



# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

May 2020

## Central Committee

(Front Row L – R)

Lauren Beacham, Bill Reid, Deb Reynolds, Mari Lee, Tom Slater, Deborah Carter, Regan Riley (Back Row L-R) Renee Knapp, Gabriel Cassutto, Tony Soltero, Josh Cramer, Antonio Bowens



## Chair's Corner



Dan Cox - Maryland House of Del...  
@DelegateCox

Thank you @realDonaldTrump @VP @WhiteHouse for hearing our cry for freedom from the lock down. We will look forward to receiving the order here in Maryland.

#ReOpenMD @reopenmaryland · 16h

AMEN!

m.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/apr/...

10:59 PM · 4/27/20 from Maryland, USA · Twitter for iPhone

3 Retweets 7 Likes

Friends, the past month has been surreal and tragic. The situation changes daily, and we have lost 60,000 Americans to this virus. It almost seems impossible that we still have a primary coming up, but we do, and it's vital that we all vote. If your registration is up to date, you will be mailed an absentee ballot without your having to do a thing; you don't even need to apply postage when you mail it back. While the presidential nomination is all but decided, we still have congressional and school board races to think about.

Meanwhile, we have been grateful for the way our state government is handling the crisis, unlike the insanity coming out of the White House. But some local elected officials are falling in line behind Trump, most notably Delegate Dan Cox (district 4), who spearheaded an event in Annapolis to protest the stay-at-home rules. Perhaps you saw our letter to the editor last week in the FNP. In case you missed it, read on.

But first, if you are able, I urge you to click <https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute> and make a donation, no matter how small. Every contribution through the first week of May will go directly into our coffers for the legislative district 4 race in 2022 to fight Dan Cox and his ilk. And now, the LTE:

We, the members of the Frederick County Democratic State Central Committee, are writing to express our profound disappointment in Delegate Dan Cox for so irresponsibly encouraging non-compliance with the necessary actions taken by Governor Hogan and County Executive Gardner to mitigate the COVID-19 public health crisis. Instead of lending his support to his fellow elected officials, Del. Cox has decided that seizing the opportunity to advance his political ideology is more important. During one of the most difficult times ever for Maryland, we find his actions to be unconscionable.

While public officials have been working tirelessly to keep residents safe and hospitals from being overwhelmed, Del. Cox has been working to undermine their authority and their credibility when we need them most. On the day Marylanders were required to wear face coverings in public to help stop the

spread of coronavirus, Del. Cox was promoting a protest in Annapolis to demand an ill-advised and potentially disastrous reopening of non-essential business. The protest wasted taxpayers' money and added to the stress of law enforcement. These are reckless responses to express skepticism and impatience with Governor Hogan's executive orders and the current State of Emergency in Maryland.

We hope that Del. Cox will stop using this unprecedented event for political grandstanding. It is an affront to all who have lost their jobs, their loved ones, and their lives. It is an insult to everyone dealing with financial devastation. If he truly believes that Maryland is ready to reopen, we encourage him to do the work and make an argument for reopening based on facts, not ideology. During normal times, undermining Governor Hogan one day and fawning over President Trump the next might be politically advantageous. However, we are not in normal times, and such actions can have dangerous consequences. We urge Del. Cox to recognize the continuing threat to the health of his constituents, and to act responsibly.

-Deborah Carter

May 2020 At-a-Glance



The Women's Democratic League (WDL)  
Monthly meeting will be on Monday, May 18.  
For info please visit [WDL Frederick.org](http://WDL.Frederick.org)



Senator Ron Young- District 3

The 2020 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly was a historic one. While it was the first session to end early since the Civil War, due to the coronavirus pandemic, we still made significant achievements in education with the passage of the Blueprint for Maryland, and passing emergency legislation to respond to the crisis we now face. Last month, the possibility of reconvening the General Assembly this month was discussed. It has been determined we will not reconvene due to the ongoing pandemic. We'll keep constituents up-to-date at <https://www.facebook.com/SenRonYoung/> and [www.senatorronyoung.org](http://www.senatorronyoung.org) on important COVID-19 related information as soon as it becomes available to us.

