



# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, Thomas Jackson, Treasurer

December 2022

## CHAIR'S CORNER

*Chairwoman Mari Lee*

Whew! Another gubernatorial election season is now in the books. If you haven't heard, Jessica Fitzwater is now our County Executive-elect. That was a nail-biter race and kept everyone on edge. Thankfully, she prevailed. The new soon-to-be council includes incumbents Jerry Donald, district 1, and M.C. Keegan-Ayer, district 3, plus council newcomers Kavonte Duckett representing Jessica's former council, district 4, and our two at-large members Renee Knapp and Brad Young, who formerly served on the Board of Education.

In the Board of Education race, three of the "Students First" Slate, comprised of four Democratic candidates, were elected, specifically incumbent Karen Yoho and candidates Rae Gallagher and Dean Rose. On the state level in legislative district 3, Delegate Karen Lewis Young is our Senator-elect, incumbent Delegate Ken Kerr retains his seat, and newcomers Kris Fair and Karen Simpson round out the other two delegate seats. Last but not least, incumbent Orphans' Court Judge Bonnie Nicholson was re-elected, and we added one seat to that bench with the election of Michael Powell.

We are delighted that 15 of our local Democratic candidates had victorious outcomes but saddened that the remaining ones did not. They all put in valiant efforts and would have served Frederick County well. We extend our appreciation and will not forget their efforts and impact.

At the top of the ticket, Marylanders chose Democratic incumbents U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen and Congressman David Trone, and Democratic candidates Wes Moore and Aruna Miller as our Governor and Lt. Governor-elects, Comptroller-elect Brooke Lierman and Attorney General-elect Anthony Brown.

While candidates are heavily visible front and center during election cycles, you may not know all the work your Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) is doing in the community on front and backlines. If you're unfamiliar with the FCDCC, in a nutshell, Central Committee members are elected volunteers who work to build the Democratic Party in Frederick County, raise awareness of Party principles and positions, and help get qualified Democratic candidates elected. You can learn more about the role we play [here](#).

We'll soon take time to analyze what did or didn't work and make any tweaks necessary, so we're ahead of the curve for future elections, but here's a rundown of all we accomplished this year.

### Events

- Participated in 18 community events, not including voter registration tables, at every First Saturday event from March to November.



### Mailers

- Purchased and mailed 6,000 targeted postcards

### Walk Cards

- Purchased 45,000 walk cards for door-to-door canvassing and literature drops

### Other

- Conducted a Campaign School and offered candidate assistance and advice
- Filled all slots on the ballot except for State's Attorney
- Purchased "Make a Plan to Vote" post-it notes for door-to-door canvassing
- Purchased a series of targeted Facebook ads
- Conducted phone banks
- Engaged in door-to-door canvassing

- Led Get Out The Vote (GOTV) texting efforts
- Staffed our local Democratic HQ two to three days a week for the last three years
- Organized and led a local voter protection committee for the general election
- And more!

Now that you know what we did, it's my pleasure to introduce the Central Committee executive officers and members for 2022-2026:

- Chair - Mari Lee
- Vice Chair - Deb Reynolds
- Treasurer - Thomas Jackson
- Secretary - Antonio Bowens
- Editor - Shelly Beaird-Francois

Members: Glenn Blanchard, Andrew Burgoyne, Josh Cramer, McCamie Patterson, Regan Riley, Gayon Sampson, Tom Slater, Jessica Tuel, Marc Weinberg; and associate members: Harry Lashley, Tarolyn McKinney, Teresa Schwab

Many thanks to the Central Committee members who worked tirelessly on behalf of our candidates. I'd certainly be remiss if I did not recognize two immediate past members: my predecessor Deborah Carter, who chaired our committee for the last four years, and Tony Soltero, who served as our treasurer for 16 years. Thank you for your leadership and service to the DCC and the community.

