



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

June 2021



Frederick County Democratic State Central Committee

(From left to right: Lauren Beacham- Secretary, Renee Knapp, William Reid, Deb Reynolds, Gabe Cassutto, Mari Lee – Vice Chair, Tony Soltero – Treasurer, Tom Slater, Josh Cramer, Deborah Carter – Chair, Regan Riley, Antonio Bowens)

Chair's Corner

Summer is here, and we are planning in-person events!

Our monthly meetings, always open to the public, are no longer via Zoom. You can join us at our headquarters (1080 West Patrick St., suite 4) on the third Thursday of every month – that's June 17 – starting at 6:30 p.m. This is a time change, as some of you who join us regularly will notice.

And the Monocacy Plowman and Fisherman Club is back for 2021! Our first event is an evening with New York Times bestselling author and Baltimore native Wes Moore, who is exploring a run for Maryland governor in 2022. We hope you can join us at the home of Jim and Tracy Racheff on the evening of June 28. Additional details are in the invitation elsewhere in this edition of the Banner.

For those who don't know, "Plow-Fish" is one of the fundraising efforts of the Frederick County Democratic

Party. It is not a traditional club. There are no meetings, and there are no officers. Through a series of three annual events, Plow-Fish members get to mingle with elected leaders and leading Democratic thinkers as we pull them off the stage and into local venues, and sometimes our kitchens, living rooms, and even our barns for the kinds of conversations and back-and-forth we don't usually get.

A membership costs \$150 (\$140 if you're a monthly sustainer) and permits you and one guest to attend

all three Plow-Fish events at no further cost. If you do not wish to attend all the events or become a member, a single event-only ticket for you and a guest is \$75. Memberships are available for purchase online at frederickdemocrats.org, or you can send your check made out to FCDSCC to P.O. Box 793, Frederick MD 21705. Please write "Plow-Fish" in the memo line, and include your name, phone number and email address.

And while not all the local carnivals will be up and running this summer, we'll be staffing a tent at the Walkersville carnival July 5-10, and we can use your help. Keep your eye out in about two weeks for Facebook posts and emails recruiting volunteers to join us those evenings.

After a fifteen-month hiatus, the North County Dems plan to start meeting again as well. The first meetup will be Saturday, June 12, at 10:00 a.m. at Eyler's Valley Chapel up in the mountains southwest of Emmitsburg. From Bill O'Toole: "If weather permits, we can meet outside (bring lawn chairs); if weather is not agreeable, we can meet in the chapel. For this first meeting post-pandemic we will not schedule a speaker, but simply use the time to get caught up. Of course, we will pass the hat as usual."

The Maryland Democratic Party has also just announced its first in-person event in over 18 months. It's an outdoor, socially distanced barbecue and celebration on Sunday, July 18, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Bowie (address provided upon RSVP). Join Dems from across the state for BBQ, ice cream, drinks, and music as we celebrate and get energized for the 2022 elections!

Finally, please help us welcome FIVE new DCC members! Glenn Blanchard and Violet Williams have been

selected to fill Gabe Cassutto's and Lauren Beacham's seats. Glenn has been a volunteer on our campaign subcommittee and active in FCTA, and he served as an Emmitsburg town commissioner for 14 years. Violet, a U.S. Navy veteran, has worked on several local candidates' campaigns in Brunswick, Frederick City, and Frederick County.

We have also added three associate members: Shelly Beaird-Francois, Millicent Hall, and Thomas Jackson. Shelly comes to us with a background in marketing and event management, and you may know her locally from the Women's Democratic League. Millicent is a returning Central Committee member, having served with us in 2016-2017. She has a long history of campaigning on the local, state, and federal levels. Thomas is new to Maryland, with experience as a policy analyst, researcher, and grassroots organizer in Pennsylvania. It is our hope that all three will run to become elected DCC members next year.



Senator Ron Young

During the recent legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly, I served on the Vaccine Oversight

Workgroup. Since COVID-19 vaccines have become available, we've come a long way in terms of getting Marylanders vaccinated and returning to a sense of normalcy. But many in Frederick still need to be vaccinated.

As of this writing, all Marylanders aged 12 and up are eligible to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Through the Frederick County Department of Health's website, you can find information on where to get your vaccine and schedule an appointment. <https://health.frederickcountymd.gov/629/COVID-19-Vaccine>

Recently, the CDC revised their guidance on the wearing of masks. If you are fully vaccinated, you no longer need to wear a mask. If you are not yet vaccinated, you still need to wear a mask. Businesses in Frederick and across the state may make their own decisions on whether or not to require customers and clients to wear a mask. Some businesses in Frederick are asking non-vaccinated people to continue to wear masks, but allow fully vaccinated customers and clients to forego masks.

