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WDC Newsletter – September 18, 2023

President's Message

Thank you to all the WDC members who joined us for our Fall 2023 Membership Kickoff on September 10th. It was so good to connect with fellow Democrats and hear from a great lineup of speakers, including Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party Yvette Lewis, MD Senator Will Smith, County Executive Marc Elrich, County Council President Evan Glass, and Feminist Majority President Eleanor Smeal. Speakers took the opportunity to reflect on past successes, challenges ahead, and aspirations for the upcoming session and the 2024 elections.



Special thanks to our planning committee, Enid Light, Lavontte Gardner, JoAnne Koravos, Lisa Fuller, and Diana Conway for their leadership in organizing the event and to all the WDC members who volunteered to help.

Next up on our calendar is a very timely and important virtual panel discussion titled **“Mobilize Maryland – Unpacking Latinx/a/o Voting Trends,”** moderated by our very own Gloria Aparicio. We have two great panelists – [Ruy Teixeira](#), Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, who has written extensively about Latinx voting trends, and [Mark Hugo Lopez](#), Director, Race & Ethnicity at the Pew Research Center.

Well, according to the Census, a little over half of the total growth in the overall U.S. population was a result of the increase in the Hispanic population, which reached 62.1 million, or 18.7 percent of the total in 2020, compared to 16.4 percent in 2010 and 12.6 percent in 2000. In 2022, an estimated 34.5 million Hispanic Americans were eligible to vote, making Latinos the fastest-growing racial and ethnic group in the U.S. electorate.

Clearly, this is no time for complacency. Democrats must do better at engaging and embracing Latino voters. So, what better way to start than to join us to hear from and pose your questions to these two experts in the field? [Register Now](#).

I wrote about our upcoming **WDC GOTV Dem Rally** in our last newsletter but want to highlight again the importance of this effort. The rally, featuring an exciting lineup of top statewide speakers, will be followed by a canvass launch into Virginia led by DoTheMostGood.

We need boots on the ground in Virginia to help Democrats win back control of the Virginia House and help them hold the Senate. Currently, it is only the slim control by Democrats in the Virginia State Senate that is protecting access to reproductive healthcare in Virginia, helping fend off manipulation of school curricula, and fighting back against book bans.

Losing ground in Virginia could also lead to a rollback of voting rights, with restrictions on early voting, mail ballots, and voter registration. Furthermore, a Republican trifecta would open the door to other **regressive legislation, on everything from worker's rights, LGBTQ rights, environmental protections, criminal justice,** and so much more. Time is of the essence, and the stakes couldn't be higher!

Our October 8 GOTV Dem Rally now has more than 20 organizations co-sponsoring the event, including the **Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, Prince George's Democratic Central Committee, all the MD Democratic Party Diversity Leadership Councils**, and many county-based Democratic clubs. A full list of co-sponsors is on our flyer and will be available on our website. Whether you will join us representing WDC or one of the co-sponsor organizations, the goal will be the same – We need to win back Virginia! [Registration is open now](#). Please share this information widely with your networks.

Finally, **WDC will be hosting Jill Wine-Banks**, one of the prosecutors during the Watergate scandal and the first woman to serve as US General Counsel of the Army, at an in-person event on October 19th at Imagination Stage. Jill is currently an MSNBC Legal Analyst, appearing regularly on primetime and daytime shows, and is one of the hosts for the outstanding [#SistersInLaw podcast](#). More details to follow.

Until next time...

Tazeen Ahmad
President

WDC Event

Members Only Fall Kickoff

On Sunday, September 10, 2023, the WDC held its annual Members Only Fall Kickoff. It was a huge success! More than 130 friends, family, and elected officials enjoyed coming together for the camaraderie and the delicious food and drink after the summer break.

It was a wonderful opportunity to reunite and reignite our support for the WDC and democratic values. WDC President Tazeen Ahmad hosted the event with the help of her beautiful family. Five speakers provided us with their educated perspectives on relevant current issues. Yvette Lewis, Chair of the Maryland Democratic Party, started us off with a persuasive, enthusiastic rallying speech. Maryland State Senator Will Smith (D20), Chair of the Judicial Proceedings Committee, provided information about important legislation in the last session and the upcoming 2024 session. Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich supplied significant new county details, and Evan Glass, president of the Montgomery County Council, spoke about the Council's priorities. The final speech was an emotional request from Eleanor Smeal, president of the Feminist Majority Foundation, to help get the last five votes needed from the members of the House of Representatives to make the Equal Rights Amendment a part of the Constitution. Each speaker spoke with passion about what lies ahead, igniting a lot of loud, sustained applause from the crowd.



Pictures from the Kickoff can be found [HERE](#).



WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mobilize Maryland

Unpacking Latinx/a/o Voting Trends Panel Discussion



**GLORIA
APARICIO
BLACKWELL**
MODERATOR
Co-Chair
WDC Community
Education



**RUY
TEIXEIRA**
PANELIST
Senior Fellow
American
Enterprise
Institute



**MARK HUGO
LOPEZ**
PANELIST
Director, Race &
Ethnicity Institute
Pew Research
Center

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21 | 6:30 PM | via ZOOM

REGISTER NOW

bit.ly/LatinoVotes



Save the Date!



MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, MARYLAND

WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB

The WDC
invites you to a
**Get Out the Vote
(GOTV)
DEM RALLY**

**Glen Echo Park
Spanish Ballroom**

**Sunday, October 8, 2023
at 11:00 a.m.**

RSVP: bit.ly/WDCgotv

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **CO-SPONSORS** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee
Do The Most Good
J Walkers

Association of Black Democrats of Montgomery County
Latino Democratic Club of Montgomery County
Indivisible Montgomery

Montgomery County Young Democrats
National Panhellenic Council of Montgomery County

D-15 Democratic Caucus

UpCounty Democrats

Germantown Democratic Club

Coalition of Asian Pacific American Democrats of Maryland

Prince George's Democratic Central Committee
Young Democrats of Maryland
D17 Democratic Club

African American Diversity Leadership Council
Continental African Diversity Leadership Council
Latino Diversity Leadership Council

LGBTQ Diversity Leadership Council

AAPI Diversity Leadership Council

People with Disabilities Diversity Leadership Council

Senior Diversity Leadership Council

Veterans Diversity Leadership Council

Women Diversity Leadership Council



**MONTGOMERY
COUNTY, MARYLAND**
**WOMEN'S
DEMOCRATIC CLUB**

presents



JILL WINE-BANKS

MSNBC Legal Analyst
Cohost of the podcast #SistersInLaw
Author of her memoir, The Watergate Girl
Assistant Watergate Special Prosecutor

THURSDAY, OCT. 19 | 6:30 PM | IN PERSON



COMMUNITY CONVERSATION: **Maryland Parole**

WHO: Justice Policy Institute, the Women's Democratic Club of Montgomery County, and our partners directly impacted by Maryland's parole system.

WHAT: An examination of the first comprehensive report on Maryland parole since 1935 and a conversation with those who have experienced Maryland's parole system.

WHERE: Busboys & Poets - Takoma
235 Carroll St NW
Washington, DC 20012

WHEN: Thursday, November 9, 2023
6:30pm-8:30pm

Food and drinks will be provided



Mary McLeod Bethune

Maryland Parole hasn't been evaluated since I founded the National Council of Negro Women and the federal minimum wage was \$0.25!

Scan to RSVP



Registration is **REQUIRED** for entry

WDC News



New! WDC Environment Subcommittee!

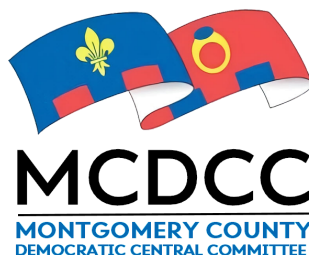
Announcing WDC's newest addition to our Advocacy Committee: The Environment Subcommittee!

The Environment Subcommittee will bring a robust, WDC-style voice to the mix at the state and county levels. Join us in this endeavor, right from the start.

We'll be setting up our first meeting soon—Join us as we sort out issues, identify priorities, and set up our goals for the coming state legislative session. We'll also be looking at county-level opportunities.

Curious? Contact Diana Conway at dianaconway@outlook.com and be sure to put **"WDC Environment Subcommittee"** in the subject line.

Maryland Democratic News & Events



County Democratic Central Committee Seeks Two Student Members

Every year, the MCDCC selects two students to participate in its meetings and activities. Any Montgomery County High School student who is at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen, a Maryland resident, and a registered Democrat may apply. Gender diversity will be considered in the selection process in keeping with MCDCC Bylaws, so student members selected cannot be of the same gender. Nonbinary and agender students are encouraged to apply.

Interested and qualified students may submit a letter of interest and a resume documenting prior volunteer/civic/political or other extracurricular activity. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m., Friday, September 29, 2023, via email to office@mcddcc.org with the subject line:

The vacancies will be filled at the regular public monthly meeting of the MCDCC to be held at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 10, 2023. Candidates will be given an opportunity to speak for up to 3 minutes and answer questions from current committee members.

For more information about this opportunity, please contact Pamela Luckett or Marc Anthony Robles at outreach@mcdcc.org

MD DEMS

ANNUAL BBQ BASH

ALLEN POND PARK



**3330 Northview Dr.
Bowie MD 20716**

**Sunday October 1st
4:00pm - 7:00pm**

Food by
MISSION BBQ®
The American Way. 

Music by
DJ Quicksilva!

Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets!

TICKETS START AT \$40

Contributions or gifts to the Maryland Democratic Party are not tax deductible.
To comply with Federal Law, we must use best efforts to obtain, maintain, and submit the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200.00 in a calendar year. Your contributions will be used in connection with federal elections and is subject to the limitations and prohibitions of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

Paid for by the Maryland Democratic Party, www.mddems.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. By authority of Devang Shah, Treasurer.

Get Your Tickets [HERE!](#)



MCDCC Welcomes Two New Members!

WDC congratulates **Christa Geraci** and **Jovy Lopez**, who were elected by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC) to fill the MCDCC District 9A and At-Large vacancies, respectively.



