next 2 photos: Renee Knapp for County Council At-large Fundraiser | 3rd row: 1st photo - Frederick City Canvassing | All remaining photos in that row and remaining rows, except for the last two, are all from greeting voters at the Trinity Recreation Center for the Frederick City Municipal General Election | Last 2 photos in the last row - Helping serve meals at Asbury UMC

