



The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

December 2024

CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

On a national level, it's 2016 all over again. Our country was poised to have its first female president with the election of Vice President Kamala Harris. Instead, a narrow majority of Americans reelected a man who should have never been allowed to run, let alone move back into the White House again. Now, he's choosing unqualified loyalists as cabinet members. I worry what our beloved country will become over the next four years, particularly if Project 2025 is enacted.

We were happy that Maryland performed well for the Democrats. Not only was Angela Alsobrooks elected to the Senate but April McClain Delaney will be representing us in Congressional District 6. Although, Vice President Harris lost the election, she carried Frederick County, which marks the second presidential election in a row that Frederick County voters chose a Democratic presidential candidate over the Republican. Per our historian Tom Slater, 1964 was the

last time Frederick County voted for a Democratic candidate for president (LBJ over Goldwater) and before that 1940 (FDR over Wilke). In 2008, Obama came close with 48.6% to McCain's 49.7%

Congratulations are in order for Democrat and Apple Ballot-endorsed candidate Janie Monier, who was elected to the Frederick County Board of Education. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in securing all three open Board of Education seats. We thank our other candidates Josh Bokee, Veronica Lowe, and Chad Wilson for their hard work and commitment to our students and FCPS staff.

There is no doubt that the election of two Republican extremist candidates to the Board of Education is troubling to our Democratic values. While we still have a Democratic majority on the Board, now more than ever, we must find ways to support all our students, educational staff, and our Board members.

Several conversations have already started about how the DCC should best plan and strategize in future elections so no other extremists get elected. Following the holidays, the Central Committee will host one or more town halls to hear your thoughts on the election, and any other comments, questions, concerns, and expectations about how the local Party can better serve you now and in the future. All viewpoints are welcomed, we are here to serve our Democratic and like-minded constituents and work toward a successful City election in 2025 and gubernatorial election in 2026.

About two weeks ago, the Monocacy Plowman & Fisherman Club (Plow-Fish) held its last event of the year. We again thank our hosts Peter Brehm and Jack Day for opening their beautiful home, Special Guest Dr. Charlene Dukes, Vice Chair, Maryland Democratic Party (MDP), who briefly shared her thoughts about the election outcome and answered several questions, and to the many who attended.

Join us for two special events this week. First, tomorrow evening (Monday, 2 December) we will celebrate Emerge Maryland as the 2024 recipient of the Beverly B. Byron Award, at 6 PM at Frederick Elks Lodge #684, 289 Willowdale Drive. Tickets are \$75 (\$65 Club Blue members) or \$35 for age 18-40 or Emerge Maryland alumnae. Learn more and get tickets [here](#). On Friday, 6 December, we will host a "Recognition & Thank You Event" in honor of Congressman David Trone for his service in Frederick County and across Maryland's 6th District. Sponsorships and tickets are available. Learn more and get tickets [here](#).

We temporarily closed our HQ after the election, but we are gearing up to reopen three days a week starting Thursday, 12 December through the 21st and resuming in 2025 on Thursday, 9 January. Our limited business hours will be Thursdays, 5 PM – 7 PM; Saturdays, 10 AM – 2 PM; and Sundays, 12 PM – 4 PM. Stop by and visit us at

(Continued on the next page)

8 West 5th Street, Frederick. Once again, we will be collecting hygiene products for SHIP of Frederick County's Homeless for the Holidays Hygiene Collection. We welcome you to drop off items for the collection during our December office hours.

We're also seeking volunteers to help staff our office. You can view shifts and sign up [here](#). If this is your first time volunteering at our HQ, one of our office leads will contact you a few days before your shift to discuss more and meet you on your first day.

Interested in serving on a Frederick County Commission? The County Council is looking for individuals to join the Compensation Review Commission. Letters of interest will be accepted until December 13th at 4 p.m. Click [here](#) to visit the webpage. When the page loads, click on the "Public Notice" link for more information.

In late September, the Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) accepted the resignation of Tom Slater.

