

*The Voice of Benton County Democrats*  
**THE DEMOCRATIC REPORTER**



September 2008

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HOTLINE 585-7682

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## From the Chair

Thank goodness August is behind us. With the Gregoire Visit, the County Fair Parade and the Fair Booth and the Convention, the 3-day Labor Day weekend was welcomed respite. I'd like to thank ALL the people that made most of these events possible; the Tri-City Democrats headed by Veda Guynes, the **Franklin County Democrats** and of course, our loyal **Benton County Democrats**. At Headquarters we have lost some of our younger supporters who have returned to college and one went to work directly for the Obama campaign in Colorado.

Soon after his return on Friday, Aug 29<sup>th</sup>, I talked to **Brad Taylor**, our only delegate to attend the convention in Denver. He's promised to put a presentation together on his and his wife's experiences. The little snippets he shared with me were quite interesting. Apparently he had a lot of face time with our Democratic Federal and State representatives including the Governor and her family. We also had a few of our Headquarters staff attend part of the Convention as well.

We recently acquired a predictive dialer for Headquarters and with the installation of more donated computers we expanded our phone calling capability to more than 24 lines. With this system the acquisition of phone numbers, the calling scripts and documentation of the call are handled automatically. If you are interested in learning more about the system PLEASE drop in, our Information Tech **John Vann** will be more than happy to show you how it works. It is really quite easy, but I noticed some callers still prefer the use of calling from a printed list and dialing the numbers themselves. What is interesting about OUR SYSTEM is that you can use it by sitting in the comfort of your own computer in your favorite chair at home! We provide the access information and the headpiece if you don't have one and you're ready to call!

But like any system or technology no matter how good it is, we need people, volunteers in this case to USE IT! If you can spare any time during the day, in the evenings, PLEASE call us or drop by our Headquarters. We will be glad to sit you down and show you how it works. If you would rather help in other ways, we have a long list of needs ranging from help at Headquarters that includes miscellaneous cleaning and maintenance, answering phones, greeting walk-ins and distributing signs.

The many campaigns we are supporting also have various needs from phone callings, doorbelling, sign maintenance and distribution, supporting visibility events, providing snacks for campaign workers, etc. If you would like to directly help any/all of the campaigns of **George Fearing, Carol Moser, Bill Grant, Dante Montoya, Barack Obama**, or any of the state candidates PLEASE call our **Headquarters** at **420-4463** or see contact information below:

**George Fearing, 420-4460,**  
<http://www.georgefearing.com/site/contact-the-campaign/>

**Carol Moser, 627-5198,**  
<http://www.carolmoser.com/contact/contact-us.html>

**Bill Grant,**  
<http://www.votebillgrant.com/volunteer.php>

**Dante Montoya, 308-5252,**  
[dantemontoya@charter.net](mailto:dantemontoya@charter.net)

**Barack Obama, 948-2201,**  
<http://my.barackobama.com/page/s/wasignup>

## **Fearing Congressional Campaign Update – Good Primary Results but Ballots Drop in 7 Weeks**

**Adra Johnson**

George Fearing's Congressional campaign heads into the general election feeling good about their primary showing, and energized by the message of unity coming out the national convention. "It's about all of us standing together to finally end the Republican nightmare that has savaged our nation for almost eight years under Bush/Hastings," said Cindi Laws, Fearing Campaign Manager. "We know Doc Hastings is vulnerable – after all he is one of the 22 most corrupt Congressmen in the United States. His record can't stand up to scrutiny and we're ready to push as hard as necessary to take him down."

Fearing received more votes in this primary election than any Democratic Congressional candidate in more than thirty years here in Central Washington. His primary election totals are higher than Jay Inslee's back in 1992, the year he won this seat for the Democrats.

Democratic Congressional candidates from this district have historically received a fifteen percent "bump" (increase) between the primary and general elections. That's because Democrats don't turn out in large numbers for primary elections. Fearing's vote totaled approximately thirty-five percent in the primary. A fifteen percent "bump" would push Fearing right up to the fifty percent mark in the general election.

However, Cindi Laws cautioned that everything hinges on volunteer support. "Volunteers are the key to taking us past that fifty percent mark. We have only 7 weeks

left until ballots go out in the mail. Traditionally volunteers wait until the last two weeks of the campaign to help turn out the vote. That's way too late. For this election, D-Day is already here. We need our volunteers coming in now. Even one or two hours a week makes a huge impact when everyone pulls together."

Cindi urges people wanting to make a difference to drop by the Democratic Headquarters on GW Way in Richland as soon as possible. For questions or comments, call Fearing Headquarters at 420-4460, or email the campaign at [SendGeorge.com](mailto:SendGeorge.com). Remember, change starts NOW!

## **Proponent of Death With Dignity Initiative to Appear at Badger Forum**

**Bonnie Taylor, 586-8244**

A forum Friday, September 5 on the ballot issue, Death With Dignity, will be a challenge for Columbia Basin Badger Club members as well as the speaker. It will be their questions that dig for the telling points on this emotional, controversial issue.