My thanks also extend to the financial contributors. Without your monetary support, we can't do what we do or be competitive in local and statewide elections. Whether you give \$10 or \$1000, or somewhere in between, we appreciate your giving. It's only natural that I now make a plug - there's no time like the present to start building

our funds again. We welcome everyone to consider becoming a [monthly sustainer](#) or annual trustee; more information on how to become a trustee is coming soon. Additionally, we have our last Plow-Fish event of the year on Thursday, 15 December. More details coming soon.

To our volunteers, you're the best! We thank and appreciate all you've done to help us this year, and we look forward to calling on you and new volunteers next year.

Speaking of next year, there is no election next year, but it won't stop us from building our local Party, engaging with the community, and more. Check the calendar on our website [frederickdemocrats.org](http://frederickdemocrats.org) and watch our Facebook page [Facebook.com/FrederickDemocrats](https://Facebook.com/FrederickDemocrats).

Finally, I end my column by mentioning that we will seek applications from anyone who may wish to serve on the Frederick County Board of Elections for 2023-2026. The official announcement will be forthcoming soon.



Happy Holidays!

The Banner will not be published in the month of January. We will return in February 2023. We wish you all Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

## SOUTH FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATS




South Frederick County Dems had a very full meeting in November, in which we rejoiced in the newly announced victory of Jessica Fitzwater, and then had a fascinating presentation from Tom and Steve Slater on the most recent Frederick County elections, voter registration changes, turnout over time, and the change in Frederick County voting patterns over time. They also explained the extensive efforts of the Central Committee and provided his analysis of issues that might have affected the votes in Frederick County.

There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be Saturday, January 21, from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. at Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Rd., Frederick. Please join us and let us know if you want to be added to our email list.

- Annette Breiling and Melanie Galloway, co-chairs





SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, December 15,  
6:30 p.m.

The Last Monocacy Plowman and Fisherman Club (Plow-Fish) event of the year. More details coming soon.

*The Rest Of the Story*

## Thoughts on the 2022 election in Frederick County

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

The 2022 election is history and, as Democrats, we can take pride in the results in Frederick County. My son Stephen and I have prepared a preliminary analysis of the results but still need to dig deeper into the precinct-by-precinct results to complete our analysis. Any group who would like to hear about our analysis should contact Stephen or me. This column will only touch the surface of that analysis. Democrats in Frederick County are enthusiastic that Jessica Fitzwater was able to defeat Michael Hough for County Executive and that we will hold five of the seven Council seats. We also are pleased that we kept Senate and House District 3 blue and captured three of the four Board of Education slots. The fact that we gained an additional Orphans' Court judge is evidence that the future looks good for further inroads into the county offices. Congratulations to all those who won. Special thanks to those who put their names on the ballot, in some instances where the odds were very much uphill, including Shawn Perry, Carleah Summers, Andrew Duck, Brandon Duck, Millicent Hall, Lisa Jarosinski, Julianna Lufkin, Megan LeRoux, Chris Manners, Marvin Schwab, Karl Bickel, and Ysela Bravo.

Congressman David Trone was able to gain re-election with his strong showing in Frederick and Montgomery Counties and, I believe for the first time in recent memory, all of the Democratic statewide candidates (Moore-Miller, Lierman, Brown, and Van Hollen) carried Frederick County.

At first I had my doubts. Not being a night-owl, I went to bed without any numbers to consider but woke up at 3:00 a.m. and immediately looked at my phone to see the results that had been posted. I was heartbroken seeing that Trone had lost,

Jessica had lost, Bonnie had lost as well as all of our Council candidates except M.C. and Kavonte. It took me a bit to realize that only the early votes and same-day votes had been counted, but I was still very discouraged at first. Thanks to Kai Hagen for never giving up hope, especially in regard to the County Executive race, as he painstakingly posted the mail-in and provisional ballots on Facebook as they came in. Stephen Slater posted in our analysis the slow but sure march of Jessica to victory:



