



# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: DSCFC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

August 2024

## CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

Eleven days ago, President Biden sent shockwaves through the country and world when he announced he would not seek reelection. While his decision caused varying emotions for many, it must be recognized that he did it out of love for our country, and to put the national interest above his personal interest. Within these last few days, the level of excitement behind Vice President Kamala Harris as the presumptive presidential nominee is electrifying. The Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (DCC) released a statement thanking President Biden for his leadership and declared our support for Vice President Kamala Harris. You can read it [here](#) if you missed it.

In the last week, there has been a surging national uptick in the number of new volunteer signups. Woohoo! Locally, we've had about 70 new signups; and they keep rolling in. Between the new and the seasoned pros, we have a great team of individuals ready to dig in and work to

get Democrats elected up and down the ballot from the White House, U.S. Senate-Maryland, Congress, and Frederick County Board of Education. While we have a great team, we still have room for more. That means YOU! If you're interested, join us for a virtual "Rally the Vote" Volunteer Orientation next Tuesday, 6 August, at 6:30pm. We'll provide a fun and informative discussion on our activities and opportunities. You'll see other details in the flyer on page 6. We ask that everyone [register](#) in advance.

August is a very busy month for the DCC. In addition to the volunteer orientation, we'll be present at a few community events. This Saturday, 3 August, we'll be at our usual spot for First Saturday, from 2:00-5:00pm: in front of Middletown Valley Bank, 9 N. Market Street. We'll also have a tent at National Night Out on Tuesday, 6 August, and the Black Frederick Festival on Saturday, 24 August on Carroll Creek. We hope you'll stop by our table at any or all of these events to say hello, pick up campaign and/or Party literature, sign up to volunteer, or all the above! We also welcome you to help us staff our table. Click [here](#) to view available shifts and sign up for your preferred event(s) and shift(s). And check out the many community vendors and local entertainment that will be on hand at these events while you're there.

We will also be in the Mountain City Elks Lodge #382 parade on Sunday, 25 August. Join us in showing our support for Kamala Harris, Angela Alsobrooks, and April McClain Delaney. [Sign up](#) to walk with us in the parade. Someone will follow up no later than one week

beforehand to share the meet-up location and other details.

I am excited to announce that we are opening our new Democratic Headquarters this month in downtown Frederick! Our plan is to move in on or about the 10<sup>th</sup>. If all goes as planned, we'll be there through the end of the gubernatorial election in November 2026. It's been about 18 months since we had a HQ, so we are eager to get in and situated, and look forward to announcing our location and a grand opening soon. If you're interested in helping staff our office, please let us know by choosing that option on this [online form](#). One of our volunteer coordinators will contact you ASAP.

This month, we also plan to host a watch party on the last night of the Democratic National Convention on Thursday, 22 August. Join us to watch Vice President Harris (presumably) accept the nomination with your Democratic friends. Time and place to be announced very soon.

At the end of the month on Monday, 26 August, we invite you to join us at our next Monocacy Plowman & Fisherman Club (Plow-Fish) [event](#) with Special Guest Aruna Miller, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland. Members have two options: pay \$120 (\$110 for Club Blue sustainers) – includes this and one other event later this year for you and a guest, or a single event ticket - \$75 – includes a guest. You'll see an invitation with more details on page 6, including location and how to pay.

(Continued on next page)

If you missed it, last week we hosted a virtual Town Hall focused on Project 2025. Per Democracy Forward and many other credible sources, leaders, and analysts, “Project 2025 is among the most profound threats to the American People.” If you haven’t taken time to learn about it, click [here](#) to watch a replay of our Town Hall.

Join us at our next Central Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 20, at 6:30 PM, at our HQ. Come share your thoughts and/or listen in as we discuss our business and activities.



