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THE M C

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NEWS

A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE



Summer Stinson, left, discusses funding McCleary. To her left are Robert Rosenberger, Ken Albinger, Eleanor Munro, Charles Davis, Eugene Lux and Dean Fournier.

MDC members active in King County LDs



David Ginsberg

David Ginsberg, who joined the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle when he attended the organization's Winter Holiday Party last December, has been elected to chair the 34th Legislative District. He was one of seven Democrats who joined the MDC at that time.

Mr Ginsberg is not the only 34th LD Democrat who is also a member of the MDC. Others are King County Executive Dow Constantine; Allan Munro, MDC director and 34th LD parliamentarian; Eleanor Munro, president of the MDC and editor of *The MDC News*; Leslie Harris, member of the Seattle School Board; and Ann Martin, Martha Koester, Natasha Savage,

Daniel Norton, Chas Redmond and Rod Dimoff.

Mr Ginsberg is a project manager at King County. He previously worked at Microsoft, Tableau Software, and Clearwire. He earned his MBA in technology management from the University of Washington Michael G. Foster School of Business.

Then there's the 36th LD. MDC director of information technology and interim treasurer Jayson Morris and newly elected MDC secretary Nicole Gomez also serve on the 36th LD Eboard.

- continued p2 -

How do we fund McCleary? Stinson discusses options

Washington is the only state whose constitution contains a clause requiring that its paramount duty is to provide quality education, said Summer Stinson at the January 25th meeting of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle. But fully funding education in Washington has not been achieved and the state has been sued. So Ms Stinson co-founded Washington's Paramount Duty, a non-partisan grassroots group of parents and allies working to compel the state to amply fund basic education.

She discussed several options for solving the McCleary issue. One funding option is House Bill 1029, which seeks to fund education by taking money from other social service programs and to extend the levy cliff. The deadline for the levy cliff is September 2, 2018. Votes on the bill went along party lines. All Democrats and 12 Republicans voted yes.

The governor's budget offers another option: increasing the B&O tax for some services, and a carbon tax. Another potential funding solution is a capital gains tax.

Historically, local levies and PTA fundraisers have been used to address school funding shortfalls, said Ms Stinson. But levies hide the problem because they cover only parts of what the state does not fund, she added. Local levies are currently at 28 percent; in January 2018 they will roll back to 24 percent.

Because of the attempts to fund McCleary, this legislative session will probably go on much longer than anticipated, Ms Stinson said. Senate and House are deadlocked. There is a \$3.5 billion shortfall next biennium exclusive of capital costs. Democrats are concentrating on filling the

- continued p4 -





THIS IS YUUUGE!!!

Peter Sherwin



Peter Sherwin died Thursday, January 17 from cancer at the age of 70.

Mr Sherwin was best known in political circles as an avid supporter of the doomed monorail project as was another member of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, Cleve Stockmeyer, who died last year. Along with yet another MDC member, Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes, he hosted the annual Progressive Election Night Party at the Warwick along with the MDC and a number of officeholders.



Trump the effect, not the cause

By Al Rasmussen



The present mess began about 200 years ago with the Industrial Revolution, mainly through the burning of fossil fuel. It had two major effects: increased material wealth, which fostered increase in world population, and the rise in atmospheric CO2.

Population increased from about one billion two hundred years ago to about 7.5 billion now. Atmospheric CO2, now at 405 parts per million, is the highest in the past four million years. Global temperature is the highest in a million years. Both trends continue today.

The combination of these two forces is what is driving massive migration, as millions flee the drought accompanying the warming. It won't be sea level rise that destroys mankind, but it will be the reaction of the right to the migration that destroys democracy. It is burgeoning in Europe with Le Pen in France, UKIP in Britain, Wilders in the Netherlands, Golden Dawn in Greece,... Anti-immigrant fervor of the right in the US is profound.

On the positive side recently are Van der Bellen's beating Hofer in Austria and Joe Arpio's losing in Arizona, but these are definitely exceptions. On the longer time scale, greed and corruption have always been with us and racism is chronic. What is new is the overpopulation and severe environmental degradation over the recent 200 years ... vastly more serious.



METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE — Board of Directors Executive committee President Eleanor Munro • Vice President Jack Whisner • Secretary Nicole Gomez • Immediate Past President Kiku Hayashi • Director of Information Technology and Interim Treasurer Jayson Morris • Director of Outreach Kathleen Flynn • Directors Bill Bradburd • Joanna Cullen • Dan Fievez • Sen Pete Francis • Judi Gibbs • Vinod Goswami • Jerome Greene • Lem Howell • Anne Johnson • Peggy Maze Johnson • Sen Eugene Lux • Mark Marshall • Allan Munro • Dr David Rudo • Rep Gael Tarleton • Elizabeth Stanton • Harriet Wasserman • Bert Wyman Lifetime honored members Kay Bullitt • Sen Pete Francis • Hon Nick Licata • Gov Mike Lowry.

