



# The Banner

An Online Monthly e-Newsletter for the Democratic Party

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

April 2026

## CHAIR'S CORNER



Chairwoman Mari Lee

Please accept our apologies for the delayed delivery of the April Banner.

A few weeks ago, the Central Committee launched its new [website](#). Please browse around when you have a few minutes, then contact us to share your thoughts! We also plan to give this newsletter a facelift, with the reveal date set for the June edition.

For those unfamiliar with the Central Committee, we are comprised of 14 members elected by Democratic voters in the Gubernatorial Primary to serve as the governing body of your local Democratic Party. We work directly on the frontline to organize and perform the many tasks to support and elevate the Party's ongoing presence, engage voters, get Democrats elected, and strengthen our local democracy. You can learn more about our role [here](#).

In March, we hosted, participated in, and/or attended various meetings and events:

County Board of Elections meeting;

campaign kickoffs for Kavonte Duckett for Council District 4; and for Tiffany Grant, Renee Knapp, and Brad Young for Council At-Large; a Democratic candidates' meet-and-greet in Council District 5; a Young Democrats forum they hosted for Democratic Sheriff candidates; and two other forums for Democratic candidates for Council District 2 and Council At-Large; a voter registration training; and an Equality PAC Reception with special guest Cong. Robert Garcia. We also participated in the No Kings III rally last Saturday, where a few thousand people joined us in peaceful solidarity against the Trump-led fascist regime. Click [here](#) for a list of resources and options to resist this fascist regime.

I want to take a moment to thank Linda Moran for hosting our recent Plow-Fish Kickoff, City Council President César Díaz for sharing insight into the Council's first few months and the needs of the Immigrant community, and all who supported that event. You will find a few photos from that evening, along with images from other events, later in this newsletter.

This month, we will host a meet-and-greet on Saturday, April 18, from noon – 1:30 PM, featuring Democratic candidates\* who will appear on the June 23 primary in County Council District 2. This event will be in the Urbana Library Community Room, 9020 Amelung Street, Frederick. Park behind the library, and we'll be in the first room to the right inside the door. Come when you can, leave when you must.

\*Candidate participation is as available.

We will also co-host a forum for Democratic County Council District 3 and Democratic Sheriff candidates this Monday, April 6. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we plan to livestream both. You can learn more about them in the article submitted by United Democrats President Maureen Grayzeck on page 4.

And we still have seats for our Annual Dinner & Awards on Monday, April 27, at Dutch's Daughter on Himes Avenue in Frederick. We are pleased that our special guest will be Malcolm Kenyatta, DNC Vice Chair & PA State Representative. You'll find the event invitation, including ticket pricing and sponsorship opportunities, on page 7.

I am also excited to share that we are co-hosting our first-ever Sine Die Reception in Annapolis on Monday, April 13, from 6:30 PM – 8 PM, at the Red Red Wine Bar, 189-B Main Street. Come mix and mingle with Democratic officials, advocates, community leaders, and neighbors. Whether you stay for a few minutes or the whole evening, we'd love to see you. The other co-hosts are the Central Committees for Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County.

In other news, I want to remind you of the 2026 Western Maryland Democratic Summit on Friday, May 8, and Saturday, May 9, at Hub City Vinyl in Hagerstown. The Summit features appearances by Maryland's Democratic Party leadership and elected officials;

(Continued on the next page)

valuable workshops and exhibits on topics of interest to activists, candidates, and political junkies; and networking opportunities that have established the Summit's reputation as a signature event in Maryland politics. You can get tickets [here](#).

Are you ready to vote in Maryland's upcoming primary election on June 23? If not, take a few minutes to learn more and register [here](#). Your preferred candidates are counting on your vote to help them move on to November's general election! You will find a complete list of Democratic candidates running for all offices up and down the ballot toward the end of this newsletter.

Unaffiliated voters – you are eligible to vote for the Board of Education contest in the primary. We encourage you and our Democratic voters to specifically get to know our Democratic candidates who will help protect against hate and extremism. We can't lose even one seat in November. If we do, the balance of power shifts to extremists.

