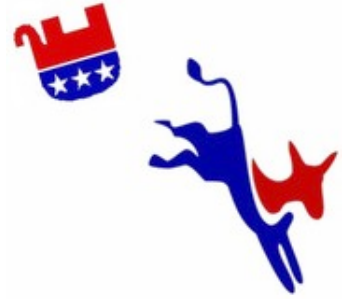




UCLICK

Laugh. Play. Think. @ GoComics.com



## 31<sup>st</sup> Democrats Newsletter

Meetings are held at the Marion Grange, 27725  
Summer-Buckley Hwy E, Buckley  
[www.31stdistrictdemocrats.org](http://www.31stdistrictdemocrats.org)

(Organized by R. Craig Sanders-email:  
[z1n45rgiarc@netscape.com](mailto:z1n45rgiarc@netscape.com) and Patricia Szot-

email:szot.patricia@gmail.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

Sierra Club has named 2 Washington State Colleges (#3 Evergreen State College and #4 University of Washington) in the top 5 GREENEST schools in the country.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Monthly Meeting-Sept 15th

\*The 31<sup>st</sup> L.D. Democrats will reorganize (elect Officers and Chairs) in December- An ad hoc Nominating Committee will be formed at the September meeting.

\* If you have any campaign signs for Peggy Levesque, Ray Bunk or Ron Weigelt, please bring them to the meeting so the candidates may pick them up.

\*Robert Satiacum will speak about proposed name change for Mt. Rainier.

\*Maurice Classen will speak in favor of King County Proposition One.

\*The 31<sup>st</sup> Dems are participating in the Puyallup Fair (Sept. 10-26) a volunteer sign-up sheet will be available (includes a ticket to the Fair).

\*\*\*\*\*

The results of the top two primaries held on Aug 17<sup>th</sup>. The first two individuals listed (and highlighted in yellow) for each race are the ones to appear on the November ballot. These values were taken from data displayed on 8/25/10 at the following website

<http://vote.wa.gov/Elections/WEI/Results.aspx?ElectionID=36&JurisdictionTypeID=3&ViewMode=All>). \* Indicates incumbent- all incumbents (R and D) did very well.

<u>Race</u>	<u>Total Votes</u>	<u>Percent</u>
-------------	--------------------	----------------

## US Senator

*Patty Murray (prefers Democratic Party)	663,567	46.24%
Dino Rossi (prefers Republican Party)	478,629	33.35%
Clint Didier (prefers Republican Party)	182,868	12.74%
Paul Akers (prefers Republican Party)	36,821	2.57%
James Mercer (states no Party)	11,945	0.83%
Charles Allen (prefers Democratic Party)	11,392	0.79%
Bob Burr (prefers Democratic Party)	11,214	0.78%
Norma Gruber (prefers Republican Party)	9,034	0.63%
Mike Latimer (prefers Republican Party)	6,455	0.45%
Mike The Mover (prefers Democratic Party)	5,947	0.41%
Goodspaceguy (prefers Democratic Party)	4,643	0.32%
Will Baker (prefers Reform Party)	4,528	0.32%
Mohammad Said (prefers Centrist Party)	3,333	0.23%
Schalk Leonard (states no Party)	2,780	0.19%
William Chovil (prefers Republican Party)	2,011	0.14%
	1,435,167	100%

## 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

*Dave Reichert (prefers Republican Party)	75,314	47.22%
Suzan DelBene (prefers Democratic Party)	42,871	26.88%
Tom Cramer (prefers Democratic Party)	15,132	9.49%
Ernest Huber (prefers Republican Party)	9,294	5.83%
Tim Dillon (prefers Republican Party)	8,187	5.13%
Keith Arnold (prefers Democratic Party)	3,357	2.10%
Robin Adair (prefers Independent Party)	2,616	1.64%
Boleslaw Orlinski (prefers Democratic Party)	1,740	1.09%
Caleb Love Mardini (states no Party)	973	0.61%
	159,484	100%

## 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

*Adam Smith (prefers Democratic Party)	63,120	51.24%
Richard Muri (prefers Republican Party)	31,771	25.79%
Jim Postma (prefers Republican Party)	24,218	19.66%
Roy Olson (prefers Green Party)	4,081	3.31%
	123,129	100%

