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WDC Newsletter – December 16, 2022



From the President

Welcome to the other side of election season!

tradition of Democratic values--and democracy. Here's to many more.

Amid all the tangled news about our Supreme Court, Ukraine, Covid, and climate change, I try to remember the serenity prayer: to change the things I can, to accept the things I cannot, and to be granted the wisdom to know the difference: We don't all have to do everything, but we all need to do something.



In deciding what your own "something" is for 2023, I invite you to use the WDC community as a point of leverage to engage and make change. Whether direct advocacy with our state and county officials, or collaborating with sister-organizations, or helping out on WDC events large or small, or helping us network with communities, we aim to lift up each other's voices and advance our shared goals.

We're excited to be returning to more in-person events like Happy Hour with a Purpose, Community Education panels, and our signature speaker events. First up: The exciting return of Chuck Rosenberg on "Investigations of the Former President" on January 26.

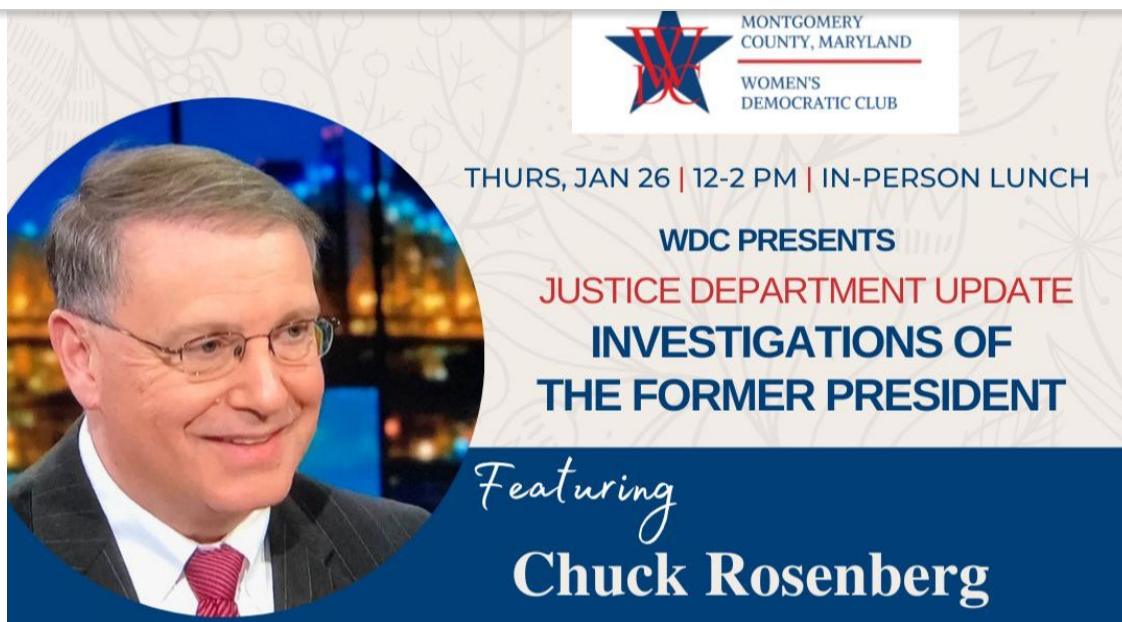
There is work to be done, and it is worth doing. Join us!

In the spirit of the season, and in the spirit of hope,

Diana

Diana Conway
WDC President

Upcoming WDC Events



WDC In-Person Luncheon with Guest Speaker Chuck Rosenberg

When: Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023, 12-2 p.m.

Where: [The Universities of Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Dr., Rockville, MD, Building 2, Conference Center](#)

Admission

- Free - First 40 Students
- \$35.00 - WDC Member
- \$40.00 - Non-WDC Member

RSVP [here](#).

Legal commentator Chuck Rosenberg will be WDC's first in-person speaker since the onset of COVID. Mr. Rosenberg last spoke to the Club on April 18, 2019, the day of the release of the Mueller Report on the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 Presidential election. He will share his views on ways the activities of the U.S. Department of Justice have impacted democratic governance in the years since.

Save the Date!

WDC IN CONVERSATION WITH



Leading Foreign Policy Expert on Russia,
the Former Soviet Union, and Europe

Dr. Fiona Hill

Save the Date!
Friday, February 3, 2023, 12:30-1:45 p.m.
Details to come.

