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FEBRUARY 2020

NEWS

A monthly publication of THE METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE

Balducci, Lewis to be February's guest speakers



Andrew Lewis



Claudia Balducci

Andrew Lewis, newly-elected Seattle City Councilmember representing District 7, will speak to the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle's members and guests at its February 12 meeting. He will give a preview of his first term and discuss his role as chair of the select committee on homelessness strategies and investments.

Prior to his election Mr Lewis worked as assistant city attorney in the Seattle City Attorney's Office. He also served as a campaign manager for Nick Licata's successful 2009 campaign for reelection to the Seattle City Council.

He holds a masters degree from the London School of Economics and a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley.

King County Council Chair Claudia Balducci, recently reelected to her second term representing District 6, will discuss council reorganization, homelessness response and Sound Transit integration at the February 26 meeting of the MDC. She chairs the council's committees for budget and fiscal management, executive finance and regional transit.

Before her election to the King County Council, Ms Balducci served as mayor of Bellevue. She also served as director of the King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention.

She earned her law degree at Columbia University School of Law.



MDC meeting notes

January 8

Programs for 2020

President Jack Whisner asked members for ideas for programs for 2020. Some ideas were: panel of presidential representatives prior to state primary, how the state primary will work, universal family care – a new idea, what's next in health care (in 2020), issues surrounding voter registration and suppression, King County update, and zero emissions legislation.

Health of the organization

Members discussed transition strategies and actions. Eleanor Munro was asked to prepare a year end income and expense statement for 2019, to propose a budget and action plan for 2020, and to present them at the January 23 meeting.

January 23

Budget

Members discussed the 2020 budget proposed by Eleanor Munro and agreed to send it to the board for approval; a vote on the budget will take place at the February 12 meeting. Members again discussed potential programs for 2020.

MDC elects new officers

Jack Whisner and Peggy Maze were elected president and vice president respectively of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle and will serve two-year terms that started September 2019.

Mr Whisner joined the MDC in 1987 and was elected to the position of vice president in 2005. He has served in that capacity most years since then. He has been active in the old 1st and 32nd districts and the current 36th District since 1972. He has served on the boards of Transportation Choices Coalition and Feet First.

Ms Maze joined the MDC in the 70s. In 1978 she moved to Washington DC to work with then Congressman Mike Lowry. While there she organized labor for the Ted Kennedy presidential campaign. After 13 years of directing campaigns out of state she again became involved with the MDC.



Treasurer

A motion was passed to elect Joanna Cullen treasurer of the MDC; that vote will also be taken at the February 12 meeting.

Please note:

The MDC board of directors will vote on the budget and the members will vote on the candidacy of Joanna Cullen for treasurer at the February 12 meeting of the MDC.

book review

On the Burning Case for a Green New Deal

By Naomi Klein

Simon and Schuster, New York, 2019

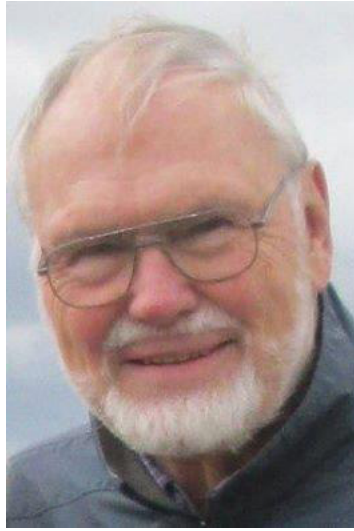
Reviewed by Nelson Dahl

Naomi Klein has produced another gem, dealing with our most pressing problem, inspired by a young Swedish activist. There could not be a more critical problem facing the entire human race than climate change. Time is running out to take action. How we produce energy, how we grow our food, how we move ourselves around and construct our buildings, must be radically transformed throughout the world, and soon. We might recall the World War II mobilizations that saw our manufacturing and consumption change overnight to fight Hitler's Germany. So it can be done.

The biggest obstacle to overcome will be the right wing climate deniers who have concluded that the actions needed would run counter to their free market belief system. In fact, it would advance many of the causes dear to the left, such as redistribution of wealth, higher taxes, more government intervention and regulations. In Klein's words, "There is simply no way to square a belief system that vilifies collective action and venerates total market freedom with a problem that demands collective action on an unprecedented scale and a dramatic reining in of the market forces that created and are deepening the crisis."