## 31<sup>st</sup> LD State Senator

*Pam Roach (prefers Republican Party)	10,329	40.87%
Matt Richardson (prefers Republican Party)	5,758	22.78%
Ron Weigelt (prefers Democratic Party)	5,012	19.83%
Raymond Bunk (prefers Democratic Party)	4,174	16.52%
	25,273	100%

### 31<sup>st</sup> LD State Representative Pos 1

Cathy Dahlquist (prefers Republican Party)	9,165	36.76%
Shawn Bunney (prefers Republican Party)	8,030	32.21%
Peggy Levesque (prefers Democratic Party)	7,735	31.03%
	24,930	100%

### 31<sup>st</sup> LD State Representative Pos 2

*Christopher Hurst (prefers Independent Dem Party)	14,018	58.02%
Patrick Reed (prefers Republican Party)	7,564	31.31%
Daniel Geske (prefers Republican Party)	2,578	10.67%
	24,160	100%

If you aren't pleased with these results and you didn't vote in the primary-well look in a mirror for the reason.

.....  
**Every article, commentary or letter to the editor represents the views of the author.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### No Democrat Advances to General Election in Senate race-an open letter to the 31<sup>st</sup> LD

Pam Roach needs to thank Democratic leaders for setting her up to retain her 31st District Senate seat despite all the strikes against her from the Republican Party! This seat was ripe for a Democratic takeover. It is well known that Pam Roach was voted out of the Republican Senate caucus for her outrageous behavior - she doesn't even have the support of her own colleagues. Her political views are so narrow that she doesn't represent the changing demographic of the District. And, despite her tenure, a fairly strong Republican challenger was entered in the race, offering another Republican and diminishing her chances.

So, why did no Democrats advance to the General election? Democratic Party leaders using the ole 'smoke filled room' to make deals decided how this election would be won. It didn't work, it wasn't right AND it allows Roach to keep her seat.

In 2008, I ran against Dan Roach and pulled 22,550 votes, the most of any Democratic challenger to date. I decided that I would make another run at that seat and began the campaign effort in September 2009.

In early 2010, Chris Hurst notified me that a newcomer had been recruited (Ray Bunk, fellow Police Officer) and that he would be running for the House seat held by Dan Roach. He believed that a "cop couldn't lose" and wanted me to step aside. Wanting

to avoid a contested Democratic primary, and despite the time and money I already put into the House race, I agreed to run for the Senate seat against Pam Roach in order to give Ray an uncontested primary election.

Both Ray and I started moving forward with this arrangement including pitching our candidacies to the 31st Legislative District Democrats. We both started fundraising with Ray as the House candidate and me running for Senate. I obtained some pledges including the important nod from the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee, including a promise of funds at the end of the Legislative session. That commitment of early money to jumpstart my campaign was certainly a welcomed promise. Unfortunately, it was short lived.

In March I got a call from Ray Bunk. He shocked me by saying he was switching to the Senate race because he was asked to do so by the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee. He explained that the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee (yes, the one that promised me support) had agreed to support him. Ray's call was followed by calls from Chris Hurst and Democratic Party activist Karen Willard supporting Ray; a call to the Senate Democrats confirmed that they were switching their support without further explanation.

How odd! I had been asked to step out of the House race by Hurst so that Ray could run without a Democratic competitor and I had gotten early support from the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee. Only to have a small group of Democratic Party leaders renege on their pledges of support to me in favor of their hand-picked newcomer, Ray Bunk.

This was the beginning of the end for the Democrats in this race and the beginning of an easy re-election for Pam Roach or her Republican contender. Fast forward to post primary election analysis. It is not sour grapes to be angry with the result of the primary. Had I been advantaged by the promise of support and funding from the Senate Democratic Campaign Committee, as originally promised, I would not have had to split progressive votes with Ray Bunk and would be headed for the general election.

Instead, thanks to changing positions by Democratic leaders, the progressive vote in both the 31st Legislative District House and Senate races was fractured and NO Democrats are advancing to the General Election in either of these two races.

If we are ever going to pick up legislative seats in the 31st District and if the Democratic leadership is serious about taking and holding seats in Olympia OR retaining Democratic strength in Washington DC, lessons need to be learned by Democratic voters, elected officials and party leadership. So for now, it looks like Pam Roach is headed back to the Senate and our prime opportunity for taking back the seat, is gone!