If you are not yet vaccinated, please do get your vaccine. We all have our part to play in getting our community back to normal. It is exciting to see people coming back to our fantastic restaurants, shopping in stores, and getting back together with family and friends. As more of us get our vaccine, we can enjoy all the things we love about Frederick.

-Ron

The BIG Picture
Elected Officials



Frederick County residents:
Confused about who your
elected officials are?

Click [here](#) to find your
representatives.



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

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



Delegate Karen Lewis-Young

Looking Ahead to 2022

Despite the fact that we have not yet reached the primary for the City of Frederick election, the 2022 state election is starting to heat up. This is particularly interesting, given that we don't know what redistricting will look like.

At least two very recognizable Democrats have declared their candidacy for governor. Both Peter Franchot and Doug Gansler have long histories with state policy. Wes Moore and Tom Perez are not as well-known but have strong appeal with the progressive segment of our party.

While I have not come out publicly in support of any particular candidate, I would caution that we learn a lesson from the 2020 presidential election. Let's choose a candidate who can win!

Most citizens in Frederick County know not to underestimate Kelly Schultz. She is smart, hardworking, and very personable. I was on a Zoom event prior to this writing where elected officials did not pay enough attention to this fact.

It is really important that we consider a number of variables when choosing our Democratic gubernatorial candidate and then quickly unite behind the winner. Let's not repeat 2018!

The District 3A delegate primary is becoming very competitive as well. I can't recall a time when so many candidates have run for those seats. Three have reached out to me so far and, I suspect there might be more.

On a related note, I will be announcing my plans for 2022 sometime prior to the 2022 legislative session. Stay tuned!

Speaking of competitive races, The county executive race will be an interesting one. We have three fine candidates but a vicious competitor. Michael Hough campaigns hard, attacks relentlessly, and raises a ton of money. Whatever the outcome of

the primary, we must strongly unite behind our candidate.

By the way, if you are interested in political campaign finance intrigue, check out the report of "The Republican Victory Fund" from 2018 (domiciled at a Brunswick PO address) and follow the money. You'll get a strong lead on how Hough influences several elections through this fund. If you want more information, contact me personally.

Since I am talking about the 2022 election, it is time for me to make a shameless plea for support of my June 21 birthday fundraiser. Yes, it's a big one! If you've read this far, I am sure that you are engaged enough so that you understand that fundraising is very critical to election success. This is even truer in a tough district or a controversial election.

Obviously, we need to get our message out, but it is also important to be competitive against well-funded Republicans.

Affordability should never be a barrier to attending a fundraiser. That's why I comp, or offer lower entry options, to everyone who wishes to attend. I would rather have a larger number of attendees at lower contributions than just a few high-level donors.

So please join Jamie Raskin and me on June 21 as we do our update on state and federal issues!

Please join

Delegate Karen Lewis Young

and special guest
Congressman Jamie Raskin



for a BIG Birthday Virtual Fundraiser
and Update on State and Federal Issues
Monday, June 21st 2021
6:00 PM



Special Guest
Congressman
Jamie Raskin



RSVP with email address by June 14th, 2021
for zoom link to 301.639.2155
or karenlewisyoung@gmail.com

Friends of Karen Lewis Young
PO Box 3662
Frederick, MD 21705

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

- ___ \$2000 Platinum
- ___ \$1000 Gold
- ___ \$500 Silver
- ___ \$250 Bronze
- ___ \$70 Guest
- ___ \$ (Your comfort level) Constituent

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

Name(s): _____

Make checks payable to: Friends of Karen Lewis Young P.O. Box 3662, Frederick MD 21705
or donate online at <https://karenlewisyoungfordelagate.com/donate/>

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

www.karenlewisyoungfordelagate.com
facebook.com/klewisyoung • [Twitter@kmlcmky](https://twitter.com/kmlcmky)



City of Frederick Mayor Michael O'Connor

With Liberty and Justice for All

While June may typically be a month to think about graduations and the start of summer, this year it marks just over one year since the murder of George Floyd (May 25, 2020) and the protests that followed, including in our own community, which renewed national and even global conversations about race, equity, and justice.

Not even three months into the global pandemic of COVID-19, Frederick's attention necessarily split from a focus solely on doing all we can to protect the life, health, and safety of our community, supporting the needs of individuals, families, and businesses, to also recognizing that for far too long we have done far too little to live up to the lofty ideals of our nation's founders. I am proud that it did not take Floyd's death for The City of Frederick to acknowledge its shortcomings.

