



THE DEMOCRAT



Clark County Democratic Party Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 6

Serving Democrats with News and Opinion

June 2008

Campaign office open in Orchards for 2008 push

The 2008 Campaign office is open for business now in Orchards. The main telephone number (one of 10 lines into the suite) is (360) 892-6052.

The address is 10621 NE Coxley Drive, Suite 103, which will be familiar to political veterans who have worked in the office building in previous campaigns or who visited the space when it was a library.

However, the address may confuse folks making their first visit to the tightly packed and diverse little business section tucked into the area bounded by Fourth Plain Boulevard, State Route 500 and Gher Road (112th Avenue.) The two-story building runs west from Coxley with second-floor exposure to the north and first-floor exposure to the south. The 2008 Democratic Campaign Office is on the first floor, second space to the west. At press time, the Clark County Democratic Central Committee was discussing with the landlord what sort of exterior signage would be possible and appropriate.

Although campaigns and workers will continue to move in over the next several weeks, the 2008 office will have more action than any in recent cycles. U.S. Rep. Brian Baird's re-election has space in the suite, as do all other active Democratic efforts including the state Coordinated Campaign. Gov. Christine Gregoire and other Democratic state constitutional officers and challengers are expected to be in the mix.

The CCDCC aimed to establish a campaign office close to the demographic center of the county with reasonably good street exposure, sufficient parking, reasonable amenities for workers and volunteers at a monthly rental within prudent bounds. All of those criteria appear to have been met. In previous cycles, the party closed down its operation at the Carpenters' Hall at 612 E. McLoughlin Boulevard for the duration of the campaign. This year, however, that office will remain active including publication of this newsletter.

Filing window open on a season of change

After many years of conducting semi-partisan primary elections in the middle of September, Washington embarks this year on a new model at a different time: A top-two anti-partisan primary in the middle of August.

At heart are a U.S. Supreme Court ruling and a successful Washington citizens initiative that required a whole new system of deciding who will face whom on the November ballot. The new gimmick makes it possible (likely in some few state jurisdictions) that the final contest will feature two people of the same party.

While most serious campaigns have been in action for months, formal filing for the primary is open during the first week in June. By close of busi-

ness on Friday of this week, all but an odd few of the primary contests will be set.

Clearly, the situation calls for maximum Democratic participation in the primary from top to bottom. One of the most pressing examples is the contest to take the position on the Board of Clark County Commissioners opened by the retirement of Democrat Betty Sue Morris. Pam Brokaw has won the unstinting support of Democrats. However, several Republicans are mounting expensive campaigns and could make it a Republican final in November.

Unfortunately unnoticed by too many voters will be election of precinct committee officers, the only of-

fice to be finally decided on August 19. The secretary of state's elections department and the Clark County auditor's election section are still working out the details. In any case, a county elections worker assured The Democrat that the top-two primary will not result in declared Republicans winning positions as Democratic precinct committee officers.

The best defense against such a revolting development is for Democrats to file early and work seriously for support in their respective precincts. The process is simple and not expensive: a one-page form seeking minimal personal information and payment of one dollar. The elections office is at 1400 Franklin St. in Vancouver.

Meetings scheduled for June 2008 by the Clark County Democratic Central Committee and other Democratic organizations. (Check for updates at the county party's website: www.bluedonkeys.com).

Monday, June 2	Executive Committee of Clark County Democratic Central Committee meets at 7 p.m. at the Carpenters' Hall, 612 E. McLoughlin Boulevard.
Saturday, June 7	18th District Democrats meet at 9 a.m. in the clubhouse at Tri-Mountain Golf Course in Ridgefield.
Monday, June 9	Clark County Democratic Central Committee meeting, 7 p.m. at the Longshore Hall on Ingalls Street
Tuesday, June 10	5:30 p.m. reception for Gov. Christine Gregoire at Banks home., 12214 NW 21st Ave. RSVP as noted in adjoining evite.
Friday, June 13	Opening of three-day State Democratic Convention in Spokane.
Saturday, June 14	49th District Democrats meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Hometown Buffet, 7809B Vancouver Plaza Drive
Tuesday, June 17	Clark County Section of 15th Legislative District Democratic Central Committee, 6 p.m. at the Parker House, Port of Camas Washougal.
Monday, June 23	17th District Democrats meeting, 7 p.m. at the Waterford at Fairway Village, 2911 SE Village Loop. (Call on gate box for entry after 7 p.m.)

Volunteers — we need you!

By Dena Horton, Clark County Democratic Chair

Regardless of who is chosen to be the Democratic Party nominee for president, we will all need to pull together and work even harder to ensure that there is a Democrat in the White House and at every level of local, state, and federal government.

Many people have invested their time and their funds in one presidential candidate or another. Some people have commented to me that they will not support the other candidate. Although it is difficult to put aside your passion for one candidate, please don't give up because your candidate was not chosen in the end.

The alternative — allowing the Republicans to maintain control for four to eight years — is simply unacceptable! We cannot afford to continue the war in Iraq or to continue the status quo on health care, education, infrastructure and other issues.