I am interested in learning your take and lessons learned from this fiasco so please, reply with your comments (ron4senate@comcast.net) - positive or negative about my campaign and my take on the outcome.

Thank you to those of you who supported my race for the Senate here in the 31st District. I was continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of supporters like you, dedicated to change based on hope, kindness, and compassion. I continue to believe that working together we can achieve more, that we can have responsible leadership representing us in Olympia. I look forward to working with you in 2010 and beyond.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,  
Ron Weigelt (ron4senate@comcast.net)

\*\*\*\*\*

Open Letter to the 31st

While I wonder if our readers are still bothering to read the rambling tirades of we Executive Board Members (EBMs), I still feel there is a need to try to set the record straight. The article in our August 31<sup>st</sup> Newsletter titled, "What Happened in Three Parts", in my opinion is, again, an example of the misuse of quotes & even some facts.

To accept 31<sup>st</sup> Chair, MJ McGalliard's view that our endorsement process was "["manipulated"](#) & that there is "["a viral campaign of disinformation that resulted in a blatant and hostile takeover"](#)" of our June meeting, would require a true belief in conspiracies. Also, McGalliard trying to blame it on State Representative, Chris Hurst's response to damaging statements in Vice Chair King-Co, & Outreach Chair, Patti Szot's article in the 31<sup>st</sup> June Newsletter, is off the mark. Chris had every right to question the article, or as best stated by April Hurst, "["Szot lied"](#)!"

The endorsement process was postponed to the July meeting for one main reason. Candidates were concerned that EBMs wouldn't stop publishing negative statements, especially on the internet. This was due to negative articles in the June 31<sup>st</sup> Newsletter (Szot's article attacked Chris & the 31<sup>st</sup> Treasurer & Newsletter Editor, Craig Sanders' article supported Szot). That coupled with the newly, adopted, endorsement process caused our candidates concern. The new endorsement process, when instructing a 31<sup>st</sup> member to rate a candidate asked, "["May we have your permission to anonymously post your responses \(comments\) on the Web..."](#)

After Szot's scathing newsletter article, disseminated by the internet, (public as it gets), why would Chris or other candidates trust the same EBMs to treat them fairly? That's why the other candidates at the June meeting, hearing what happened to Chris, quickly joined him & they along with past 31<sup>st</sup> Chairs, other EBMs & 31<sup>st</sup> members, postponed the endorsements. We (I voted for the motion) did it by Roberts' Rules of Order... is getting the troops organized & speaking up, manipulation or a conspiracy?

At the same meeting, McGalliard, most EBMs (including me) & others used Robert's Rules of Order, to cut the meeting short. I was told, this was to stop the anticipated removal of Szot, Sanders & possibly our Chair McGalliard from the Executive Board. Three previous 31<sup>st</sup> Chairs & Chris, in an email to 31<sup>st</sup> members, condemned the articles & asked for Szot & Sanders removals. Was McGalliard's participation in cutting the meeting short a hostile act

or manipulation? In my humble opinion, this is the pot calling the kettle black!

At the July meeting, to get candidates comfortable with the endorsement process, the Executive Board eliminated the entire rating process. Instead a simple endorse or not endorse vote was used & Chris was endorsed.

I also supported ending the June meeting, because at that point I was unsure about what would happen to the Executive Board. Later, I supported letting Szot & Sanders finish out their terms. My decision was because I found out that, if Szot & Sanders were removed, at least one & possibly more EBMs would resign. Without anyone willing to step up & take over their duties, I didn't think, in an election year, we couldn't afford to lose possibly almost half of the EBMs.

Then, McGalliard's digresses about the nomination process' [weighted votes](#). The votes were weighted because Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) are charged with the responsibility of representing their precinct. It's simple, more folks, more votes. Also, the primary election definitely confirmed Chris' support in the 31<sup>st</sup>. Without a doubt, that should squash any skepticism that the one vote per PCO would have changed the outcome of Chris' nomination.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Secretary, Thomas Cramer, who is serving his 1<sup>st</sup> term as a EBM, then takes off, on Chris' attempt to get some prospective members accepted, in time, for the July endorsement meeting. What Cramer leaves out is that the 4/3 majority vote to return the cash for membership money to Chris, was due primarily to Szot's false information concerning a Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) opinion. I made the motion after being told by Szot that, in essence, we had to get the same data as for donations, which meant, in addition to the names & addresses Chris had supplied, we had to get occupation data

The 31<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Pierce Co., Kathy Lorimer who previously served four years as Treasurer & was knowledgeable about past practice, tried unsuccessfully to get EBMs to accept the prospective members. Did her advice fall on deaf ears because, as Cramer told me, Lorimer; Membership Chair, Diane Kerlin; & I, all long time active Democrats, were ["taken in by Chris"](#)?

