



DELAWARE DIRECTIONS

July-August 2019 Delaware County Democratic Party Newsletter Vol 2, No 3



Word From the Chair



Peg Watkins, Chair

Money!

The bad news is that there's a lot of money being raised for political purposes – at every level. Every day, I'm getting multiple requests for money from the national Democratic party, the state Democratic party, as well as individual candidates. And I'm sure you are, too.

The good news is that smaller contributions make a significant impact at the local level. Delaware County Democratic Party is stepping up – we have more candidates, more training available, and more professional assistance for our candidates. We also have wonderful volunteers and those who contribute financially.

Our third *Catch a Rising Star* event had record attendance AND **netted more than \$9,000!** (See Julie's article for details.) Our speakers were enthusiastically received by those in attendance. Many individual conversations were started that will lead to follow up meetings. Word is out, and will spread that there are active Democrats in this county. If you missed it, you can still enjoy the photos posted [here](#).

But we must keep on raising funds - for our party as well as for candidates. To those of you who are making monthly contributions, please accept my thanks on behalf of the party. If you are not already a monthly contributor, please consider a \$5, \$10, \$25, or \$50 regular monthly

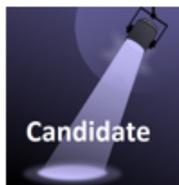
commitment. If you are not yet a dues-paying member, just [go here](#) to sign up and make any contribution you can. Every dollar helps.

Yes, we can make gains this year that will support us next year. In order to show our appreciation for Democrats who take on the challenge of running for office in Delaware County, the rest of us need to do all that we can to support them. If we can elect [Emma Jones](#) as Municipal Court Clerk, she would become the only COUNTYWIDE elected Democratic official in Delaware County. In 2020, there will be additional opportunities to run for county offices and break the local GOP stranglehold. The gains our other local candidates (see 2019 candidate list below) make this year will also strengthen us for 2020.

Finally, THANK YOU to everyone reading this for doing what you do – whether a little or a lot, each of us is contributing in some way, and that is our strength.

- Peg

	<p>Please take a quick one-question survey about which Democratic Presidential candidate you would vote for if the election were held today. We'll publish the results in the next newsletter and on Facebook.</p>
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DelCo Candidate Spotlight

Delaware County Candidates for Westerville City Council



Aileen Wagner – Candidate Spotlight

Aileen Wagner launched her first public service efforts at the age of 11 when she organized a successful petition drive that prevented proposed traffic changes that would have endangered the safety of her friends and neighbors. Her commitment to improving her community has only grown in the thirty years since then.

As a small-business owner and educator, Aileen works to develop quality educational materials for students. She has taught in schools around central Ohio and earned a teaching license in 7–12 grade social studies from Ohio Dominican University. Prior to starting her publishing services company, Walnut Bend Creative, Aileen

worked as an editor at McGraw-Hill, the job that brought her to Westerville in 2005.

[Read more](#) about Aileen



Ken Wright – Candidate Spotlight

It wasn't long after Ken and his family arrived in Westerville in 2005 that he realized just how special the city could be. Ken saw first-hand the appreciation and genuine love that the citizens of Westerville have for their city. It was infectious.

While Ken had already spent years working in community engagement, he decided to focus more of his time on Westerville and the surrounding areas. Ken serves as the Director of Research and Planning for IMPACT Community Action, an organization dedicated to reducing poverty by providing hope-inspiring help and real opportunities for self-sufficiency. In this role Ken has the opportunity to touch the lives of people in need and help them move out of poverty.

[Read more](#) about Ken



Stars Aligned for Boffo Party Fundraiser

The stars were aligned on July 18 for the third annual *Catch a Rising Star* fundraiser. The Delaware County Democratic Party held the most successful fundraiser in party history, hosting 100 guests who helped deliver record net proceeds of \$9,194.

