



MMN – Monday, June 14, 2010

Mission: The purpose of the Democratic Women's Caucus is to fund, inspire, recruit, support, and train progressive, pro-choice women to increase the numbers of women in the electoral process and in elected and appointed positions

Dear Dorothy,

Monday, June 14th

THE PO BOX:

DWPAC
P.O. Box 2373,
Bloomington, IN
47402

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YOUR INTEREST AND ACTION IS NEEDED, NOW!

After we help get women elected to public office (all Democrats, actually) does our responsibility end? After elections we all go back to our private life, albeit with greater attention to the political world. We might attend the Swearing-In ceremony on January 1, but we don't really give too much of a thought to the new life of our elected friends. WE SHOULD!! They need us!

In the last weeks, County Councilwoman Julie Thomas has asked for help in making sure that the Monroe County Comprehensive Plan was understood by all, and she asked folks to come to meetings around that issue. She's heard from those opposed, but what about those who think it's a reasonable plan? Too often we progressives don't take action on things we agree with, because the elected folks are doing that... right??

Susan Sandberg, City Councilwoman advises us that she thinks otherwise! She feels the need for friendly faces in attendance at meetings where there is vocal opposition to progressive statements and legislation. Opposition is very vocal on property rights, funding for certain social service agencies that deal with family planning, and now human rights.

Her statement and invitation below:

Dear DWC Members,

The Jack Hopkins Social Services Fund allocation recommendations are to be approved by City Council on Wednesday evening, June 16. The meeting starts at 7:30 in the Council Chambers. Among many other wonderful social services agencies providing services to low-income citizens, a Planned Parenthood pharmaceutical program for birth control to families in need due to job lay-offs was funded. Some of you may notice the letters to the editor protesting when the City invests in Planned Parenthood services with Jack Hopkins funds. We anticipate the anti-choice crowd may be in Chambers making their protests heard when the funding is voted on. If you are of a mind to show up in support of women's rights and reproductive choice, it would be wonderful to see friendly faces in the audience at City Hall on the 16th.

It is also quite possible, if the negative blogs on HTOnline are any indication, there could be another angry mob attending our meeting on the 16th to call us criminals and give us "what for" because of our protest letter to Governor Brewer regarding the affront to civil rights contained in the Arizona immigration

law. The H-T has already slapped the Common Council's collective wrists for our "arrogance" in meddling with affairs that are none of our concern. Even more upsetting, the H-T headlined that our protest has "backfired" and may actually hurt the local economy because of the angry backlash and threats to boycott Bloomington. If you are of a mind to show up to support our stand for civil rights, that would also be appreciated! To clarify our position, we are not in support of crime or illegal activity, and we certainly see the dire need for immigration reform. But we do protest mightily the erosion of civil rights this ill-conceived bill contains, and we stand by our position.

You are invited to read the letter for yourself at:

<http://bloomington.in.gov/media/media/application/pdf/7106.pdf>

Drop over after you stop by the New Wings Dedication on Wednesday



1. "Would like to sign our petition to return to the **ORIGINAL Constitution?**"
 2. ". . .But how about this time we make it legal for **BLACK** people to own White people, and **ONLY** women have the right to vote? "
 3. (silence)
 4. "FOOM" – "That's what I thought."
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WOMEN IN POLITICS AND THE MEDIA ON JUNE 18 – RESERVE NOW!

LAST CHANCE FOR LUNCH ON FRIDAY

This lunch has been planned with our non-breakfast attending members in mind! Bring a friend who you think might be interested in the DWCaucus because this is sure to be a great event!!

Journalist Mary Dieter will be with us this Friday, June 18 at 11:30am at Affairs of the Sun on 4th Street, across from WFHB and the John Waldron Art Center. Mary has more political knowledge and experience than you can shake a stick at, and is willing to share that with us from her perspectives as insider (with the O'Bannon administration) and as an outsider (as political writer with the Courier Journal). Mary is currently the President of MED Communications LLC, which focuses on writing and editing consultancy in the Indy area. She and her husband, Tim McClure, recently published a crime novel set in Indianapolis, titled The McNaughton Rule. We're working on a book signing at Howards immediately after lunch if you are interested in this crime thriller.

Lunch is \$15; please email Regina at regina.moore@gmail.com right away to make your reservations – and do bring a friend and introduce her to the Caucus! If you can't make breakfast meetings, come to lunch

We're hoping to have a couple more lunches during the summer months, so

watch for these events.

JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY EVENT!