		Hough	Fitzwater	CE Total	R%	D%	D-R %	Vote Diff.
Wed.	9 Nov	44846	36048	80894	55.44%	44.56%	-10.88%	-8708
Thur.	10 Nov	47052	39858	86910	54.14%	45.86%	-8.28%	-7194
Fri.	11 Nov	48427	43392	91819	52.74%	47.26%	-5.48%	-5035
Sat.	12 Nov	48848	44606	93454	52.27%	47.73%	-4.54%	-4242
Mon.	14 Nov	50129	48066	98195	51.05%	48.95%	-2.10%	-2063
Wed.	16 Nov	50865	49337	100202	50.76%	49.24%	-1.52%	-1528
Thu.	17 Nov	51377	50515	101892	50.42%	49.58%	-0.85%	-862
Fri.	18 Nov	52302	53291	105593	49.53%	50.47%	0.94%	+989

Compare to the election four years ago, when Larry Hogan carried Frederick County 67.67% to Ben Jealous's 31.11%, and David Trone received 60% to Amie Hoeber's 36% in Frederick County. Jan Gardner defeated Kathy Afzali for County Executive by a 52% to 43% (Earl Robbins, running as an independent received 5%). Kai Hagen finished first for at-large Council, Phil Dacey finished second, and our other Democratic nominee, Susan Reeder Jessee, finished fourth. Jerry Donald won his council race by just 345 votes. Four years ago, the Democratic candidates lost the county offices of Sheriff, Register of Wills, and Clerk of the Court, but all lost by larger margins than this year.

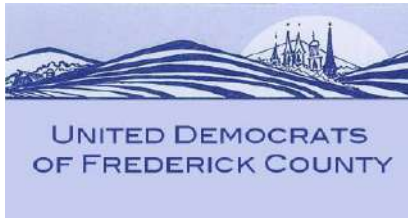
The efforts of the Democratic State Central Committee and the many volunteers who worked in this campaign are more fully delineated in the Chair's column in this issue of the Banner.

The victory of Bonnie Nicholson and Mike Powell as Orphans' Court judges is the first time that two Democrats have been elected as Orphans' Court Judges since 1994, when Democrats John Crum and Dorsey Shipley were elected. Tim May, a Republican, was the third Orphans' Judge elected in 1994. From 1974 until 1994, only Democrats had been elected to the Orphans' Court except for Republican Helen Swanson in 1978.





Democrats mourn the recent losses of Leo Boyle, Shelia Hixon and Paul Weisengoff. Leo Boyle was a lifelong Democratic loyalist from Emmitsburg who was very active in the Vigilant Hose Company and was appointed by four Maryland Democratic Governors to terms on the Frederick County Liquor Board. He was 88. Shelia Hixon served longer in the Maryland House of Delegates than any other woman (from 1976 until 2018 – 42 years) and was the first woman to chair the House Ways and Means Committee. She was 89. Paul Weisengoff was an educator and lobbyist from Baltimore City who served 27 years as a member of the House of Delegates. He also was 89.



**UNITED DEMOCRATS OF  
FREDERICK COUNTY**

Thank you to every candidate who heard the call to run. We have made tremendous progress in Frederick County, and every election cycle is indicative of that. Good government comes from good elected officials and involved citizens. Even if you were not successful in your race, please continue to stay involved through various commissions, boards and just by attending public meetings.

We also want to thank the dozens of awesome volunteers who helped us organize, distribute and recover yard signs for the just completed election cycle. The UDFC is a club of action and our members

are always willing to step up to help our fellow Democrats.

There was a November meeting on Monday, November 14, to take care of some outstanding business. The club will be holding elections at our January meeting (either Jan 2 or 9). We are looking for people to serve as an officer or board member for a two-year term. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please send an email of interest to [UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com](mailto:UnitedDemsFrederick@yahoo.com), and we will forward it to the candidate committee. You must be a member in good standing to run for office (dues paid in full). If you have any questions, please contact us via email.

Finally, we will be holding a Holiday Celebration on Monday, December 5, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Café 611 (611 North Market Street, Frederick). There will be a short program with newly sworn in and current elected officials. The club will be providing complimentary appetizers, but you can also purchase drinks or order from the menu at your own cost. We are grateful for our partnership with Café 611 and their continued support of the UDFC. We hope to see you there!