Our local HQ is a collection site for a feminine hygiene drive this month. Local group Dems Help will distribute these items to community organizations. You can drop off donations at our HQ during our new hours: Thursdays from 5 to 7 PM, and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 AM to 2 PM. We cannot accept monetary donations, and neither Dems Help nor the Central Committee will provide a tax-deductible receipt.

Join us at our next Central Committee meeting on April 21, at 6:30 PM, at our Democratic HQ, 8 West 5th Street, Frederick. Come share your thoughts and/or listen in as we discuss our business and activities.



Tom Slater, Frederick County Democratic Party Historian

***The Not Your Grandma's or Grandpa's Democratic Party, or even your great Grandma's or Grandpa's party.***

I assume that most people (if not all) who read the Banner are Democrats. As I begin the laborious (you might find it tedious, but hopefully accurate) detailed history of the local and state Democratic Party, perhaps some attention should be paid to how we got to where we are as a Party. An interesting parlor game might be to try to imagine what political party you might have been a member of had you come of age in 1800? Or 1830? Or 1860? Or 1890? Or in the early 1900s? In 1800, would you have been a Federalist (supporting a strong national government, urban communities, and partial to England) or an Anti-Federalist/also called Democrat-Republicans (supporting states' rights, rural communities, and partial to France). In 1830, would have been a Democrat (the "party of the people" and against the national bank and for a strong president) or a Whig (money for internal improvements, such as roads, bridges, etc., and more power to Congress as opposed to the executive branch). In 1860, would you have been a Republican (against the spread of slavery and for preserving the Union) or a Democrat (in support of slavery and states' rights). In 1890, a Republican (supporting industrialists and the gold standard) or a Democrat (for cheap money and the labor movement). In the early 1900s, a Republican (support for trust-busting, progressive legislation, Teddy

Roosevelt, and carrying a "big stick" in foreign affairs) or a Democrat (support for the Fair Deal and progressive reform but continuation of segregation). These are all gross oversimplifications of what the major parties stood for, but they do illustrate that the parties have changed over the years. Or perhaps, you might have been attracted by the American Party/also known as the "Know Nothing Party" (anti-immigration and anti-Catholicism), the Populists or People's Party (the farmers and working class against the elite interests), Progressives (increased government role in the regulation of industry and to insure social welfare and the right of women to vote) and probably not the State's Right Party of the mid-twentieth century (segregation forever!). At the height of its power, the Know Nothing Party nominated former president Millard Fillmore as its presidential candidate in 1956. Fillmore received 21% of the national vote and carried but one state – Maryland! Another curious phenomenon in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was that the first six national Democratic conventions (from 1832 to 1852) were held in Baltimore, Maryland. In addition, the Democrats held their conventions in 1860, 1872, and 1912 in Baltimore, and the Republicans held their 1864 convention in Baltimore.

Today's Democratic Party has evolved over time. Starting in the 1820s, it is the oldest continuously existing political instrumentality in America. For years, Democrats traditionally celebrated their party's genesis by holding Jefferson-Jackson Day dinners honoring the perceived founders of our party (actually, Martin Van Buren, a Jackson supporter and eventual President of the U.S., probably had more to do with the founding of the Democratic Party than did either Jefferson or Jackson, but we never had any Martin Van Buren Day Dinners). The glorification of Jefferson and

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Jackson wore off over the years, as each was a slave owner, Jefferson was a strong supporter of small government, and Jackson was, to put it mildly, unkind to native Americans. When Myrna Whitworth was chair of the Democratic State Central Committee for Frederick County, in 2017, the committee stopped honoring Jefferson and Jackson and started calling the annual dinner the “Democratic Gala.”

Michael Kazin, in his 2022 book, “What It Took To Win: A History of the Democratic Party” points out that the one constant theme associated with the Democratic Party has been that they “have insisted that the economy should benefit the ordinary working person, whether farmer or wage-earner, and that the government should institute policies to make that possible – and to resist those that do not.” He acknowledges that, in the first iteration of the Party, and for a long time thereafter, the ordinary working person did not include people whose skin was not white, whose gender was not male, and who did not own property. Examples of the Democratic Party’s ideal of supporting the working person include Jackson’s fight against the Second Bank of the United States, Cleveland’s attack on the protective tariff, William Jennings Bryan’s crusade against “money power,” FDR’s assault on “economic royalists” and creation of the Social Security program, the Humphrey Hawkins full-employment Act of 1978, and Obamacare.

