

NOVEMBER 2021

THE BANNER

**An Online Monthly e-Newsletter
for the Democratic Party**

BY AUTHORITY: FCDCC, TONY SOLTERO, TREASURER



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CHAIR'S CORNER

Chairwoman Deborah Carter

November is filling up with candidate kickoff events and re-election fundraisers for the 2022 elections - too many to list here, but be sure to follow your favorite candidates by signing up for their emails and following them on social media. Even better, reach out to them and offer to support their campaigns by volunteering to canvass or make phone calls. You can also watch our Facebook page, where we try to share the latest information about all our candidates.

Unfortunately, COVID concerns forced us to cancel our fundraising gala for the second year in a row, and we are now woefully behind where we should be in our goals to help elect Frederick County Democrats next year. Therefore, we will be calling some of our most faithful donors over the next few weeks and asking you to contribute once more. We're counting on 100 local Dems to contribute \$100 each, allowing us to raise the \$10,000 that we would have expected from the gala.

If you don't want to wait for your call - or you're a new donor who might not yet be on our radar - we welcome you to contribute here and now: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-vote-blue-22>. All proceeds will be used to assist Democratic candidates up and down the ballot run energetic and effective campaigns, with professional polling and messaging consultants, data, fundraising assistance, and so much more.

We hope to see you at First Saturday this weekend. It will be the last time we're out there on the corner of Market and Patrick until spring! Come by and say hello, congratulate the winners of the Frederick City election, or bring a friend over to register to vote.

Remember that the North County and South County Dems are back to meeting in person for monthly breakfast - North County on the second Saturday, and South County on the third. More information can be found on our website calendar.

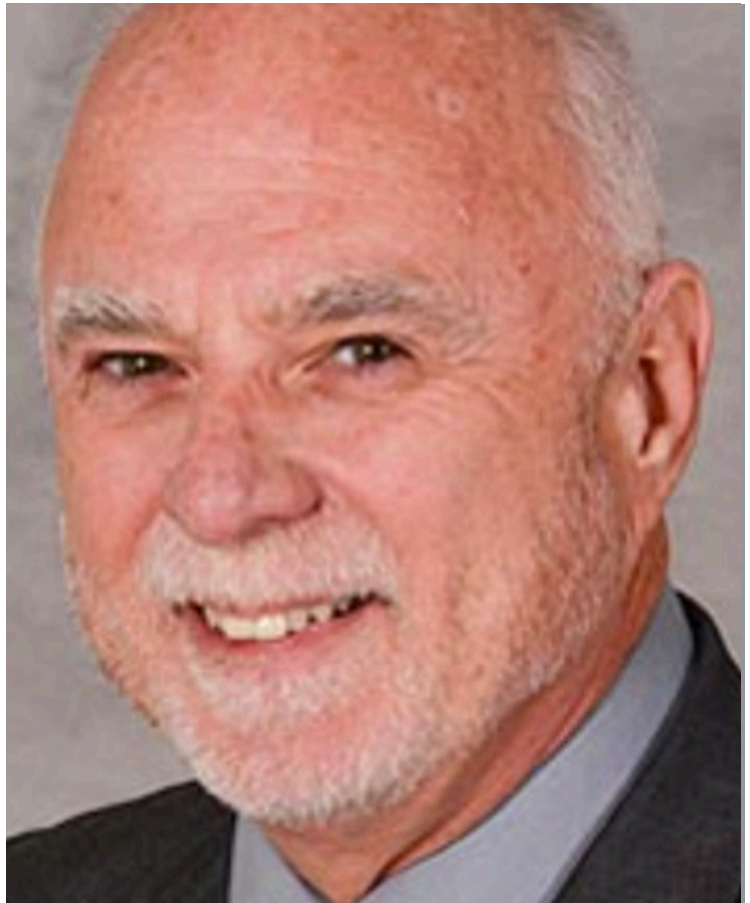
And our Central Committee meetings are always open to the public. We're at our office, 1080 West Patrick Street, on the third Thursday of the month, starting at 6:30 p.m. Come and tell us what's important to you!

In closing, I'd like to wish our Frederick City candidates all the luck in the world this week, although I'm completely confident that they will all be victorious, and deservedly so. May the next four years be kind to us all!



District 3B

DELEGATE KEN KERR



I have been a musician longer than I have been anything else. I started playing in church at age 13. By the time I was 18, I was good enough that people started paying me. From age 20-25, music was my sole source of income.

Over these past 50 years of being a musician, I've learned what it takes to be a good musician and a good band member. When a band prepares for a tour, or someone is looking to put a band together, there are certain things they look for in other musicians aside from musical ability.

The parallels between being a good musician and a good legislator are, well—identical. What I mean is, the approach I take to being a good musician is very much like the approach I take to being an effective legislator.