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](mailto: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!



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>



**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!  
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or  
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December 2022 At-a-Glance



**United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Holiday Party**

**Monday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m.**

Café 611 located at 611 North Market Street, Frederick

**Frederick Co. Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Meeting**

**Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m.**

Democratic HQ located at 1080 W. Patrick Street (in the corner to the right of the ALDI grocery store in the Vista Shoppes/Hillcrest Plaza.

**North Frederick Co. Dems (NFCD) Monthly Meet-Up**

**Saturday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m.**

Thurmont Regional Library, 76 E. Moser Rd, Thurmont  
(Please bring a non-perishable item for the area food bank.)

**Young Democrats of Frederick County (YDFC) Monthly Meeting**

**No Meeting**

**South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Monthly Meet-Up**

**No Meeting**

**Women’s Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.**

Held virtually on Zoom. Visit [wdlfrederick.org](http://wdlfrederick.org) for more information.

Get  
connected!

and



with

**Frederick County Democrats**

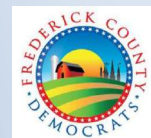
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**Follow us on Instagram**



Click on the icons for a direct connection.

**Check us out on YouTube too!**



*Join the Women’s Democratic League  
of Frederick County for our next  
Monthly Meeting*

**Monday, December 19  
7:00 pm**

**Where: TBD**



Questions? Email us at [wdlfrederick@gmail.com](mailto:wdlfrederick@gmail.com) WDLFrederick on Facebook



## Frederick County Democratic Party

HQ: 1080 W. Patrick Street, suite 4, Frederick

Mailing: P.O. Box 793, Frederick, MD 21705

Email: [info@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:info@frederickdemocrats.org)

Phone: 240-877-7453

Friday, 18 November 2022

The Frederick County Democratic Party extends our thanks to Board of Elections members, the Board's staff, and all volunteers for their hard work during the 2022 elections. During both the primary and general elections, we heard of no significant issues where the staff failed to act promptly and properly. And, while the canvassing of the mail-in and provisional ballots took several days, we have complete confidence that it was performed in a highly professional manner, ensuring the accuracy of the final vote tallies.

We also thank the voters for exercising their right to vote, the most fundamental right undergirding our democracy. Democracy is not a spectator sport. We Democrats believe that all eligible citizens must have access to the right to vote, and every legal vote must be counted. We believe that the people's decisions must be respected, even if they do not favor of our candidates.

We appreciate and thank our candidates who stepped into the political ring this year. You showed a heart for service and campaigned with dignity and class. Finally, and most importantly, we appreciate the efforts of local leadership, staff, and volunteers to ensure that Frederick County's elections continue to be fair and transparent.

Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) members:

Chair: Mari Lee, Vice Chair: Deb Reynolds, Secretary: Antonio Bowens, Treasurer: Thomas Jackson, Editor: Shelly Beaird-Francois  
Glenn Blanchard, Andrew Burgoyne, Josh Cramer, McCamie Patterson, Regan Riley, Gayon Sampson, Tom Slater, Jessica Tuel,  
Marc Weinberg, and Associate members: Harry Lashley, Tarolyn McKinney, Teresa Schwab

Web: [frederickdemocrats.org](http://frederickdemocrats.org) | Facebook.com/FrederickDemocrats | Twitter.com/FrederickDems

By authority: FCDCC, Thomas Jackson, Treasurer

**EMERGE**  
MARYLAND

**91% win rate!**

2022 General Elections

**Our alumnae know how to win!**

Congratulations to

**County Executive–Elect Jessica Fitzwater (Class of 2013)**

**State Delegate–Elect Karen Simpson (Class of 2021)**

**Board of Education Member Karen Yoho (Class of 2018)**

and the 39 other Emerge Maryland grads around the state  
who won their seats!

[www.EmergeMaryland.org](http://www.EmergeMaryland.org)