Christa Geraci (District 9A)



Jovy Lopez (At-Large)

Get Involved to Swing and Keep Elections Blue!

October 8th Day of Action Canvass & Postcard



Here are some other ways you can take action with DTMG:

In-Person Letter Writing (with Zoom option) for Virginia General Assembly Election with DTMG & Vote Forward

Bethesda, MD, Tues. afternoons, 1 – 3 pm

Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17

Rockville, MD, Thurs. afternoons, 2 – 4 pm

Sept. 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19

Virtual Letter Writing for Virginia General Election with DTMG

Join from anywhere Monday evenings, 7 – 8:30 pm

Canvass for the Dems in VA, 10:30 am – 4 pm

Sat., Sept. 23; Sat., Oct. 21

leaves from Kensington

For more information, go to [DotheBestGood.org](https://www.dothebestgood.org).



Write Letters to Virginia Voters

Write letters to encourage Virginia Dems to vote in this fall's election! Hand-written letters

SSPA Phonebank for a Blue Virginia Legislature

Phonebanking is the best way to connect with voters – and get them to the polls to vote for progressive candidates. [Sign up here](#) to learn more.

For information about SSPA and about ways to support Dems going forward, go to [SSPA](#).

EMERGE MARYLAND

Are you a Democratic woman interested in running for office in 2025 or 2026? Now is the time to lay the foundation for your campaign. Applications for the 2024 Emerge Maryland Signature Candidate Training cohort are now open. Apply [HERE!](#)



September 19 is National Voter Registration Day

The Montgomery County Board of Elections (BOE) and Public Libraries want to create broad awareness of voter registration opportunities to reach voters who may not register otherwise and to ensure everyone can vote by the **Tuesday, April 23, 2024**, deadline to register for the Presidential Primary, and the **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**, deadline to register to vote in the 2024 General Election.

19 from 11:30 am to 1 pm.: Marilyn J. Praisner Library, Burtonsville; Olney Library; and Rockville Memorial Library. For information about elections and voting, visit the [Montgomery County Board of Elections website](#).

Other Events



Hon. Lynne Harris, Hon. Jared Solomon, Carole and Nick Brand, Karen Britto, Varuni Dayaratna & Paul Tiao, Eden & Marty Durbin, Geoff Galster & Michelle Russo, Aviva & Andrew Goldfarb, Robin Lombard, Jill Ortman-Fouse, Lisa & Bill Raisner, Laura Stewart, St. John's Episcopal Church
(host committee still in formation)

Invite you to

Taste of Communities United

Food from Around the World!

In-Person Fundraiser for

Youth Creating Change

Featuring

Panel on Fighting Anti-Semitism and Creating a Framework for Battling Intolerance

Hon. Evan Glass, MC Council President

Lisa Taylor, Chair; MC Committee on Hate/Violence

Rabbi Noah Diamondstein, Temple Sinai (invited)

Ach'Sah Gubena, YCC Co-President & Blair HS Senior

Sunday, Oct. 15th at 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Kensington, MD (address provided upon registration)

Register in advance at: bit.ly/CUAHTOC

Sponsors: \$2,000 (platinum); \$1,000 (gold); \$500 (silver)

Adults: \$35. Students/Seniors: \$15. Kids under 5: free

Contact info1@cuahmcmd.org if you have questions



CUAH is a 501c(3) group whose mission is to unite our diverse community to combat bigotry, support victims of hate, and promote inclusiveness in the DMV and elsewhere.



SAVE THE DATE

Fall Agenda Conference
Saturday, November 4, 2023
UMBC * Catonsville

Registration & sponsorship information will be sent in
late August. Please mark your calendars!

Since 1994, WDC has supported MLAW's legislative agenda both through conference sponsorships and our own advocacy for the passage of legislation that disproportionately impacts women and their families. MLAW's Fall Conference is their kick-off event for the upcoming legislative session starting in January 2024, where a coalition of women's organizations and their legislative sponsors present legislative proposals to be voted on by MLAW members and included in the MLAW's 2024 Legislative Agenda.

The Feminist Majority Foundation's Jobs Board has been a high-traffic resource for more than twenty years. Thousands of people view our jobs each day & subscribe to our Weekly Jobs Digest to keep up with the latest opportunities at leading feminist and progressive organizations. Don't miss out: create a safe & secure account with us to begin posting & managing jobs today.

[Feminist Jobs Board](#)



WDC Membership

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 building community and political muscle with other Democratic members, clubs, and allies to elect Democrats and support progressive Democratic policy goals. WDC is excited to work with each of you, as we advocate for our WDC priorities, and present our Speakers Programs, Community Education Panels, social events, and service projects. Join us!

Make a Difference—Volunteer with WDC!

The Events Committee needs members to support its programs and events this year. If you are interested, please send an email to lavontte.gardner@gmail.com.

WDC needs you! Can you help us in one of these positions? Not sure what a position entails? Come try it out—no obligation!

- Membership Co-Chair
- Events Committee Member

Interested? To learn more, please contact [Tazeen Ahmad](#) and make sure to use the subject line: "**Volunteering with WDC.**"

WDC Resources

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WDC social media & email

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[Join Our Members Only Facebook Group](#)
