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AUGUST 2015

NEWS

A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE

The MDC announces primary endorsements



MDC members raise cards to show their voting preferences during the organization's primary endorsement proceedings.

Voting cards were issued at the July 22 meeting to those members of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle who had not voted by mail in the MDC's primary endorsement proceedings. The results were added to those of members who had mailed their ballots earlier.

President Eleanor Munro conducted the voting assisted by parliamentarian Allan Munro, and vote-counters Ann Martin and Nelson Dahl. Endorsements were made in all races except for Seattle City Council races for Districts 3, 4, and 5, and the Port of Seattle race for Commissioner Position 5.

Endorseees were immediately notified and offered the use of the MDC's membership contact information during this election cycle only.

MDC endorseees are:

State

Rep Carol Gregory – LD 30 Pos 2

King County Council

Larry Gossett – Dist 2

Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles – Dist 4

Claudia Balducci – Dist 6

Joe McDermott – Dist 9

King County Assessor

Lloyd Hara

King County Director of Elections

Chris Roberts

King County Court of Appeals

James Verellen – Div 1 Dist 1

King County Superior Court

Janet Helson – Pos 7

Samuel Chung – Pos 15

Veronica Galvin – Pos 21

Seattle City Council

Lisa Herbold – Dist 1

Bruce Harrell – Dist 2

Mike O'Brien – Dist 6

Sally Bagshaw – Dist 7

Tim Burgess – Pos 8

Bill Bradburd – Pos 9

Seattle School Board

Scott Pinkham – Dist 1

Rick Burke – Dist 2

Jill Geary – Dist 3

Leslie Harris – Dist 6

Port of Seattle

Courtney Gregoire – Pos 2

\$1,000 cash is first prize in MDC raffle

\$1,000 cash is the first prize in the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle raffle that will open September 3 at the MDC Salon hosted by Anne Johnson, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 3649 42nd NE. Second and third prizes are to be determined. The winners will be announced at the MDC's December 13 Winter Holiday Party.

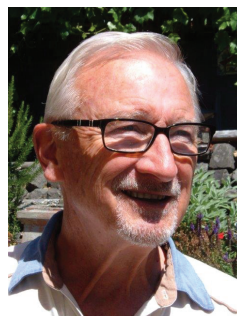
Two hundred books of 10 tickets each at \$5 per ticket are being printed. Members and friends can purchase books of tickets for themselves or to sell to others.

Starting in September the ticket books will be available for purchase at every meeting and event. Members can also purchase them online at metrodems.org. Proceeds benefit the MDC.

MDC members and friends are welcome to attend the third MDC Salon, a potluck social, and are asked to bring a salad, main dish, dessert or appetizers. MDC provides the beverages.

MDC hosts forum for city council finalists

All finalists for all Seattle City Council seats have been invited by the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle to participate in a City Council Forum, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, August 13. The event will take place in the Bertha Knight Landes Reception Room at City Hall.



Senator Pete Francis

Co-sponsors are City Attorney Pete Holmes and Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata. Senator Pete Francis, former president of the MDC, will moderate.

The format and questions for the candidates are being developed by a committee chaired by MDC member Al Rasmussen. Other members of the committee are Joanna Cullen, Martha Koester, Allan Munro, Jack Whisner, and Peggy Maze Johnson.



Members to vote on revised bylaws soon

Former president of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle and chair of the bylaws committee, Justin Simmons, led the final discussion of proposed changes to the bylaws at the MDC's July 8 meeting.



Justin Simmons

Mr Simmons says he will complete preparation of a final draft of the revised bylaws and these will be sent by email to all members, who will be asked to approve them.

The bylaws committee began the process of developing recommendations for change last spring. Mr Simmons has led the members in several discussions of the proposed recommendations since then. Many of the recommendations have been rejected by the membership. For example, one recommendation was to reduce the number of members of the board of directors. It was decided to retain the number (15 – 29) of board members as per the existing bylaws. Currently there are 23.



From the editor

Please send notices of upcoming events, letters, articles, and book reviews to Editor Eleanor Munro at walkere1@msn.com or 1925 41st Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116 no later than the fourth Wednesday of the month. All contributions are subject to editing. For more information call 206-370-1374.

MDC to elect officers for 2015 – 2017 term

August 12, the day of the next meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, is the deadline for declaring candidacy for officers for the 2015 – 2017 term. Only directors are eligible to serve as officers and to vote for officers. Offices are president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer. Although some changes to the bylaws have been approved the revisions have not yet been approved by the membership. Thus we continue to operate under the current bylaws.

To officially declare candidacy, directors must contact Debby Norman at 206.679.5247 or nordy3@comcast.net.