Advocacy Corner

by JoAnne Koravos
Advocacy Committee Chair

'TIS THE SEASON!

Yes, we have some holidays coming up, but in less than a month Maryland will be convening the 445th session of the General Assembly of Maryland (MGA). Seems like just yesterday we were tracking the Governor's vetoes of important bills that passed both chambers by SINE DIE in April 2022. But WDC's Advocacy Committee continues to be strong, connected, and determined to advocate for our members, specifically in these seven issue areas. Here are our subcommittees with the chairs who will lead the charge:



Affordable Housing – Janet Frank, Chair

Aging – Liza Smith, Chair

Children & Youth – JoAnne Koravos, Chair; Cynthia Rubenstein, Co-Chair

Criminal Justice Reform – Carol Cichowski, Chair

Health – Margaret Hadley, Chair

Immigration – Fatmata Barrie, Chair

Reproductive Health & Justice – Ginger Macomber, Chair

Over the next month, we will be reaching out to lawmakers and advocacy groups to identify new bills being drafted and those bills taken up last session that will be re-introduced. According to MGA legislative services, from 2016 through 2020, the number of bills introduced per session has averaged 1,153 in the Senate and 1,642 in the House of

early as possible. A bill filed with the Secretary of the Senate or the Chief Clerk of the House prior to the first day of a regular session is called a **prefiled** bill. Such a bill is introduced (i.e., read across the floor) and assigned to a standing committee on the opening day of a session, thus obtaining a head-start advantage. The statutory deadline for members of the General Assembly to approve drafted bills for prefile introduction is Dec. 10, 2022. Prefiled bills aren't available until they are assigned bill numbers and posted online, usually at the end of December.

[Click here](#) to read WDC's 2023 Advocacy Priorities document that has been submitted to the Montgomery County Delegation and will be provided to the state senate and house leadership when the new session convenes on January 11, 2023.

Montgomery County State Delegation Leadership Selected – We Approve!

The Montgomery County House Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly elected Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr (D-17) as its new Chair and Delegate Emily Shetty (D-18) as its new Vice Chair at the Delegation's post-election organizational meeting Thursday evening. The Montgomery County Democratic Caucus also elected Delegates Lily Qi (D-15) and Vaughn Stewart (D-19) as Co-Chairs.

[Click here](#) for the full press release.

[Click here](#) for a full list and contact info of our delegation members.

In the News

Committee for Montgomery 33rd Annual Legislative Breakfast



From left to right: WDC members Barbara Ebel, Tazeen Ahmad, Mary Lou Fox, Diana Conway, Lisa Fuller, Laura Stewart, Liza Smith, Lynn Olson

WDC was well represented by board members and invited guests, among the 700 attendees at the [33rd Committee for Montgomery Legislative Breakfast](#). It was a busy scene of networking and reconnecting, in post-covid overdrive.

Senator Chris Van Hollen started us off with remarks about the Senate's work –from passing the Defense Authorization Act to passing the Respect Marriage Act. He was followed by a rousing video address from Governor-elect Wes Moore (under Covid watch) who addressed transportation and other issues that will differentiate him from his predecessor. He was followed by our new County Council President Evan Glass on his vision for the Council's agenda.

Next, attendees heard from a panel featuring County Executive Marc Elrich, State Senator and Chair of the County Senate Delegation Ben Kramer (D-19), State Delegate and Chair of the County House Delegation Julie Palakovich Carr (D-17), Council Vice President Andrew Friedson (Dist. 1), and Eric Luedtke, the new Chief Legislative Affairs Officer for Governor-elect Moore and former state delegate (D-14). Mr. Luedtke was filling in for Lt-Governor-elect Aruna Miller who was sidelined by Covid.

The panel's conversation was wide-ranging and included positioning the county to attract more bio-tech businesses, securing state and federal dollars for transportation infrastructure, rolling out the legalization of cannabis with an eye to fairly awarding licenses and ensuring workplace safety. WDC thanks the Committee for Montgomery for its work organizing these events. We urge our readers to attend next year's breakfast.