Disparity

Early in my administration, I commissioned the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program Review

Panel, authorized in the 1990's but never created, to examine how the city's procurement process was faring in relationship to the city's purchasing polices and the awarding of contracts to women and minority owned businesses. Among the panel's early recommendations was for the city to undertake a disparity study. The results of the study were presented in March. It found a disparity does exist and presented a series of recommendations. The city will continue to work with our consultant, Griffin and Strong, to implement the findings. (<https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/1435/Disparity-Study>)

Diversity and Inclusion

I also committed to improving diversity and inclusion, recognizing that the city could do more to develop a workforce fully reflective of the community we serve. Our partner in this effort, MaxLife, assisted in developing a multi-year plan to improve employee training opportunities, evaluate and update recruitment processes, and ensure Frederick creates a workplace culture that is affirming and allows everyone to achieve their highest opportunity. (<https://www.cityoffrederickmd.gov/1438/Diversity-Inclusion>)

Equity

With my FY 2022 budget, unanimously adopted by the Board of Aldermen last month, the city will hire its first Equity Program Administrator. The goal of this position is to have a staff person directly responsible for assisting our Directors, Managers, and Supervisors in implementing the transformational change the Disparity Study and D&I Strategic Plan promise.

For example, the Frederick Police Department is strongly committed to

enhancing recruitment efforts to attract officer candidates that reflect our city's diversity, while also identifying liaison officers who would work with specific minorities communities to increase understanding and cooperation. Meanwhile in our Communications Department, we are enhancing our ASL and multi-lingual interpretation options. The Equity Program Administrator will be instrumental in helping evaluate these efforts for effectiveness while building implementation for other departmental efforts.

I encourage you to follow the links above and read the recommendations and plans for both initiatives.

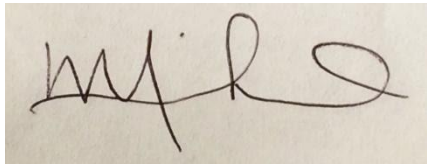
Juneteenth

Finally, as an acknowledgement of the impacts of the last year and our need to do better, I have declared Juneteenth a holiday in the city this year. Juneteenth, June 19, commemorates the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, in 1865, and informed the last enslaved African Americans of their freedom. The troops' arrival occurred two and half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation. For many African Americans, it is their Independence Day.

My hope for this month of June, which is also Pride Month, is for members of our community to take time to learn about history and culture that is different from their own. To seek out uncomfortable conversations about the effects systemic racism, bigotry, prejudice, and intolerance have had on so many people. And to realize that until everyone in our community, regardless of how they look, talk, or identify, has an equal opportunity to

participate in the many blessings of our community, we will not be complete.

www.oconnorforfrederick.com



Tom Slater- Frederick County Democratic Central Committee and Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

The Rest of the Story

“Not content merely to torment the living, the agents of Jim Crow in Maryland occasionally pecked at the dead. In May 1949 Frederick city officials send bulldozers rumbling into a cemetery at Fifth Street and Chapel Alley to make way for a playground. Aging members of the Laboring Sons burial society, an African American organization, had asked the City to help them maintain the small cemetery. Instead, what amounted to an officially licensed desecration began. Tombstones fell; bones were unearthed and then covered over. A listing of the names of the deceased began, but the record keeping continued only until, it seemed, workers tired of the task. The names

of 161 of the estimated 1,500 souls were recorded. The rest of the gravestones were plowed under as if the other 1,339 deceased black sons and daughters of Frederick were of no consequence. After the markers were buried and the surface smoothed, swing sets and a basketball court were installed. The new playground would be for whites only.”

Thus begins the Prologue to my friend C. Fraser Smith’s compelling book, *Here Lies Jim Crow*. Fraser died on April 25, 2021 at age 83. He had a fantastic career as one of the most distinguished and accomplished chroniclers of Maryland politics. After stints at other newspapers, he started as a reporter for the Baltimore Sun in 1977 and remained there until he retired in 2003. He continued as a columnist for *The Daily Record* and a commentator on Baltimore’s NPR radio station until he retired again in 2017. No one was better at discovering and reporting on what was really happening in Maryland politics. In Fraser’s obituary in the Sun, Joel McCord, a former reporter and currently news director at WYPR, said of Fraser “He had probably forgotten more about Maryland politics than the rest of us will ever learn.”