Our bylaws currently state the Central Committee will be composed of 14 people, with as even a gender balance as possible. In the event of a vacancy, the Committee will reach out to interested applicants, interview them and select a replacement. We are now accepting applications to fill this seat; to qualify, you must be a resident of Frederick County and a registered Democrat. The applicant selected may be male, female, or nonbinary. Read our official [vacancy notice](#), including the filing deadline and how to apply.

Join us at our next Central Committee meeting on Tuesday, 17 December, at 6:30 PM, at our HQ. Come share your thoughts and/or listen in as we discuss our business and activities.

Well, friends, this is our final Banner of 2024, and we won't see you again until 1 February. But please stay in touch at frederickdemocrats.org, and keep an eye on our Facebook page for news.

Have a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season!



Tom Slater, Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

Election fallout and more Democrats leave us

The autopsy has begun. Pundits are already slicing and dicing the horrific election of Donald Trump in November. My son, Stephen, and I will be presenting an analysis of the election from a Frederick County vantage point at the December 14 North County Democratic meeting at the Thurmont Library and the December 17 Central Committee meeting at Democratic headquarters on 5th Street at 6:30 p.m. That analysis is currently a work in progress. Stephen will concentrate on the numbers and I will provide an overall perspective.

A preliminary comment (just my own and not to be considered as representing the Democratic Central Committee): Lots of "Monday morning quarterbacking" and second-guessing has already taken place. Where were these comments when the campaign was being waged and before the results were known? How many contemporaneously spoke out and said that having the support of Taylor Swift, Beyonce, Bruce Springsteen, Oprah, Lady Gaga and the Obamas

was a bad move? Who wouldn't want to run for office with the support of any of them? When all of the lawsuits were filed, how many (other than MAGA diehards) said that it was legal overkill? When Kamala said that Trump was a fascist, how many (other than MAGA diehards) said she was going too far? While I agree with the criticism that sometimes the Democratic Party comes across as too woke, that we underestimated the degree to which bread and butter-issues and inflation were impacting people, and that Biden should have announced much earlier that he was not going to run for re-election, I refuse to accept blame for Trump's win. And I refuse to abandon the principles that provide the foundation of the Democratic Party, including respect for democracy, human rights, freedom of choice, and compassion as well as support for labor, consumer protection, economic opportunity, universal health care, public education, conservation, and the role for government as an equalizer and protector of the weak and less affluent. The voters who voted for Trump must be accountable for what they did. While the Democratic Party needs to do some self-analysis and perhaps a bit of re-direction, I believe that Kamala Harris and Tim Walz did one helluva job with the hand that was dealt them.

Electoralvote.com has pointed out that, based on a poll from April this year, people who got their information from newspapers or national television were for Biden before he dropped out 50%-21% and that people who got their (dis) information from YouTube or Google were for Trump 55%-42%. This is a phenomena that needs further study. Electoralvote.com also examined exit polls from the November election and discovered that inflation was a big issue, that only one-quarter of the electorate identified as liberal, that Harris lost men badly and also white women, that Trump

(Continued on the next page)

narrowly won the suburban vote 51%-47%, that half of the voters were single and that a majority of the voters thought that Trump could handle a crisis better than Harris. Food for thought.

Maryland can celebrate the election of Angela Alsobrooks and April McClain Delaney as well as two new Democratic congresspersons in Johnny O. and Sarah Elfreth. An overwhelming vote for Question One, affirming reproductive rights in the Maryland constitution, was also a positive.

In regard to the Board of Education election, do the math. Democrats, independents, and Republicans who support public education and are opposed to book burnings and the other social issues associated with the "Moms for Liberty" distributed their three votes among four candidates, and those on the other side voted for two or two, and a write-in. The results were inevitable.