Two of the leaders of the early national Democratic Party were associated with Maryland: Roger Brooke Taney and Francis Preston Blair, Sr. Taney was born in Calvert County but lived for about twenty years in Frederick County. He was a strong supporter of the Democratic Party from its beginnings. He served as Attorney General, Secretary of War, and Secretary of the Treasury under President Jackson, and was appointed

as chief justice of the Supreme Court by Jackson in 1835 to succeed John Marshall. He served as chief justice for 36 years. Enough has already been said about his infamous Dred Scott decision. Blair, born in Abington, Virginia, but growing up in Kentucky, became an early supporter of Jackson and the Democratic Party, was an influential newspaper publisher, built Blair House (across Lafayette Park from the White House), and purchased nearly a thousand acres of land in Maryland on which he built an estate, which he named Silver Spring. Blair was the great-great-grandfather of Governor Blair Lee III, who served as Maryland’s Acting Governor from 1977 to 1979.

The Democratic Party has, for a long time, been burdened by the legacy of the Civil War, the segregationist Democratic South (called “the Solid South”). The modern Democratic Party traces its beginnings to Frank Delano Roosevelt and the New Deal. FDR was able to gain the trust of many African American voters because of his programs that helped the working man, but he was never able to fully advocate for equality because the “Solid South” remained an important element of the Roosevelt Coalition. The advent of the Civil Rights movement, the passage of Civil Rights legislation with the support of Lyndon Baines Johnson, and Richard Nixon’s “Southern Strategy” freed the Democratic Party from its reliance on the “Solid South” for electoral victory.

Today, there is a great contrast between the Democratic Party and the Republican Party. That has not always been the case. One of the books that most influenced me when I was a young man formulating my political views was James MacGregor Burns’ “The Deadlock of Democracy: Four Party Politics in America,” published in 1963. Burns broke down the two-party system into Congressional Democrats, Congressional Republicans,

Presidential Democrats, and Presidential Republicans. He described how a coalition of conservatives in both parties made it difficult for legislation to pass Congress. Since that book was written, the two parties have become much more polarized, leaving very few liberal Republicans and few conservative Democrats. Today’s Republican Party bears little resemblance to the Republican Party of yore, as it has simply become Trump’s party. According to former Republican operative Stuart Stevens, the Republican Party has been transformed into “an autocratic movement” living in “an alternative reality, one of their own makings.”

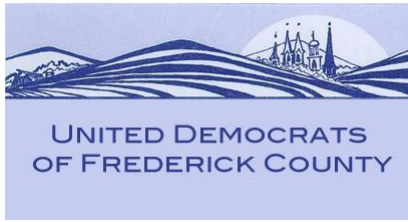
Future columns will explore how Maryland and Frederick Democrats functioned in the first half of the Twentieth Century when the burden of segregation still existed, and eventually will detail how, in the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s, the local and state Democratic Parties evolved to become the representative entities that they are today.



## 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.



**UNITED DEMOCRATS OF FREDERICK COUNTY**

Dear United Democrats and Friends,

We held our May meeting at the Tuscarora Creek Community Clubhouse on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our special guest was our 6<sup>th</sup> District Congresswoman, April McClain Delaney. She discussed the many challenges facing Congress at this time. Specifically, she mentioned supporting the Farm Bill, which determines Federal policy in agriculture and nutrition. As a member serving on the House Committee on Agriculture, she focuses on supporting the 6<sup>th</sup> District's Agriculture interests. She also talked about the ongoing fight against the Detention Center in Washington County, and said she is working daily to fund and support the TSA, Coast Guard, and Border Patrol- and making changes to the ICE budget. The meeting was well attended, and the delicious snacks were enjoyed!

On Monday, April 6th, UDFC will host a meeting at the C. Burr Artz Library Community room from 6:00 to 8:30. Doors open at 6:00 PM This will be a "Double Forum", hosting the 3 candidates for Frederick County Sheriff: Jason Ciemielewski, Tony Lawson, and Karl Bickel as well as the two Democratic candidates running in the District 3 County Council race: Natasha Valencia and Christian Benford. Each set of candidates will be given time to introduce themselves and to make concluding remarks, and will be asked to respond to 4-5 questions prepared ahead of time. Candidates will be given the topics, but not the questions themselves, beforehand. There will be no questions

from the audience. Light refreshments will be served.