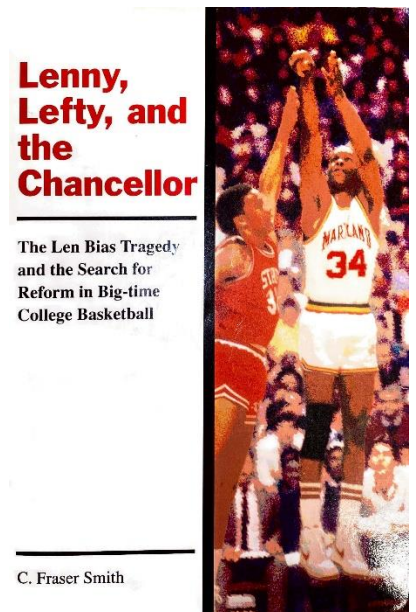
In addition to *Here Lies Jim Crow*, Fraser wrote the definitive biography of former Baltimore City councilman and mayor and Maryland governor and comptroller William Donald Schaefer. *Lenny, Lefty, and the Chancellor*, which he wrote in 1992, is a captivating narrative of one of the defining moments in the history of University of Maryland sports. He also wrote a memoir in 2019, *The Daily Miracle: A Memoir of Newspapering*.

Here Lies Jim Crow, written in 2008, is the authoritative account of the struggle for civil rights in Maryland. In the book, William Lee, an African American Republican educator and former Frederick City Alderman, recounts the struggle of the Frederick City African American community to gain proper recognition and respect for those who were buried in the cemetery. The original cemetery was established in 1851. Finally, in 2003, when Jennifer Dougherty was mayor,

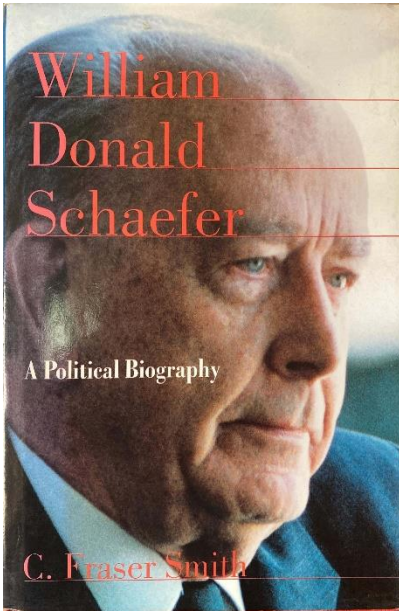
the park was dedicated as a memorial to the dead. The book uses the *Laboring Sons* story as a starting point to examine the history of racial relations in Maryland with insights into the impact of such personages as William “Little Willie” Adams, H. Rap Brown, Frederick Douglass, Larry Gibson, Charles H. Houston, Lillie May Jackson, Thurgood Marshall, Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Carl Murphy, Gloria Richardson, George L. Russell, William Donald Schaefer, and Roger Brooke Taney. Of particular interest is the career of Theodore R. McKeldin, a white Republican politician, who managed to be elected Mayor of Baltimore and Governor of Maryland in the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s with strong support from African American voters.

C. Fraser Smith was part of the program at one of the Western Maryland Democratic Summits when I interviewed him about his first three books and his long career covering Maryland politics. His influence on Maryland journalism and politics is summed up in the Sun obituary by Tom Linthicum, a retired Sun editor, who described Fraser as “the epitome of what a journalist should be: intellectually curious, observant, thoughtful, skeptical, deeply respectful of his profession and an elegant writer.” He will be missed.

Pictures: #1: Lenny, Lefty, and the Chancellor



#2: William Donald Schaefer



#3: inscription in Here Lies Jim Crow

Here Lies Jim Crow

To Ben
with many thanks
for wise counsel and
points of view over many
years in Maryland
politics.
C. Fraser Smith
6/7/2009

#4: Fraser at the Western Maryland Democratic Summit



#5: Laboring Sons Memorial Grounds



#6: Historical marker at Laboring Sons Memorial Park



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!
Josh Cramer,
josh@frederickdemocrats.org
or
Central Committee -
info@frederickdemocrats.org

June 2021 At-a-Glance



United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Monthly Meeting

Monday, June 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom: Barb Trader and Kevin Sellner of the Climate Change Working Group. UnitedDemsFrederick@Yahoo.Com for info.

Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting

Thursday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m.

<https://www.frederickdemocrats.org/events/calendar> for info.

Women's Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting

Monday, June 7 at 7:00p.m.

Via Zoom: Barb Trader and Kevin Sellner of the Climate Change Working Group. www.wdlfrederick.org for questions and info.