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

*“The Rest of the Story”*

ECONOMICS: Talking Points and the Impending Crisis That Few Want to Talk About

Economics is a subject that I do not profess to know much about, so I rely on experts to guide my thinking. First the good news. Heather Long, a columnist and editorial writer for the Washington Post whose focus is on the economy, recently pointed out some facts that should be good talking points for Democrats in the upcoming campaign:

“It’s true that, in many ways, the U.S. economy looks great right now. Growth is solid. Inflation has come way down. The stock market is at a record high. Unemployment is a mere 4.1 percent. The economy added more than 200,000 jobs last month, and more people are looking for jobs now than a year ago. Plus, most workers are seeing their paychecks grow more than inflation. Summer vacation travel is also booming, one of the clearest signs households are doing pretty well.” Washington Post, July 12, 2024.

Democratic candidates at the local, state, and national level need to pound these points home to counter the false narrative that the economy under President Biden is not doing as well as it was under President Trump. Just one example of changes that could be enacted to make the economic situation better was outlined by Mary Makary, a professor at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. She advocates switching to a site-neutral payment for operations under Medicare that would not differentiate between whether the procedure occurred at a hospital site or a non-hospital site. According to Dr. Makary:

“ Reform would also save a lot of money. In 2021, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget calculated that if Medicare began paying for all services in a site-neutral way, the program would save \$153 billion over the next decade. This would go a long way toward addressing the imminent insolvency of the Medicare trust fund.” Washington Post, July 12, 2024.

Here is another potential Democratic talking point: Let’s start looking for ways to make Medicare more efficient and provide for long-term solvency.

But there is a crisis that few Democrats or Republicans want to address. Some

Republicans talk a good game about the federal deficit but fail to acknowledge that the debt has increased far more under Republican federal leadership than under Democrats. Other than during the time that the United States fought two major world wars in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the federal debt increased by percentage more under 5 Republican presidents: Reagan 160.8%, George W. Bush 72.6%, George H.W. Bush 43.3%, Richard Nixon 34.3%, and Donald Trump 33.1%. Unfortunately, the debt increased by 64.5% under President Obama. The increase under Biden has been only 8.8%. Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act could actually reduce the deficit by \$58 billion over the next decade (source: Hiranmayi Srinivasan, writing in Investopedia, July 1, 2024). The current federal deficit is spiking to \$2 trillion. According to an editorial last year in the Washington Post:

“That’s double last year’s deficit. The deficit has been this high and surged this fast only during global crises such as World War II or the COVID-19 pandemic...The big problem is rising interest costs. The U.S. government must pay more to borrow money now than it has in recent years. ...Tax receipts are coming in lower than expected despite strong corporate profits and low employment...This can’t go unchecked. Federal debt is on track to hit a record level by 2029, meaning it will be higher as a percentage of the U.S. economy than even World War II’s peaks. And it will only get uglier from there if politicians continue to ignore it.” Washington Post, September 10, 2023.

Traditionally the Republican Party has led the way on fiscal responsibility. But Ronald Reagan’s tax-cutting policies for the rich and MAGA economics have strayed from traditional Republican principles.

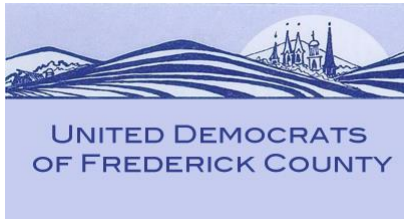
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“No more taxes,” candidate Larry Hogan’s mantra, will result in a continuation of the Trump-era tax cuts for the very wealthy who do not pay their fair share. Megan McCardle, also writing in the Washington Post 3 with an emphasis on economics, places the blame where it should be:

“The treasury lost about \$1.5 trillion to the George W. Bush tax cuts during his term, \$2.1 trillion by the most generous estimate of the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan (plus another \$465 billion to care for veterans of those wars), and roughly \$2 trillion to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, a.k.a. The Trump tax cuts.” McCardle says the biggest problem of all is “politicians who keep trying to pretend our troubles away, rather than face up to what needs to be done.” Washington Post, December 7, 2023.

