



MMN – Monday, September 28, 2009

«GreetingLine»

Monday
Morning News

September 28th
Edition



Happy Birthday
Madeline Kunin!

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DWC BREAKFAST MEETING THIS FRIDAY – VOTE ON ENDORSEMENT POLICY

The end of this week will bring us to the month of OCTOBER (!!) and will also bring us together once more for our regular Breakfast meeting. There will be a presentation by the Endorsement Committee, a period with questions and answers and discussion, with a vote to follow. A special email regarding the report and proposed endorsement was sent out last week and was repeated this weekend. If you have questions in advance please send them to Endorsement Committee chair, Julie Thomas at drjuliethomas@gmail.com.

If you are a paid member and you cannot come to the October meeting you may submit your vote in advance.

1. Send an e-mail to DWC Secretary Dee Owens at msdeeowens@gmail.com and indicate your vote. She will keep members' votes confidential.

Or

2. Send in your ballot via snail mail. To do this, you will need to indicate "yes" or "no" on the question - simply write it on a piece of paper. Place this "ballot" in a small envelope and seal it. Place the small envelope within a larger envelope and mail it to:

DWPAC

P.O. Box 6172

Bloomington, IN 47407-6172

Please ensure that your name appears on the outside of the larger envelope so we may verify your membership status. However, you do not need to indicate your identity on the ballot or the inner envelope. The inner envelope containing your ballot will be added to the ballots on Friday.

ALL proxy votes are due by 5 pm on October 1st.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MEMBERS AT BREAKFAST MEETINGS

Due to the increasing number of interesting and important announcements that members want to make at the Friday Breakfast meetings, we're asking you to please send in any informational announcements you might have so that they may be included in an announcement sheet that we will have printed for each Friday's breakfast. These have proved to be effective in the past because every one gets every detail (with contact information) of your announcement. Please include all information about your event and send it to DWCannouncements@gmail.com. Announcements should be sent by noon the day before the DWC breakfast meeting. We'll also use them, if possible, in the Monday Morning News. THANKS!

DWC LUNCH & FORUM RESCHEDULED TO OCTOBER 11TH

We've rescheduled our Forum / Lunch and even more of our members and their politically minded friends are taking advantage of this FREE event.

Do you know a woman who might be interested in running for office, or one that you would like to encourage (even though she hasn't yet made that decision)? Please make a reservation for you and her at the DWCAucus Forum that will be held on Sunday October 11th at noon. PLEASE make your reservations now!

We'll be talking about problems that women have in running for office, from making the initial decision to fundraising, from encouraging another women to run for office to running yourself. It doesn't matter if you plan to run in 2010 or 2020! You are welcome, but make that reservation today!

Affairs of the Sun Catering on 4th Street (between Walnut and College downtown)

Noon on October 11, 2009 lasting until about 2:30 pm.

Reservations: regina.moore@gmail.com.

DEMOCRATIC CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL WOMEN HEAR AND INFORM CONSTITUENTS.

County Council woman, Jill Lesh, started her County Council campaign 3 ½ years ago by listening to her constituents with regular round table breakfast meetings at the Encore Café. The listening continued into her first term on the council and changed venue and focus as she has held monthly breakfasts to inform and discuss county issues with citizens. This year, City Councilwoman Susan Sandberg joined her in adding a city component to the breakfasts, and both have given citizens many opportunities to hear about some city/county collaborations and to discuss issues of importance to local government.

Isabel Piedmont-Smith began to conduct monthly meetings to inform her constituents of the work of the city council soon after her election in 2007. Since then she has summarized council actions and listened to residents in her district give her feedback on legislation that is proceeding through the council.

Julie Thomas has recently announced the revival of her blog to inform citizens of how things are going with her first term on the county council. She intends for it to be a way to give folks her perspectives on what's happening in the county and for folks to give her feedback on the county budget, tax abatements and other county actions as they come forth. Julie's hectic schedule allows her to blog during the hours that are available to her, and you can comment at any time!

We've attended the breakfasts and have recently visited Julie's blog. It's refreshing that these women have created ways to converse with citizens and continue to communicate with them all through their elected terms. It's refreshing that we have supported women who get it and have worked to bring more opportunities and information about the inner workings of the legislative process to the citizens of Monroe County and the City. The topics are always timely, interesting, the breakfasts are attended by folks who have an interest in government, or are attracted by a particular topic.

The first local notion of a political blog by an elected official was done by Sophia Travis during her term on the county council when the idea of using the internet in this way was new to Monroe County. What Sophia started has been continued by our local women legislators. Their attempt to enhance public participation and civic engagement by their openness and invitations to participate is a refreshing approach to constituent service.... One that we applaud and appreciate!