Looking forward to having you join us, and to meet with and support these candidates!

- Maureen Grayzeck  
President, UDFC



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

The good news is we are SUPER busy this primary season. Democrats are running in every race except 1. And we have a great shot at turning several races from red to blue. The WDL is hosting several events between now and the primary; **everyone is welcome to attend.** Make sure to check our website for updates on all upcoming events at [WDLFrederick.org](http://WDLFrederick.org) or email us at [WDLFrederick@gmail.com](mailto:WDLFrederick@gmail.com).

**Please note the meeting locations, as they are all different.**

**April 20th - Wrap up of 2026 Maryland General Assembly Session with Delegate Karen Simpson**

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Physical location TBD - remote access is available via Google Meets

**May 18th - Frederick County Council District 1 Candidate Forum**

Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; the forum is 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. Middletown Library, 31 E. Green Street, Middletown, MD 21769

**May 21st - rescheduled MD Comptroller Brooke Lierman Meet and Greet**

Program runs from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Artinspiration - 915 Toll House Rd, Frederick, MD 21701

**SAVE the DATE**  
**May 30th - MGA Legislative District 4 House of Delegates Candidate Forum**  
Time & Location: TBD



**SOUTH FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATS**

The monthly meeting of the South Frederick County Democratic Club (South County Dems) will be held via Zoom on April 18, 9:30-11:00 AM. The Club has assembled a panel of experts to speak about free and fair elections, especially important as the 2026 primaries and mid-term elections approach. We are honored to welcome Ms. Stephanie Thomas, Secretary of the State of Connecticut. In addition to overseeing elections in

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Connecticut, Ms. Thomas is Vice Chair of the Democratic Association of Secretaries of State. She will provide a national strategic overview of the Democratic Party's approach to meet election challenges, including voter suppression efforts. Ms. Lauren Kunis, CEO and Executive Director of VoteRiders, will speak about her organization's nationwide, on-the-ground programs for voter identification (ID) education and assistance to ensure that no eligible voter is prevented from casting a ballot due to ID issues or voter confusion. Ms. Barbara Wagner, Director, Frederick County Board of Elections, will discuss the conduct of elections in our County and measures in place to ensure free and fair elections. If attending, you need to register via e-mail to Gary Bauleke, Program Committee Chair, at [gdbauleke@comcast.net](mailto:gdbauleke@comcast.net). Use the subject "RSVP for 4/18 meeting." The Club's Program Committee will provide the Zoom link via e-mail to registered participants 1-3 days before the Zoom session. For questions, please contact South County Dems President, Melanie Galloway, [danmelgalloway@verizon.net](mailto:danmelgalloway@verizon.net). We look forward to you joining us for this timely and informative session. We look forward to you joining us.



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>



**Shuan Butcher, Candidate for Judge of the Orphan's Court**

Dear United Democrats and Friends

For those that don't know me, allow me to introduce myself. Service has been a central part of who I am. After high school, I enlisted in the Army National Guard. While in college, I took a break to complete two years of National Service as an Americorps VISTA volunteer. That guided me to a career in the nonprofit sector and the desire to work towards improving my community and being involved with something bigger than myself. I now have more than 25 years of management and leadership experience in the nonprofit sector, focusing on causes ranging from low income housing and positive youth development to arts and heritage tourism.

As an extension of that service, I filed as a candidate for Judge of the Orphans' Court in Frederick County this year. I have an understanding and respect for the law, and I will bring compassion and integrity to this role if I am elected. I have been involved with a number of local nonprofit organizations, serving on various boards of directors and as an active volunteer. I've previously been appointed by the mayor of Frederick and the county executive for city and county commissions as well.

I ask for your support and your vote. If you have questions or want to chat, feel free to reach out to me. Email me at [electshuanbutcher@gmail.com](mailto:electshuanbutcher@gmail.com). And follow my campaign on Facebook at Shuan Butcher for Frederick. I'd love to hear your ideas and from you directly!