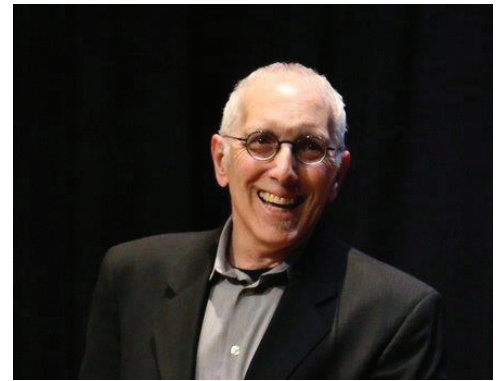
Deadline for submitting candidates' statements and photos is August 26. The ballot will be inserted in copies of the September edition of The MDC News that are addressed to the directors. They should be returned by mail addressed to Ms Norman, 4611 Phinney Ave N, Seattle WA 98103 and postmarked no later than 5:00 pm September 18.

The results of the election will be announced by Ms Norman at the September 23 meeting, which is also the meeting at which we will conduct our general endorsement proceedings.



New members

The MDC welcomes
new members
Jeaneane Hill
Tammy Morales
Chris Roberts
John Wilson



Seattle City Councilmember Nick Licata

Licata joins ALEC

He hasn't turned coat and gone conservative all of a sudden. And he denies being gullible.

But last week Seattle City Councilmember and former president of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle Nick Licata has joined the right-wing American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

It's true that he couldn't get on the inside at first, because membership was limited to state legislators and private-interest parties. But last year the ALEC formed the American City County Exchange (ACCE) to help city and county officials pass laws that "could cut taxes, limit government, and promote free markets," according to the first of a series written by Mr Licata and published by PRWatch.

Why would a right-wing organization allow a progressive Democrat to attend its conference as a member of the organization? It's a 501(c)3, says Mr Licata, and in order to maintain that status it cannot discriminate based on political beliefs.

Beginning July 29, PRWatch, a project of the Center for Media and Democracy, will be running a five-part series on Mr Licata's attendance the ALEC conference last week in San Diego. Go to the link below to see the first installment: "A Progressive Democrat Joins the Right-Wing ALEC."

<http://www.prwatch.org/news/2015/07/12894/blowing-whistle-alecs-little-brother-acce>

This link will appear in the August 12 meeting notes for the convenience of those who wish to view the installments.



METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE - Board

Officers President Eleanor Munro ▪ Vice President Dan Fievez ▪ Treasurer Kate Martin
Directors Joanna Cullen ▪ Nelson Dahl ▪ Kathleen Flynn ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Vinod Goswami ▪ Kiku Hayashi ▪ Lem Howell ▪ Anne Johnson ▪ Peggy Maze Johnson ▪ Sen Eugene Lux ▪ Mark Marshall ▪ Allan Munro ▪ Dr David Rudo ▪ Rep Gael Tarleton ▪ Harriet Wasserman ▪ Michael Weisman ▪ Jack Whisner ▪ Bert Wyman ▪ **Lifetime honored members** Pat Emerson ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Hon Nick Licata ▪ Gov Mike Lowry ▪ **Representative to WAmend** Seth Armstrong



King County Councilmember Larry Phillips, left, shows his MDC award for distinguished public service. Also participating in the Chautauqua Afternoon festivities are Andrew Villeneuve, founder and executive director of Northwest Progressive Institute; MDC President Eleanor Munro; candidate for King County Council Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles; and former King County Executive Randy Revelle.

Larry Phillips honored at “A Chautauqua Afternoon”

About 100 candidates, elected officials, and members and friends of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle assembled at the Daybreak Star Indian Cultural Center July 12 to listen to candidates for Seattle City Council, Port of Seattle, Seattle School Board and other offices.

They were there to celebrate the MDC’s second annual Chautauqua Afternoon, an event that allows the organization to prepare for its primary endorsement proceedings, which took place July 22. The results of those proceedings are listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

The highlight of the afternoon was the presentation of an MDC award for distinguished public service to retiring King County Councilmember Larry Phillips. Former King County Executive Randy Revelle and Senator Jeanne Kohl-Welles, who hopes to replace Mr Phillips, spoke of his political history, leadership and achievements.

Before presenting Mr Phillips with the award plaque, Mr Revelle said, “Larry has been a remarkable public official and an outstanding leader. He is honest, hardworking, personable, and effective. He is calm under stress and during a crisis.

He cares deeply about King County and the people he serves. He is one of the best public officials I have ever known.”