The elegant Scioto Reserve Country Club in Powell was the backdrop for powerful speeches delivered to an enthusiastic crowd. Franklin County Recorder **Danny O'Connor** (right), Dublin Ohio House Representative **Dr. Beth Liston**, and Ohio Democratic Party Vice-Chair, **Rhine McClin** were warmly received by the guests. The speakers graciously mingled with guests both before and after their addresses from the podium. Local candidates were also present showing their party support and talking to voters.





Upon arrival, guests were entertained by Columbus jazz guitarist **Mike McGannon**. Other highlights of the evening were chances to ham it up in the photo booth (like **Karen Rainey** and granddaughter Sofia at left), and bidding on an array of silent auction items. A surprise donation from Danny O'Connor of OSU football tickets spurred a spirited live auction. Total proceeds from the auctions were \$1,402.

[Read More](#) about our Stellar Event

- Julie Houston



Updates from the DelCo BoE

Board of Elections (BoE) Update: *Anthony Saadey (right), Delaware County BoE Deputy Director, provides insight on how the Voter Purge and Hacking impacts Delaware County,*



The official name of the “voter purge” is the **General Voter Records Maintenance Program**. A recent Supreme Court ruling authorized local Boards of Election to reinstate a process that started in 2015.

This July, our office mailed a “Last Chance” Notice to 3,008 voters who had been mailed a similar notification in 2015. At that time, the criteria were no voter activity from 2012 to 2014 (included two federal elections). The Notice informed the voter that if they wished to remain on the voter rolls, they were required to either return the completed Confirmation Notice or have some form of voter activity within the next four years. Between 2015 and 2019, no voters were purged, but those receiving the notice did have the opportunity to update their voting record.

[Click here](#) to get the rest of the story on Voter Purge and Election Security



How to Change Citizens United

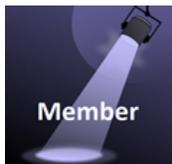
American Promise – What Can Ohio Do About Citizens United?

Since the Supreme Court's 2010 "Citizens United" decision, money in politics has been an increasing factor in shaping public policy, often against the will of the American people. The ruling meant that corporations have the same right to free speech as persons, and that campaign spending is a form of free speech, thereby making PACs legal to collect campaign/candidate funding without identification of donors.

Citizens United has often been considered difficult if not impossible to overcome. But an effort is underway to do just that. American Promise is a leader in the proposal for a constitutional amendment (28th Amendment) that would negate Citizens United. Its website, americanpromise.net, provides useful perspective.

[Read more](#) on what you can do to help overcome Citizens United

- Mindy Hedges, Bertie Dell



DCDP Member Spotlight

This issue's Member spotlight: Nancy Cline

Where are you from? I am from Elkhorn, Wisconsin. Bill and I became pen pals when I was still living in the state. We were married in 1972 and moved to Garrettsville, Oh. After living there for several years, we moved to Delaware to be closer to our grandchildren.

How did you get involved in politics? I got involved in politics in the last Obama election. After meeting President Obama, I knew I wanted to get involved. I hope to make a difference in my granddaughters' lives by electing a Democrat to be the next president.



How are you involved with the Party? When we moved to Delaware, I happened to be in town one day and found my way to headquarters. I enjoy my volunteer time at headquarters, especially

at election time, doing my best to help candidates win.

What do you do in your spare time? When we are not busy, I enjoy reading and Bill and I also like to go fishing together.

Your message? Our country is headed in the wrong direction right now. As Democrats, we have to come together and elect the person who will get us pointed in the right direction.

Interested in sharing your story? Send an email to communications@ohiodeladems.org (or just hit 'reply').

- Edited by Bertie Dell



Does Impeachment Make Sense

On July 16, the *Forum: Is Impeachment Inevitable or Avoidable?* was held in Delaware County at the Quest Conference Center on the question of whether or not to impeach President Trump. DelaDem **Mindy Hedges** was instrumental in organizing the event along with sponsors: [indivisible: Ohio District 12](#) and [indivisible: Delaware Ohio](#).

