

# THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER

*The Voice of Benton County Democrats*

August 2005 Issue

www.bencodem.org

Matt Kizerian, Editor

## Contacts

|                        |                   |          |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| <i>Chair</i>           | Mimi Latta        | 627-2679 |
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| <i>Woman</i>           | Phyllis Bowersock | 943-4559 |
| <i>State Committee</i> |                   |          |
| <i>Man</i>             | Dann Lewis        | 969-0277 |

## From the Chair

How was your July? Fast? I hope you had a great time if you turned out for the July 4th parade, helped out at the July 4th booth, attended the fast-paced meeting on the 20th, or updated your skills re: online voterfile training with Micheal Keane. And if you liked that, wait'll you check out August!

Maria Cantwell is coming to town on August 3rd, 3:45 pm at the Richland Community House. She'll be available to answer your questions and explain what's going on in Washington D.C. This is an excellent time to speak to the Senator and her staff. I know we're all interested to hear her thoughts on John Roberts as a Supreme Court nominee. Please come and pledge your support for maintaining a Democratic seat in DC.

Saturday, August 13th at 12:00 noon, our summer picnic will be in Kee-waydin Park, Kennewick. The park is adjacent to the Dayton St. Library. For questions, please call Sandy Gourley at 628-8246. And don't forget to let her know about your auction items!

Democrats, we need your time at the county fair. We need walkers and riders in our parade entry on Aug. 20th at 10:00 am in Kennewick. The theme is: "Celebrate Till the Cows Come Home". We'll celebrate Democratic accomplishments in the Mid-Columbia. Those of you who can help assemble the fair booth on Sunday, August 21st, please call Bob Parazin: 946-6363 to volunteer. We'll need a couple of ladders and many helping hands. Bob can also help you choose a time & day best for you at the fair booth (August 23-27) if you have

any questions.

I'm pleased and proud with Benton County's efforts so far this year. We'll have more PCO training before the year is over and I'm trying to get some candidate and campaign training to happen in September. We'll need to be trained to be ready for next year's senatorial race. It'll be tight right up to the moment we vote, folks, but if we work hard, we'll win. And I hope we'll have some democratic wins in local races to show for our efforts.

I'll see you at the Fair!

Mimi Latta, Chair

## Upcoming Events

### August BCDCC Meeting

PLEASE NOTE: There will be **no** BCDCC meeting in August; please attend the Summer Picnic on August 13th, and see the calendar for the other activities during the month.

### Summer Picnic

Is it marked on your calendar yet? August 13th. Have you decided on what you are going to bring to share with your fellow Democrats? Do you have any items you wish to donate for the silent auction to raise money for the Benton County Democratic Party? I hope the answer to these questions is, 'Yes'!

Eileen Macoll, Vice Chair for the State Democratic Party and Autumn Sample, Eastern Washington Field Director will be at the picnic to let you know what the State Party has been up to and will be doing in the future. This will be a great opportunity for you to meet them and ask questions. Eileen is a very dynamic speaker from Pullman. Some may recall that she ran for the 9th LD State Representative position last year.

Autumn is also from Pullman, having gone to Purdue University, worked in

Walla Walla on the Coordinated Campaign team. She brings energy, enthusiasm and excitement to the party and is a big plus for Eastern Washington.

As always, hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, pop, coffee, water, condiments, utensils, napkins and paper plates will be provided for you. You bring a delicious hot dish, cold dish, sweet dish, healthy dish, or whatever you desire. There are tables and benches, but to be on the safe side, *bring a folding chair*. The parking is very close by, with paved sidewalks to and from the gazebo area and the restrooms.

I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Benton County Summer Picnic. Please come and share your time with your fellow Democrats.

Sandy Gourley

WA State Progressive Caucus  
Eastern WA. Vice Chair

### Senator Cantwell in Richland

Senator Maria Cantwell will be in Richland on Wednesday, August 3rd for a meet-and-greet session at the Richland Community Center at 500 Amon Park Drive (adjacent to Howard Amon Park). The event is free to the public and will last from 3:45-4:30 pm.