It was August 26, 1920 when the Nineteenth Amendment was finally ratified by enough states to become law. Women had paraded, marched, picketed, cajoled, organized, and a whole lot more (!) to accomplish this important change... one that we almost take for granted today. Join us in a day of celebration of this event!

Tickets for the DWC picnic on Sunday, August 22nd, to celebrate Women's Equality Day, are now available! We are planning a fabulous afternoon with food, friends, and even a cake walk! There will be old-fashioned prizes for kids, and more! Don't forget the silent auction, with goodies like a quilt, and a cupcake walk for kids. The event will be held at Pic A Chic farm at 6949 S. Rockport Road. We need volunteers with this event; please contact Dorothy Granger (dorothyg@mail.com), who is our event chair. Thank you!

DEMOCRATIC WOMENS CLUB Tuesday

Concerned about a property tax cap amendment? Cheap construction of I69? Get the inside info at our ever popular Statehouse-update by Matt Pierce, State Representative of District 61.

Please join us on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. at KRC Catering, 216 S. College Avenue, Bloomington, IN 47403. Lunch is a salad bar for \$7.00, but since reservations were needed by last week, you now have the option of attending the meeting without the buffet lunch. Call or email Rita Drescher for information.

MONROE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC WOMENS CLUB ON JUNE 15!

Concerned about a property-tax amendment? Cheap construction of I-69? Get the inside scoop at the ever-popular Statehouse update with District 61 State Representative Matt Pierce. The lunch is on Tuesday, June 15, 11:30-1:00 at KRC Catering, 216 S. College Ave. Lunch is a salad bar for \$7.00. Please reserve your lunch by contacting Rita Drescher at rdresch@gmail.com or call 334-2962 by no later than noon, June 11. You may not bring your own lunch to this venue, but you may attend without eating at the buffet.

FROM MEMBER ANNE MCLAUGHLIN

Regarding those good items that folks leave behind when they leave the city – Anne has helped establish a wonderful project that saves these items for good use. She and her fellow Volunteers for Change invite you to help. Anne writes: “We would like to hear your ideas to reduce this waste and share what we've learned. Please join us as we discuss how to rescue & re-use these Bloomington summer treasures. The more community involvement ~ the more we can salvage. Giving just a few hours of your time would be helpful.”

Planning Meeting:

Tuesday, June 15th, 7:00 pm

Rachael's Cafe: 300 E. Third St. (between Lincoln & Grant), plenty of free parking

Contact Anne with Volunteers for Change at annetm@bloomington.in.us

DEDICATION OF NEW WINGS COMPLEX

Wednesday, June 23rd from 5-7 pm.

Celebrating the new accessible welcoming emergency shelter, child care,

commercial kitchen affordable housing for women without children production roof garden, solar panels, administrative offices all for empowering families to live without violence in their lives. That's a lot to celebrate and lot to see. Make sure you stop by the complex on South Washington, just across from the Third Street Park.

PLEASE CHANGE JULY BREAKFAST DATE ON YOUR CALENDARS!!

The Deli will be doing some renovations on our regular meeting date, and we hope to be either creating our 4th of July costumes or relaxing in a pool that long weekend, so we've moved the breakfast date to JULY 9th... same time, same place. We'll be having a comprehensive look at the referenda that we may be seeing on the ballot this November, and we'll certainly try to determine their effect on our local political races as well.

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AUGUST CANDIDATE FUNDRAISER PLANNED

Members Lu Cregar, Jean Umiker-Sebeok, and Shirley Fitzgibbons are in the midst of planning a Sunday, August 8th fundraiser brunch for Linda Robbins, candidate for county clerk, and Cheryl Munson, candidate for county council District 2. There's no charge for the fundraiser but you, of course, should bring your checkbook !!! Time for brunch is set from 12:30 to 3:00. More information as it comes in.

TWO ARTICLES OF INTEREST TO OUR MEMBERS:

Some have begun to call 2010 the Year of the Woman with regards to elections. This article is written by Marie C Wilson, founder of the White House project (non partisan non-profit) talks about the trend to women candidates as an alternative to the anti-incumbent trend we're hearing so much about as well as women's self funded campaigns... Bill Maher (Real Time with Bill Maher – check HBO) said, in his last program before the summer break this last week, that “Women don't change politics, politics change women.” After reading this article, I began to wonder.... here is the link:

<http://content.usatoday.com/communities/onpolitics/post/2010/06/women-candidates-play-major-role-in-2010/1>

Our friend and neighbor Dawn Johnsen had this article published in the Washington Post this week. For those of us who desperately wanted her nomination to be confirmed, this is an inside look as to her own take on this issue. The link:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/06/10/AR2010061004117.html>
