



GRASSROOTS

The Newsletter of the
Whatcom County
Democratic
Central Committee

Membership Meeting

Thursday, August 19

7:00 – 9:00 pm

1419 N. Forest St, Bellingham
(between Champion & Magnolia)

All Democrats Welcome

Primary Election Analysis & Trivia Contest

The August monthly membership meeting will be a more fun and casual meeting complete with a zippy trivia contest. To get your trivia tastebuds tingling, We offer up a teaser: "What is Washington State's official state muffin?"

The Answer: Blueberry

Also in August

Sunday, August 8

Democratic Picnic, details page 2

Tuesday, August 17

Election Night Party, 7:30 - 10 pm,
Chuckanut Brewery, 601 W. Holly, Bham

Tuesday, August 31

Eleanor Roosevelt Sunset Social
with Sen. Patty Murray, Rep. Rick
Larsen, & Gov. Mike Lowry, see back

August 2010

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info@whatcomdemocrats.com

www.whatcomdemocrats.com

360-647-7661

Our Candidates Need Your Help For a Strong Primary Win

If you made it to one of the candidate forums sponsored in July by the local Tea Party, you know first hand what our candidates are up against. Clinging to the Constitution with fundamentalist fervor, combined with a near-hatred of the government, is not a successful formula for solving real problems for real people.

A majority of voters don't subscribe to the Tea Party rhetoric – polls show this – but they must hear what our candidates offer as an alternative. The local Democratic candidates have been doorbelling practically every day and have found the voters at the door very receptive. But now we need to make sure they vote their Primary ballot.

Phone-Calling & Door-Belling

For the three weeks that voters will have ballots, until August 17, we will be making phone calls to likely Democratic voters to make sure they vote, and vote the entire ballot. If only one-quarter of the people who receive this newsletter would do a 2-hour shift calling voters to remind them to vote, we could reach 20,000 voters.

Please call our office today to sign up for a calling shift, either mid-day or in the evening. Please dial now: 647-7661.

The candidate campaigns will continue to meet voters on their doorsteps up through the Primary, and some will be also distributing our full slate card, like you see at the right. Again, please call 647-7661 right now to volunteer to walk your neighborhood.

Justice Races Likely Decided in Primary

Most elected judge positions in Washington State operate on different election rules than we are used to. If one candidate receives more than fifty percent of the vote in the Primary Election, then that person only will appear on the General Election

ballot. This means, in races where there are only two candidates, the election is decided in the Primary. Even if there are three candidates, it is possible for one candidate to garner over 50% in the Primary.

The Whatcom Democrats did not con-

continued, page 2

2010 Primary Election Recommendations

When more than one candidate is listed, please choose from these qualified Democrats

US Senate Patty Murray

Congress, Dist. 2 Rick Larsen

Larry Kalb

Diana McGinness

42nd LD Senate Pat Jerns

42nd LD House – 1 Al Jensen

Richard May

42nd LD House – 2 Kelli Linville

40th LD House – 1 Tom Pasma

Kris Lytton

Thomas Boucher

40th LD House – 2 Jeff Morris

Whatcom County Council – 1

Jean Melious

WA State Democratic Party

Endorsements:

Supreme Court Justice – 1

Stan Rumbaugh

Supreme Court Justice – 6

Charles Wiggins

For more information and links to candidates' websites, go to
whatcomdemocrats.com

Democrats at the Fair

Again this year we will have a booth at the NW WA Fair in Lynden, August 16-21. We have a great location, just opposite Gate 1 on Front Street. Come by and see us!

Volunteers are needed to staff the booth and be ambassadors for the Democratic Party. Please call the office at 647-7661 to sign up.

Volunteers receive a pass into the fair on the day they work. Shifts of 4 hours in length start at 10 am, 2 pm, and 6 pm.



Supreme Court Races

cont. from page 1

sider Supreme Court justice positions in our endorsement process in June. We are listing the endorsements approved by the Washington State Democratic Party Convention. Both these candidates – Stan Rumbaugh and Charlie Wiggins – are challenging sitting Justices. Please give them your serious consideration.

For Democrats, these are very important races on the primary ballot. Stan Rumbaugh is a experienced attorney with a record of fighting for working people. His opponent, Jim Johnson, is a conservative who has received over \$1 million in special interest money and opposes environmental protection, worker safety and basic rights.

In his 30+ year career as a lawyer, Charlie Wiggins has been a Court of Appeals Judge, frequently served as a temporary Superior Court Judge, argued every sort of appeal and has been honored as one of the Best Lawyers in America. He is a champion of judicial independence from any and all outside influences and helped establish the award winning non-partisan web site votingforjudges.com. Charlie Wiggins believes there should be limits on contributions to judge's campaigns.

