



# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: DSCCFC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

December 2023

## CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

This month, the Democratic State Central Committee (DSCC) participated in several events, including, but not limited to, our last First Saturday and "Plow-Fish" of the year, supported the Brunswick Veterans Day Parade and honored Beverly Byron as the first recipient of the Beverly Byron Award.

We once again thank Senator Karen Lewis Young and Ron Young for hosting our last Plow-Fish and Special Guest Senator William C. Smith Jr., for sharing about his family, insight on the Senate Judiciary Committee, and answering guests' questions.

The DSCC was also one of the cohosts of a Meet & Greet for the Democratic Congressional District 6 candidates on Saturday, 18 November. Nine of the ten candidates attended; unfortunately, one could not due to health reasons. Unfortunately, the Central Committee members also couldn't attend due to attending the Maryland Democratic Party meeting. Still, we heard it was

informative, and about 100 people came to hear from the candidates. We thank United Democrats Club President Maureen Grayzeck for emceeding that day and ensuring the event flowed on time, and our other local Democratic Club leaders for assisting with food and beverages and planning support.

In 2024, we intend to host a candidate forum for the Senate candidates and a separate one for the Congressional District 6 candidates. Planning is underway for both events. We will provide details soon after the filing deadline on 9 February.

As I mentioned a moment ago, Central Committee members and Committee members of all other Maryland counties and Baltimore City met on 18 November at the State Party meeting. One of our functions was to elect a new Party Chair and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. When all the votes were tabulated, Ken Ulman was elected as our new chair and Dr. Charlene Dukes as 1<sup>st</sup> vice chair. We look forward to their leadership and what all DCCs can accomplish in our communities and across the state.

Earlier this week, we honored Beverly Byron as the first recipient of the newly created Beverly Byron Award. We had approximately 100 in attendance, and we all had the opportunity to hear several of Beverly's stories in response to Tom Slater's "A Trip Down Memory Lane" -style live interview. You could hear laughter in response to many of her stories throughout the evening. Beverly is one of many women trailblazers in Frederick County; she continues to be a force to be reckoned

with today. We appreciate her years of dedicated work before, during, and after her terms in Congress, her tenacity, and her ongoing role in empowering women to run for office.

Continuing with my theme of thanks - My thanks also extend to our financial sponsors and contributors. Without your monetary support, we can't do what we do or be competitive in local and statewide elections. We appreciate your giving, whether you give \$10, \$1000, or somewhere in between. It's only natural that I make a plug - there's no time like the present to donate. We welcome everyone to consider becoming a [Club Blue](#) member or annual [trustee](#).

To our volunteers, you're the best! We thank and appreciate all you've done to help us this year. We intend to host a volunteer thank-you party in the spring of 2024. We will share more details closer to then.

Switching gears, I want to acknowledge the recent passing of Kristin Brown. She was active in various capacities in the community, including the Women's Democratic League and Young Democrats, and was also a friend. We send our condolences to her daughter, parents, siblings, other family members, and loved ones. Her passing is incredibly sad.

Well, friends, this is our final Banner of 2023, and we won't see you again until 1 February. But please stay in touch at [frederickdemocrats.org](https://frederickdemocrats.org), and keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) page for news. Have a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season!

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P.S. It's not too early to think about being an election judge (aka poll worker) for the 2024 presidential elections. You can get the details, including how to apply, compensation, and more on the Frederick County Board of Elections [website](#).



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

**Passages: Young, Old, and From the Past**

Deaths are inevitable. Some live to a ripe old age and some die young. Whether old or young, memories are forever. The Democratic Party, this past month and not too far in the past, has experienced some losses.

Kristin Brown passed before she could reach her full potential. She was an active member of the UDFC, Women's Democratic League, and the Young Democrats of Frederick County. I didn't know Kristin, but those who did remember her for her honesty, work ethic, wisdom, intelligence, and entrepreneurship. She did not have the opportunity to do all the things I'm sure she wanted to do. She will be missed.

Rosalynn Carter lived a full, eventful life. Some said she was the most impactful First Lady after Eleanor Roosevelt. Her support for mental health treatment, improvements in

elder care, and the Equal Rights Amendment were legendary. She was married to Jimmy Carter for 77 years and died at age 96. She professed not to like politics, but once she became involved in her husband's campaign, she became his closest advisor and grew to love the ebb and flow of politics. She was said to be more upset about Jimmy's loss to Ronald Regan than Jimmy was in 1980. Her post-White House career was just as eventful as President Carter's as she joined him as he traveled around the world working for peace and helping with Habitat for Humanity. Despite being citizens of the world, she and Jimmy were most proud of being citizens of Plains, Georgia.