Too, why were Szot & Program Chair, Mark Boswell the only ones designated to discuss the cash issue, a Treasurer's duty, with the PDC? Why weren't Lorimer or myself, who agreed with Chris & who were present at the same State meeting, asked to join in the PDC discussion?

But it is the third part written by Boswell that is the most confusing. Boswell, in relation to the prospective member issue, stated, that Chris, ["created an adverse situation by providing nothing more than a list of names and cash with no signed documentation of intention for these people."](#) There are reasons that the Washington State Democratic Party has by-laws and why they require that suitable by-laws exist for the subordinate (the 31<sup>st</sup> LD) [Democratic Party organizations.](#)"

What created the adverse situation, was some EBMs' questionable efforts to find a way not to accept the prospective members. No where in the 31<sup>ST</sup> By-laws does it say anything about intent or requiring anything in writing. What it says in [Article II. Membership, Section 3.](#) is, ["Any other person \(Sections 1&2 cover PCOs\) may become a member by declaring to be a Democrat and by paying their dues under Article III."](#) The prospective members, many who were previous 31<sup>st</sup> members, who wanted to ensure by voting at the July meeting that Chris, their Democrat State Representative, got endorsed, unmistakably declared themselves as Democrats. Did they only want to attend the endorsement meeting? Possibility, but isn't supporting the Democrat candidate of your choice, the main reason we are 31<sup>st</sup> members?

Also, there is the usual \$31 dues instead of the \$5 & \$10 given Chris. Again, you be the judge, the [31<sup>st</sup> By-laws, Article III](#) state, ["Dues shall be \\$31, however, members may pay what they can afford, with a minimum of \\$5 for full rights and privileges."](#) Did these prospective members, some who probably only wanted to vote on Chris' endorsement, want to pay the minimum for that privilege?

Next Boswell quotes some of Ms. Hansen's (a PDC employee) earliest advise. Best I can discern, when Hansen, wrote these earlier emails & spoke to Boswell and Szot, she didn't realize that membership, not donations was the issue.

Not quoted, by Boswell was Hansen's last email. By then Hansen had an understanding, from Chris, of how she hadn't gotten the correct information. In it Hansen stated, "[Your organization is not required to return the funds that it received for membership dues.](#)" Hansen also shares, that she understood that we didn't have the names & addresses of those applying & that we still needed to get them. Early on, Chris gave us names & addresses, but in Szot's emails it looks as if, that wasn't mentioned. What do you think, is sending those with a vested interest in the outcome, to get & explain advise, like having the fox guard the chicken coop?

In closing, I want to issue [an apology to the prospective members](#) that were, in my & other EBM's opinions, unfairly turned away. But, if you have read this & previous newsletter articles, I am sure you can differentiate that we EBM's have quite a division of opinions.

Division in an election year hurts. I can't help wondering, if all the EBM's had gotten behind Ray Bunk who the PCOs elected to be the 31<sup>st</sup> State Senate nominee, would we have Ray, instead of two Republicans, to vote for in November? Too, if some EBM's had used the same energy they spent in trying to exonerate those who attacked Chris, on getting Peggy elected, could Peggy have made the November ballot? Peggy only needed 294 more votes.

With all that said, I still believe & hope you realize the need for & support the right to have all versions of the issues heard. Also, I hope you will agree that everyone, no matter how wrong you think they are, has the right to their opinion.

More important, if you would like to see thing change in the 31st, get involved. The election of EBM's with take place in December 2010...please sign up &/or help get new faces on the Board.