It seems like an unusual number of Democratic stalwarts have faced mortality recently. Three who recently passed were Mary Pat Clarke, Glenard Middleton, and Ida Ruben. Mary Pat was first elected to the Baltimore City Council in 1975, became Baltimore City Council president in 1987 (the first female to hold that position), and later served again on the City Council. Between 1975 and 2020 she served in elective office in Baltimore for 32 out of 45 years. I served with her as a Kennedy delegate to the 1980 convention where she and Barbara Mikulski led the Kennedy forces and have fond memories of her. She was 83. Glen was a respected leader of Maryland's labor movement with AFSCME and served for many years as one of Maryland's Democratic National Committeemen. His wife, Sharon Green Middleton, is currently a member of the Baltimore City Council. He was 76. I enjoyed talking to him at political events and attending Democratic conventions with him. Ida represented Montgomery County in

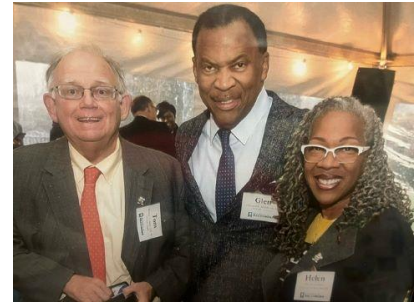
the Maryland General Assembly as a delegate and senator until she was defeated for re-election by Jamie Raskin in 2006. She was a strong advocate for protection from domestic violence and strong support for child support enforcement. Her husband was a respected District and Circuit Court judge. She was 95.

James Grimes, while not a Democrat, had a distinguished career in business and politics, serving on the Frederick Planning Commission, the Frederick City Board of Alderman, as Mayor of Frederick for 8 years (1994-2002), and as a Judge of the Orphans' Court. He was 85.

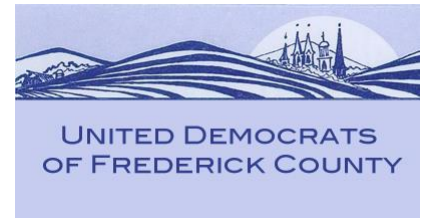
As I mentioned in my column in November's Banner, I intend to embark on a series of columns about the history of the Frederick and Maryland Democratic parties since World War II. I have over the years saved lots of papers and newspaper articles that will help me accomplish this goal, but there are gaps. If anyone has any scraps of paper, newspaper articles, or pictures that have anything to do with the activities of the Democratic party in Frederick County or Maryland since World War II up to 2018, please contact me at (240) 409-1497 or tgslawslate@comcast.net. I will gladly pick up whatever you have. Nothing is too obscure.



Tom Slater, Frederick Democratic Party Historian and Mary Pat Clarke



Tom Slater, Frederick Democratic Party Historian, Glen Middleton, and Helen Holton



UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY

Hello UDFC Member and Friends,

On Friday, December 6th, UDFC is joining our Frederick County Central Committee (FCDCC) and the combined Democratic Clubs to host a celebration and Thank You Event in honor of Maryland 6th District Congressman David Trone.

Location is: ERUCC, #15 West Church St.

Time: 6-8 PM Social time with appetizers & beverages 6-7 pm, and the program starts at 7 pm

- Maureen Grayzeck
President, UDFC





WOMEN'S DEMOCRATIC LEAGUE OF FREDERICK COUNTY

The WDL will be holding our regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Monday, December 16 at the Frederick Dems office located at 8 W. 5th Street.

As we look forward to 2025, we will be holding elections for WDL President and Director of Communications.

I hope to see you there!

Shelly Beaird-Francois,
President, WDL



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!

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, 289 Willowdale Dr, Frederick
Heavy Hors d'oeuvres / Cash Bar

Sponsorship and ticket information are noted on the back of this card.

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

- Gold Sponsor - \$500 - Four tickets + Full-page ad in the program book
- Silver Sponsor - \$250 - Two tickets + Full-page ad in the program book
- General Admission - \$75 pp (\$65 for Club Blue Members)
- Full-page Ad a la carte - \$100
- Patron - \$25 (Name listed on patron's page in the program book)

Sponsorships/tickets/ads/patron's donations may be paid online by scanning the QR code or frederickdemocrats.org. Or mail a check payable to FCDCC, PO Box 793, Frederick, MD 21705. Please write "Byron Event 2024" on check's memo line.