When I was helping plan for the recent Beverly Byron Award event, I sent an invitation to Steve Crawford. His wife, Liliane, left a message at my office that Steve had passed. I was shocked because I had not heard of his passing. Steve Crawford was an important clog in the Democratic Party in the 1990s in Frederick County. He was 80 when he died suddenly of a heart attack and stroke after a fall last May. He and his wife had moved from Frederick County to Montgomery County to be closer to his work. Trained as an economic sociologist with a B.A. from Cornell University, an M.G.A. from the Wharton Business School of the University of Pennsylvania, and a Ph.D. from Columbia University, Steve and Liliane moved to Frederick because he was teaching at the University of Maryland and she, who also earned a doctorate, was teaching at Gettysburg College.

Immediately immersing himself in the political culture of Frederick in 1994, Steve ran for the Democratic nomination to run against Roscoe Bartlett, who had defeated Democrat Tom Hattery in 1992 after Hattery had defeated incumbent Beverly Byron in the Democratic primary. Facing Crawford in the Democratic primary were Paul Muldowney, from Washington County, Neil Dhillon, from Allegany County and Galen Clagett,

Don DeArmon and Cliff Snyder from Frederick County. Muldowney won the primary with 30% followed by Dhillon (18%), Crawford (18%), Clagett (17%), DeArmon (6%) and Snyder (6%). Muldowney was defeated by Bartlett in the general election 66% to 34%. In 1966 Crawford easily won the

Democratic nomination with 54% over Don Allensworth, David Osmundon, and David Koontz, who was elected to the Frederick City Board of Aldermen in 2005. Steve ran a spirited campaign, opened a campaign office in Frederick on Patrick Street and generated a lot of enthusiasm. Unfortunately, he lost to Bartlett 57% to 43%. Until Bartlett was defeated by John Delaney in 2012 after the redistricting made the district much more favorable for a Democratic candidate, Crawford received the highest percentage vote against Bartlett in Bartlett's nine re-election campaigns.

Steve was elected president of the United Democrats of Frederick County in 1998 and served a two- year term. In 2000 Frederick held its first elected nonpartisan Board of Education elections. Crawford entered the primary election and proceeded to the general election along with Norine Haas, Ron Peppe, Linda Naylor, John Ashbury, and Tim Gallagher. The Frederick County Teachers Association endorsed Crawford, Haas and Peppe. In the general election, Crawford, Peppe, and Naylor became the first elected Board of Election members in Frederick County. On November 20, 2002 Steve Crawford resigned from the Board of Election due to the fact that his new job at the National Governor's Association required extensive traveling.

Steve Crawford spent three years in the U.S. Army as a training officer in the Airborne School and was an infantry officer during the Vietnam War, receiving a Bronze Star. In addition to teaching at Bates College, The University of Maryland College

Continued on the next page

Park, and The George Washington University, Steve worked at the Brookings Institution, the National Governors Association, The National Policy Association, the State of Maryland Governors Workforce Investment Board, the Albert Einstein Institute, and the Bureau of Applied Social Research. He was the author of many publications and was a true blend of the academic and the political.

In September we lost Carol L. Gill. Carol was the wife of former Democratic State Central Committee member, Tom Gill. She was 81. She taught elementary school and special education. In 2004 she and Tom moved to Frederick to be near their grandchildren. She was an artist and a member of the Frederick Arts Council, the Frederick Woman's Civic Club, the Frederick Torch Club, and Saint Katherine Drexel Parish. Our condolences go to her family and friends.



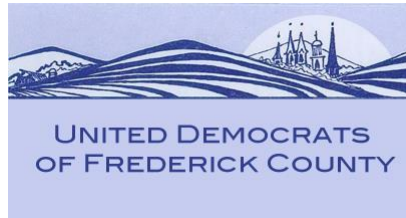
Steve Crawford with Maryland Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend that was taken on April 4, 2001 at a fundraiser for Kennedy Townsend.



Rosalyn Carter  
Credit: RickDiamond  
The Carter Center



Kristin Brown



**UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY**

Hello Frederick Democrats!