Sincerely,  
Shuan Butcher



**Eric Smothers, Candidate for Frederick County Council, District 1**

My name is Eric Smothers, I am a lifelong resident of Frederick County living in the Brunswick/ Knoxville areas. I am running for the Frederick County Council because I want to have a say in how our county grows. I have watched Frederick County grow through the years from many facets. I want to help our rural communities, towns and villages navigate the change in growth. I want to attract business to help keep our workers closer to home. And try to reduce the traffic on our roadways by improving our local transportation needs. Find a way to help reduce our property taxes by attracting businesses to be a part of our landscape.

I am currently a Brunswick City Councilman elected two years ago. I worked as a previous Brunswick City Police Officer, Frederick County Sheriff's Deputy, and recently retired from the Maryland State Police. where I served in the Aviation Command as a flight paramedic for 37 years. In addition, I am the President of the Brunswick Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Company and an Assistant Chief. I was the Past President of the Maryland State Firefighters Association, representing over 360 volunteer fire and rescue departments across Maryland. I am a Vice President with our Frederick County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association and previous Past President. I set on our State Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (SEMSAC) and am the past Chairman, Previous member of our State Emergency Medical Advisory Board (EMS Board). Current member of our Maryland State Fire Commission, member of the Maryland Municipal League and sat on various committees, and a Forensic

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Medical Investigator for the State of Maryland.

I support a New Brunswick senior center as well as community center. As the new development Vista Point continues to be worked on. I will work alongside of Brunswick’s leadership and the county to find funds to make sure we can provide for both of these entities. I will work with developers to make sure that they can set aside land for this to happen. I will work with our seniors and listen to their needs to make sure that we have programs that help and benefit them within their own neighborhoods.

Affordable housing is a big issue not only in our district but across the county. Affordable means we have to find a way that includes mixed-use housing. If we think outside of the box and have a conversation with developers, we can possibly reduce the size of some of these larger homes. We have a lot of people who are looking to live in smaller single-family dwellings, duplex houses, and or townhomes that are and can be affordable.

The data centers are big issue during this year’s election. I think there is a lot of misinformation surrounding the builds for data centers. And no one wants them in their backyards. Yet we use data every single day when on our phone or computer, ordering online, etc. We must be responsive to the citizens’ needs when it comes to the areas surrounding where we would build them. The citizens don’t feel that they are being heard. I am willing to listen and do my best to address any of their concerns. The county has written some very strong legislation as to where they can be located. The benefit of the data center is the revenue stream that could offset your county taxes. The proposed date center in Adamstown generates 100 to 200 million in revenue for the county. We can allocate funding for our schools, senior centers, park and recreational activities, police, and fire services. Eastalco is a huge industrial site with the infrastructure to support the data center. I am in favor of them if the infrastructure and utility needs can be

met. Environmental concerns are addressed and significant buffers for the surrounding communities are considered.




**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)

THE FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Annual Dinner & Awards



MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026  
6 PM SOCIAL HOUR | 7:15 PM DINNER | 8 PM PROGRAM  
DUTCH'S DAUGHTER  
581 Himes Avenue, Frederick

Special Guest  
**MALCOLM KENYATTA**

DNC VICE CHAIR AND PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE



TICKETS  
\$95 PP | \$85 PP FOR CLUB BLUE MEMBERS  
\$65 PP FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (AGES 18-40)

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE  
SEE [HTTPS://SECURE.ACTBLUE.COM/DONATE/FCDP-DINNER-2026](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-dinner-2026)

PLEASE MAKE THE CHECK PAYABLE TO FCDCC. MAIL TO:  
FCDCC | PO BOX 793 | FREDERICK, MD 21705  
PLEASE WRITE "DINNER 2026" ON CHECK'S MEMO LINE

OR PAY ONLINE  
[HTTPS://SECURE.ACTBLUE.COM/DONATE/FCDP-DINNER-2026](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-dinner-2026)

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

Join us at our Annual Dinner & Awards! Tickets, ads, and sponsorships may be paid online [here](https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-dinner-2026).

Join us at our Sine Die Reception!