Experts on the panel focused their presentations on key issues such as: *when is it time to remove a leader* and *what must Congress do to oversee the Executive branch?* The Forum was **moderated by Mike Larsen**, a nationally known political satirist who has written for *Real Time with Bill Maher*, *The Drew Carey Show*, *Ellen*, and many other programs.

[Read more](#) about the expert panelists and the different methods of impeachment

- Edited by Brian Jaffe



DelaDems in the News

- **John Schmarr**, [Dispatch](#), August 8, Letter: [Permit to use would include a screening](#)
- **John Schmarr**, [Dispatch](#), August 16, 2018 (we somehow missed this one from a year ago, but thought it worth a read, Eds.) Letter: [Academy should touch down in Dayton](#)

- **William McCartney**, Dispatch, June 27, Letter: [Incidents, nonapologies separate Biden from President Trump](#)
- **Brian Campbell**, Dispatch, June 27, Letter: [Americans should focus on improving elections](#)
- **Katherine Gharrity**, Dispatch, July 14, Letter: [Our nation is in need of checks and balances](#)
- **Valerie Cumming**, Dispatch, June 2, Media Mention: [Capitol Insider: More Ohio Democrats move closer to calling for Trump's impeachment](#)
- **Peg Watkins**, Delaware Gazette, July 9, Feature article: [Democratic Party to host annual fundraiser July 18](#)

Did we miss a mention of a DelaDem in the news? If so please let us know, communications@ohiodeladems.org (or just hit 'reply').



The 2019 Elections!

Our Current List of Candidates:

- **Emma Jones** is running for Delaware Municipal Court Clerk in Delaware County: visit her [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)
- **Melanie Farkas** is running for Township Trustee in Liberty Twp: visit her [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)
- **Heather Stevens Karr** is running for Powell City Council, visit her [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)
- **Cory Hoffman** is running for Delaware City Council, Ward 3; watch for Facebook page soon.
- **Drew Farrell** is running for Delaware City Council, Ward 4: visit him on [Facebook](#)
- **Aileen Wagner** is running for Westerville City Council: visit her on [Facebook](#) (see her "Spotlight" profile, above)
- **Ken Wright** is running for Westerville City Council: visit him on [Facebook](#) (see his "Spotlight" profile, above)
- **Vaughn Bell** is running for Westerville Board of Education; visit him on [Facebook](#)
- **Jennifer Aultman** is running for Westerville Board of Education; see her [FB page](#)
- **Sandi Allen** is running for Dublin City Council; she is on [Facebook](#)

Thinking About Running for Office in 2020?

- Sign up for the Ohio Democratic Party [Main Street Initiative](#) which is hosting professional candidate trainings across the state.
- **Remember:** filing deadline for declarations of candidacy for partisan candidates for the **2020 primaries is December 18 at 4:00 pm** (90 days before the Ohio primaries). This includes your Central Committee candidacy declaration.
- For more information please contact [Jay Gupta](#), Chair of the [DCDP Campaigns & Candidates committee](#).



Ohio Legislative Watch

This section is intended to keep our readers up-to-date with key legislation moving through the Ohio State House. Read about which bills you should be keeping an eye on.

Call To Action: There are **seven gun safety bills pending in the Ohio Statehouse right now**. Let's call for hearings on these important bills.

Call Chairman Lang at (614) 466-8550, ask him to schedule a hearing on HB 240 with the House Criminal Justice Committee.

HB 240 would ensure firearms are stored safely and securely out of the reach of minors.