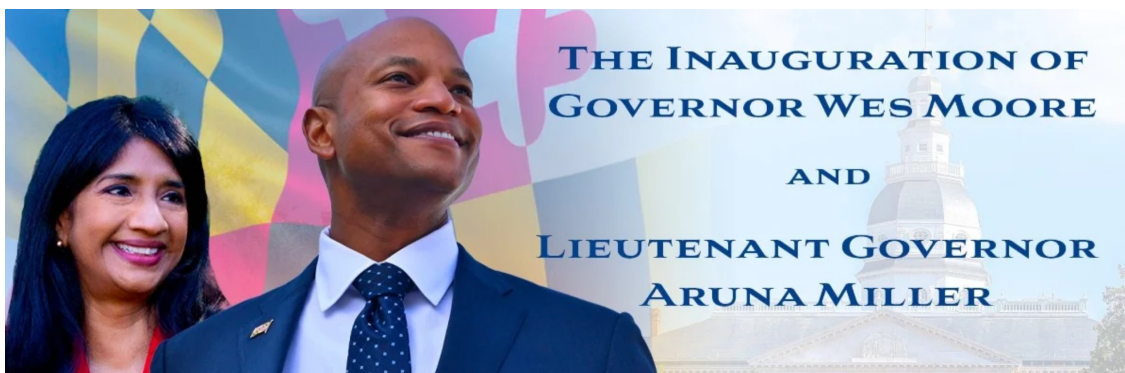
District 14 Delegate Vacancy
Apply by 5 pm, Friday, December 16, 2022

Public Forum
7:30 pm, Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Support Letters Submission Deadline
5 pm, Thursday, December 29, 2022

MCDCC Special Meeting
7:30 pm, Tuesday, January 3, 2023

See the Notice of Pending Vacancy for District 14 Delegate [here](#).



Swearing-In Ceremony of Governor-elect Wes Moore and Lt. Governor-elect Aruna Miller

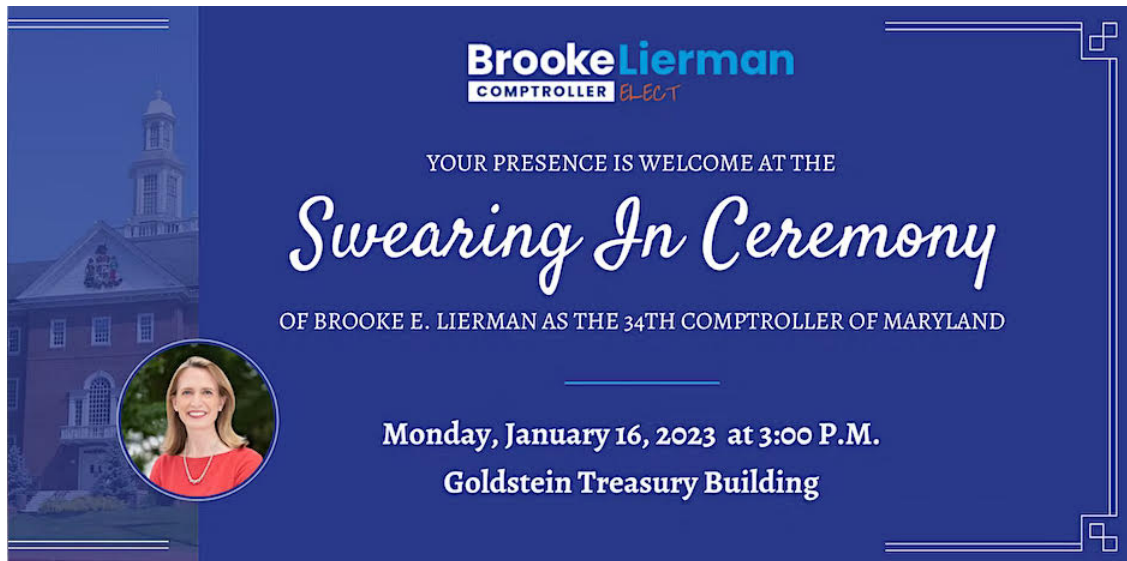
Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 12 p.m.

Maryland State Capitol
100 State Circle

Free and open to the public. No advance registration required.

Outdoor event; please dress appropriately for winter weather.

Free round-trip bus service from across Maryland available. Please register [here](#).



Swearing-In Ceremony of Comptroller-Elect Brooke E. Lierman

Monday, January 16, 2023, 3 p.m.