SINE DIE RECEPTION

Monday, April 13, 2026  
6:30 PM to 8:00 PM

Red Red Wine Bar  
189 B Main Street, Annapolis, MD

Celebrate the end of the 2026 Maryland General Assembly session with us! Come hang out, connect with Democratic officials, advocates, community leaders, neighbors, and changemakers—and get energized for the upcoming Democratic Primary season.

Music \* Networking \* Connections \* Good Vibes

Hors d'oeuvres will be served while they last. Beverages and additional food will be available for purchase.

Street Parking and nearby garages are available.

Come when you can. Leave when you must!

Hosted By:



Authority: BCDSCC, Joe DiSeta, Treasurer; Authority: BCDC, Shannon Sheets, Treasurer; Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer; Authority: MCDCC, Ed Fischman, Treasurer; Authority: PGDC, Sameano Bond, Treasurer

THE FREDERICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Annual Dinner



MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026  
SOCIAL HOUR | DINNER | PROGRAM & AWARDS  
DUTCH'S DAUGHTER  
TICKETS - \$95 PP | \$85 FOR CLUB BLUE MEMBERS  
\$65 FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (AGES 18-40)

Sponsorship Opportunities

COCKTAIL SPONSOR - \$2000  
10 Tickets (Full Table) | Full-Page Ad | Event & Social Media Recognition, Sign Placement in Ballroom During Cocktail Social, & Two-Minute Welcome Remarks

GOLD SPONSOR - \$1000  
10 Tickets (Full Table) | Full-Page Ad | Event & Social Media Recognition

SILVER SPONSOR - \$700  
5 Tickets (1/2 Table) | Full-Page Ad | Event & Social Media Recognition

BRONZE SPONSOR - \$400  
2 Tickets | Full-Page Ad | Event & Social Media Recognition

FULL-PAGE AD - \$150  
SIZE: 5 1/2 X 8 1/2  
Please email all ads to Deb Reynolds at [dndreynolds@verizon.net](mailto:dndreynolds@verizon.net). Submit by Monday, April 13.

PATRONS - \$35  
Your name will be listed on a patrons' page in the program book.

SPONSORSHIP AND AD PAYMENTS  
PAY online: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/fcdp-dinner-2026>, or make a check payable to FCDCC. Please write "Dinner 2026" on check's memo line. Mail to:  
FCDCC | PO Box 793 | Frederick, MD 21705

By Authority: FCDCC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

You Are Cordially Invited to



Before the Ballot

Two Forums - One Evening!

A Forum for Democratic Candidates for County Council District 3 and Democratic Candidates for Frederick Co. Sheriff

Confirmed participating candidates:

Council District 3: Christian Benford, Natasha Valencia  
Sheriff: Karl Bickel, Jason Ciemielewski, Tony Lawson

Monday, April 6, 2026

Doors open at 6 PM ~ Forums 6:30-8:30 PM

C. Burr Artz Library Community Room, 110 E Patrick St., Frederick

Free & Open to the Public

Event Organized & Led by: United Democrats of Frederick County (UDFC)

Council District 3 forum begins at 6:30 PM.

Upon conclusion and after a brief break, the Democratic Sheriff candidates forum will begin.

Special Accommodations: Individuals requiring the services of an ASL interpreter should contact Frederick County Democrats at 240.288.1148 or [info@frederickdemocrats.org](mailto:info@frederickdemocrats.org) no later than April 1. We will do our best to secure services, but cannot guarantee it.

The C. Burr Artz Library does not endorse the views of the program sponsors or promoters.

Co-hosted by



The Frederick County Democratic Central Committee (FCDCC) and local Democratic clubs do not endorse candidates in a contested primary.

By Authority: UDFC, McCamie Patterson, Treasurer

April 2026 At-a-Glance



**United Dems of Frederick Co. (UDFC) Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m.**

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

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

**Tuesday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

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

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

**Saturday, April 11 at 10:00 a.m.**

Thurmont Senior Center, 806 E. Main Street, Thurmont  
(Please bring a non-perishable item for the area food bank.)

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

**Saturday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m.**

Bar-T Mountainside, 2914 Roderick Road, Frederick.  
Meet in Upper Barn

**Candidate Meet & Greet**

**Saturday, April 18 at 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.**

Urbana Library, 9020 Amelung Street, Frederick, MD 21704,  
(Featuring Democratic candidates who will appear  
on the June 23 primary in County Council District 2.  
Candidate participation is as available.)