As for the other attributes, I've made a short list . . .

- **Listen:** This may seem obvious, but a good musician needs to be constantly aware of the other musicians around him and know what they are doing. If someone in the group gets lost, others will bring him back in. But everyone must be listening for that to happen. A good musician also needs to look around and watch the others. When a song is going well and the crowd is enjoying it, the band may want to extend the solo section or repeat the first verse and chorus. Unless everyone is looking, those signals will get lost, and the song will fall apart.
- **Make everyone else in the band sound better:** The best part of being in a musical group is getting more diversity and complexity in the music. To do that, a good musician

must be aware of what's going on around him and see what he can do to contribute and not detract. Adding one more melody line or doubling someone else's part doesn't make the music better—it just makes it more. Sometimes the best thing you can do is just be quiet.

- **Don't sing out of your range:** Over the years my range has narrowed. Some songs I love, I just can't sing anymore. My solution? When your voice starts to go, become a better instrumentalist.
- **Harmonize:** Music is almost always better when there's harmony, when the voices blend in a delightful way. It happens in politics, but probably not as much as it should.
- **Give younger musicians a chance to grow:** I wouldn't be as accomplished a player as I am if not for the older, more experienced players who took the time to advise me—to teach me their approach. Often in politics, it's not in someone's best interest to make someone else a more effective legislator. But I have always appreciated those who took time for me, and I do the same for those who will follow.
- **Play with people better than you:** That's how you get better. You need to be challenged and put in a situation that, sometimes, you're not ready for. Failure is temporary, but the lessons learned from failing are permanent.

- **Taking money is never easy:** The most uncomfortable part of playing professionally is asking club owners for money. People think nothing of paying a plumber \$200 an hour to come out on a weekend to fix a leaking pipe, but balk at paying a musician \$100 to carry and set up equipment, play for 4 hours, then pack it up. People often don't see the value in contributing to a politician's election. It's awkward and uncomfortable for most people, but elections, like musical gear, are costly.
- **Don't be difficult to work with:** I, like most musicians, have turned down paying work because someone involved is just unbearable and insufferable. There are far too many elected officials who fit that mold. They are out for themselves, and you work with them at your own risk. Personally, I want to keep playing music, and to do so, I need others to want to play with me.

I have come to look at every opportunity I get to play music with a group as if it were my last. I want to be present in the moment and give it 100%. Because, I know, someday it will be my last and I wouldn't want my last performance to be anything

less than giving it my all—the best I can give.

I feel the same way about being a delegate. Someday, it will end, and I want to be sure I gave it my all and left nothing on the field.

As I prepare for the final year of my first 4-year term, I believe my approach to legislating has served me, my constituents, and the people of Maryland well. I hope to put the band back together for another 4-year tour.



FREDERICK CITY GENERAL ELECTION

November 2, 2021



Mayor:

Re-elect:

Mayor Michael O'Connor

Board of Aldermen:

Re-elect:

**Alderman Ben MacShane,
Alderman Donna Kuzemchak,
Alderman Derek Shackelford,
and,
Alderman Kelly Russell**

And Elect:

Katie Nash

General Election Day is Tuesday, Nov 2nd.

In-person voting will be held

November 2, 2021: 7AM- 8PM

Trinity School Voting Center - 6040 New Design Road,
Frederick, MD 21703

District 3A – Frederick

DELEGATE KAREN LEWIS YOUNG



During the week of December 6, the General Assembly will convene for a special session. It is the first time since I have been in the House of Delegates that we have done this. The three main goals of this session will be to approve a Congressional Redistricting map, override 23 gubernatorial vetoes, and elect a new state treasurer.

The maps that have been drawn by the governor's commission are clearly intended to draw lines that will pick up new Republican congressional seats. It is very unlikely that this scenario will pass the General Assembly.

Here are a few vetoed bills that we are likely to override:

HB 16 Delegate Stewart

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES–IMMIGRATION DETENTION–PROHIBITION (DIGNITY NOT DETENTION ACT)

Prohibiting the State or any local jurisdiction from entering into agreements facilitating immigration-related detention by private entities; prohibiting governmental entities from entering into certain agreements to house immigration-related detainees; prohibiting a law enforcement agent from performing certain acts, subject to certain exceptions; requiring governmental entities to terminate existing contracts for the detention of immigration-related detainees by October 1, 2022; etc.

SB 202 Senator Kelley

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – PAROLE – LIFE IMPRISONMENT

Altering, from 15 years to 20 years, the time period that certain inmates sentenced to life imprisonment for a crime committed on or after October 1, 2021, must serve before becoming eligible for parole consideration; repealing certain provisions that provide that inmates serving a term of life imprisonment may be paroled only with the Governor's approval, subject to certain provisions; requiring a Maryland Parole Commission panel to determine by a vote of six of the members whether a certain inmate is suitable for parole; etc.

