



MONDAY MORNING NEWS

December 10, 2007

Political news of interest to DWC members and breakfast attendees, with an eye to caucus activities.

UPDATE ON City Council District 2 RECOUNT

SAVE THE DATE(s)!!

REVIEW OF "UNLOCKING THE CABINET" BY CAROLE SCIFRES

THE RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES THE THIRD FRANK MCCLOSKEY SCHOLAR, MILICA V. MATIJEVIC

KEEP THE ALLISONS IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

DID YOU MISS SOMETHING??

UPDATE ON City Council District 2 RECOUNT

Jillian Kinzie updated the Friday Breakfast meeting with some information about her pending recount. The Democratic recount commissioner Dan Combs is ready, willing and more than able to represent Jillian's interests in the recount. There will be a Republican commissioner named, and also a machine mechanic selected to round out the recount commission. County Clerk Jim Fielder and members of his staff will also be present. Jillian said she had enough money left in her campaign account to cover the cost of the recount, and hopefully the procedure can be finished in a day's work.

We will update you as we find out more about the results of this recount. While Jillian is prepared for any eventuality, it would be so wonderful to have her even hand and wisdom, her experience and masterful leadership in relationship building on the council. Jillian cautioned us on Friday to not look at her with any pity for maybe losing the election... we want to continue to look at her as a leader!!

SAVE THE DATE(s)!!

January 1, at 2 pm is the swearing in ceremony for the city council, mayor and clerk. Please come to this public ceremony and celebration of the promise the next four years in Bloomington. It will be a treat to see our women be transformed from candidates to council members!

Senator Vi Simpson has announced the date for the Second Annual Democratic Women's Day at the Statehouse will be **February 5, 2008**. Put the date on your calendar, arrange to take the day off, and prepare for a great experience. Those who went last year were highly impressed with the quality of speakers, organization and perspectives shared.

You've heard us talk about Emily's List Political Opportunity Program training, and now's your chance... Emily's List is coming to Indiana again. **February 5th and 6th** are the days! Yes, you can go to the statehouse and do the training, too! See Emily's List website for more information.

<http://www.emilyslist.org/do/pop/trainings.htm>

February 18, 2008 is the national holiday for President's Day... what better day for us to get together to talk about Presidents and Women? The caucus will hold a special lunch meeting that day and Suzanna Walters from IU's Gender Studies Department will be special guest. Her address to the lunch will be "Is America Ready for a Woman President?" More details are forthcoming, but if you'd like to help with arrangements please let us know.... And SAVE THE DATE and plan to take a little longer lunch that day!

REVIEW OF "UNLOCKING THE CABINET" BY CAROLE SCIFRES

New research from the Women's Campaign Forum suggests shifting the focus from electing women to office to getting women appointed to cabinet positions. Some interesting facts:

Nationally:

- Historically, only 32 women have ever held cabinet positions. Currently the U.S. ranks 72nd in the world for women in cabinet positions.

Statewide:

- Male cabinet appointees outnumber women by a ration of 2 to 1.
- In the state of Washington* women hold 52% of cabinet positions; Texas and New Hampshire do not have a single woman in cabinet positions.
- Women hold the "traditional" positions – education and human services.
- Women and Democratic governors appoint only 4% and 3% more women respectively than male and Republican governors.

(Indiana: between 20-30% of women in cabinet positions)

Importance:

- Secretaries of cabinet positions are powerful; in an average state, appointed cabinet leaders manage \$12.5 billion.
- Women appointees open up more opportunities for women and it is a vital pipeline for elected office.

Role of Partner Organizations such as DWC:

WCF has five strategies for Partner Organizations in getting women appointed. They suggest setting priorities for your organization. Rather than advance a wide-range of candidates, target the offices that have the most impact on your mission and then recruit, cultivate, prepare and propose the best women your organization has to offer. Some strategies are very specific, right down to having the applications completed with referral letters and documentation, *before* the governor takes office.

(*Washington uses Partner Organizations for candidates, and eschews "old school" methods such as job fairs and college visits.)

Former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeline K. Albright: "Success without democracy is improbable; democracy without women is impossible."

THE RUSSIAN AND EAST EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF INDIANA UNIVERSITY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE THIRD FRANK MCCLOSKEY SCHOLAR, MILICA V. MATIJEVIC.**

Matijevic is from Sombor, Serbia and received her law degree from the University of Belgrade in the Department of Legal Theory and Philosophy and her European Master's Degree in Human Rights and

Democratization at the European Inter-university Center in Venice and the Danish Institute for Human Rights in Copenhagen. Her thesis was titled "The United Nations Transitional Administration Missions and the Principles of Democratic Governance." She has taken a number of courses on the role of human rights in foreign policy and international law at universities in Europe as well as at the National Democratic Institute, including a reconciliation program for students from the UN protectorate of Kosovo and the Republic of Serbia organized by Education for Democracy and the European Students' Association.

Most recently Matijevic presented "Multiculturalism as Foundation of a New Legal System: The Case of Kosovo" at the Biennial Research Forum of the European Society of International Law in Budapest at the end of September. She has also published a "Study on the Implementation of the Kosovo Anti-Discrimination Law" through the OSCE Mission in Kosovo. Her research focuses on ethnic minorities. Whereas many government minority-related policies merely treat the effects of ethnic problems, Matijevic seeks to get to the root of them. She hopes that her research will raise awareness of minority rights in higher education, political participation, and representation. She plans to study university institutions, local political parties and civic initiatives dealing with minorities and to focus on the practical implications of affirmative-action measures as envisioned in the existing legal framework for minority protection.

During her time in Bloomington Matijevic will compile a comprehensive overview of Serbian legislation and domestic and international court rulings related to minority rights in higher education and politics. Using this information she will create a manual for political parties and higher educational institutions to help them improve their awareness of minority issues.

** The institute is looking for temporary housing for Milica. They hope to find a (preferably furnished) room within walking distance from campus, for February 1 through April 30, 2008. If you can help or know someone with such accommodations please contact Denise Gardiner @ dagardin@indiana.edu.

OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH OUR FRIENDS....

We've gotten word that Jim and Tomi Allison's daughter has had a severe stroke and we urge you to keep them in your thoughts and prayers. You can drop them a card at 1127 E 1st Street, 47401.

You can also send a card to Julia Carson at 300 E Fall Creek Parkway North Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46205-4258. Carson, the only woman in the 11 person Indiana delegation to Washington, has announced that she is not seeking another term in Congress because of her health.

HAVE YOU MISSED SOMETHING??

If you think you remember something that was published in a past Monday Morning News, or need to check a date or address, you can find the news notes published on our website:

www.democraticwomenscaucus.org. Thanks to Lu Cregar for facilitating our communications and website. She's the best!