This has been a very busy autumn season for UDFC and all our fellow Frederick Democratic Clubs:

WDL held their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on October 10<sup>th</sup>, UDFC's annual picnic was on October 15, and on October 28<sup>th</sup> UDFC and the combined teams of South County, North County and WDL hosted a Meet and Greet for the US Senate Candidates running for Ben Cardin's vacant seat. There were more than 50 guests at ERUCC to hear the speeches from Candidates Marcellus Crews, Juan Dominguez, Brian Frydenborg, and Congressman David Trone.

On Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> (again at ERUCC), UDFC and the combined clubs hosted another event. This time we welcomed the Candidates running for David Trone's seat in Congressional District 6. All ten of the candidates signed up to attend and speak: April McClain Delaney, George Gluck, Geoffrey Grammer, Ashwani Jain, Hon. Leslie Lopez, Hon. Tekesha Martinez, Joel Rubin, Hon. Laurie-Ann Sayles,

Hon. Joe Vogel, and Destiny Drake West. Mr. Geoffrey Grammer tested positive for covid that morning and could not attend the event.

There were just short of 100 people attending the CD-6 Meet and Greet, and it looks to be a hotly contested race coming up in 2024!! We thank all the candidates who participated in both the US Senate and CD-6 Meet and Greets and gave their Frederick constituents a chance to hear them speak in person!

A very special thank you to the Frederick County Club chairs who worked very hard with UDFC to present the two Meet and Greet events on October 28<sup>th</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>:

- Shelly Beaird Francois- President of Women's Democratic League (WDL)
- Melanie Galloway and Annette Breiling- Co chairs of South County Dems
- Cathy Bodin, Bill O'Toole, and Fred Wood- Co chairs of North County Dems

They prepared food for the events, helped set up and take down, and along with other volunteers, provided moral support and TLC to make the events successful! Well done! Also, a shout out to Mari Lee, our Central Committee Chair, who reached out and invited the candidates to our Meet & Greet events!

UDFC will host an end-of-year Holiday party- details to follow by email.

Wishing each of you and your families a blessed New Year in 2024!

- Maureen Grayzeck  
President, UDFC

(Photos on next page)



We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

- Shelly Beard-Francois, President



**STATE SENATOR KAREN LEWIS YOUNG**

Looking forward to the 2024 Legislative Session



We are about six weeks away from the 2024 legislative session. I am looking forward to it as the current interim has afforded far more opportunity for preparation time than during an election year.

I recently had a very productive meeting with the Senate President. He verified that the major issues of the session are likely to be:

- Equitable transportation access and sustainable funding
- Workforce development
- Climate and energy de-carbonization
- Public safety
- Education blueprint implementation
- Housing

Many of the bills that I have submitted to drafting, fall under these topics. Although still a work in progress, you can view my tentative legislative

agenda here: [https://content.app-sources.com/s/68426100078768152/uploads/Images/2024\\_Legislative\\_Initiative\\_s\\_as\\_of\\_11\\_21\\_23.docx-0589411.pdf](https://content.app-sources.com/s/68426100078768152/uploads/Images/2024_Legislative_Initiative_s_as_of_11_21_23.docx-0589411.pdf) You can also go directly to my website. [https://lewisyoungforsenate.com/issue\\_s](https://lewisyoungforsenate.com/issue_s)

As always, I will advocate for funding for many of the good community projects that have been brought to the attention of District #3 legislators. This will be a challenging year for capital projects but I am determined to ensure that Frederick receives our fair share.

Finally, please note the invitation to my January fundraiser in this newsletter. It is always important to build a campaign account prior to an election. Although there are recommended price points, I have never turned anyone away that finds these categories beyond their comfort level. Funding is appreciated. Support is treasured!



**WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF FREDERICK COUNTY**

We have been busy over the last two months. The WDL, along with the other combined democratic clubs, and Democratic Central Committee co-hosted Meet and Greets for Democratic Senate Candidates and the Congressional District 6 candidates. Our next meeting will be held virtually on December 18<sup>th</sup>. At this meeting we will hold Elections for 3 of our Executive Board Member positions – WDL Secretary, Treasurer, and the Communications Director. Our members are currently voting on the MLAW legislative proposals for the 2024 Maryland General Assembly that the WDL will support. In January, we will be back to our regular in-person meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Café 611 in Frederick.



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

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



Did you know that in addition to voting for President of the United States in 2024, there are local races on the ballot too, including Board of Education?