SB 9 Senator Kramer

STATE EMPLOYEES–COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – APPLICABILITY, BARGAINING PROCESSES, AND MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING

Requiring the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland to act on behalf of the University System of Maryland and certain system institutions for the purpose of collective bargaining; requiring the Chancellor and the exclusive representative to negotiate the terms of one consolidated memorandum of understanding to apply to all bargaining units for employees of all system institutions represented by the exclusive representative; requiring a certain consolidated memorandum of understanding to include certain terms; etc.

**SB 460 Senator Feldman
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT –ADVANCED CLEAN ENERGY
AND CLEAN ENERGY INNOVATION INVESTMENTS AND
INITIATIVES**

Altering references to the term “clean energy” to be “advanced clean energy” for purposes of certain provisions of law concerning the Maryland Clean Energy Center and the Maryland Energy Innovation

Institute; altering certain findings of the General Assembly, the purposes of certain provisions of law concerning the development of clean energy industries in the State, and the purposes, powers, and duties of the Center and Institute to include certain actions supporting clean energy innovations; etc.

Treasurer Nancy Kopp recently announced her retirement after 50 years of extraordinary service to the citizens of Maryland. Her knowledge and leadership will be sorely missed. It is likely that Derek Davis, Chair of Economic Matters, will be elected to replace her.



UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

We did it - we had our first in-person meeting on October 4, and it was great to see everyone. Brooke Lierman, candidate for comptroller, and Mike Rosenbaum, candidate for governor, spoke to us about their vision for their respective offices. Both have some very innovative ideas to solve the issues facing our state. Please go to their websites for a full listing of their positions and to learn about them: brookelierman.com and mikerosenbaum.com.

All of the winners of the city primary were also in attendance at our October meeting. We have a great slate of Democrats running. Starting with Mayor Michael O'Connor, four current aldermen (Donna Kuzemchak, Ben McShane, Kelly Russell, and Derek Shackelford), and newcomer Katie Nash, we are so lucky to have such strong candidates running to represent us.

Our November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2, as

a celebration on election night. There will be candidates from this year and potential ones for next year. Come on out and enjoy complimentary appetizers starting at 7:00 p.m. There will also be meals and drinks available for purchase.

Become a member! If you pay now, you will be paid all the way through the end of 2022! 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!



The Rest Of the Story
VETERANS'
DAY

*Tom Slater,
Frederick County Democratic Central
Committee
Frederick County Democratic Party
Historian*



November 11, 2021, is Veterans' Day. This column is dedicated to Maryland veterans who served this country. There have been only two persons who have received the Congressional Medal of Honor who were graduates of Maryland public institutions of higher learning other than the Naval Academy, and one of them has a connection to the Democratic Party. James A. Graham received the Medal of Honor posthumously in July 1967 for his service in the Vietnam War. Jim was a fraternity brother of Galen Clagett and me. I was a freshman at Frostburg State Teachers College when Jim was a senior. He volunteered for the U.S. Army and then the Marines, attended Officers Candidate School, and was commissioned a second lieutenant on November 1, 1963. In 1966, he was deployed to Vietnam as a Commanding Officer of a Company, and on June 2, 1967, he chose to remain with one of his men who could not be moved due to the seriousness of his wounds. Jim was mortally wounded. About two months before his death, Jim sent me a letter in which he discussed his plans for the future and described how tough conditions were in Vietnam. That letter is now a part of the collections at the library of Frostburg State University. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Former University of Maryland track and field student-athlete Florent "Flo" Groberg is the second Maryland public university graduate to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor when he received the award from President Obama in November 2015. He was born in France and became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 2001. Flo joined the army after graduation from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminology and criminal justice and was deployed

to Afghanistan in 2009 and 2012. While on a patrol escort mission with several high-ranking U.S. personnel, Flo noticed a civilian wearing a suicide vest and rushed the suspect, shoved him away from the patrol, and tackled him, which caused the bomb to detonate. Three

U.S. military personnel and a U.S. foreign service officer were killed. Groberg lost 45 to 50 percent of his left calf muscle with significant nerve damage, but he was responsible for preventing many more deaths from the suicide bomber. In December 2015, Groberg was the commencement speaker at the University of Maryland, College Park. I was also present at the commencement, and he gave the most impressive commencement speech that I have ever heard. Flo also was a speaker at the 2016 Democratic convention in support of Hillary Clinton's bid for the presidency of the United States.