Every hour of your time as a volunteer moves us one step closer to winning more seats and taking back the White House. Do a little or do a lot, but do something! Please take some time to volunteer on the upcoming activities including the state convention, the Jefferson Jackson dinner, doorbelling or phone banking for campaigns, staffing a shift or two at the fair booth. It takes many volunteer hours to accomplish all of the activities we have on tap for this year. Donations are always appreciated, but many hands make light work, so the more volunteers, the better! Contact me at chair@bluedonkeys.com if you would like to volunteer and I'll put you in touch with the team working on the activity you are interested in helping make a success!



You are cordially invited to join Norman Banks and Jane Buchanan-Banks

In honoring

Governor Christine Gregoire

On Tuesday, June 10, at 5:30 p.m.

At the Banks home, 12214 NW 21st Ave, Vancouver 98665

Supporter: \$100; host: \$500; sponsor: \$1,000

RSVP by email Chris Cooledge at ccoledge@chrisgregoire.com or telephone (206) 382-2008

or Reply online at

<http://www.chrisgregoire.com/vancouverreception>

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Clark County, Washington

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**SUPPORT THE POLITICAL PROCESS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL
DONATE TO THE JEFFERSON JACKSON DINNER AND AUCTION**



*Jefferson-
Jackson
Dinner*

Dear Community Member:

We are seeking your support as an auction-item donor for the Jefferson Jackson Dinner to benefit the Clark County Democratic Central Committee (CCDCC).

This event will be held on June 22, 2008, at the Hilton in Vancouver Washington.

The item, service, or funds that you donate will directly benefit the local Democratic office, supporting our community's

candidates for local offices.

We would like to ask you or your business to donate an auction item. This item, positioned by itself or bundled with similar items to create a larger package, could represent hundreds of dollars in auction funds raised.

This is an important election year, not only at the national level, but also in each local race, from the county through the state. The CCDCC works to support each of these local candidates, providing office space and resources for their campaign efforts. This access ensures that even the smallest campaigns can be supported and represented, allowing for a truly democratic election process.

The Jefferson Jackson Dinner and Auction, organized by volunteers from throughout our community, is the CCDCC's largest and only major fundraiser. We expect 800 guests (tickets are selling fast! Get yours now!) and encourage you to donate an item and get the exposure to and recognition from this large group of interested, active citizens.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Please visit our website at www.bluedonkeys.com for more information, ticket purchases, and announcements prior to the event.

Celebrate 2008!

Pete Aller & Marsha Manning
Co-Chairs, Jefferson Jackson Dinner for the Clark County Democratic Central Committee
360-798-6183 (Pete)
360-609-3527 (Marsha)
360-609-3527 (Marsha)

S



Celebrate 2008

From Our House - to the State House - to the White House

**CLARK COUNTY DEMOCRATS
JEFFERSON JACKSON
Dinner & Auction**

Sunday, June 22, 2008
4:00 – 8:00 pm
Vancouver Hilton Hotel

Keynote Speaker – Governor Chris Gregoire

Invited Guests Include:

Brian Baird, Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray, Peter Goldmark

Cut here and mail to **CCDCC PO BOX 179, Vancouver, WA 98666**

For more information go to www.bluedonkeys.com or call 360-609-3527

I want to purchase the following tickets to the JJ Dinner:

_____ @ \$60 *Blue*
_____ @ \$100 *Silver*
_____ @ \$250 *Gold*
===== Total Enclosed

_____ I'm paying by Check (enclosed)
_____ I'm paying by Credit Card
No. _____
Exp. Date _____

Name: _____

I'm sitting with (Table Captain): _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Occupation* _____ Employer* _____

Address* _____

I prefer a vegetarian meal

City State Zip* _____

Information Required by Public Disclosure Commission, Washington State

Sign up now for PCO and party-activist training

By Jan Lustig, PCO Training Coordinator

This year's training for precinct committee officers and other volunteers and political activists will be conducted on Saturday, July 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Longshore Hall, 1205 Ingalls St. That's a block west of the Clark County Courthouse and law-enforcement complex in downtown Vancouver.

We will provide information on the myriad of ways you can get involved: walking the precincts with our candidates, volunteering at the Clark County Fair booth, phone banking, honk-and-wave events and volunteering at Party Headquarters.

The training will include information on the Washington Democratic Party Challenge as well as instruction and discussion of first hand ways we can get involved in the 2008 Presidential Campaigns, the re-election of Christine Gregoire as our governor and the election of Pam Brokaw as county commissioner. Rather than trying to do it all alone, the focus for this year's training will be teaching the PCOs how to form and build a committee to share the responsibility of covering one's precinct.

The best way to build a committee is to build community and to that end the next training will provide volunteers with the tools they will need to begin building a community of activists in your precinct by providing you with valuable tips and ideas about how to organize your precinct so that we maximize the involvement of our neighbors in what will most likely be the most exciting and most important campaign of our lifetimes.