Taking their questions will be a supporter of the measure, Linda Olson, RN, and PhD, of Tacoma. She followed the Death with Dignity issue for 50 years, first as a nurse, then as a professor of nursing at Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Washington.

The forum, open to the public, will be at 11:30 a.m. at TRAC in Pasco and costs \$15. Lunch will be included. Reservations or inquiries about the Badgers can be made by emailing [badgers@charter.net](mailto:badgers@charter.net) or calling 460-8788. Kirk Williamson, Badger vice president, explained that a significant innovation in how the Badgers approach programs is that members directly engage an expert or public official.

"That's why we present *The Digger Award* – our Badger mascot – to the member who asks the best question at each program," he said.

"We encourage our members to ask tough, direct questions of the speaker in order to expose the underlying facts of any issue before the community. We deliberately limit the time the speaker is allowed for an opening statement, as well as the time allotted for each

question and answer.”

At the last forum, Richland School Board member Heather Cleary received a Digger for asking the best question at the forum with Terry Bergeson and Randy Dorn.

Kimberly Camp, a Badger board member and CEO of the Hanford Reach Interpretive Center, designed the club logo. The club’s webpage is: [www.columbiabasinbadgers.org](http://www.columbiabasinbadgers.org). The number of club members is still growing, now nearing 120. All who join in 2008 will be recognized in perpetuity as the first clan (or cete) of civic-minded, curious Badgers in the Mid-Columbia.

## "Celebrities" coming to See Us!

**Laurel Piippo, 943-3415**

A "teaser" or a treat -- whatever you call it, it's free it's fun, and it's happening next weekend.

When the Tri-Cities Democrats and the Benton and Franklin County Democrats agreed to help sponsor a living history monologue starring **Jean Rice**, Massillon, Ohio, as Eleanor Roosevelt on October 16, Bob Parazin declared, "We need a 'teaser.' Who is Jean Rice anyway?"

You're invited to find out at 2 PM, Sunday September 7, at the Union Street Branch of Mid-Columbia Library in Kennewick. Rice will create the life of a Civil War (1861-65) physician, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, the only woman to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Monday, Sept. 8, at 7 PM, Rice will become Florence Nightingale, a British woman who founded the modern profession of nursing during the Crimean War (1836-1840) -- same location. The performances, free, last about 45 minutes and should satisfy our curiosity about researcher and performer Jean Rice, who will "tell all" about Eleanor's life as First Lady during FDR's four terms as President.

Rice's September performances are sponsored by Mid-Columbia Library as part of a traveling exhibition focusing on "The Changing Face of Medicine: Celebrating America's Women Physicians." Come early to see the display made available to only 61

libraries in the nation, ours to enjoy until September 24.

Under the leadership of Veda Guynes, Tri-Cities Democrats, we planned an elegant evening of chocolate-coated history and entertainment when Jean Rice returns to create **Eleanor Roosevelt**, who will "tell all" at an elegant evening on **Thursday, October 16, from 6 to 8 PM at the Clarion Hotel**, George Washington Way, Richland. Roosevelt's contributions as First Lady, humanitarian, social reformer, and wife of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, go beyond partisanship. We invite everyone, (preferably adults) regardless of political affiliation, to enjoy the opportunity we are providing for you to become acquainted with the life of this remarkable woman.

Tickets cost **\$25/person**, including wine, light hors d'oeuvres, a "sweet surprise" and a silent auction, and are available at **Lucky Flowers**, 4525 N Rd 68 Pasco; **Naturally Gloria**, 5212 W Clearwater, Kennewick; **Octopus Gardens**, Uptown Richland, OR mail your check made out to Tri-Cities Democrats.

## Upcoming Candidate Forums

**WEDNESDAY, October 8<sup>th</sup>**, Chief Joseph Middle School, Richland starts at 7:00 pm. Two Sessions, 8th LD and Benton County Commissioners. The order and precise time of the sessions is TBD.

**WEDNESDAY -- October 15<sup>th</sup>**, CBC Theatre 7:00 pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District race, Fearing and Hastings. Precise time is TBD. A panel of three representing newspaper, radio and TV news organizations will do the questioning.



**Headquarters Phone No: 420-4463**

**Website [www.bencodem.org](http://www.bencodem.org)**

# September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 *Drink Liberally Shilo/O'Callahans 7pm every Tuesday	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 * Executive Board Mtg, 6:30 pm, HQ	10	11	12	13
14	15	16*	17 Central Committee Meeting , 7 pm at HQ	18	19	20
21	22	23*	24	25	26	27
28	29	30*				

\* **Drinking Liberally** - Every Tuesday at the Shilo/O'Callahan's in Richland - 7 pm soft drinks and water are available!  
**RCC -- Richland Community Center, Headquarters HQ – 1315 George Washington Way, Richland (behind Denny's Restaurant)**