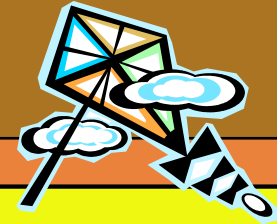


31st District Democrat's Newsletter



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Date-8/11/08

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Meeting Notice

The 31st L.D. Democrats will meet on
Wednesday: August 20, 2008

At
Marion Grange
27725 Buckley-Summer Hwy E
Buckley

BBQ and coffee Hour 6PM

Meeting 7PM

Program for August

- We are having a 31st LD BBQ. We will supply the hamburgers (as well as veggie burgers) and hot dogs, chips and water. If want bring your favorite dish!
- Susan Eidenschink, a board member of Health Care for All-Washington (HCFA WA) and a board member of the Pierce County Chapter of HCFA WA, will speak about her organizations goal to bring an affordable comprehensive health care coverage for all in WA (see next page).

“Take Back our Country and Give Back to Our Veterans” Banquet

The 31st Legislatative District had our second banquet to “Take Back our Country”. This year we felt we needed to show our support to our local veterans who have fought in the recent war/occupation in Iraq and Afhanistan, so we added “Give Back to our Veterans”.

The banquet was a huge success!! We owe a great deal gratitude to all our wonderful volunteers!! We had as special speaker our own Democratic Governor Christine Gregoire. Also speaking was Chris Hurst, Ron Weigelt, John Ladenburg and Calvin Goings. The banquet was basically sold out and it was a wonderful evening. The Buttered Biscuit catered the evening and, as usual, the food was great!

To “Give Back to our Veterans” we decided to raise money 3 different ways. We had a silent auction during the dinner, sold raffle tickets for 3 pairs of tickets to two different Mariners games and collected donations. We raised \$6,500 for the non-profit Disabled Veterans Golf Course at the American Lake VA. Thank you to all who contribute to this very important cause. Winners of the raffle tickets were Julie Center, Rick Baird and Bill Harrington!!!

The 31st District Democrats want to thank everyone for making this banquet a fantastic success!!!

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Washington State Primaries are August 19th

The following are candidates the 31st LD endorsed:

- 1) **Chris Gregoire, Governor**
- 2) **Darcy Burner, 8th CD candidate**
- 3) **Chris Hurst, State Representative Position 2**
- 4) **Ron Weigelt, State Representative Position 1**
- 5) **John Ladenburg, Attorney General**
- 6) **Peter Goldmark, Lands Commissioner**
- 7) **Mary Fairhurst, State Supreme Court Position 3**
- 8) **Charles Johnson, State Supreme Court position 4**
- 9) **Monica Benton, King Country Superior Court**
- 10) **Jean Bouffard, King County Superior Court**
- 11) **Sergio Armijo, Pierce County Superior Court**

See our website for further updates: <http://31stdistrictdemocrats.org>.

Initiative 26

For King County residents you will be asked to vote on Initiative 26 which is to remove the "R" and "D" (political affiliations) after a candidates name. If you are like me, you would of received several flyers to vote yes. Well, I feel I need to counter those adds to my fellow "Democrats" who believe in transparency and openness to our government. Removing the political identifiers will not stop the bickering the adds claim is going on. The differences that exist are because of the political ideology that exists in the two parties. Hiding what ideology you believe in will just make it harder for us (The People) to decide who we want. Republicans do this when they know their party is not popular -they want to hide it. A example is Dino running under the GOP party. He doesn't even have the courage to fess up to the fact that **he is a Republican**. He is trying to hide from it. Don't let them get away with it. If you believe in transparency of our government officials then vote "NO".

Health Care Speaker

Many people believe our health care system is in a crisis. There are many Washingtonians who don't insurance and those of us who do have insurance have seen our premiums rise dramatically with less coverage. This months speaker, Susan Eidschink, will talk about her organizations goal to bring to Washington residents an affordable health care coverage for all using a public financing system. Susan will discuss the differences between single payer to universal health care. Susan, in addition to her work with the Health Care for All, is also a member of the League of Women Voters of Washington. So bring your questions concerning the different health care programs that are proposed out there.

ONGOING FOOD DRIVE

Please bring any food item for our ongoing food drive to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

War Statistics (<http://www.antiwar.com>)
4134 US Military Deaths (Iraq)
569 US Military Deaths (Afghanistan)
30490 US Military Wounded (Iraq)
151,000-1,252,595 Iraq Civilian Deaths