We cannot lower emissions as steeply and as rapidly as required without a sweeping industrial and infrastructure overhaul, and those things conflict with deregulated capitalism

Klein believes the Green New Deal will be a massive job creator. According to the 2018 US Energy and Employment Report, jobs in wind, solar energy efficiency, and other clean energy sectors outnumbered



Nelson Dahl

fossil jobs by a rate of three to one. The US Blue Green Alliance estimated that \$40 billion annual investment in public transit and high-speed rail for six years would produce more than 3.7 million jobs.

In summary, Klein emphasizes that responding to climate change is going to require breaking every rule in the free-market playbook, and that we should do so with great urgency. We will need to rebuild the public sphere, reverse privatizations, relocalize large parts of economies, scale back overconsumption, bring back long-term planning, heavily regulate and tax corporations, and cut military spending. This can only happen if we radically reduce the influence that corporations have over the political process.

Continued on pg 3

mark your Calendar

MDC Meetings

All MDC meetings take place noon – 1:30 pm at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 911 Stewart St, Seattle, unless otherwise noted. To enter buzz 002.

February 12, noon - 1:30pm

New Seattle City Councilmember An-

For the record

Early last October I had back surgery and as my recovery was much slower than I had expected, I produced no newsletters for October, November or December of 2019 and January of 2020. So for posterity, I list here the programs/speakers that were not covered due to my absence.

– Eleanor Munro, editor

2019

September 11 – Jim Vollendroff, director of the Behavioral Health Institute at Harborview Medical Center spoke on the mental/behavioral health crisis in Washington state.

September 25 – King County Director of Elections Julie Wise spoke on "Election Security, Voter Access and Upcoming Elections."

October 9 – Lake Forest Park City Councilmember Phillippa Kassover spoke on "The Brexit Mess."

October 23 – Betsy Bell talked about her trip to Uzbekistan in the early 80s to stop the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The story is covered in her book entitled Open Borders.

November 13 – Heather Marx, director of Downtown Mobility with the Seattle Department of Transportation, discussed the tolling of SR-99 and the steps taken by SDOT to move transit in March 2019. Carrie Avila-Mooney, director of Regional Government & Community Relations with Sound Transit, discussed Connections 2020, now underway.



drew Lewis will give a preview of his first term and discuss his role as chair of the select committee on homelessness strategies and investments.

February 28, noon – 1:30 pm

King County Council Chair Claudia Balducci will discuss council reorganization, homelessness response and Sound Transit integration.

METROPOLITAN DEMOCRATIC CLUB of SEATTLE –Board of Directors

Executive committee President Jack Whisner ▪ Vice President Peggy Maze ▪ Immediate Past President Eleanor Munro **Directors** Anquida Adams ▪ Joanna Cullen ▪ Dan Fievez ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Judi Gibbs ▪ Vinod Goswami ▪ Kiku Hayashi ▪ Lem Howell ▪ Allan Munro ▪ Dr David Rudo ▪ Elizabeth Stanton ▪ Harriet Wasserman ▪ Bert Wyman **Lifetime honored members** Kay Bullitt ▪ Sen Pete Francis ▪ Sen Jeanne Kohl-Welles ▪ Hon Nick Licata

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.

book review

The Human Tide: How Population Shaped the Modern World

by Paul Morland

Public Affairs, New York, 2019

Reviewed by Pete Francis

I have believed for many years that our planet cannot remain habitable unless we can somehow reduce our total population. This book reveals that the process is already well under way.

That is only one of the many insights offered by Mr. Morland. His subtitle is “how population shaped the modern world.” It should also say “and is shaping.”

