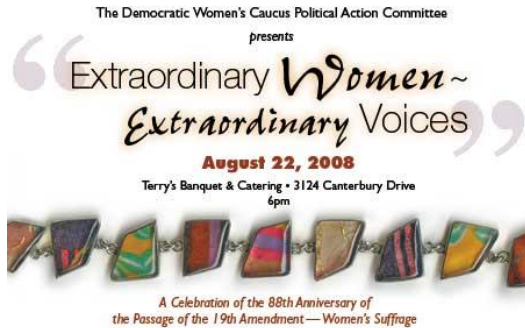


Democratic Women's Caucus Monday Morning News on August 4, 2008

Take a minute to look at some events of special interest to the women's political sphere this week.



WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY DINNER invitations are ready! See Merridee (mlan@kiva.net) or Mary Norman for more information! AUGUST 22, 6 PM @ TERRY'S. Our Special Guest is Ann Delaney, author of Politics for Dummies, former candidate for Indiana Attorney General, former Indiana Democratic Party Chair ... and that's just for starters! Don't miss this wonderful night!

<http://democraticwomenscaucus.org/wed08.html> - Details and a downloadable Response Card.

ActBlue 

<http://www.actblue.com/page/wed08>

(Make your reservation using your credit card – ActBlue)

CANDIDATE INFORMATION AND EVENTS!

Julie Thomas, candidate for County Council At Large, needs your help walking door-to-door. Grab a friend and plan to spend a few hours helping to get Julie's name and issues communicated to as many Monroe County voters as possible. It's fun!

Contact Lorraine Farrell at lm.farrell@comcast.net or leave a message on her cell to indicate your interest and approximate time commitment: 812-345-0150. She will contact you after August 8th to make arrangements to deliver your walk packet. Thank you!"

Please save these dates and plan to join us to help raise funds in support of Julie:

- August 16th, 10am to noon, "Pancakes for Progress" hosted by Isabel Piedmont
- August 18th, 5:30 to 7pm, Ice Cream Social hosted by Linda Sievers
- September 21st, 3 to 5pm, an event hosted by Pam Davidson

Cathy Smith, Democratic Candidate for Monroe County Treasurer sends a note that she is in need of campaign workers. Email her at: CathySmithforTreasurer@gmail.com

Isabel Piedmont cordially invites you to: PANCAKES FOR PROGRESS a fundraiser for **JULIE THOMAS**, Democratic candidate for County Council, At-Large on Saturday, August 16, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the home of Isabel Piedmont & David Smith, 1108 South Rogers Street

Directions: This is a white bungalow with a front porch swing located on Rogers between Allen St. and Patterson Dr., on the west side of the street. There is parking available on the east side of Rogers St. and along Allen St. Look for the Julie Thomas sign and balloons. (Yes, these balloons are legal.)

Join us for food, conversation, and fun! Meet the candidate and find out how Julie Thomas will implement her progressive ideals for the benefit of all in Monroe County. For more info on Julie, please see www.juliethomas.org
Any questions? Call Isabel at 333-8489.

State Senator Vi Simpson asks you to save the date! Vi is co-hosting a fundraiser for Attorney General candidate **LINDA PENCE** on August 21 at Fred Cates home. Details are forthcoming so watch Monday Morning News or contact Vi for more info.

Bloomington Township Trustee and member Linda Sievers sends a Save the Date!

Save the Date. Thursday, September 4th, 5-7pm, FarmBloomington. Come by and support **VAL HAUGHTON**. The party will be a mix of local food and local politics. The festivities will be in the Root Cellar (if you haven't been, it's a must see) with live music, and of course delicious hours d'oeuvres made by recognized Chef Daniel Orr. Price to be determined, fun will be a definite.

MEMBERS SEND THESE ANNOUNCEMENTS: (somewhat chronologically arranged)

For those interested in Sustainability – This from member Amanda Shaw

The Bloomington branch of the US Green Building Council will sponsor a talk by Chris Smith, P.E., The Schneider Corporation, Monday, Aug. 4 at 6 p.m. at the Monroe Co. Public Library auditorium. Smith, formerly of Bloomington, will talk about his recent experience as team leader of EarthCREW, winner of the 2008 Crosland Sustainable Placemaking Design Challenge. The EarthCREW team, headed by Smith and made up of design professionals from seven firms as well as Bloomington artist and **DWC member** Joe LaMantia, won the competition with a highly creative holistic planning process for development and neighborhood design. The winning design included green concepts such as an art wall made of recycled steel that also doubles as a tank to hold 15,000 gallons of rainwater that can be later used for irrigation

Information from the Monroe County Democratic Party

At 7pm on August 7th in the Bloomington Hall Council Chambers, the Monroe County Democrats will hold a party meeting for Precinct Chairs, Vice-chairs and all interested Democrats.

On the agenda will be discussions of...