### Newsletter Submission Policy

Everyone is invited to submit material to the newsletter. Personally written material should be kept to 125 words or less. Submissions of excessive length will be returned, and a shorter revision requested. Reference articles will be summarized, or edited to an appropriate length.

Please submit material for consideration by the date listed in the calendar for each month. Due to limited space, material received earliest will receive priority consideration. Reference articles without publication name, date, and author will not be considered. The Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions. Edited submissions will be returned for review.

Please send submissions to  
Matt Kizerian at [editor@bencodem.org](mailto:editor@bencodem.org)  
E-mail text is preferred. To mail submissions, or for questions, please call Matt at 509-585-4900.



## Upcoming Events—Con't

### Democracy for America

The August meeting of Democracy for America will take place Wednesday, August 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Richland Public Library.

### Tri-City Democrats Meeting

The August Tri-City Democrats meeting will be held at the home of John and Mimi Latta, 89 Bremmer, Richland, on Friday, August 5th. Dallas Barnes will be the speaker. Potluck dinner at 6:00, meeting/program at 7:00 pm.

Leona Hassing, President  
Tri-City Democrats

### Fair Parade

Be sure to join us for the Benton-Franklin County Fair Parade on Saturday, August 20th. The parade starts at 10:00 am, but we will be meeting at 8:00 to set up. The route begins in front of Kennewick High School on Dayton Street.

We need LOTS of people to participate. Everyone will carry signs displaying pictures of famous Democrats who have made contributions to life in the Mid-Columbia region. If you aren't able to walk, we will have plenty of room on our trailer. Make sure and bring sun block, water, and perhaps a hat and sunglasses.

Most importantly, BRING YOURSELF. Let's show everyone in the Tri-Cities what Democrats have done for them.

### Fair Booth

We will again have a Fair Booth entry in this year's Benton-Franklin County Fair. If you can help set-up the booth on Sunday, August 21st, please give Bob Parazin a call at 946-6363. Also call him to ar-

range to staff the Fair Booth. The booth was a big success last year; we need everyone's help to make it a success this year as well. Please help out, even if it is only for a few hours. If you have any questions about the fair, or what you can do to help, give Bob a call!

### September Trip to Canada

For those who want to save about 50% on prescriptions in Canada, call John David at 528-5280 for transportation to Osoyoos, BC Canada, on Tuesday, September 13th. He has room for six passengers. This is a one-day trip.

You need to bring prescriptions written by your local physicians, your passport or birth certificate, \$50 US cash for the Canadian doctor's consultation, and a list of the prescriptions you may need for the pharmacist. Prescriptions can go on your credit card. We will call the physician ahead of time to let him know the names of people coming, and an approximate time.

To make sure your necessary medications are in stock, you can call Don Millward, pharmacist, toll free 1-866-495-4911, or you can fax him toll free with your list of medicines at 1-866-495-4912, Borders Pharmacy Services, LTD.

There are also a couple of great dress shops in downtown Osoyoos, but that will have to be negotiated with John David.

Laurel Piippo

## Event Reports

### Tri-City Democrats

The July meeting of the Tri-City Democrats featured Autumn Sample, newly hired Eastern Washington Field Manager for the Washington State Democrats.

Raised on the Palouse, Autumn was the southeastern field organizer based in

Walla Walla for the Washington State Coordinated Campaign in 2004. After graduating from Pullman High School, Autumn attended Purdue University where she attained a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in political science and public relations.

Autumn recently completed an internship with the California Commission on the Status of Women. She plans to help with party building activities and her knowledge of the people, issues, and terrain east of the Cascades will greatly enhance her program.

Autumn will be working out of the Seattle office until a location is established for her Eastern Washington Office. She can be reached at Autumn@wa-democrats.org or (206) 583-0664.

Leona Hassing, President  
Tri-City Democrats

### 4th of July Parade

Our 4th of July parade entry was a success! The theme of our entry was, "How Democrats have helped the Mid-Columbia". We had people carrying signs with large pictures of notable Democrats who have made significant contributions to our area; the truck and trailer had banners with those Democrats' names, along with their accomplishments. There were over 20 people from both Benton and Franklin Central Committees who helped out decorating and holding signs during the parade.