This has been a difficult time for all of us, but particularly so for our first line health workers, those working out of necessity, those laid off, our small business owners, and those with limited means. The Department of Labor is working to improve the processing of unemployment insurance claims. Unfortunately, funds for small businesses including EIDL grants and SBA loans have been used up too

quickly. As for now, the Federal Government is considering additional relief bills for those businesses. These are trying times, but by following social distancing guidelines and the stay-at-home order, we will reduce the impact of this disease and get life back to normal much sooner. We appreciate the efforts of all those following these guidelines and protecting themselves, their families, and those with whom they must come in contact. We can get through this together. Please stay well and reach out to those in your neighborhood or elderly friends that might need assistance. A friendly phone call to someone living alone will be greatly appreciated. Several pieces of my sponsored legislation passed in both chambers and have been presented to the Governor for his signature. The following are very brief summaries of some of those bills. Unfortunately, many bills including some of mine were lost in the last-minute shuffle of closing down early.

SB148 Board of Public Works - Land Acquisition – Requirements: For the acquisition of real property worth at least \$500,000, BPW must provide LPC with a justification for the planned acquisition and if requested by the LPC co-chairs within 14 days of receiving the justification, a cost-benefit analysis of the planned acquisition. LPC may request at least 45 days to review and comment on the information provided before the acquisition is approved.

SB214 Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Weinberg Center License: This bill allows alcoholic beverages to be consumed anywhere on the licensed premises at the Weinberg Center for the Arts in Frederick County as specified. Previous law only permitted alcohol to be consumed only in the central rotunda or lobby.

SB215 Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Repeal of

Quota for Class B Licenses: This bill repeals the quota on the number of Class B (on-sale) beer and Class B (on-sale) beer and wine licenses the Frederick County Board of License Commissioners may issue.

SB264 Frederick County – Elderly or Disabled Renters – Grants: This bill authorizes Frederick County to provide a grant to an eligible elderly or disabled renter instead of a property tax credit. The Renters' Property Tax Credit Program provides financial assistance for elderly, disabled, and certain low-income renters from the cost attributable to State and local real property taxes.

SB450 Maryland Department of Health – Biosafety Level 3 Laboratories in Frederick County: Each BSL-3 laboratory must report to MDH the address of the laboratory; the name, telephone number, and email address of a laboratory contact person; and any other information required by MDH to determine the location of the laboratory. If a BSL-3 laboratory fails to report required information, that laboratory's activity is considered ultrahazardous and abnormally dangerous, and the laboratory is strictly liable for damages for any injury, death, or loss to person or property that is caused by the laboratory.

SB597 Agriculture - Cost-Sharing Program - Fixed Natural Filter Practices: This bill modifies existing provisions governing State cost-sharing for agricultural best management practices to also allow for State cost-sharing for "fixed natural filter practices." This legislation helps reduce the amount of runoff, especially from livestock farms, into the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

Again, stay safe, be well, and remember prosperous times are ahead, especially after we turn the Senate and put a Democrat back in the White House. -Ron.



Delegate Karen Lewis Young-

District 3A

Health Disparities Magnified by the Coronavirus Pandemic

On April 10, Surgeon General Jerome Adams made public remarks about how the coronavirus pandemic is disproportionately affecting minority groups in the U.S. He is one of the few federal level health officials who has displayed the courage to acknowledge the outbreak's impact on communities of color.

While it appears that black communities are being harder hit by the outbreak, robust demographic information has been a missing puzzle piece to the understanding of the virus. According to data released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently, 65% of the cases had no specified race.

Kristen Clarke, executive director of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, said it was "astounding" that the CDC has not collected more complete demographic data. "The department of Health and Human Services has not offered a concrete plan about how it intends to tackle the problem in

front of us," Clarke told reporters. "The fact [is] they do not have race information tied to all of their data. We know that our communities are being ravaged by COVID and the federal government has a role to play."

Although there is limited data on the disease's impact by race in the U.S., we do have some information that reinforces evidence that African Americans have an increased risk of both getting a case of COVID-19 and not surviving.

Data from Michigan shows that while African Americans make up 14% of the state's population, they represent 40% of the coronavirus deaths in the state.

At the time of this writing, African Americans represent 39% of those that have died in Illinois where the black community represents 14.6% of the population. Preliminary data from North Carolina and Kansas confirm similar ratios.

In early April, Delegate Nick Mosby led a group of state legislators in an effort to urge Governor Hogan to instruct the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to release racial and geographical grouping data. By April 9, MDH released a report disclosing that black residents make up 52% of coronavirus-related deaths, although black residents comprise 31% of our state's population. Gov. Hogan requested that the department continue to publish all data available on racial and ethnic breakdowns of COVID-19 cases.