Former Democratic U.S. Senator Bob Kerry, again writing in the Washington Post, calls the national debt crisis “not the elephant in the room. It is the herd of elephants in the room, accompanied by braying donkeys” pointing out that “interest payments this year also will exceed the total spent on veterans, education, and transportation combined.” He dismisses the nostrum that the national debt will be erased by economic growth and calls for the president and Congress to do their patriotic duty and lead on this issue. Washington Post, June 26, 2024.

It is clear to me that the Republicans have abdicated their leadership on issues related to the economy, but it is up to Democrats to face this issue in the future, particularly in addition to the growing federal debt but also the looming underfunding of Social Security and Medicare. Only Democrats can be trusted to tackle this issue fairly and by applying Democratic values to the needed solutions.



## UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY (UDFC)

Hello UDFC Members,

The phrase, “Tumultuous Times”, does not begin to describe the events of the last month in our United States- not to mention during the last 8 years! Life from one day to the next keeps moving in different directions. The best thing about Democrats in general is that our vision somehow always points ahead to the future! Our forward focus gives us the strength to swim through the swirl of disinformation, jeering drama, vicious hate and lies generated by the MAGA Republican leaders.

Kamala Harris and her chosen VP will confront and continue to expose the criminal Trumpster and his Mini-Me (J.D. Vance) for what they are: treacherous buffoons.

By the time you read this August Banner article, our UDFC Picnic will have taken place on July 28<sup>th</sup>! I look forward to summarizing the event for you in our September Banner article!

Please see the photo I have included with Angela Alsobrooks and Sofi Ibrahim, a UDFC Board Member. Angela hosted a Meet and Greet for Frederick at the Steinhardt Brewery July 7<sup>th</sup> at Carol Creek Linear Park. Many of our UDFC members were among the guests!

**Also, we have scheduled our August UDFC meeting for Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>- with a change of venue and time. The meeting will take place at the C. Burr Artz downtown library from 6:30-8:30 in the “Programming” room across from the information desk. The meeting will be a working session**

to fill out postcards to voters in critical swing states such as North Carolina and PA., etc. Melanie Galloway will bring the postcards and talk us through the process. Some postcards are time sensitive and need to be mailed by a certain date, others are not mailed until October. We ask that you take home the postcards you complete, put stamps on and mail them according to the guidelines. There will be some postcards available at the end of the session, if you wish to take them home to complete. Some states provide free postcards, but others are available for the low price of \$1 per 25 cards (Melanie bought several thousand.)

The voters on these lists are registered Democrats in swing states that are “likely” to vote. A little friendly push in the right direction is always a good thing!

Looking forward to seeing you Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at the library from 6:30-8:30! Sorry to miss food and

beverages at Café 611, so please bring your own water bottle to keep refreshed. Hoping you can join us for this very important meeting!

- Maureen Grayzeck  
President, UDFC







**WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF FREDERICK COUNTY (WDL)**

The nation stands at a precipice as the Democratic Party is on the verge of nominating Kamala Harris to be the next president of the United States. I think of all the strong women who laid the groundwork for this important moment in the history of our country including Shirley Chisholm in 1972, Bella Abzug in 1972, Carol Moseley Brown in 2004, Hillary Rodham Clinton in 2008 and 2016, Elizabeth Warren, Amy Klobuchar, and Kamala Harris in 2020.

What is different this time is that it feels like the entire party is united behind the Vice President. There is excitement in the air and the public is energized. People are donating and signing up to volunteer because they realize just as important as it is to elect the first woman; they also recognize that the soul of the nation and our democracy is at stake.

I urge you to keep up the excitement and the united front. Remember that we are stronger together than we are apart.

We in Frederick also have a unique opportunity to help two other female candidates get elected into office: Angela Alsobrooks for the Senate, and April Delaney for Congressional District 6. Also important is to support the Democrats (Josh Bokee, Janie Monier, Veronica Lowe, and Chad Wilson) who are running to serve on the school board.