The deadline for sponsorships, tickets, and other payments is Friday, 15 November. Please send the camera-ready art to Deb Reynolds at dndreynolds@verizon.net.

Contacts

Mari Lee 240.415.8077 ~ Deb Reynolds 240.626.9498



Note: This award will be given annually to a female Democrat who has demonstrated over a period of years a commitment to the Democratic Party and particularly to the empowerment of Democratic women to serve in elective office.

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

Please click [here](#) to register for the special event honoring Emerge Maryland.

Thank You, Congressman David Trone

Friday, 6 December
6:00 - 8:00 PM

ERUCC 15 W. Church Street, Frederick



Please join the host committee, The Frederick County Democratic Central Committee, and the Combined Democratic Clubs of Frederick County: United Democrats of Frederick County, Women's Democratic League of Frederick County, North Frederick County Dems, South Frederick County Democrats, and Young Democrats of Frederick County, for a special "Recognition & Thank You Event" in honor of Congressman David Trone for his service in Frederick County and across Maryland's 6th District.



https://secure.actblue.com/donate/trone_celebration

All funds solicited in connection with this event are by FCDCC and not by Congressman Trone.
Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer.

Get your tickets for the 12.06.24 Thank You, Cong. David Trone event [here](#).

Please join us!
Back to Session Preview and Fundraiser

Karen Lewis Young
State Senator



Brian Feldman

January 6, 2025 8:30-9:30 AM
Harry Browne's Gallery Room
66 State Circle
Annapolis MD 21401

Special Guest:
Senator Brian Feldman,
Chairman Education, Energy and the Environment



RSVP by January 2, 2025 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

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

www.lewisyoungforsenate.com

Sign up for the 01.06.25 Senator Karen Lewis Young Session Preview and Fundraiser event [here](#).

We are inviting you to join us
for our Fall event.

Let's regroup and move forward together
on Tuesday, Dec 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm

We are going to blow the doors off

Denizen's Brewing Company

and we would love to have you there with us.

COME AND CELEBRATE SUCCESSFUL MARYLAND WOMEN LEADERS WITH TWO
NEW MEMBERS OF CONGRESS!



Congresswoman-elect
Sarah Elfreth
Emerge Maryland
Class of 2013



Congresswoman-elect
April Delaney

Join our Host Committee today!

Champion - \$1000

Supporter - \$500

Friend - \$250

Ticket \$100

<https://bit.ly/EMDFall2024>

Happy
Holidays!

Sign up for the Emerge Maryland, 12.17.24 event
[here](#).



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

or

Central Committee -

info@frederickdemocrats.org

DEMOCRATIC PARTY

A LOOK BACK AT FREDERICK DEMS IN THE COMMUNITY IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2024 A few (but certainly not all) Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Pictures



The four pics above are from a Meet & Greet for April McClain Delaney with Special Guest, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and a separate Meet for April with Gov. Moore, Senator Van Hollen, Minority Whip Clark, & more!

Above: Alsobrooks & Hogan Debate Watch Party, 10.10.24

Bottom left: Special Trustee-only Event with Senator Van Hollen, 10.09.24



December 2024 At-a-Glance



**Democratic Central Committee & Combined Democratic Clubs
Recognition & Thank You Event for Congressman David Trone**

Friday, December 6 at 6:00 p.m.

ERUCC located at 15 W. Church Street, Frederick

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

Saturday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m.

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 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Frederick Co. Democratic HQ located at 8 W. 5th Street, Frederick

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

Tuesday, December 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Frederick Co. Democratic HQ located at 8 W. 5th Street, Frederick

Young Democrats of Frederick County (YDFC) Monthly Meeting

Thursday, December 26 at 6:00 p.m.

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

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

No Meeting

Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Rd, Frederick

Get
connected!

and

Frederick County Democrats

Like us on Facebook



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!

