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NEWS

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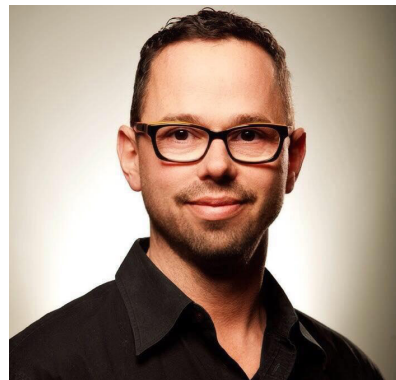


Summer Stinson, left, discusses funding McCleary. To her left are Robert Rosenberger, Ken Albinger, Eleanor Munro, Charles Davis, Eugene Lux and Dean Fournier.

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.

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.

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

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THIS IS YUUUGE!!!

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Peter Sherwin

1946 – 2017



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.



- 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, walkere1@msn.com.)



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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.



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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 Law.



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 metrodem.org.