- LDs continued from p1 -

Other members of the 36th LD who are also members of the MDC include Seth Armstrong, MDC Director of Outreach Kathleen Flynn, MDC Director Vinod Goswami, King County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles, Justin Simmons, Representative Gael Tarleton, MDC Vice President Jack Whisner, Alice Woldt, Bert Wyman.

Mr Morris is a neighborhood committee officer with the 36th LD and has previously served on the King County Democratic Central Committee. He is in the process of completing his Doctoral Learner degree from the School of Advanced Studies, University of Phoenix. He has completed 60-hour certificate programs at University of Alabama in radar systems and analysis, test and evaluation, and tactical missile fundamentals.

Ms Gomez served as a PCO in the 43rd LD and later in the 36th, where she recently became events coordinator. She holds undergraduate degrees from the University of Washington in political science and communications and her graduate degree in public administration from Seattle University. She currently works in insurance specializing in workers' compensation and consults for local nonprofits.

Other LDs that are strongly represented at the MDC are:

32nd LD - Senator Maralyn Chase, 32nd Chair Carin Chase, Dean Fournier, Pat McCoy, Carol Simmons and Jim Simmons.

37th LD – Lem Howell, Eugene Lux, Susan Sherbina, Joanna Cullen, Kiku Hayashi (immediate past president of the MDC), and Robert Rosenberg.

These lists are incomplete as many MDC members who live in the above listed LDs may not be members of the LDs. Many of the MDC's members live in the 43rd and 46th LDs

(I'm certain to have erred. Send corrections to Eleanor Munro, walkere I@msn.com.)



From the editor

Please send notices of upcoming events, letters, articles, and book reviews to Editor Eleanor Munro at walkerel@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.



METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE

Promoting progressive values since 1956.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ an MDC forum ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PRESERVING OUR VALUES, **ADVANCING OUR RIGHTS.** THIS IS YUUUGE!!!

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017 * 6PM BERTHA KNIGHT LANDES ROOM AT CITY HALL, 600 4TH AVE



Moderator Jack Whisner. MDC vice president and Democratic activist since 1972, has served on boards of **Transportation Choices** Coalition and Feet First.



Participant Nick Licata, Seattle city councilmember serving five terms, former president of the MDC. tagged as "Most Valuable Local Official" in Nation's Progressive Honor Roll of 2012, and author of Becoming a Citizen Activist.



Participant Michele Storms, deputy director of the American Civil Liberties Union and former assistant dean for public service and executive director of the William H. Gates Public Service Law program at the University of Washington School of



Participant Lisa Stone, executive director of Legal Voice, a nonprofit public interest law organization that advances legal rights for women and girls in the Northwest.

Sponsors are:



Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes



Seattle City Councilmember Tim Burgess



Seattle City Councilmember Lisa Herbold

For information about the MDC contact Eleanor Munro, president, at 206.370.1374 or walkere1@msn.com. Or visit our website, a work in progress, at metrodems.org.

mark your

MDC calendar

February - March

MDC meetings take place noon – 1:30 pm, the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month (unless otherwise noted) at the Plaza 600 Building #205, 600 Stewart St.

Wednesday, February 8

Part I. Charlton Price and other members* of the MDC Health Care Task Force will speak about the challenges of holding the line on the Affordable Care Act.

*Seth Armstrong, Vinod Goswami, Bill Bradburd, Bert Wyman, and Lem Howell.

Part II. Dan Shih, former candidate for representative in the 43rd LD, will talk about his campaign and the challenges of seeking office.

Wednesday, February 22

Program to be determined.

Monday, March 6 An MDC Forum

Preserving our values, advancing our rights. This is Yuuuge!

Sponsors are Seattle City Attorney Pete Holmes, and Seattle City Councilmembers Tim Burgess and Lisa Herbold. Moderator is MDC Vice President Jack Whisner. Participants are Michele Storms, Lisa Stone, and Nick Licata.

See more information on page 3.

Please note:

The second meeting in March will be held Tuesday, March 21, instead of Wednesday, March 22.

Program to be determined.

Raffle news

Ticket sales for the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle's annual raffle will open at the organization's February 22 meeting (see MDC Calendar). The drawing will take place at the MDC's annual Winter Holiday Party, December 10. Tickets are \$50 for a book of 10. They may be purchased from MDC Secretary Nicole Gomez at any MDC meeting or online at metrodems.org.

The purpose of the raffle is to keep the budget at a level necessary to fund operating expenses and to sponsor fundraisers. Membership payments are the organization's only other source of funds and are insufficient to carry out its operating plan for 2017.

- McCleary continued from p1 -

seat for senator in the 45th LD to gain more votes in the Senate.

Ms Stinson has worked at employment law with the law firms Hasting Janofsky & Walker, Karr Tuttle, and Davis Wright Tremaine. She earned her JD at the University of Oregon School of Law in 2003. She is the organizing and advocacy chair of Washington's Paramount Duty.

Nicole Gomez contributed to this article.



here are the answers to

Jack Whisner's annual crossword puzzle

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Have you paid your dues? Check the date above your name on the address label. That's your due date,

Membership renewal date appears on above label

February 2017



Seattle WA 98116