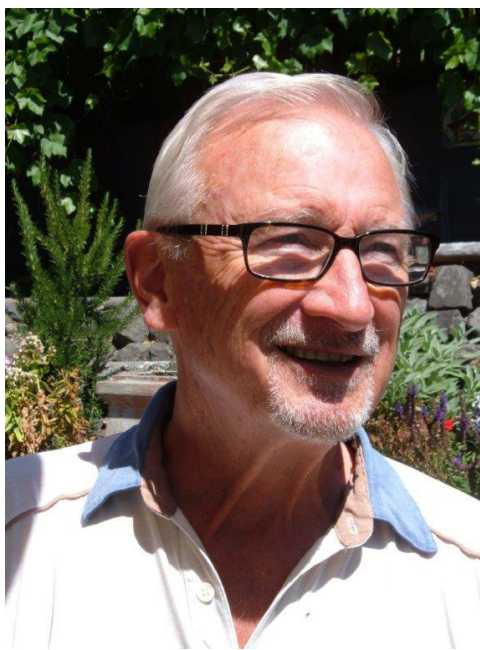
The book starts by showing how for centuries the population of a country was a large measure of its military power and economic influence. For example, how France feared the perceived fecundity of Germany, which in turn feared that of Russia.

To me the changes of the most recent 25 or 50 years are simply astounding – because for the most part they come as a complete surprise to me.

It started in England over 100 years ago. Technologies such as sewers, education, and medical advances resulted in a plunging death rate as many more children survived infancy and life expectancy soared. Birthrates stayed high and the population surged. Result: political, economic, and military might. This process spread throughout Europe, then worldwide.

Then came phase two, again starting in England. The birthrate began to plunge. What demographers call the birthrate, or fertility rate, is measured as the median number of children given birth by a woman in her lifetime. In the past this generally was between three and seven, depending on the country. So Mexico, for example, is now four times larger than when I first visited there.

But now all over the world the fertility rate is much lower and still going down. It is below two, less than replacement, in the U.S., France, Russia, China, and South America. In many countries the rate is now 1.7, 1.5, or less. Many of us have heard of this phenomenon in Italy and Japan, but it seems to have spread



Pete Francis

to every place but sub-Saharan Africa, which is trending in the direction of the rest of the world, but still well above two children per woman.

What has caused this massive shift? Well, no need for so many children if one or two are likely to grow up and grow old. Emancipation of women, education, availability of birth control and some religions had a rigid cultural imperative to have lots of children to take care of them in their old age. Maybe not, apparently.)

So what is next? Without immigration the US population would already be shrinking. Japan is predicted to fall from 120 million to 80 million by midcentury. How do we deal with more retired people than working people? Keep tuned and keep on watching Japan.



Continued from pg 2

With these heavy odds, what chance do we have to arouse the US public enough to overcome the establishment? Time is running out, but I suspect our best hope lies with the young people. It's their future. It's going to take a huge effort to mount a force large enough and persistent enough to change the corporate culture and bring the government to their side.

For Greta Tunberg and her generation, the future of their habitat is surely worth it.

obituary

Ed Heavey 1928 – 2019

Ed Heavey, a long-time member of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle, died September 27, 2019 at the age of 90. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Jo, who was secretary of the MDC 1988 – 2001.

Mr Heavey earned his degree in law from the University of Washington in 1961. He was elected to the Washington House of Representatives in 1967 and served two terms. He later served two terms as one of the first ever King County councilmembers, then as a King County Superior Court judge, and finally as a mediation consultant.

Private ceremonies were held October 2019.

MDC's 2020 calendar

Following are the dates of meetings and events of the Metropolitan Democratic Club of Seattle for 2020. All MDC meetings take place, noon – 1:30 pm at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 911 Stewart St, Seattle. A Chautauqua Afternoon will take place at 3618 SW Orchard, Seattle. The location of the Winter Holiday Party and fundraiser(s) are to be determined.