Sandy Loveland  
3 term PCO 31-619  
31<sup>st</sup> 2 term State Committee Woman  
31<sup>st</sup> Pierce Co. Committee Woman

\*\*\*\*\*

As | See |t by R. Craig Sanders

## REPUBLICANS AND FEAR

The Republican plan for winning elections becomes more obvious as time goes on. As each election passes, the Republicans run out of real issues to get elected and the naked truth is revealed just a little bit more. The Republican game plan is to act like they care about social issues during the election cycle, but as soon as they get elected, they return to doing the bidding of the wealthy top 2% of the population. In other words, as soon as an election comes up, they pretend to care so that the vast population of low-information voters will think that the Republican leaders are on their side and will vote Republican. They don't really care about social issues beyond getting elected. They don't really care about the United States of America. They don't really care about "We the People". All they care about is serving the top 2%.

How do the Republicans win elections? They use FEAR. Their main targets to appeal to are white, old, rural, male southerners (WORMS). These are the usual low-information voters that don't pay close attention to the issues and are easily duped. The Republican leaders whip up a frenzy of FEAR in these people and they, in turn, inflame other low-information voters and make it seem as though everyone is AFRAID of these same things. The "news" media (especially FOX) play along with this for two reasons; first, it gets

people to watch their programs or buy their newspapers and second, they have the very same (especially FOX) agenda, to keep the money and power in the hands of the top 2%.

The Republicans use WEDGE ISSUES (like Muslims, Gays, Guns, God, Illegal Immigrants, Blacks, Communists, Socialists, Terrorists, etc.) to keep the American people AFRAID. These WEDGE ISSUES are not very important to the welfare of America, but they are designed to DIVIDE AND CONQUER the country. What the small segment of the population that believes all of this garbage doesn't realize is that using FEAR to win elections is essentially a page out of the NAZI handbook. Hermann Goering (one of Hitler's very top men) revealed after WWII that it was easy to get the people to go along with the NAZI agenda. All that they had to do was make the people FEARFUL. Once they were AFRAID, the population would do and give the NAZI Party anything that they asked for, including their civil rights, as long as they promised that they would protect the people (sound familiar?).

This plan of using FEAR works. Hitler used it, McCarthy used it, George Wallace used it (unsuccessfully), George Bush and Dick Cheney used it constantly during their reign of terror (remember weapons of mass destruction, mushroom clouds, Saddam Hussein, terror alerts, etc.?). And they used it because a large portion of the American population keeps falling for it. America has a huge defense budget just because we are so AFRAID. Unfortunately, Conservative Democrats have started noticing (or always have known) that FEAR works. The Blue Dog Democrats seem to be the same kind of people as the Republicans. All that they seem to want to do is stir up FEAR so that they can get elected. The sad truth is that many of the things that Americans are doing (like Afghanistan and Iraq, protesting Muslim Community Centers, burning Korans) are actually making us less safe. It's also playing into the hands (like Bush) of Osama bin Laden, who wants to show that Americans hate Muslims and incite the Muslim people against America.

First, you make the people AFRAID. Then you blame an easily-identifiable group for causing the problems. Currently, the people that are being blamed for causing the problems are Illegal Immigrants, Muslims, and Liberals. It has previously been Gays, Blacks, Communists (we don't talk about Communists now that our major trading partner is Communist China), Socialists, Atheists, and Liberals, etc. It's really rather fascinating to watch people being manipulated and how easy it is. I've actually had conservative friends that recently have expressed their concerns over the Deficit and how we're spending our children's future. These very same people had absolutely no problem during the Bush years when we were spending astronomical amounts of money (off the books) on the Iraq and Afghanistan occupations.

THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR. IF THE REPUBLICANS GAIN CONTROL OF EITHER THE U.S. HOUSE OR THE SENATE, THIS COUNTRY WILL SUFFER AGAIN (LIKE CLINTON WITH A REPUBLICAN CONGRESS) AS THE REPUBLICANS DO EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO MAKE PRESIDENT OBAMA AND THE DEMOCRATS LOOK AS BAD AS POSSIBLE. AGAIN, THE REPUBLICAN LEADERS DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT AMERICA.

Please don't misunderstand. There are plenty of real things to be worried about; Global Warming, Overpopulation, Famine and Peak Oil come to mind off hand. It's just that nobody seems to care about worrying about these real problems. If you're going to be AFRAID of something, be AFRAID of real problems.

When did Americans start to become AFRAID? That's a whole other subject. I think that it may have started with the Atom Bomb. It's kind of difficult to think about fairness and equality when you're practicing Duck and Cover methods of surviving a nuclear holocaust.

Unfortunately, FEAR leads to HATE. And that, too, is another subject.