Frederick County has been the home of many U.S. military veterans who have been stationed at the Hessian Barracks, Fort Detrick, and Camp David. A few famous military figures have



connections to Frederick. George Washington, while a colonel in the Virginia Provincial Militia, met at a tavern on All Saints Street with General Braddock and Benjamin Franklin to plan the assault on Fort Dusquesne during the French and Indian War. In 1811, captain and future president of the United



States Zachary Taylor traveled to Frederick to be a witness in the court martial trial of General James Wilkerson. In the 1830s, General Winfield Scott, a future presidential candidate, was



called to Frederick to appear before a court of inquiry in regard to his actions in the Seminole Wars. Apparently, the Hessian barracks in Frederick served as the frequent

site of military hearings in the 19th century. During the Civil War, both confederate and union soldiers occupied Frederick during the Battle of the Monocacy and the Battle of South Mountain. Future presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley participated in the Battle of South Mountain, where Hayes received a severe wound in his arm and was taken to Middletown for treatment.

We are forever indebted to the thousands of Marylanders who have served in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard, and we salute all of them on Veterans' Day.



In Remembrance:

Frederick County lost a strong Democratic supporter with the recent death of Joe Ford at age 82. He was the husband of Mary Ann Crosson.

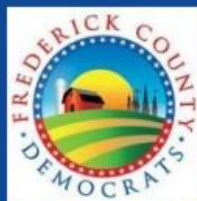
Former Baltimore County executive and candidate in the 1978 primary for the Democratic nomination for governor, Ted Venetoulis died at age 87. Up until his death, Ted was a strong advocate for Democratic principles and a close friend of the D'Alesandro/Pelosi families with an intense interest and presence in Baltimore media. He was the featured speaker at the 1976 Frederick County Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner.



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

THINKING ABOUT RUNNING FOR OFFICE?

Have you ever thought about running for office? Next year, all the county races are up for grabs - not just the big ones like County Exec and Sheriff, but probably a few you've never considered (but might be perfectly qualified for)! Check it out, and let us know how we can help.

https://elections.maryland.gov/candidacy/candidate_filing.html?fbclid=IwAR3mpKmS6Ks-2JKETfxM33uVLFQbQ3TwRt7W7kISXvYLY-BIB3l5kMFRNWLtU

GET INVOLVED:

<https://frederickdems.ivolunteer.com/>

GET INFORMED:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Members/District>

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/frederick-democrats-podcast/id1255766786?mt=2>

GET BUSY:

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

GET CONNECTED:



WDL

Women's Democratic League
Frederick County, Maryland



Monday, November 15 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Join us for our monthly meeting!

Check our website and Facebook page for details

www.wdlfrederick.org

Questions? Email us at wdlfrederick@gmail.com
WDLFrederick on Facebook

EDITOR'S CORNER



*Violet Williams,
Frederick County Democratic Central
Committee Member*

Hello there!

Did you all enjoy Tom Slater's article about Veterans' Day as much as I did?

As a Veteran myself, I'd like to take this space to thank all of my fellow veterans for their service, particularly my LGBTQ siblings in arms who fought bravely for a country that didn't honor their identity or love. Thank you all, from the bottom of my heart.

For more on LGBTQ military members, I'm eagerly awaiting a copy of a new book being released early this month: With Honor and Integrity, Transgender Troops In Their Own Words.

Happy reading,

Violet

DID YOU KNOW?

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on Nov. 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and Nov. 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938.





FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

F A L L F U N D R A I S E R



**WE'RE MAKING
CALLS FOR OUR
NO CONTACT
FUNDRAISER!**



You can contribute online at
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-vote-blue-22>

Or mail a check to
FCDCC
P.O. Box 793
Frederick, MD 21705



By Authority FCDCC, Tony Soltero, Treasurer

NOVEMBER AT A GLANCE:

Can you make it out to any events this month? We would love to see you!

2 Election Day, Frederick City

2 UDFC Monthly Meeting

13 North FC Dems Monthly Meet-Up

15 WDL Monthly Meeting

18 FCDCC Monthly Meeting

20 South FC Dems Monthly Meet-Up

FREDERICK COUNTY DEMS AT THE FOOD BANK

Every Friday in November 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

OFFICE HOURS:

The FCDCC Office will be open:

Every Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Every Monday from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m

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



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

SEN. BILL FERGUSON

PRESIDENT OF THE MARYLAND SENATE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021
6:00 TO 8:00 PM

AT THE HOME OF
RON & KAREN LEWIS YOUNG
2681 BROOK VALLEY ROAD | FREDERICK, MD

\$75 (**\$65** FOR MONTHLY SUSTAINERS) COVERS
YOU AND A GUEST AT THIS EVENT.

PAID 2021 PLOWFISH MEMBERS ENTITLED TO
TWO TICKETS FOR YOU AND A GUEST

TICKETS: PLEASE MAKE CHECK TO FCDSCC
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