Are you thinking about running for office in 2024? We would like to hear from you! Please send us an email at [info@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:info@frederickdemocrats.org).

### Volunteers Needed!



We are looking for volunteers, to help us staff our Democrat Booth at various events, canvassing, and our Get Out the Vote efforts. Please click on the link below for more information and to sign up for activities in 2024.

[Volunteer Today](#)



### 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!

*Shelly Beard-Francois.*

[shelly@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:shelly@frederickdemocrats.org)

or

Central Committee -

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

Join **CLUBBLUE!** Our sustainers are activists and everyday people who contribute a monthly monetary donation to help the Party sustain its competitiveness in current and future local and statewide elections. Click [here](#) for more details. Donate as little as \$5 a month and let the Frederick County Democrats do all the work!



December 2023 At-a-Glance



**United Dems of Frederick Co. Holiday Party**  
**Monday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

Café 611 located at 611 North Market Street, Frederick

**North Frederick Co. Dems (NFC) Monthly Meet-Up**  
**No Meeting**

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

**Women’s Democratic League (WDL) Monthly Meeting**  
**Monday, December 18 at 7:00 p.m.**

Zoom Meeting (visit [www.wdlfrederick.org](http://www.wdlfrederick.org) for more information.)

**Democratic State Central Committee of Frederick Co. (DSSFC)**  
**Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m.**

Zoom Meeting  
(visit [www.frederickdemocrats.org](http://www.frederickdemocrats.org) for more information.)

**South Frederick Co. Dems (SFCD) Monthly Meet-Up**  
**No Meeting**

Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Rd, Frederick

Get  
connected!

and



with

**Frederick County Democrats**

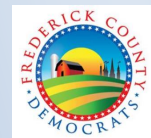
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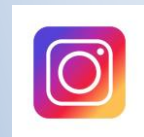
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**MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATS**

*So, You Want to Be a DNC Delegate?*

**Join our FREE DNC Delegate Bootcamp**  
For registered Democrats only!

**Saturday December 16**  
10 am – Noon  
Rockville, MD

Register at [bit.ly/DNCdelegate23](http://bit.ly/DNCdelegate23)

**Please join us !**  
**Back to Session Fundraiser**

**Karen Lewis Young**  
**State Senator**



Brian Feldman



**January 4, 2024 5:00-6:30 PM**  
**Harry Browne's Grill Room**  
**66 State Circle**  
**Annapolis MD 21401**

**Special Guest:**  
**Education, Environment, and Energy Chair, Senator Brian Feldman**

*RSVP by December 28, 2023 with email  
address 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:

- \_\_\_ \$2500 Champion
- \_\_\_ \$1000 Host
- \_\_\_ \$500 Sponsor
- \_\_\_ \$250 Friend
- \_\_\_ \$100 Guest

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 [www.lewisyoungforsenate.com](http://www.lewisyoungforsenate.com)

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

[www.lewisyoungforsenate.com](http://www.lewisyoungforsenate.com)

A LOOK BACK AT FREDERICK DEMS IN THE COMMUNITY IN NOVEMBER 2023.



Meet & Greet with Democratic Congressional District 6 Candidates

Photo courtesy of Kai Hagen



Brunswick Veterans Day Parade



Celebrating Beverly B. Byron



Beverly with Congressman Steny Hoyer. Photo courtesy of M.C. Keegan-Ayer



**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

President Joseph Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris - [Website](#)

**DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE 2024 ELECTION**

**U.S. SENATE**

Angela Alsobrooks - [Website](#)

Juan Dominiguez - [Website](#)

Brian Frydenborg - [Website](#)

Steven Seuferer - [Email](#)

David Trone - [Website](#)

Andrew Wildman - [Website](#)



The Democratic State Central Committee of Frederick County does not endorse Democratic candidates in a contested primary election. We encourage you to get to know them and help the campaign of your choice in any way you see fit.

**U.S. CONGRESS, DISTRICT 6**

April McClain Delaney - [Website](#)

George Gluck - [Website](#)

Geoffrey Grammer - [Website](#)

Ashwani Jain - [Website](#)

Lesley Lopez - [Website](#)

Tekesha Martinez - [Website](#)

Laurie-Ann Sayles - [Website](#)

Destiny Drake West - [Website](#)

Joel Rubin - [Website](#)

Joe Vogel - [Website](#)