Thank you to all who helped put our entry together, and to those who braved the summer heat. Special thanks goes to Jim Dillman, who was the brains (and a lot of the brawn) behind our entry. Thanks also go to Chuck and Theresa Lo Presti, who generously lent us the use of their pick-up truck, and to John David, who lent us his trailer.



### Web Resources

★ [www.congress.org](http://www.congress.org) Congress.Org has Issues and Actions of our Congressional Representatives from every state. It shows the bills being voted on and how the Representatives and Senators voted. There is also a link at this page that gives you an opportunity to write to any Representative and Senator. (submitted by Sandy Gourley).

★ [www.mydd.com](http://www.mydd.com) A political blog; the bloggers, Jerome Armstrong and Chris Bowers, with guest blogs provide their own analysis and commentary on campaigns, elections, and world affairs.



### Book List

★ *The Secret Man: The Story of Watergate's Deep Throat* by Bob Woodward

★ *China, Inc.: How the Rise of the Next Superpower Challenges America and the World* by Ted C. Fishman

★ *The Lexus and the Olive Tree: Understanding Globalization* by Thomas L. Friedman

★ *In Time of War: Hitler's Terrorist Attack on America* by Pierce O'Donnell

★ *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: An Inquiry into Values* by Robert M. Pirsig

## Local News

### Tom Moak

Tom Moak, Kennewick City Councilman, was appointed to the Governor's Affordable Housing Advisory Board. We know Tom will do a great job for Benton County and the State. Congratulations, Tom, for your appointment and our thanks for your dedication and contributions on behalf of all Benton County residents.

Mimi Latta, Chair BCDCC

### Opposition to Initiative 912

At the July BCDCC meeting, a resolution was passed that the Central Committee support the bipartisan transportation plan approved by the 2005 Washington State Legislature, and *oppose* I-912.

I-912 will be on the ballot this November. It seeks to repeal funding for the transportation plan, and would result in both the loss of jobs and continued congestion on many of our roads and bridges. Please vote 'No' on I-912.

### Support for Initiative 336

During the July BCDCC meeting, the body passed the following resolution regarding I-336, an initiative on this November's ballot regarding health care in Washington:  
WHEREAS:

1. There are 180,000 Americans killed every year by medical negligence.
2. The actual cost of litigation is 0.4% of health care costs. If litigation's cost were reduced by 25%, the cost saving would only take 10 cents off a \$100 doctor's bill.
3. Rapidly escalating drug prices and medical injuries are the biggest causes of rising health care costs.

BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Benton County Democratic Central Committee endorse Initiative 336 which is the people's answer to curbing medical injuries and rising health care costs.

2. The Benton County Democratic Central Committee oppose Initiative 330 which is the insurance industry's effort to distract us from real answers to escalating health care costs and the need for medical accountability.

SIGNED this 20th day of July 2005.

## bencodems.org Forums

Please visit the BCDCC discussion forums on [www.bencodems.org/forums/](http://www.bencodems.org/forums/)

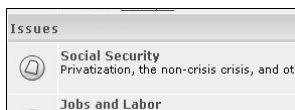
You can participate in discussions over a range of subjects from Health Care to Foreign Relations to Doc Hastings' voting record. Many of the BCDCC committees have their own forums, through which they can announce events and receive ideas from others for future events. Forum topics are divided into three overall categories: General, Issues, and Committees.

To start out, register a username. This step will allow everyone to know which posts are yours, and allow you to edit (or even delete) your own posts, if needed. To register, click on the 'Register' link near the top of the main forum page. The only information required is a username of your choosing, your e-mail address, and a password. An e-mail will be immediately sent to the address you supplied; your account is activated when you click on the link in the e-mail. *Your e-mail address will never be shared or disclosed.* Although you are able to send e-mails to any registered user, this is done securely through the forum and your e-mail address is never shown.

To read postings (or start your own discussion) start by clicking on one of the topic links, such as 'Social Security', or 'Jobs and Labor'. This will take you to a list of posts, starting with the most recent. Click on a post in the 'Topics' column to read what others have to say about a particular issue.

