

*Democratic Women's Caucus
Monday Morning News on June 16, 2008*

Take a minute to look at some events of special interest to the women's political sphere this week. Monday Morning News will be sent irregularly during June and July

**FSSA EVENT WITH SIMPSON, WELCH AND PIERCE ON WEDNESDAY
REPORT FROM THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION
SAVE THESE DATES**

- **WEDD AUGUST 22**
- **JULY MEETING IS JULY 11TH**

**CITIZENS ACADEMY APPLICATIONS BEING TAKEN
CANDIDATE NEEDS**

FSSA EVENT with Simpson, Welch and Pierce

Event: Town Hall Meeting with Senator Vi Simpson, State Representatives Peggy Welch and Matt Pierce, and the United Way of Monroe County to hear from the people and agency representatives who interact with FSSA and who have encountered problems in applying for or receiving benefits such as Medicaid, Food Stamps, and other social service assistance since the privatization of FSSA and to find solutions to systemic problems as the private contract continues to be rolled out across the state.

(Family Social Services Administration)

Where: Ivy Tech Commons, Bloomington

When: 3:00 to 5:00 pm, Wednesday, June 25.

REPORT FROM THE STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Indiana Democratic Party State Convention was held this past Saturday in downtown Indianapolis. Highlights of the convention were congressional district caucus meetings to elect delegates to the Democratic National Convention in Denver. DWC member Pam Warren was elected as an at-large delegate. Several special interest caucus meetings were also held during the morning. DWC Chair Regina Moore was honored to be asked to speak at the Women's Caucus meeting with regards to local women's caucus groups. With other DWC members, Lu Cregar, Charlotte Zietlow, Susan Bookout, Shirley Fitzgibbons, Philippa Guthrie, and Iris Kiesling also attended the caucus and met with women around the state. Many indicated that they had begun groups or were interested in starting groups to increase the number of elected women in their communities and in state government. We have made many contacts and hope to keep up this outreach and cooperation with other Hoosier women. Members Donna Purdom, Jan Ellis, Shaunica Pridgen, Barbara Purdom-Phipps, Lori Sears, Vi Simpson also attended the day's activities which was highlighted by Jill Long Thompson's address to the convention.

SAVE THESE DATES

- **WEDD AUGUST 22**

Our annual Women's Equality Day Dinner that celebrates the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment giving women the right to vote will be held on August 22nd this year. This year's speaker will be Ann

Delaney, former Indiana Democratic Party Chair, former candidate for Attorney General, and author of "Politics for Dummies." Put the date on your calendar NOW!!! AND If you'd like to help on the committee to work out the details, please contact Mary Norman at: mary@jeannewalters.com.

- **JULY MEETING IS JULY 11TH**

Because the first Friday of the month is the 4th of July (complete with parade and other festivities!!) our breakfast will be held the next Friday morning, July 11th. We'll send out reminders, and more information on the program, but please change your calendars!

CITIZENS ACADEMY APPLICATIONS BEING TAKEN

Several of our members interested in the workings of city government have enrolled in the City of Bloomington's Citizen Academy in recent years. The city is again taking applications for the fall class:

The City of Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) Department announced today that applications are once again available for its Citizens' Academy program, an annual nine-week course that gives the public insight into how local government works. Now in its tenth year, the program has enjoyed tremendous popularity among those hoping to get further involved in government as well as those simply interested in learning more about Bloomington.

This year's academy will meet each Thursday evening from 6-8pm beginning August 14 and running through October 9, and the course will be limited to a total of 30 individuals to ensure a quality experience for all participants.

"We have received such positive feedback over the years from people who feel they have gained so much from their participation in this very important program," said Vickie Provine, Program Manager for HAND. "So many of our participants have been inspired to become more active in government, and others have just enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing first-hand their government at work. This is one of our most popular programs because it is so thorough and engaging."

City residents interested in civic participation or increasing their knowledge about local government operation can apply online at bloomington.in.gov/hand.

The deadline for 2008 Citizens' Academy applications is Monday, July 14. For an application and further information, call Vickie Provine at 349-3505.

CANDIDATE NEEDS

- *The Julie Thomas for County Council Team* is rounding up people to walk with Julie and her *all electric, zero pollution car* in the 4th of July parade. The parade is scheduled to begin at 10:00am, July 4th. Walkers gather in the holding area by 9:00am. Team Thomas will be in line with the other Democratic candidate groups and the Monroe County Democrats. If you would like to join the fun, call or email Lorraine Farrell at 345-0150 (leave a message) or lm.farrell@comcast.net
- Val Haughton, Candidate for Monroe County Judge, is looking for folks to appear in the parade with her wearing those cool white or yellow campaign shirts. She may not have an electric car, but we know she is full of energy and excitement about this, her LAST and WINNING campaign for Judge. Please email her at vhaughton@gmail.com to let her know you've freshly washed that shirt you have and that you'll walk with her!