\*\*\*\*\*

YES! WE ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

We keep hearing negative press about President Obama. From the Republicans we hear how he is spending so much money and how it isn't helping improve the economy. They tell us how terrible the deficit is and how bad it will be for our kids. From the Democrats we hear how disappointed they are that he hasn't done enough and what he has done has been watered down.

I know that during the previous administration I started making a list of the horrors that President Bush was bringing about. We all know about legal steps skipped just to do what he wanted and so many appalling things. The policy of “unpaid for” tax cuts, especially for the rich, were causing a diminishing middle class and heading us towards becoming like a third world country. I strongly believe we are headed in the right direction now, but have wondered how to express that and impress upon people how much President Obama really has accomplished. I recently learned of a website that tells us just that. It is [www.politifact.com](http://www.politifact.com). It goes into detail about the Obama promises, which have been kept so far, broken, etc. Currently the score reads like this:

## Tracking Obama’s promises

121 [Promise Kept](#)  
39 [Compromise](#)  
22 [Promise Broken](#)  
81 [Stalled](#)  
240 [In the Works](#)  
3 [Not yet rated](#)

Details on each promise are explained. Check it out yourself.

Our president is actually doing an amazing job. How many previous presidents could have successfully completed so much in such a short time? Make a list of the progress made and pass it along to your Friends.

By the way, while you are at the Politifact website, check out the truth-o-meter on Glen Beck...

Diane Kerlin

\*\*\*\*\*

### Reflections on Labor Day

As a member of the working class, I feel the American dream is under siege. Corporations and their conservative backers are invested in a race to the bottom and they are trying to pit one set of middle class workers against another. Sadly they have been quite effective at it. I believe they have made a conscious choice to sabotage this president's agenda. To paint the president as un-American, maybe to distract and divide us from seeing their real agenda. Union members are portrayed as bloodsuckers, the unemployed as lazy, under educated people as undeserving and migrants as the scapegoat. They plead poverty as they systematically ask for more concessions, fewer benefits, lower wages, ever higher medical costs and more productivity demands. Only we are asked to give, while they demand even more tax breaks, and less regulation. They point out that our students are not prepared for the labor market. What have they done to improve or fund our education system? They have left our students and their parents with huge college debt. Hiding/shielding corporate profit from tax collection and Bush era tax cuts for the wealthy have helped to put a monstrous hole in our education system. Closing the Dept. of Education, as some of their rabble rousers suggest is another way to pit us against one another. If they are able to buy the next election, I expect an even stronger push against the American worker, during the next presidential election.

I am a union worker. I do not always agree with my union, but I know without them I would be in worse financial shape and my rights as employee would not be as well protected.. The Dreamliner debacle is the best recent example of what happens when you outsource and use non-union employees. Where are all the quality control problems and faulty parts coming from? Overseas and South Carolina. Surprise! Surprise! My family has always been union and proud. Mom was in the teachers union in just about it's infancy. My dad returned from WWII

with what we now recognize as PTSD from his 2 years as a POW in Europe. He recently told me more about those years and his return to the American workforce. It was rocky to say the least. He tried to work in the mines, but had too many flashbacks, to the cooler and being confined in small dark spaces. He then went to work on the railroad, but flashed back to being strafed, as their POW trains were interspersed with weapons trains traversing Italy. He then went to a printing company, but had too many bosses who in his flashbacks looked like Gestapo and his guards. He didn't last long there. Finally he went to a plastics company. The Union there supported him and helped him cope with flashbacks. They defended him and intervened to maintain his job, until he could adjust to the horrors he had experienced. He eventually became a shop steward and a good one at that. He retired with a good pension. The American dream.

That is what I want for myself and my children. We can compromise on many things, but living wages, decent healthcare and a retirement not dependent upon Social Security is a must for everyone. It should be a human right, not just for the wealthy and their corporate partners. It is a human right for every American. This labor day reminds us we are in a war against corporate terrorists, who would destroy our way of life for the almighty buck. That is who they worship!

