

Delaware Directions

Special Election Issue

Oct. 2018 Delaware County Democratic Party Newsletter Number 9



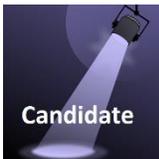
Peg Watkins, Chair

Cheers From the Chair

Seven days. With all the tension, stress, anticipation, and cautious hopes, we need to BE SUPPORTIVE – of all of our candidates, as well as of each other. In these last few days, we need to KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM that we have been building for so long. Please make sure to take a moment and review the Canvassing and Phone-banking opportunities in the Events section of this newsletter, also on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#).

Thank you to all who have already canvassed, made phone calls, hosted fundraisers or other gatherings, written checks, sent postcards, put signs in your yard, and encouraged your neighbors to vote for our very good candidates. I'm extremely grateful to our local candidates who have taken on a very difficult challenge.

[Read more](#) from Delaware County Democratic Party Chair, Peg Watkins.



Candidate Spotlight

Breaking news: [Dispatch endorses Valentine!](#)

"We believe voters would do well by selecting Democratic candidate **Louise Valentine** in the 19th Senate District for a fresh perspective." **Andrew Brenner** "did not effectively use his platform as House Education Committee chair to raise outcomes for Ohio students but instead has been seen as an impediment to public-school improvement."

[Read more](#) about Louise's exciting ride to the Senate.





#OrangeRibbonsForJaime

Exclusive Interview with Fred Guttenberg

On Friday, October 26th, Fred Guttenberg, father of Jaime Guttenberg, one of the 17 victims of the Parkland massacre, made a special trip to the Columbus area, and to the Delaware County Democratic Party headquarters. He came to campaign for Danny O'Connor and to address DelaDems about his tireless work for Gun Safety.

During your talk you said one of your goals is making the gun lobby as irrelevant as the tobacco lobby. How do you see accomplishing that?

Well, a lot of ways. Number one is electing public officials who are going to kick the current officials out of their office. Their power doesn't come from their membership; their power comes from the money they get from gun manufacturers to spend on legislators that have been receptive. If we get rid of those legislators, that's step number one. The other way is going to be through litigation. I'm taking these gun manufacturers on in court. That's how the tobacco lobbyists eventually became irrelevant. When they had to go to court, everyone learned they were lying. They knew their products were addictive; they knew people were going to die and it was the start of their downfall. I want to be clear to people that these gun manufacturers know that they are setting sales targets that have only one inevitable result and that is innocent people dying.



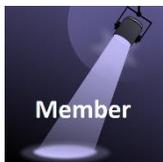
[Click here](#) to see what Fred had to say about his encounter with Brett Kavanaugh.



No-Show Republicans

The Delaware County Democratic Party candidates have all been diligently attending local candidates' forums. The same cannot be said for the full slate of Republicans. It would appear their years of one-party leadership have resulted in taking Delaware County voters for granted. That means a great opportunity for Democrats says Chair, Peg Watkins, "when the Democratic candidates are elected, our candidates will continue to be accountable to the people of Delaware County, and they will continue to attend events and answer questions. That's how our government works best."

Read more about our no-show local Republican opponents [here](#).



DCDP Member Spotlight

The Member Spotlight is an entertaining way to get to know our fellow members and volunteers. This Spotlight is focused on **Enas Yunis** (right, with Danny O'Connor), who was an integral part of helping turn several Powell precincts Blue during the Special Election for Danny O'Connor, along with her two daughters.

Tell us a little bit about yourself -- Where are you from?

I am a Palestinian/Jordanian, born in Kuwait. My family moved often in the Middle East. I lived equally between Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Jordan before moving to the United States in 1993.

Why the U.S.?

My dad's college dream was to study and live in the U.S. like his older brothers did. In 1980, he asked one of my uncles to put in the immigration paperwork for us, in hopes that my brothers would get to live out his dream. We arrived in the Summer of 1993. I was supposed to head back while my brothers would stay and study. My dad used the U.S. Embassy States and Colleges pamphlets to pick an accredited university in a small and safe town in one of the most stable states. What was supposed to be a summer vacation for me, turned into my senior high school year in Kent, Ohio!



Read the full story of Enas raising her family and discovering American politics [here](#).



Dark Money Goes Local

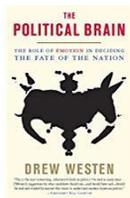
In political fundraising, **Dark Money** describes funds given to nonprofit organizations, including social welfare groups, unions, and trade associations. They can receive unlimited, and often unaccountable, donations from corporations, individuals, and other organizations. They can spend funds to influence elections, but are not required to disclose their donors.