At this point, if you want to respond to someone else's post, click on the 'Post Reply' button just above the posting, to the left. Here you can enter your username if you like, a subject title, and the body of your message. Click on 'Submit' to actually post the message. If you want to start your own discussion, just click on 'New Topic' instead of 'Post Reply', and follow the same procedure. If you are a registered user, you can edit or even delete one of your own posts at

(Continued on page 4)



## Letters to the Editor

### Maria Cantwell

Everyday, Maria Cantwell fights for Washington state, standing up to big oil, big insurance companies. The last thing the Senate needs is another vote for the special interests, record deficits, skyrocketing healthcare and prescription drugs costs.

Senator Cantwell has fought for the values and character of the Northwest. She has stood and won fights with Enron, big oil and gas and Bush's plans to raise NW power rates. She is a fighter with results.

On the political front, she is well-prepared to take on whoever may run against her once the Republicans nominate a candidate next year. Her fundraising is strong, and recent polling from media and independent groups show Washington voters approving of her hard work on their behalf in the U.S. Senate.

Mike McGavick has been an insurance industry lobbyist and executive for the past decade. He has made tens of millions while insurance rates have gone up, complaints have gone up, and jobs have gone down. From that record, we can see that, if he runs, he will get along with other Republicans who have continually favored corporate special interests over the needs of Washington residents. Gas prices continue to be at a record high, job growth continues to be weak, and no effort is being made to make sure people have access to affordable health care and prescription drugs.

As we address the nomination of a new Justice to the US Supreme court, it is important to have a United States Senator like Maria Cantwell who is willing to stand up to the administration when their nominees are extreme and threaten the rights of our citizens. We don't need another rubber stamp for the Bush administration in the US Senate.

Paul Berendt  
WA State Democratic Party Chair

Letters to the editor may be submitted concerning local, national, or international issues, or as a forum for commentary on the newsletter. Please keep letters to 125 words or less. Submission information on the front page.

# August 2005

(Continued from page 3)

a later time.

Make good use of the discussion forums! If you have ideas for future meetings or events, let others know. Share your thoughts on different issues, and find out what others think as well. If you have any questions, check out the 'FAQ' link, or send an e-mail to [forumadmin@bencodem.org](mailto:forumadmin@bencodem.org).

## Events

### August

- 3 Maria Cantwell in Richland, Richland Community Center, 3:45 pm
- 3 Democracy for America, Richland Public Library, 7:00 pm
- 5 Tri-City Democrats Meeting, Latta's Home, 6:00 potluck, 7:00 meeting
- 6 4th CD Meeting, Conference Center-North Annex, 1st and Lincoln Streets, Yakima, 10:00 am
- 9 August Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm, Mid-Columbia Library, Union St. in Kennewick
- 13 Benton County Summer Picnic, Keewaydin Park, Kennewick, Noon to dusk

- 16 Annual Magnuson Awards, Seattle
- 20 Benton-Franklin County Fair Parade
- 21 Assemble Fair Booth, Fairgrounds, Building 2, 8:30 am
- 23-27 Benton-Franklin County Fair and Rodeo (Fair Booth)
- 26 Last day to submit material for the September newsletter
- 30 8th LD Meeting, 7:00 pm, location TBD

### September

- 13 September Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 13 Primary Election
- 16-17 State Committee Meeting, Everett, Quality Inn/Comfort Inn
- 21 September BCDCC Meeting, 7:00 pm, Mid-Columbia Library, Union St. in Kennewick
- 23 Last day to submit material for the October newsletter

### October

- 7 Annual Rossellini Dinner, Tacoma
- 11 October Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm

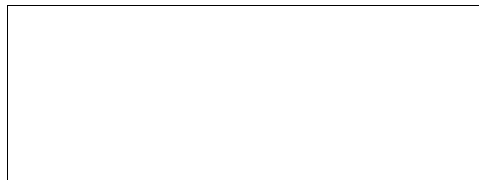
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- 15 Eastern Washington Conference, Moses Lake, ATEC Center
- 19 October BCDCC Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 28 Last day to submit material for the November newsletter

### November

- 6 4th CD Meeting, 10:00 am, place TBD
- 8 General Election
- 11-12 Fall State Central Committee Meeting, Ocean Shores
- 8 November Exec Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 16 November BCDCC Meeting, 7:00 pm



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