The program also featured special guests Joe Pakootas, candidate for US representative in the fifth congressional district, and Jason Ritchie, candidate for US representative in the eighth congressional district.

Andrew Villeneuve, founder and executive director of Northwest Progressive Institute, was master of ceremonies.

Northwest Progressive Institute was among eight progressive organizations invited to attend the event and disseminate information and promotional materials. The others were Alliance for Clean Jobs and Energy, CarbonWA, Hanford Challenge, Health Care for All-Washington, Heart of America Northwest, Physicians for a National Health Plan-Washington, and Progressive Democrats of America.

Four books were offered for sale: *Gang of Four* co-authored by Bob Santos who was on hand to autograph and sell; *1125 Harvard East: Kay Bullitt’s Gathering Place* by Sam Sperry, who was unable to attend (the book can be purchased at

metrodeems.org); *Collapse of Democracy—Who Decides* by Thom Speidel; and *Downwind* by Sarah Fox.

“We expect to expand the list of progressive organizations to whom we send invitations next year”, said MDC President Eleanor Munro, “and we expect to be more efficient in the use of the venue. This is the first time we’ve held this event at Daybreak Star and we want to make this venue part of the tradition.”

She added that the executive committee will be polling members, candidates, and others to get further ideas about what the MDC can do better.

In her opening remarks Ms Munro said, “You are probably aware that the Chautauqua was a phenomenon of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. In these pre-radio days people gathered to enjoy speeches, poetry readings, declamations and entertainment.”

We can’t call up the reality of those times,” she continued, “but we can capture the spirit of them. We hope events like these will always be useful to the candidates who need to explain why they should be elected and to the voters who are seeking to make the best choices.”



mark your
MDC Calendar
 August - October 2015

All regular membership meetings occur on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, noon – 1:30 pm at the Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St, Seattle, unless otherwise noted. The MDC welcomes guests at all of its regular meetings and special events. Members are welcome to attend all MDC committee meetings.

Single Payer Task Force meets immediately following regular meetings.

August 12 Second Wednesday

“Peace with Iran; Why Congress Should Support the Nuclear Accord.”

Panel discussion with Professor Emeritus Jere Bacharach, Professor Emeritus Fred Noland, and Lem Howell. Dan Fievez will moderate.

August 13 Seattle City Council Forum

Seattle City Council finalists are invited to appear at a forum in the Bertha Knight Landes Reception Room at City Hall, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Pete Francis will moderate.

August 26 Fourth Wednesday - to be determined.

Report from the Single-Payer Task Force.

September 3

MDC Salon, a potluck hosted by Anne

What’s happening

August 27 West Seattle Democratic Women’s annual potluck picnic, 4:00 – 7:00 pm at Shelter 3, Lincoln Park. For more information contact Ann Martin at 206.935.4693 or martinhtam@gmail.com.

August 29 Peggy Maze Johnson invites the MDC to join her in a celebration of life for her late husband, Ernie Johnson. Starts 4:00 pm at Alki Beach.



Johnson, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 3649 42nd Ave NE. Our first annual raffle will debut at this social event.

September 9 Second Wednesday – to be determined.

September 23 Fourth Wednesday

General endorsement proceedings; announcement of results of election of officers.

October 14 Second Wednesday

Port of Seattle. Speakers Courtney Gregoire and Stephanie Bowman are co-presidents of the Port Commission.

To join the MDC or for more information contact MDC President Eleanor Munro at 206.370.1374 or walkere1@msn.com or visit metrodem.org or facebook.com/metrodem.



Addendum on Greece

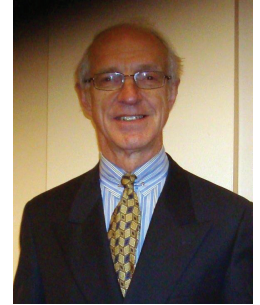
by

Allan Munro

Sadly, the Germans have won this round of the Greek debt problem. We are going to have another round of “bailouts” (don’t be fooled - it is Greece’s creditors who are being “bailed out.”) The Greek people face increased austerity on top of the depression they are already in.

I predict increasing political instability with Greece turning to countries outside of the Eurozone for support (think Vladimir Putin). Probably, the election of a red radical to replace Alex Tsipras.

Ultimately Greece will be forced to leave the Eurozone because repayment of all the creditors is an economic impossibility. The next Greek debt crisis may be two years away, but it is coming.



Allan Munro



Membership renewal date appears on above label

August 2015

METROPOLITAN
 DEMOCRATIC CLUB
 OF SEATTLE

Eleanor Munro
 1925 41st Ave SW
 Seattle WA 98116

Return Service Requested