January 8 and 22 – MDC meetings

February 12 and 26 – MDC meetings

March 11 and 25 – MDC meetings

April 8 and 22 – MDC meetings

May 13 and 27 – MDC meetings

June 10 – MDC meeting

June 14 – A Chautauqua Afternoon

June 24 – MDC meeting; primary endorsement proceedings

July 8 and 22 – MDC meetings

August 12 and 26 – MDC meetings

September 9 – MDC meeting

September 23 – MDC meeting; general endorsement proceedings; discuss fundraisers

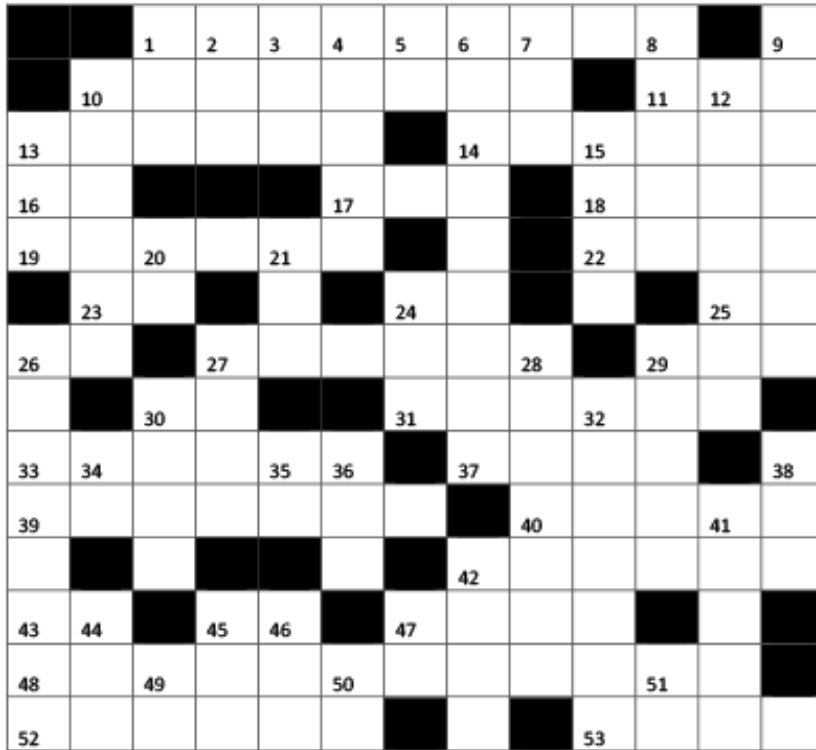
October 14 and 28 – MDC meetings

November 11 – MDC meeting

December 9 – MDC meeting

December 13 – Winter Holiday Party

Jack Whisner's Happy New Year Crossword Puzzle



Across

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. New Bellevue Councilmember | 29. New elec. light |
| 10. New Seattle District Four | 30. State with MARTA |
| 11. Roma three | 31. Pilot lights or beaus |
| 13. Kayak thruster | 33. Matrix star |
| 14. Potato tool | 37. How to on-line site, in brief |
| 16. Oakland CA transit | 39. Seattle District Six, former paperboy |
| 17. Alpine travel plank | 40. Sea, whiskey, or tea |
| 18. Jolie target | 42. Explosions or good times |
| 19. With dirty fuel synonym, Councilmember | 43. B-ball mistaken change of possession |
| 22. Cyber standards NGO | 45. Seattle quadrant with routes 7, 14, and 36 |
| 23. Egyptian sun god | 47. Young equine |
| 24. Dentist may request | 48. My greeting to you |
| 25. w/ Gates, big law firm | 52. Worn away |
| 26. Bus stop beyond int. | 53. Fret |
| 27. Re-elected Seattle District Five | |

Down

1. Garden or feather
2. Increase
3. Einstein thy.
4. 3rd Avenue downstairs grocery
5. Busy MLB infield position
6. New Issaquah Councilmember
7. Provides Tokyo flights, in brief
8. Community beliefs
9. Re-elected Seattle District One
10. Nate McMillan is their coach
12. Crown Affair and Oceans 11
13. Dog foot
15. Ado or gravy task
20. City of NBA Lakers and Clippers
21. Cheney WA Eagles
24. Pound sound
26. New Redmond Councilmember
27. Densely populated island
28. New county Councilmember, attorney
29. New Seattle District Seven, attorney
30. Pretty Woman Richard
32. New Seattle District Two
34. Rides in UFO
35. What UK may exit in Brexit
36. Grounded fast jet, in brief
38. Obsolete TV movie player
41. Brick and mortar Amazon competition
42. Opposite sterns
44. Dory thruster
45. C. Best is chief
46. Sight organ
47. Iron in chem.
49. North Italy river
50. Fargo St.
51. Internet suffix part, in word

Answers in the next edition of The MDC News.



Membership renewal date appears on above label

February 2020

METROPOLITAN
DEMOCRATIC CLUB
OF SEATTLE

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Return Service Requested