This training is also open to activists in your precinct. Our goal is to have at least one computer-savvy person in each precinct who can act as the technology chair. Part of the training will include a technology tutorial so that everyone feels comfortable using the Vote Builder program. This may be the PCO or another individual.

If you are not comfortable using Excel please feel free to bring along someone from your precinct who can take over that function for your committee. This is an exciting time to be a democrat. Please mark your calendars for this training, which will kick off the campaign season. Fill out the form on the reverse side of this page.

The fate of our community, of our nation, of the future of Democracy itself is at stake.

It is time to take America back.

Clark County PCO & Party Activist Training

The Clark County Democratic Central Committee invites all Precinct Committee Officers (PCO's) and Party activists to attend the annual training session on Saturday, July 26 at the ILWU Hall at 1205 Ingalls Street in downtown Vancouver. Last year's sessions were very effective and extremely well received and we look forward to providing even better training this year to kick off the 2008 season.

Bring a friend and learn the newest techniques for working in your precinct. A wonderful program, great speakers, share best practices, voter file and other technology access. Lunch & drinks provided. \$10 fee for each participant. (Scholarships available).

When: Saturday, July 26th, 10 – 3:00 PM

Where: Longshore Hall, 1205 Ingalls Street, Vancouver, WA

Return this form along with your \$10 check made out to CCDCC (Clark County Democratic Central Committee) **no later than July 11th, 2008** to:
Jan Lustig 520 SE Columbia River Drive #314 Vancouver, WA 98661. *It is imperative that we receive your registration by the due date* because we will be compiling a packet of information for you specific to your precinct.

Questions? Call Jan Lustig 360-573-7304 or email jlustigphd@comcast.net

Name _____ Precinct # _____

Print clearly

Phone # _____ Email _____

3rd District Caucus chooses six for Denver

The 3rd Congressional District caucus at Napavine High School on May 17 chose two Hillary Clinton delegates, three Barack Obama delegates and one Obama alternate to attend the Democratic National Convention in Denver in August.

At a brief convention prior to the caucus, elected and appointed precinct committee officers nominated Brian Baird for re-election to the 3rd District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. He outpolled anti-war challenger Cheryl Crist by a margin of three-to-one.

Judy Guenther of Chehalis, who organized the caucus, was elected as one of the Clinton delegates by the Clinton sub-caucus. Former state party chair Paul Berendt of Olympia won the other Clinton slot.

Competition for the Obama slots was wide, deep and intense. Nearly 100 men and women contested for the four chances to go on to Denver. After much introduction, a lot of brief speeches and several rounds of voting, two people from Vancouver and two from Olympia prevailed.

Those from Vancouver are Merwin "Moe" Spencer of the 49th Legislative District and Monica Stonier from the 17th Legislative District. Deborah Pattin, Thurston County Democratic chair, got the third slot. The alternate for Obama is Stewart Henderson of Olympia.

In the contest to represent the 3rd Congressional District in the Electoral College next January should Washington go for the Democratic nominees in November, Jane Buchanan-Banks of the 18th Legislative District prevailed over many other candidates.

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Kathleen Arthur has long record in medical care

This is the fortieth in a series of introductions to some local Democrats. Send suggestions for subjects of future columns to mikewrit@hotmail.com.

Kathleen Arthur has only recently become a familiar face in Clark County Democratic Central Committee activities as vice chair of the 18th Legislative District Democrats and thereby leader of the Clark County contingent of that group.

However, she notes that she has served this community as a registered nurse for a quarter-century. As a direct result of this experience, she has decided the best way that she can promote healthcare and children's issues is to become active in the Democratic Party.

"Too often," she wrote, "the patient I cared for did not have the adequate resources to get well and stay well. By supporting the Democratic Party I can be a hands-on-active part of the solution."

Recently recruited as a precinct committee officer in the La Center area, she quickly was identified as a competent and energetic organizer. Kathleen accepted the position of Vice-Chair of the 18th LD. Within weeks she was called to run the 18th LD Clark County Caucus. The caucus elected her as a delegate to the Democratic State Convention.

Kathleen graduated from the University of Portland School of Nursing in 1982, and has been promoting quality health care ever since. She has initiated multiple quality assurance programs within the Kaiser health-care setting. She has also promoted quality health care by serving as a union steward for the Oregon Federation of Nurses.

She was born in San Francisco to an Irish immigrant and an air-force veteran, the second oldest of eight children. The family moved frequently as her father traveled to find work. She said she has experienced first-hand the devastating effects of inadequate healthcare as her father, sister and brother battled schizophrenia. Raised with the help of welfare but determined to succeed, all remaining siblings are college-educated, productive members of society.

Kathleen is happily married to Bart Arthur, a civil engineer. They have raised three children, two grandchildren, and two foster children. They love living in rural La Center surrounded by trees and quiet.

Her presidential choice is Sen. Hillary Clinton. "The Democratic Party has two top-notch candidates, however, my preference is Mrs. Clinton because of her experience, intelligence and proven track record. I am in favor of a Clinton-Obama ticket, as I think it will unify the Party."