- City/County Breakfasts by Susan Sandberg and Jill Lesh are held the Second

Thursday of each month at 7:30 am at the Village Deli on Kirkwood. .

- Constituent Meetings held by City Council 5th District Representative Isabel Piedmont-Smith are held on the Fourth Saturday of the month at 11:00 am at Rachel's Café at 300 E. Third St.
- Julie Thomas, County Council Member, writes in her blog <http://juliethomas.wordpress.com/>. It's available anytime, any place, on your schedule, on her schedule!

Our support of these women should not end on election night. To see friendly faces in the council chambers and meetings, to hear support from citizens for initiatives and votes, to hear different perspectives from those involved in a different aspect of civic life in our community will all help these women be better prepared, more effective and responsive legislators.

Please join us in applauding their attempts to reach out to citizens rather than have the citizen try to reach into the process.

A COUPLE OF OTHER ITEMS OF NEWS –

TODAY!!

- **HELPING WOMEN IN AFRICA WITH PURCHASES IN BLOOMINGTON!!** We had several pieces of jewelry and scarves at the Women's Equality Day Dinner Silent Auction that were from the collections of Claire Robertson. If you liked them, she is having a sale on Monday, September 28th from 11am to 5 pm in Woodburn Hall 220 (across from African Studies). Claire supports two projects in Africa with her purchases and you'll feel good in helping her take more funds to Kenya with her next trip. See last weeks newsletter for the complete information on these projects that help women and children.
- Dr. Rob Stone will present a talk on health care reform at St. Paul Catholic Center at 7 p.m. on Monday, September 28. The talk, which is open to the public, will be held in Higgins Hall in the basement of the church. St. Paul's is located at 1413 E. Seventeenth St., between Jordan Avenue and Fee Lane.

LATER THIS WEEK –

- From Member Karen Green Stone -- Hoosiers for a Commonsense Health Plan is responding to the newly released Harvard study that links an excess of 45,000 deaths annually due to lack of health insurance and the arrival of the Mad As Hell Doctor Care-A-Van in DC on September 30. Please join us at a press conference to express your support for single payer national health insurance on September 30 @6 pm in the Nat U. Hill III Meeting Room on the 3rd floor of the Monroe County Courthouse located on the Square in downtown Bloomington. Speaking briefly will be Family Practitioner, Mary Mahern, MD; Mavis Anderson, LCSW, Hospital Social Worker; Sally Hegeman, PhD and President, Bloomington-Monroe County League of Women Voters; Toby Strout, Executive Director of Middleway House; Vic Kelson, President, Monroe County Council; Jay Bainbridge in memory of Libby Yarnelle, former Executive Director of Mother Hubbard's Cupboard who died at 29 on June 17, 2009 and Nancy Woolery, Health Projects Director, City of Bloomington. Supporters will have an opportunity to comment after the press conference. For further information contact Patsy Rahn prahn@att.net , or Karen Green Stone at Hoosiers@hchp.info

- DFMC's next Link-up will be next Thursday, October 1 at the Village Deli on Kirkwood at 7 pm. The program will feature Neil Hudelson from Al Gore's RePower America and Michael Beczkiewicz from Southern Indiana Renewable Energy Network (SIREN) will talk about their respective organizations and upcoming events that they are sponsoring. First, however, as part of our continued progressive activist training, we will have a 15-minute session to learn about 27-9-3 messages. This will be a hands-on session which will require some writing, so be sure to bring pencils and paper.
- From Member Doris Sims -- The Monroe County Branch of the NAACP will celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the NAACP organization at its annual Freedom Fund Banquet which will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2009 At Chapman's Restaurant and Banquet Facility. Social hour starts at 6:00 pm with the Dinner beginning at 7:00 pm. Guest Speaker will be State Representative Bill Crawford. The cost of tickets are \$35 for Adults and \$20 for children 18 and under. For tickets contact DWC member Doris Sims at 360-1579 or email: ladydsims@yahoo.com.
- Organizing for America is hosting regular times for phone banking and canvassing to encourage others who are in favor of health care reform to contact their representatives and make their voices heard. Please spread the word!
Join us tonight if you can!

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5 to 8pm
Saturdays, 10am to 1pm

Where: Monroe County Democratic Party Headquarters, 320 E. 3rd St., Bloomington
(parking in back)

Finally be sure to check out the latest edition of Elect Women online magazine at www.electwomen.com/