* 2008 Election Overview, * Precinct Committee Membership and Precinct Boundary Changes, * Updates from the Candidates/Campaigns, * Upcoming events, * Volunteer needs

Indian Creek Board Member Cheryl Munson sends this information:

Monroe County United Ministries will be having a FoodRaiser to restock their Emergency Food Pantry. On August 23 & 24 the Third Annual Each One Feed One Community Food Drive will take place, and MCUM needs 200 volunteers for each day! Candidates are especially invited to participate.

Member Liz Feitl sends information:

White River Central Labor Council Yard Sale on Saturday, August 30, 9-2 (United Way parking lot, 441 S. College Ave.). We'll be taking donations that can be dropped off at United Way, Monday through Friday through Friday, 8/29, anytime between 9-5.

Member Bobbie Summers, Director of Martha's House, has sent word of a fundraiser for the women's shelter room that will be named after late member and early caucus supporter Roberta McCloskey. If you would like to have information about this fundraiser, email Bobbie at bsummers409@hotmail.com

Things to check out!!

Member Merridee LaMantia sends this link <http://www.girleffect.org> and says it's worth the 2 minutes it takes to view this video.

Merridee also sends the link to Tuesday interview of Nancy Pelosi in The Nation by (our) Katrina Vanden Heuvel (<http://www.thenation.com/doc/20080804/kvh>). "I share the link because she has insight from her position that is "right up our DWC alley!"

Member Dee Owens is working in the Marshall Islands for the next few weeks, but has still had a chance to send this info: The July/August edition of the American Prospect is all about women in politics - good stuff! If it will let you into it, check out <http://www.prospect.org/> Look for the "current issue" tab.

(http://www.prospect.org/cs/articles?article=its_the_politics_stupid – Gail Collins on Women in Journalism)

Member Regina Moore sends these books to check out:

KNOW YOUR POWER: A Message to America's Daughters by Speaker Nancy Pelosi

RUMORS OF OUR PROGRESS HAVE BEEN GREATLY EXAGGERATED: Why Women's Lives Aren't Getting Any Easier--And How We Can Make Real Progress For Ourselves and Our Daughters by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney (NY 14th)

PEARLS, POLITICS, AND POWER: How Women Can Win and Lead [Madeleine Kunin](#) (Former Governor of Vt)

WHY WOMEN SHOULD RULE THE WORLD by Dee Dee Myers, White House press secretary for Bill Clinton

TWO ARTICLES ON RECENT ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO WOMEN:

Some of us are old enough to remember.... Before the Pill.....

It seems as if the conservatives are determined to make birth control classified as an abortifacient, and with that move, make birth control pills and other birth control devices illegal. Yes, in our day and age.. How could this happen.... Read below:

This from the NARAL website:

A new attack on birth control

July 30, 2008 The Boston Globe

WITH JUST a few months left in office, President Bush is still doing the bidding of social conservatives who oppose women's reproductive freedoms. Under the guise of rules to protect antiabortion nurses and doctors from discrimination in hiring, a proposed new regulation would expand the definition of abortion to include any form of contraception that can work by stopping implantation of a fertilized egg in the uterus. This can include common birth-control pills, emergency contraception, and the intra-uterine device, or IUD. Doctors who refuse to perform abortions for reasons of personal conscience already are protected by law.

The potential impact of this new rule on the more than 500,000 hospitals, family planning clinics, and medical offices that receive any form of federal funding could be dramatic. The rule could also undercut many state laws - including one in Massachusetts requiring hospitals to provide emergency contraception for rape victims - and laws requiring prescription drug insurance plans to include contraceptives. Massachusetts passed such a law in 2002.

The draft proposed rule highlights the fact that many antiabortion groups also oppose one good method of preventing the unplanned pregnancies that lead to abortions - birth control. At some point in their lives, 98 percent of US women use birth control.

The proposed rule, while claiming to protect the rights of nurses and doctors, would interfere with patients' rights. A woman seeking treatment could be denied birth control and not even be aware that the service was available - only denied to her because of the unexpressed personal beliefs of the practitioner.

Last November, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists said gynecologists must provide "accurate and unbiased information" to patients and "have the duty to refer patients in a timely manner to other providers" if the doctors do not want to perform an abortion or prescribe birth control. The US secretary of health and human services, Michael Leavitt, said he thought this statement went too far in forcing doctors to choose between their beliefs and the prospect of professional sanctions.

The administration does not need approval of Congress to put this rule into effect. But about 100 members of the House, including all representatives from this state except Stephen Lynch of South Boston, have signed a letter protesting it. In the Senate, Patty Murray of Washington and Hillary Clinton of New York are leading the opposition. The administration should take heed and drop its ideological attack on contraception.

Julia Copeland sends this link to McCains position on Birth control. <http://www.alternet.org/reproductivejustice/92281>
It seems for more than 20 years John McCain has voted against contraception every time it came up.