Kathy Lorimer, Vice Chair -Pierce county 31<sup>st</sup> LD Democrats and WFSCE local 53

\*\*\*\*\*

**HERE is some water cooler information---**

## Plans for the Bush Tax Cuts

Income Level	Average cut (\$) per taxpayer under each Plan	
	Democratic	Republican
< \$10,000	53*	52
10,000-20,000	387	387
20,000-30,000	771*	700
30,000-40,000	896*	894
40,000-50,000	916*	909
50,000-75,000	1,132*	1,119
75,000-100,000	1,900*	1,871
100,000-200,000	3,760*	3,090
200,000-500,000	6,743	7,152*
500,000-1 million	6,701	17,467*
1 million +	6,349	103,835*

Source: Joint Committee on Taxation  
Washington Post, Aug 12

I keep hearing from the right that we should keep the Bush tax cuts. You know the "Tax Cuts for the Wealthy" that were originally voted on in 2001 with a sunset clause (the only way Bush could get enough votes), the sunset is December 2010. Because the tax cuts had a sunset clause, the budget that is being discussed now for 2011 does not include them. To continue the tax cuts in any form, FUNDS NEED TO BE FOUND FOR THEM (unlike what Republicans are saying). The table above shows how the Bush tax cut works (Republican plan) and

what the Democrats propose. The Republicans "claim" that the old Bush tax cuts (Republican plan) will give people in the middle class more money back than the Democratic tax plan. The Number with the \* in the table above is the greatest amount back for a specific income level under each plan. As you can see the Democratic plan gives the most back for people earning

up to \$200,000 year. However, if you earn MORE THAN \$200,000 (how many of you out there reading this earn more than \$200,000/ year) you are the BIG winners under the old Bush tax cut plan (Republican plan). So Republicans want to add a HUGE amount to our National debt by giving tremendous tax cuts to the top 2% of the population. Extending the old Bush tax cut plan will add another 700 BILLION dollars to the deficit. Republicans would offset that cost by reducing food stamps, reducing amount for social security and reducing Medicare payment. Typical of Republicans, their idea is to give money to the wealthy off the backs of the everyday person. What do you think? Go to the link below and vote-  
<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/08/06/eveningnews/main6750739.shtml>

Dino Rossi believes that 1/3 of the people in the state of Washington make more than \$200,000 a year because he wants to extend the old Bush tax cuts-read about it at the following website-  
<http://thinkprogress.org/2010/08/18/rossi-rich/>

\*\*\*\*\*

Published on Monday, August 2, 2010 by [OtherWords](#)

## **Multinational Shell Game Hurts Local Business**

***Tax havens create a fundamentally unlevel playing field between multinational corporations with overseas tax havens and local Main Street businesses.***

by Debra Ruh

As a small business owner, I pay my taxes and give charitable contributions to ensure that my community is a healthy and vibrant place. My company is dedicated to making technology, communications, and the Internet in line with federal disability laws and accessible to everyone--including wounded veterans and people with all types of disabilities. The success of my business is tied to my community's health.

So I was troubled to realize, thanks in part to overseas tax havens, that we have one tax system for multinational companies and another for small businesses and ordinary taxpayers.

Tax havens enable American multinationals to shift income and assets between global subsidiaries in order to dodge taxes. They pretend their profits are earned at their subsidiary in a low-tax haven country, such as the Grand Cayman Islands, and their losses generated in Hometown, USA, so they pay little or no taxes.

Business and Investors Against Tax Haven Abuse, a new coalition pressing for change, estimates that U.S. multinationals avoid at least \$37 billion a year thanks to tax havens. Responsible Main Street businesses and individual taxpayers are left to pay the tax bills for defense, schools, roads, and other infrastructure investments vital to our quality of life.

Tax havens create a fundamentally unlevel playing field between multinational corporations with overseas tax havens and local Main Street businesses. U.S. small businesses (firms with less than \$10 million in annual revenues) pay an effective tax rate of 19.8 percent in federal taxes, according to a 2009 report by the Small Business Administration.

Meanwhile, many multinationals are paying considerably less. In 2008 Goldman Sachs, with 29 subsidiaries located in offshore tax havens, reported profits of over \$2 billion. They paid federal taxes of \$14 million, an

effective tax rate of just 1 percent-- less than a third of what they paid their CEO Lloyd Blankfein (\$42.9 million).

I don't mind competing with the big boys. I have my advantages too. I'm anchored in my community and accountable to my customers. I can make decisions about my business without having my chain yanked by someone in New York City or Bentonville.

My main concern is the way this unlevel playing field reflect the disparity of power between the huge lobbying clout of multinational companies and the concerns of Main Street business and ordinary citizens.