Dr. Lisa Cooper, a medical expert and social epidemiologist with the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health noted that broader social disadvantage is the reason black people are worse hit. She stated, "As a group, African Americans in the

US have higher rates of poverty, housing and food insecurity, unemployment or underemployment, and chronic medical conditions, and disabilities."

Despite the missing data, many of us already acknowledge the health inequities resulting from economic, social, political and economic forces. The coronavirus experience has simply magnified the systemic disparities that exist as a result of where we live, what we earn, how we are educated, and how we access health care.

Unless we champion public health as an essential public good, we fail to preserve American core values of fairness, justice, and compassion for all.





Tom Slater- Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

**The Rest of the Story**

Facts/Opinions/Ratings/Predictions

Byron York, a conservative syndicated columnist, wrote a recent column entitled “Three Reasons Joe Biden will never be president.” In the column he pointed out three interesting facts that led him to the conclusion that Biden will not beat Trump in 2020. Some say that “history repeats itself,” but not necessarily. Sometimes history informs us as to similar situations that occurred in the past but only occasionally can accurate predictions be made using past historical facts. In this column I will state the three facts that York relies on to reach his conclusion and will give my assessment of those facts with additional historical information. I will be using C-SPAN’s recent ratings of the Presidents by historians.

**FACT #1 –** Biden served in the U.S. Senate from 1973 until 2009, a total of 36 years. No one who has served more than 15 years in the U.S. Senate has ever been elected President.

**ASSESSMENT:** Experience in elective office is not necessarily a predictor of success as President. James Buchanan had one of the most distinguished careers in elective and appointive office (more than 36 years) starting with service in the

Pennsylvania House of Delegates, U.S. House of Representatives in 1820, Minister to Russia, U.S. Senate starting in 1845 and Secretary of State prior to his election in 1856. C-SPAN’s ratings list him as #43 (dead last-they haven’t rated Trump). Woodrow Wilson served as Governor of New Jersey for only 2 years. He is rated #11. Neither Dwight Eisenhower nor Donald Trump was elected to any office before they were elected President. Eisenhower is ranked #5. There is a big difference between being Supreme Allied Commander during WWII and being a reality TV star with a checkered past as a businessman. I think York is wrong with regard to no U.S. President ever having served more than 15 years in the U.S. Senate – the correct number is 12. Lyndon Johnson served 12 years before becoming Vice President in 1961. LBJ is ranked #10. There is little correlation between length of service prior to being President and success as President.

**FACT #2 –** 14 Vice Presidents have become U.S. Presidents, but only one has been elected after a period of time out of office. That was Richard Nixon. The other 13 Vice Presidents who became President immediately succeeded the President they served.

**ASSESSMENT:** Nixon is rated #28. There is really nothing that can be extrapolated from this fact.

**FACT #3 –** The 14-year rule. No one has ever been elected U.S. President or Vice President more than 14 years after they were first elected to Governor of a state or to the U.S. Senate. For Biden, it was 47 years ago when he first was elected to the U.S. Senate.

**ASSESSMENT:** York is using selective facts here. Determining that election to the U.S. Senate or as Governor is the start of a political career neglects other offices, such as the U.S. House of Representative. Buchanan was first elected to the U.S. House in 1920 – 36 years before being elected President. The operative issue in York’s “facts” is age. There is no question that, if elected, Biden will be the oldest

President ever elected, but only 7 years older than Trump (age 70 when elected). Before Trump, the oldest US President was Ronald Reagan (age 69 and rated #9). The second oldest elected President was William Henry Harrison (age 68 and rated #38). Others older than 60 when first becoming President include John Adams (61, #19), Andrew Jackson (61, #18), Zachary Taylor (64, #31), James Buchanan (65, #43), Harry Truman (60, #6), Dwight Eisenhower (62, #5), Gerald Ford (61, #25), and George H.W. Bush (64, #20). 75 might be the new 60. Youngest Presidents include Theodore Roosevelt (42, #4), John F. Kennedy (43, #8), Bill Clinton (46, #15), U.S. Grant (46, #22), Barack Obama (47, #12), Grover Cleveland (47, #23), Franklin Pierce (48, #41), James Garfield (49, #29), and James Polk (49, #14). Considering what we are seeing every day with the President’s so-called press conferences as well as his other obvious deficits, perhaps the nation is ready for someone seasoned with lots of experience.