Goldstein Treasury Building

80 Calvert St.

Annapolis, MD 21401

Family-friendly, free, and open to the public.

Please RSVP [here](#).

Inauguration Day



(Photo: courtesy Lynn Olson)

From left to right: Kate Stewart (Dist. 4), Laurie-Anne Sayles (At-Large), Kristin Mink, (Dist. 5), Dawn Luedtke (Dist. 7), Sidney Katz (Dist. 3), Will Jawando (At-Large), Andrew Friedson (Dist. 1), Natali Fani-González (Dist. 6), Marilyn Balcome (Dist. 2) and Evan Glass (At-Large). Not pictured: Gabe Albornoz (At-Large).

The inauguration of Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich and the newly expanded Council took place on Monday, Dec. 5, at the Music Center at Strathmore. Among the hundreds attending, WDC was well-represented.

Councilmember At-Large Evan Glass will serve as President and District 1 Councilmember Andrew Friedson will be Vice President. You can find the newly installed Council [here](#).

WDC looks forward to working with both the Council and the County Executive in the years to come.

New Faces Representing Us in Annapolis

WDC is pleased to welcome three new, additional state legislators to represent our county. The 2022 redistricting map placed part of Montgomery County into District 9A. As a result, our county delegation now includes three new Democrats: Senator Katie Fry Hester, and Delegates Chao Wu and Natalie Ziegler. You can see our full county delegation of 26 delegates and nine senators [here](#).

Our state legislative session is brief: January 11 to April 10, 2023. Our county legislators have already held two nights of hearings on local bills—affecting only the county. Check out the bills and watch the hearings [here](#).

WDC Directory

is published, any current member can obtain one free copy at WDC in-person events.

It's never too late to join WDC and stay involved in local and state policy and politics. When you join or renew your membership, remember to check the box to receive our **Advocacy Alerts!** Advocacy alerts keep our grassroots membership informed and help make our voices heard in Annapolis!

WDC Membership

Please Renew Your WDC Membership Today!

Our new membership year began October 1, 2022. If you haven't already done so, renew online [here](#). You may also mail your \$35.00 annual dues (\$25 for members 35 years old or younger) payable to "WDC" and mail to: WDC, PO Box 34047, Bethesda, MD 20827.

By renewing your membership, you are joining other Democratic women and men to achieve the following three goals:

Strengthening our county and our state by advocating for progressive democratic policy objectives; keeping Democrats informed through our luncheon/dinner speakers and our education and training programs; and building alliances with other Democratic clubs, issue-oriented coalitions, and political groups.

Strengthening our party by intensifying the work WDC has always done to elect and support Democratic candidates and increase voter involvement, with a new emphasis on strengthening our Party at the county and state levels.

Strengthening our club by connecting to our work, joining committees, and attending the high-quality events for which WDC has been known for more than 60 years.

Make a Difference—Volunteer with WDC!

WDC is looking forward to expanding its scope and has several open positions within our committees and on our board:

- Membership Co-Chair
- Community Education Co-Chair
- Finance Committee Member

-
- Advocacy Committee Chair, Co-Chair, or Member

Interested? To learn more, please contact [Diana Conway](#).

Are you friendly, persuasive, and interested in helping WDC build up our active membership? If yes, please join our Membership and Outreach Committee! In particular, we are looking to recruit assistance/expertise in the following areas:

- Membership follow-up/outreach to WDC members—reaching out via phone calls, texts, or emails
- Membership outreach to non-WDC members who have attended WDC events
- Technical Assistance with data reports. We will teach you how to use our MyWDC database.
- Assistance with locating venues/logistics for live happy hours once they resume

To learn more please contact [Enid Light](#).

Do You Enjoy Using Software?

If you would like to join our WDC team, please volunteer to help us. You can learn one or more of our software or social media tools and have a real impact.
Contact [Mary Lou Fox](#).

Corrections

We apologize for the misspelling of Del. Eric Luedtke and Del. Marc Korman in our last issue.

WDC Resources

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Join Our Members Only
Facebook Group](#)

[YouTube
Speakers & Events](#)

Contact us [here](#).

WDC has gone **GREEN** by using electronic communications.

Please continue to receive WDC event notices and news and do not unsubscribe.

Replies to this update will be sent to
wdc@womensdemocraticclub.org

DONATE to WDC

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