Let's keep the excitement growing. So volunteer, write postcards, knock on doors, make calls, join one of our democratic clubs, donate to the Frederick County Central committee,

or one of the candidates mentioned above. If you can't do any of these things, please make sure that you get out and vote on Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. I also ask you to talk to your relatives, friends, and neighbors to make sure they understand how important it is to vote in this election. Our democracy may depend on it.

If you are interested in writing postcards, please join us on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup> for our regularly scheduled monthly meeting at the C. Burr Artz Library located at 110 Patrick Street.

I hope you will be able to join us.

Shelly Beaird-Francois,  
President, WDL



*April McClain Delaney, Congressional District 6 Nominee*

I'm a mom of four daughters, with a 30-year career across the public and private sector spent advocating for women's rights, children's safety, and communities. I entered the race for Maryland's 6th District running on a platform of "Common Sense, Common Ground," because I know we need to work together to get things done.

Having served in the Department of Commerce with the National Information Telecommunications Administration, I know that innovations in technology open the door to economic growth, and good-paying jobs. I'll invest in Maryland's broadband systems, strengthen our local and national networks, and ensure that we equip areas with the

resources needed to serve our communities.

I'll partner with public schools, ensuring that Maryland continues to champion world-class public education. We'll expand access to pre-K, address resource disparities, and apply new standards for college and career readiness.

I'll be unwavering in the fight for reproductive rights, health, and freedom. In Congress, I'll work to codify *Roe v. Wade*, and co-sponsor the Women's Health Protection Act.

And while MAGA extremists look to weaken our democracy, I'll defend our democratic values and institutions, supporting initiatives like the For the People Act and the John Lewis Voting Act, which expand and defend voting rights and access. I'll commit myself to working with colleagues across the aisle to find common ground policy for the 6th District, restoring public faith in government.

Voters in the 6th District deserve more than the partisan chaos we've seen all too often in Congress. We need leadership that is committed to working together to deliver real solutions, and meaningful results. That's what I'll bring to Congress for Maryland's 6th District.



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>



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!



**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 Beaird-Francois,*  
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OR  
Central Committee -  
[info@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:info@frederickdemocrats.org)

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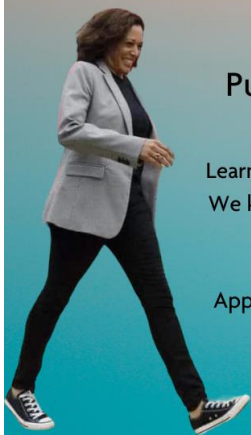
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[www.emergeMaryland.org](http://www.emergeMaryland.org)



I don't often sing karaoke . . .  
. . .but when I do,  
it's at Delegate Ken  
Kerr's Karaoke  
Cabaret

**Tuesday October 1st, 7-9pm**  
**McClintock Distillery**  
**Frederick, Maryland**

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/karaokecabaret>

Authority: Helen Kerr, Treasurer

**Delegate Ken Kerr**  
**Legislative Brunch Briefing**

Friday November 22 from 10-noon  
Frederick Clarion Conference Center  
5400 Holiday Dr,  
Frederick, MD 21703

For Tickets:  
Online: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/brunchbrief>  
Or send a check to  
Friends of Ken Kerr  
7412 Skyline Drive  
Frederick MD 21702

Use QR code at bottom right for info

Authority: Helen Rozakis Kerr, Treasurer



Please click [here](#) to register for the Plow-Fish” event.