**Keep up with LOCAL news
at our PAGE on
FACEBOOK,
and become a FAN!**

Citizens Speak Out Against Council's Urban Growth Expansion

Okay, it has been a little while since we have whacked the county council, but don't let that fool you into thinking that they have been harmless. Once again, they are pushing to expand the Urban Growth Areas, turning our precious farmland into endless stretches of sprawl.

The conservative county council introduced an amendment, literally written by shady development lawyers from Seattle, to change the zoning on the fringes of our cities to allow massive developments to be built. Or as most people would call it, "Sprawl." These developments would then need water, sewer, roads, infrastructure all of which would be paid by the taxpayers, so that a few people can sell some more houses.

Understandably, we were upset. At the County Council's hearing on July 13 concerned citizens flooded the comment time with concern, and outrage at this sellout. The hearing took more than three hours as the county council got an earful. One of the key points made by those speaking against the UGA expansion was how it continued to put Whatcom County out of compliance with state law.

Jean Melious, chair of the planning commission and candidate for County Council, spoke eloquently about the need to follow the law. "Whether or not it can be calculated in dollars, I believe that there is a cost to operating outside the rule of law. We are a country of laws, and Whatcom County has been an outlaw for

too long. No less an authority than the Washington State Supreme Court has told us that we have violated the law. County Council members take an oath of office to uphold the laws. That is their job. They can work with the legislature to change the laws that they do not like, but they do not get to pick and choose the laws they want to implement."

The council, under intense pressure, decided to delay the decision for two weeks. Keep you eyes out for more sneaky business from Sam Crawford and his shady developer friends.

Picnic with Pete & Pike August 8

Its time for the annual Democratic Picnic! It will be held SUNDAY, August 8th from 4:30 - 8:30 pm in the Upper Pavilion of Fairhaven Park, Chuckanut Dr, Bellingham.

Grilled chicken, potato salad, baked beans, watermelon, and desserts from the candidates! If that isn't enough to whet your appetite, both Mayor Dan Pike and County Executive Pete Kremen will be speaking, or as I call it "a Ham and Cheese sandwich." This is not a potluck, but rather the meal with be a suggested donation of \$7. Please bring extra chairs and get ready for some fun. There will be a dessert contest, and all manor of interesting folks milling around just waiting to talk to you.

Whatcom Democrats Executive Board

email: add @whatcomdemocrats.com

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Young Democrats	Mike Estes	220-1100	
40 th LD Representative	Bob Burr	671-8862	
42 nd LD Representative	Steve Lydolph	384-5414	

Vote Jean for County Council

Jean Melious is running for County Council this year. Because of the whole jumble of Bob Kelly resigning and Ward Nelson being appointed to the seat through a shady backroom deal, there is a County Council race this year, and Jean's running.

Jean Melious is the chair of the County planning commission, where she has worked hard to protect our quality of life here in Whatcom. Using her expertise as both a lawyer and a professor of environmental law at Western Washington Uni-

versity, she is ready to clean up the mess left by the current conservative county council.

Jean is also a mother, she lives on Alabama Hill with her husband Devon, and her children Nate and



Claire. She is committed to leaving our home better than when she found it. We need to build solid jobs, ensure clean air and water, and plan for growth in a way that raises community.

But to do that we need your help to change the County Council. We need your support, time, energy and passion. If you would like a yard sign or would like to volunteer, please send Riley Sweeney an email at riley.sweeney@gmail.com or call him at (360) 649-1801.

Nominations for 2010 Honored Democrat Due August 15

Nominations for 2010 Honored Democrat are due August 15. Criteria includes significant years of service to the Whatcom County Democrats. If you have someone you'd like to nominate, please call our office at 647-7661. Call Hue Beattie, 739-6602, for details.

Election Observing - An Interesting and Important Contribution

"If you can't trust how your votes are counted, nothing much else matters"

- Marian Beddill

Training August 4

The Whatcom County Auditor's office runs one of the best vote counting systems in Washington state, if not the nation. Citizen observers are an integral part of this fascinating process. Before each election the auditor holds a two-hour citizen observer introduction course (next on Aug 4). Although planning ahead is encouraged, citizen observers may observe on their own schedule (depending on what activities are going at the time and subject to available space). For more information, please contact the Whatcom Democrats' office, 647-7661 or the Whatcom County Auditor's office, 676-6742.

Collecting
Now
for Fall Sale!