For example, in recent years the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has stopped representing my interests. They're a different creature than my local chamber of commerce and other business associations, like the U.S. Business Leadership Network and the National Association of Women Business Owners.

The U.S. Chamber today represents 300 huge global companies, the same companies that hire teams of lawyers and accountants to find or create tax loopholes. Avoiding taxes is central to their business model, and the Chamber sides with them against the rest of us.

These global conglomerates can't compete with me on customer service or who can build a better widget, so they have to use their political power to create some other advantage. According to *The Washington Post*, the Chamber spent \$150 million in direct lobbying funds in the last year--\$3 million a week--to block health-care reform and financial reform, and to protect tax loopholes such as overseas tax havens.

More than 65 percent of all new jobs come from the small business sector. We're part of a new economy rooted in our local communities, creating real goods and services. We're not playing shell games with our taxes.

As a nation we can keep subsidizing global companies that outsource jobs and aggressively avoid taxes, or we can bolster the homegrown business sector. We better decide soon before the rest of Main Street vanishes.

This work is licensed under Creative Commons.

Debra Ruh is founder and CEO of Rockville, VA-based TecAccess, which helps organizations create accessible Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for the world's largest and fastest growing minority group: people with disabilities.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Our Representatives-how to get hold of them

Senators: **Patty Murray (D)** and **Maria Cantwell**

Patty Murray- DC office phone: (202) 224-2621

Seattle Office

2988 Jackson Federal Bldg.

915 2nd Avenue

Seattle, Washington 98174

Phone: (206) 553-5545

Fax: (206) 553-0891

Maria Cantwell- DC office phone (202) 224-3441

Seattle Office

915 Second Avenue

Suite #3206

Seattle, WA 98174

Tacoma Office

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite #615

Tacoma, WA 98402

253-572-2281

206-220-6400  
206-220-6404 – FAX

253-572-5879 FAX

8<sup>th</sup> CD Representative-Dave Reichert (R)  
Dave Reichert- DC Office phone (202) 225-7761  
District Office  
2737 78th Avenue, S.E. Suite #202  
Mercer Island, WA 98040  
(206) 275-3438  
(206) 275-3437 Fax

9<sup>th</sup> CD Representative-Adam Smith (D)  
Adam Smith-DC office phone (202) 225-8901  
District Office  
2209 Pacific Ave, Suite B  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
(253) 593-6600  
(253) 593-6776

State Senator-31<sup>st</sup> LD  
Pam Roach (R)  
POB 40431  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Office: 360-786-7660  
Fax: 360-786-7173  
Email: Roach.Pam@leg.wa.gov

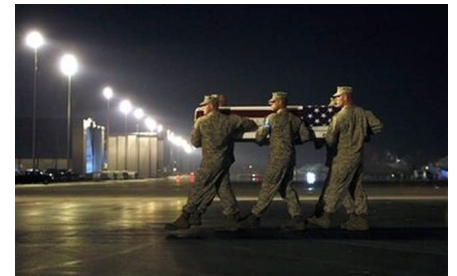
State Representatives-31<sup>st</sup> LD  
Chris Hurst (ID)  
POB 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Office: 360-786-7866  
Fax: 360-786-7317  
Email: Hurst.Christopher@leg.wa.gov

Dan Roach (R)  
POB 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
Office: 360-786-7846  
Email: Roach.Dan@leg.wa.gov

\*\*\*\*\*

### Occupation Statistics (<http://www.antiwar.com/casualties>)

- 4,416 US Military Deaths (Iraq)
- 1,244 US Military Deaths (Afghanistan)
- 31,911 US Military Wounded (Iraq)
- 151,000-1,366,350 Iraq Civilian Deaths



\*\*\*\*\*

## **DO YOU WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR LOCAL POLITICAL SYSTEM?**

### **YES!! Join us**

Fill out the form below (questions are required by the state Public Disclosure Commission), pay (cash or check) at a monthly meeting or mail a check to 31<sup>st</sup> District Democrats, PO Box 7231, Bonney Lake, WA 98391. Dues are \$31 per year (January-December), but members can pay what they can afford with a minimum of \$5.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\*Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Employer \_\_\_\_\_

\* Optional, however if individual's donations exceed \$100/year, this information is required

\*\*\*\*\*