**THE MONOCACY  
PLOWMAN AND FISHERMAN CLUB**

IS PLEASED TO INVITE YOU TO AN EVENING WITH

**ARUNA MILLER**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND

**MONDAY, 26 AUGUST 2024**  
6 PM TO 8 PM

AT THE HOME OF  
**DISTRICT 3 DELEGATE KRIS FAIR & DOMINICK FAIR**  
435 DELAWARE ROAD | FREDERICK, MD

**\$120 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OR \$110 FOR CLUB BLUE MEMBERS**  
- COVERS THIS AND OUR NEXT EVENT  
THIS YEAR FOR YOU AND A GUEST  
**\$75 SINGLE EVENT TICKET: INCLUDES YOU AND A GUEST**

**TICKETS:** PLEASE MAKE CHECK TO FCDCC  
MAIL TO: P.O BOX 793, FREDERICK, MARYLAND 21705  
WITH “PLOW-FISH 2024” ON CHECK’S MEMO LINE.

OR PAY ONLINE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE OR VISIT  
**FREDERICKDEMOCRATS.ORG**

**RSVP: MARI LEE**  
**MARI@FREDERICKDEMOCRATS.ORG**



By Authority: FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE (FCDCC), McCAMIE PATTERSON, TREASURER

*You're Invited!*

**What:** “Rally the Vote” Volunteer Orientation  
**When:** Tuesday, 6 August @ 6:30 PM on Zoom

Join Frederick Democrats for a fun and informative conversation about our volunteer activities and opportunities. Let's get fired up and prepared to work toward rallying the vote to elect Kamala Harris for President, Angela Alsobrooks for U.S. Senate-Maryland, April McClain Delaney for Congressional District 6, and three Democratic candidates to the Frederick County Board of Education! Whether you're a brand new volunteer, a seasoned pro, or interested in becoming one, we invite you to join us.

Our virtual event offers closed-captioning for anyone who may need it.



Please register in advance by scanning the QR code or visit [frederickdemocrats.org](http://frederickdemocrats.org).



By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

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Our virtual event offers closed-captioning for anyone who may need it.

Please register in advance by scanning the QR code in the graphic above or visit [frederickdemocrats.org](http://frederickdemocrats.org).

**SAVE THE DATE**

Please join the Frederick County Democratic Party  
at a special event to honor our 2024 Beverly B. Byron Award recipient -

*Emerge Maryland*



*Monday, 2 December 2024*  
6 PM - 8 PM

Frederick Elks Lodge #684, 287 Willowdale Dr, Frederick  
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres / Cash Bar

*Sponsorship and ticket information will be announced soon.*

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

August 2024 At-a-Glance



**United Dems of Frederick Co. Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m.**

C. Burr Artz Library (Programming Room) located at 110 E. Patrick Street in Downtown Frederick

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

**Saturday, August 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.)

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

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

Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Rd, Frederick

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

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

Café 611 located at 611 North Market Street, Frederick

**Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) Monthly Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 20 at 6:30 p.m.**

Frederick County Democratic HQ, location to be announced soon

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

**Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m.**

C. Burr Artz Library located at 110 E. Patrick Street, Frederick

**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.

[Volunteer Today](#)



and



with

**Frederick County Democrats**

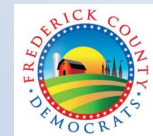
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**Check us out on YouTube too!**





# DEMOCRATIC PARTY

A LOOK BACK AT FREDERICK DEMS IN THE COMMUNITY IN JULY 2024.

## Angela Alsobrooks Meet and Great – Saturday, July 7, 2024



## Asbury Methodist Church Community Block Party – Saturday, July 20, 2024



## Urbana Carnival Monday July 15 – Saturday, July 20, 2024



## Tour To Save Democracy with Angela Alsobrooks & April Delaney, Wednesday, 07.31.24





**EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

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

**DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES  
FOR THE 2024 ELECTION**



**U.S. SENATE**

Angela Alsobrooks - [Website](#)

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

April McClain Delaney - [Website](#)

**BOARD OF EDUCATION, FREDERICK COUNTY**

Choose three from this recommended list.

- Josh Bokee - [Website](#)
- Veronica Lowe - [Website](#)
- Janier Monier - [Website](#)
- Chad King Wilson, Sr. - [Website](#)