Frederick County Dems at the Food Bank

Every Friday in June from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Contact: Maureen Grayzeck – mgrayzeck2016@gmail.com

Frederick Food Bank Program operated by
Community Action Agency, 14 E. All Saints St, Frederick

Frederick County Democratic Party Headquarters

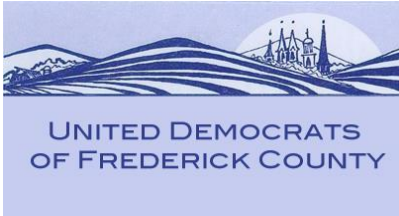
Every Saturday in June from 10:00am – 2:00pm

1080 W. Patrick Street, suite 4, Frederick.

Frederick Democrats at First Saturday

Saturday, June 5 from 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

The Square at Market and Patrick Street in Downtown Frederick



We had our May 10 meeting with special guest Jay Mason, President, Frederick County Board of Education. Mr. Mason spoke to us about how the current curriculum is not complete and the challenges students face trying to get this education. He stressed the importance of offering more options than just the traditional list of historical figures since our country has evolved in the decades since we were in school, but our curriculum has changed very little. We need to offer a complete history of our country, not just perpetuate a very narrow view of American history. He also stressed the importance of access to advanced placement classes for students of color. All students deserve the right to equity in education and in access, not just a few select schools. We hope to see some pilot programs this fall and more widespread changes in the years to come.

Our June 7 meeting will be another join event with the WDL, where we will hear from Barb Trader and Kevin Sellner of the Climate Change Working Group. They will discuss county climate change issues and measures needed adapt to the impacts of climate change. Please look for our event on Facebook and in your email to register for the event through Eventbrite.

Become a member! Dues are \$20 individual or \$35 family. As a reminder, dues are payable in January of each year. You can contact us at UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com, by phone at 240-630-4280, or by mail at P.O. Box 3882, Frederick MD 21705. We're also on Facebook, so please "like" the page and interact with us there!



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!

Get connected!

and



with

Frederick County Democrats

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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!





www.frederickdemocrats.org/contribute

JOIN THE MONTHLY SUSTAINERS

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



BY AUTHORITY FCDCC TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER



EMERGE
MARYLAND

Calling both men and women volunteers!
Help us get more women elected to local offices.

2022 will be a busy election year with nearly 70 Emerge Maryland alumnae on ballots all over Maryland.

Sign up today for our campaign volunteer training.

**Choose your day or attend both days.
Stay for one subject or stay for all. Your choice!**

Saturday, June 12 - 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

- ☀ **Canvassing**
- ☀ **Volunteer Coordinating and Recruitment**
- ☀ **Data Management**

Sunday, June 13 - 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm

- ☀ **Events Coordinator - Scheduler**
- ☀ **Researcher**
- ☀ **Social Media Coordinator**

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/VolTrain21>

**You will need access to ZOOM and will be sent a link to the class via email.
Check your SPAM folder if you don't get an email from us 1 day prior to the event.**

Questions? contact@emergemaryland.org

We reserve the right to add or remove individual for any reason.
Your registration is non-transferable/ non-refundable.



THE MONOCACY
PLOWMAN AND FISHERMAN CLUB
IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING WITH

WES MOORE

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

MONDAY, JUNE 28, 2021
5:30 TO 7:30 PM

AT THE HOME OF
JIM & TRACY RACHEFF
314 UPPER COLLEGE TERRACE | FREDERICK, MD

\$150 (\$140 FOR MONTHLY SUSTAINERS) COVERS
YOU AND A GUEST AT THIS EVENT AND OUR
NEXT TWO EVENTS.

\$75 ONE TIME TICKETS FOR YOU AND A GUEST

TICKETS: PLEASE MAKE CHECK TO FCDS
MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 793, FREDERICK, MD 21705
WITH "PLOWFISH 2021" ON CHECK'S MEMO LINE.

OR PAY ONLINE: WWW.FREDERICKDEMOCRATS.ORG

RSVP: MARI LEE
MARI@FREDERICKDEMOCRATS.ORG

AUTH. FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE, TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER

PLEASE JOIN
**COUNCIL MEMBER
JESSICA FITZWATER**
AND SPECIAL GUEST
JOHNNY OLSZEWSKI
BALTIMORE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JUNE 3, 2021 | 6:00-7:30 PM
MILKHOUSE BREWERY

For Tickets:

https://donate.fundhero.io/fitzwaterforfrederickcounty/june3rd?fbclid=IwAR3YGcAy726v7YIXMPITokcm0qKGKS MzfcS1ro3p_fmDgcnzTFx7Z9LdxNc