Call Chairman Coley at (614) 466-8072, ask him to schedule a hearing on SB 19, 43, 62, 63, 64, and 65

SB 19 would allow household members, family, and law enforcement officials to obtain a court order to temporarily restrict an individual's access to firearms if that person poses a harmful risk to either themselves or others

[Read more](#) about the rest of the Gun Safety Bills in the State House

Compiled and edited by: Marian Jacques



Upcoming Special Events

What: Moms Demand Action Membership Meeting

When: Saturday, August 24, 10:00am

Where: Northwest Library - 2280 Hard Rd, Cols 43225

More Info: Intro to Moms Demand Action, Legislation updates, upcoming events

What: Galena Summerfest

When: Saturday, August 24, 11:00am - 11:00pm

Where: The Square in the center of the village of Galena

More Info: 10th Annual Community Festival with music, food, and the special outdoor communities of Galena, Hoover Reservoir, and Big & Little Walnut Creeks.

What: Olentangy Watershed Clean Up

When: Saturday, August 24, 10:00am-12:00pm

Where: Waste Water Treatment Plant 225 Cherry St.

More Info: Equipment Provided, NO bare feet or flip-flops. For More Info, Contact Caroline Cicerchi ccicerchi@delawareohio.net

What: Meet & Greet for Drew Farrell - City Council 4th Ward Candidate

When: When: Sunday, August 25, 2:00pm

Where: Joe & Linda Diamond, 153 N. Washington

What: League of Women Voters Equality Day Celebration

When: Monday, August 26, 6:30pm

Where: Ale, Wine and Spirits, 7560 Guardwell, Powell, OH 43065

More Info: Speaker - Dr Richelle Schrock, PhD of Ohio Wesleyan. Equality Day observes the day in 1920 when the Secretary of State signed the proclamation granting women the constitutional right to vote.

What: Postcard Party for Emma Jones - Del Municipal Court

When: Tuesday, August 27, 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Where: Señor Antonio's Mexicano Restaurante & Cantina (back room) 8617 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center

More Info: Hosted by Indivisible: Delaware/Lewis Center Progress!

What: Meet & Greet - Melanie Farkas for Liberty Township Trustee

When: Wednesday, August 28, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: 3273 Kenmare Lane. Powell

More Info: Please join host Suzanne Binau at her home.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2338532752909348/>

What: Delaware City's First Friday: Hosted by the Orange Region

When: Friday, September 6, 6:00 – 9:00 pm

Where: DCDP Headquarters, 12 1/2 N. Sandusky St. Delaware, Ohio 43015

[DCDP Event Calendar](#)

What: Main Street Initiative Candidate Training

When & Where: Sign up [here](#) to receive info about upcoming opportunities and training near you.

More Info: The Ohio Democratic Party Main Street Initiative is hosting professional candidate training across the state to help you navigate and explore opportunities in public service!

Make sure to check out our [Facebook Picture gallery!](#)



Ongoing DCDP Events

What: DCDP EXECUTIVE/CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS - Meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

When: 3rd Thursday of each month, 7:30pm – 9:00pm (unless previously notified, see below)

Where: We've outgrown our DCDP Headquarters at 12½ 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

More Info: Please check our [Facebook page](#) for any scheduling updates, and take a moment to read the [minutes of the previous meeting](#)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

[Click here](#) for more information on the following sub-committees:

- Campaigns and Candidates
- Communications
- Fundraising
- Membership Recruitment

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



Get Involved with the Party!

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.

Attend a City Council or Township Trustee meeting: Get involved in your local community by attending meetings. Learn about the different committees, try to join a municipal committee. [Our website](#) has a list of all the City Council and Township Trustee meetings, and links to their websites.

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

Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DelCountyOHDems>

Volunteer! Check the [DCDP website](#) for volunteer opportunities or contact our office during office hours (11:00am - 5:00pm, Tuesday - Friday), or just leave a message – someone will get right back to you. Phone: (740) 363- 7500; email: chair@ohiodeladems.org.

Central Committee and Executive Committee Membership – This is a key opportunity to make a difference. Any registered Democratic voter can run for, or be appointed to a seat on the Delaware County Democratic Party Central Committee. If you are interested in serving, contact the central office for more information. You can also get more information on our [website](#) on how to file for candidacy and to see if your precinct has an opening, or you can also call the office.

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

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Peg Watkins: Advisor/Columnist
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