**Women’s Democratic League of Frederick County  
Monthly Meeting**

**Monday, April 20 at 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

TBD – Remote Access will be available via Google Meets

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

**Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m.**

Democratic HQ, 8 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Frederick

**Frederick County Democratic Party Annual Dinner & Awards**

**Monday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m.**

Dutch’s Daughter, 581 Himes Avenue, Frederick



and

**Frederick County Democrats**

**Like us on Facebook**



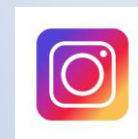
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**Check us out on YouTube too!**



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



**DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES FOR THE 2026 COUNTY/STATE PRIMARY ELECTIONS**

**STATE**

**GOVERNOR/LT. GOVERNOR**

Wes Moore, Aruna Miller  
Eric S. Felber, LaTrece Hawkins Lyte  
Ralph Jaffe, Donald Palmore

**COMPTROLLER**

Brooke Elizabeth Lierman

**MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL**

Anthony Brown

**REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS – DISTRICT 6**

April McClain Delaney  
George Gluck  
Alexis Goldstein  
Daniel Krakower  
David J. Trone  
Ethan P. Wechtaluk  
Kiambo “Bo” White  
A. Mark Wilks

**STATE SENATOR - LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 2**

Eric Martin Van Buren

**STATE SENATOR – LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 3**

Karen Lewis Young

**STATE SENATOR - LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 4**

Lara Westdorp

**STATE SENATOR – LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 5**

Gary Foote

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 2A**

Aamina Hutchison  
John D. Leonard  
Brandon Thompson

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 3**

Kris Fair  
Ken Kerr  
Karen Simpson

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 4**

Jerry Donald  
Andrew Duck  
Alleria Stanley  
Paul Gilligan

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES – DISTRICT 5**

Dayana Bergman  
Alison Rudolph  
Courtney Alexa Welch

**COUNTY**

**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

Jessica Fitzwater

**COUNTY COUNCIL AT LARGE**

Renee Knapp  
Brad Young  
Tiffany Grant  
Sam Newhouse

**COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 1**

Jenn Alcorn  
Louisa Conklin  
Eric Smothers

**COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 2**

Shelly Beaird-Francois  
Jamie Shopland

**COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 3**

Christian Benford  
Natasha Valencia

**COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 4**

Kavonte Duckett

**COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT 5**

Johnny Mercer

**CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT**

Megan LeRoux

**REGISTER OF WILLS**

Chris Manners

**JUDGE OF THE ORPHAN’S COURT**

Lois Jarmon

**SHERIFF**

Karl Bickel  
Jason Cabel Ciemielewski  
Tony Lawson

**CURRENT FILED CANDIDATES FOR  
DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE  
IN 2026**

Andrew Burgoyne  
Deborah Carter  
Patricia Clements  
Stephen A. Duckett  
Taylor D. Elder  
Milton Hallin  
Bassant Kadry  
Mari Lee  
William White Tison Pugh  
Deborah Reynolds  
David Schmidt  
Jessica Tuel

**CURRENT FILED CANDIDATES  
REGISTERED AS DEMOCRATS FOR THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION IN 2026**

Chloe Celeste  
Casey Day  
Jessica Douglass  
Nathan Foltz  
Rae Gallenger  
David Migdal  
Dean Rose  
Chad King Wilson, Sr.

Click [here](#) to view a current list of all candidates, regardless of affiliation, for all offices on the general election ballot in November 2026, as outlined on the Maryland State Board of Elections' website

**MEET & GREET DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES  
FOR VOTERS IN COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT 2**

SATURDAY, APRIL 18  
NOON - 1:30 PM

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9020 AMELUNG ST, FREDERICK



Talk with Democratic candidates on the June 23 primary election ballot in County Council District 2.

Come when you can, leave when you must.

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By Authority: FCDCC, McCanis Patterson, Treasurer

A LOOK BACK AT FREDERICK DEMS IN THE COMMUNITY IN MARCH 2026



# DEMOCRATIC PARTY



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# DEMOCRATIC PARTY