Household Goods, Working Electronics, Smaller Pieces of Furniture, Clothing in Good Condition, Collectibles

Drop off at 215 W. Holly Street, Suite B-27 (enter on Bay) M-F, 10 am to 2 pm

For details call 647-7661 or email office@whatcomdemocrats.com

Chili Cook-off August 1

The 40th District Democrats are gearing up for their 4th annual old-fashioned chili cookoff, noon - 4 pm, Sunday August 1, at SS Quarter Horse Ranch, 15216 Colony Road, Bow, WA.

- Tribute to retiring Rep Dave Quall
- Meet Candidates and Legislators
- Vote for Best Chili 2010
- Quarter Horse Riding Demonstration
- Tour working champion-producing quarterhorse ranch

Ways to help: Bring side or dessert to share, camp or lawn chairs, an "I'm done with it" something for our auction, submit a chili entry, or come early to help set up.

Tickets \$7 in advance or \$10 at the door. Find more information wa40dems.net.

Connect With Your Favorite Candidate – No Excuses!

Candidate	Contact	Phone	Email	Website
Coordinated Campaign	Tim Muldrew	(360) 223-7521	timmm@wavictory.org	
Patty Murray	Jessica Garson	(301) 704-1328	jessica@wavictory.org	
Rick Larsen	Justin McMahon	(425) 750-1468	justin@ricklarsen.org	ricklarsen.org
Larry Kalb	Meredith Murray	(360) 738-4071	meredith@servicewithheart.com	kalbforcongress.org
Diana McGuinness	Sharon Crozier	(360) 378-6499	sharon@dianaforcongress.com	dianaforcongress.com
Pat Jerns	Sheryl McCrary	(425) 737-8674	sherylmccrary@gmail.com	patjernsforsenate.com
Jeff Morris	Caroline Theobald	(206) 850-2951	car.theobald@gmail.com	morriscampaign.com
Kris Lytton	Art Shotwell	(360) 299-8392	art@krislytton.com	krislytton.com
Tom Pasma	Georgia Requa	(360) 708-6355	georgia@tompasma.com	tompasma.com
Thomas Boucher	David Osting	(360) 941-4265		electboucher.com
Kelli Linville	Mandy Feutz	(360) 739-6432	linvillecampaign2010@yahoo.com	
Al Jensen	Nick Fletcher	(360) 393-5495	nick@electaljensen.com	electaljensen.com
Richard May	Shari Walton	(360) 220-4203	swalton38@aol.com	richardmay.us
Jean Melious	Riley Sweeney	(360) 649-1809	riley.sweeney@gmail.com	voteforjean.com

August 31
Sunset Social

our annual
Eleanor Roosevelt fundraiser

Bellingham Cruise Terminal
355 Harris Avenue, Bellingham
6:30 - 9:00 pm

with

Senator Patty Murray
Rep. Rick Larson
Gov. Mike Lowry

An after-dinner event with
delectable desserts, cheeses,
seasonal fruit; coffee and tea
service, and a no-host bar.

Tickets \$30 - \$500
On-line whatcomdemocrats.com
or call 647-7661

Senator Murray is appearing at this event only as a
special guest, and is not asking for funds or donations



Whatcom County Democrats

215 W. Holly Street, Suite B-27
P.O. Box 3095
Bellingham, WA 98227

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

August 2010 Check whatcomdemocrats.com for details

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 12pm- Chili Cook-off, see p. 3	2	3 6pm-Young Democrats Social, Copper Hog.	4 3pm- Election Observer Training, see p. 3 7pm- Green Drinks	5	6	7
8 4:30pm- Democratic Picnic, page 2	9	10 7pm – Drinking Liberally, Horseshoe Café, Bham	11	12 10am-Whatcom Fair Voting Mtg, 10am, RE Sources, 2309 Meridian, Bham.	13	14 10am- 42 nd LD Dems Membership Mtg, 2064 Vista Dr, Ferndale.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
NW Washington Fair – Whatcom Dems Booth, see page 2						
		Election Day! 7:30 Election night party, Chuckanut Brewery, 601 W Holly Bham.		7pm- Monthly Membership Mtg, Norway Hall, Bham See page 1		
22	23	24 7pm – Drinking Liberally, Horseshoe Café, bham	25 12pm- City Club, Northwood Hall, 3240 Northwest Ave, Bham 7pm- E Board Meeting, Dems HQ, Bham	26	27	28
29	30	31 6:30pm- Eleanor Roosevelt Sunset Social, see above	1 September 7pm- Green Drinks	2	3	4