From 40 years ago in the Banner: Democrats in Frederick County were anticipating the May 13 primary election where Jerry Brown, Jimmy Carter, Ted Kennedy, Cliff Finch, and Lyndon LaRouche were on the ballot. State Senators Ed Conroy and Vic Crawford, Delegate Dennis McCoy, and former Young Democrats of America President R. Spencer Oliver were competing for the Democratic nomination to face Republican Senator “Mac” Mathias in November. Running in her first re-election campaign, Congresswoman Beverly Byron was being challenged in the primary by Tom Hattery.

I am sorry to report of too many recent deaths of loyal Democrats. Randy Williams, age 77, was a liberal Democratic community activist from Frederick County. Meredith Fouche, William Henry, and Frank Proctor, Jr. were Democratic volunteers in their respective jurisdictions of Washington County, Baltimore City, and Montgomery County. Rita Gordon,

age 91, served on the Frederick County Board of Education for many years. Dottie Handley Ewing, age 89, was an educator and also served as a Judge of the Orphans Court for Frederick. Dottie was a force in Frederick County Democratic politics, starting with her involvement with the Young Democrats in the 1950s. She also sometimes sang the National Anthem at Democratic events and was active in the Womens' Democratic League. She had strong opinions about politics and was not shy about sharing them. Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Maryland's former Lieutenant Governor and daughter of Robert F. Kennedy, lost her daughter, Maeve, and grandson, Gideon, in a tragic accident.

Tom

Picture #1 – Joe Biden at the MDP Gala in 2018 with lieutenant governor candidate Susan Turnbull and Ben Jealous, candidate for governor.



Picture #2 - From Dottie's campaign for Y.D. Committee Woman in 1965



Picture #3 – Dottie Handley chairing a WDL U.S. Senate forum in 1986



Dear Friends,

For over two decades I have been involved in mentoring and working for positive change in the lives of young people. I have served on the Board of Directors of the Boys & Girls Club of Frederick County for 4+ years, currently serving as Board Chair. I have spent 13 years volunteering as an Assistant Varsity Basketball coach at both Urbana and Oakdale High Schools, and for the past 20 years I have owned and operated a small business in Middletown.

I have been engaged in the state of education in Frederick County for many years. I have attended dozens of Board of Education meetings and community forums. I have spoken publicly at Board meetings on a number of occasions and met privately with Board of Education members, central office staff, parents, students, community leaders, and teachers. I have also spent a number of days in Annapolis and on Capitol Hill advocating for education.

I'm not a politician. I've never run for office. I'm a parent, coach, neighbor, businessman, and passionate advocate for our young people. Now is a critical time for public education in Maryland and specifically Frederick County. Teamwork, fresh ideas, positive change, strong leadership, and hard work are going to be necessary as we guide Frederick County Public Schools through this evolving environment.

Checkout my website at [www.deanroseforboe.com](http://www.deanroseforboe.com) and follow my journey on my Facebook page at Dean Rose for BOE.

I hope you'll honor me with your vote.

Dean Rose

# STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: [cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

CS14935-G





Frederick County Democratic Party Podcasts

Be sure to listen in as we discuss all things of interest to local Dems.

Listen on [Soundcloud](#), [iTunes](#) or on your podcast app. Be sure to follow us too!

**Primary Elections**

**Important Note:** By emergency proclamation of the Governor, the 2020 Presidential Primary Election has been postponed to June 2, 2020. The State Board of Elections will submit a comprehensive plan to the Governor on April 3, 2020, for the administration of this election. We will update the information on this page promptly when the details of the election are finalized.

For more information, visit <https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/primary.html>



**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!

*Gabriel Cassutto,*

[gabe.cassutto@gmail.com](mailto:gabe.cassutto@gmail.com)

or

Central Committee - [info@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:info@frederickdemocrats.org)



and



with

**Frederick County Democrats**

**Like us on Facebook**



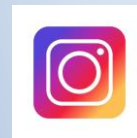
**Follow us on Twitter**



**Visit our website**



**Follow us on Instagram**



Click on the icons for a direct connection.

**Check us out on YouTube too!**





WE'RE SAVING FOR A SUNNY DAY!

# BE A MONTHLY SUSTAINER!

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

**SUSTAINERS ENJOY DISCOUNTS TO DEMOCRATIC EVENTS AND A FREDERICK DEMOCRATS TOTE BAG**



To join, visit [www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute](http://www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute)  
By Authority: FCDCC Tony Soltero, Treasurer