Dark Money Impact on Our Local Elections

Our local 12th District and Delaware candidates have felt the swell of the Dark Money influx to Delaware County and the 12th Congressional District overall. The Republican-supported PACs, and Dark Money-supported campaigns, use an old, but effective messaging technique. They create a campaign, test its effectiveness, and then use it repeatedly across the country often just

changing the name and location, depending on the position they are running for and the state they are in. Let's take a look at those campaigns, and how Dark Money is impacting them:

[Read more](#) about how Dark Money has found its way into the coffers of our local Republican opponents.



Democratic Messaging that Works

Members of the DCDP Communications Committee recently attended a seminar on Political Messaging called “From the Brains to the Ballot Box”. It was hosted by the Shaker Heights Democratic Club and featured Political Consultant, **Drew Westen** who holds a Ph.D. from Harvard. Westen teaches at Emory University, has advised state legislative and national candidates, including Presidents, , and has done trainings with State Parties and local groups on political messaging. Senator **Sherrod Brown** (right), was in attendance.



The purpose of the seminar was to help develop an understanding of how we process messaging, and how political campaigns use that knowledge to craft their campaign messaging through rigorous, clinical testing procedures (you didn't think that Sarah Palin came up with “death panels” all by herself, did you?). The goal was to improve how to best talk about our candidates and the issues that move Ohio voters.

[Read more here.](#)



Current Polling Results

- The Monmouth poll showed **44 percent of respondents planned to vote for Balderson, while 43 percent were backing O'Connor** in what will be the final congressional special election before the November midterms. These results are now too close to call, and the gap has been closing fast over the past 2 weeks.
- Internal polling showed Valentine is also tied. [Decision Desk HQ](#) just moved the 19th Senate race to TILT BLUE!

- Cordray/Dewine - Virtual tie - most recent poll by Akron U 36-37 (Dewine 1%, but within margin of error of 3%)
- In a September Marist [poll](#), Brown was winning 56 percent of independents, 70 percent of moderates and even 17 percent of conservatives. Education is maybe the most telling indicator of voter preference in the Trump era and Brown performed respectively with white non-college voters, with 42 percent of the vote.

RealClearPolitics Average: [Brown +16.0](#)

RealClearPolitics Ranking: [Likely Dem](#)

Key 2018 Races: [Governor](#) | [Senate](#) | [OH-12](#)

-DCDP newsletter staff writers



Campaign Events:

What: Delaware City Phone Banking

When: Every Mon-Thurs from 5:30-8:30pm through Nov. 1st; weekend times are shown in following listings

Where: Delaware Democratic HQ - 12 1/2 N Sandusky Street, Delaware or [from your own home by emailing Fred Young](#)

Sign Up: <https://events.mobilizeamerica.io/ohdems/event/25879/>



Ongoing DCDP Events

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Delaware County Democratic Party Central Committee meetings are held every third Thursday of the month (unless previously notified). Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

- **When:** 3rd Thursday of each month, 7:30pm – 9:00pm
- **Where:** We've outgrown our DCDP Headquarters at 12 1/2 N. Sandusky St. For the balance of the year we will be meeting at the Willis Education Center on 74 W William St, Delaware, OH 43015 (unless otherwise notified; check the website or our [Facebook page](#).)
- [Event Calendar](#)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the following sub-committees:

- **Campaigns and Candidates**
- **Communications**
- **Fundraising**
- **Delaware County Young Democrats**

Also check the [calendar](#) as meetings can get rescheduled.

Sign-up/Renew your Party Membership: While the Party operates on volunteer support, we do have actual costs that are required to maintain day-to-day operations. Please go to our [DCDP Membership](#) area to sign-up for or renew your Party membership.

'Like' and Interact with us on Facebook: Communicate with our active membership and get the most up-to-date information. <https://facebook.com/ohiodeladems>

Attend a Central Committee Meeting: The county-wide Central Committee meets the third Thursday every month (unless notified), 7:30pm, and is open to the public. For the balance of the year (unless notified) our meetings will be held at the Willis Education Center, 74 W William St., Delaware, OH 43015.

Check the [website](#) for **volunteer opportunities**

Central Committee Membership - Opportunity to Make a Difference Any interested registered Democratic voter can always request an at-large seat on the Delaware County Democratic Party Central Committee. If you are interested in serving, contact the central office for more information: Phone: (740) 363- 7500; email: chair@ohiodeladems.org. You can always get more information on our [website](#) on how to file for candidacy.

The *Delaware Directions Newsletter* is written, designed, and assembled each month by members of the DCDP Communications Committee along with contributing writers.

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