

# KITSAP DEMOCRAT



Kitsap County Democratic Central Committee

July-Sept 2007

## ***Stephen Bauer Appointed Kitsap County Commissioner***

Stephen Bauer of Hansville has been appointed to replace Chris Endresen as Kitsap County Commissioner for District 1. He is 62.

Steve retired in 2000 after serving for five years as City Manager of Bellevue and for nine years as the Chief Financial and administrative officer for the City of Portland.

Prior to working for Portland, he was Executive Director of the League of Oregon Cities, an association of 237 cities.

After retiring to Hansville, he served as a volunteer EMT with the Hansville Volunteer Fire Department and as a volunteer at the Island Wildlife Shelter on Bainbridge Island. He started volunteering as a mediator in the



early 1990's in Portland and has been a volunteer mediator with the Kitsap Dispute Resolution Center since his retirement. He has served for several years on the board and as President of

the Hansville Community Club, where he initiated, facilitated and recently completed a four-year Futures Process for Hansville that resulted in a Vision for 2020 and a series of action steps, one of which has been the creation of a Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council comprising 28 organizations and areas in Hansville. He also serves on two local committees dealing with traffic safety and planning for three saltwater parks in the area. He was recognized as an "Outstanding Hansville Citizen" and was nominated this spring for the Jefferson Award.

As a consultant to Kitsap County, Steve prepared an organizational analysis of the County's Department of Community Development.

## ***Chris Endresen Resigns***

Chris Endresen has resigned as County Commissioner to head up Maria Cantwell's statewide office.

Before being elected commissioner in 1996, she sat on the Poulsbo City Council and the



Poulsbo Planning Commission. It adds up to more than two decades of service to Kitsap County.

Among her honors, Endresen has been awarded the YWCA's distinguished "Woman of the Year" award and received the Kitsap County Council for Human Rights "Wall of Fame Award."

Endresen can point to a long list of positive changes in county government during her tenure.

## Meetings and Events

### KCDCC Executive Board:

**Chair**, Carl Olson, 360-698-6833,  
kitsapdemocrat@yahoo.com

**Vice-Chair**, Laurie Jackley, 360-871-7705, bjackley@sinclair.net

**Treasurer**, Ginger Sommerhauser,  
360-337-7334, jim.

sommerhauser@comcast.net

**Secretary**, Yvonne Saddler, 360-697-1278, ymsaddler@earthlink.net

**State Committeewoman/Past Chair**,  
Sharon Peterson, 360-479-4479,  
shapeter16@msn.com

**State Committeeman**, David Peterson,  
360-692-5322, dwp@wavecable.com

Jo Fox Burr, Chair, Democratic Women

Remo Barr, Chair 23rd LD,

Susan Cruver, Chair, 26th LD

Jim Chapin, Chair, 35th LD

Linda Gabriel, 23rd State

Committeewoman

Jim Sharpe, 23rd State Committeeman

### Commissioner District 1:

Chuck Atcheson

Marilyn Boynton

Natalie Bryson

Gene Bullock

Walt Washington

### Commissioner District 2:

Jim Herron

Lois Knutson

Robert Reynolds

Alison Sonntag

### Commissioner District 3:

Martha Bird

John Gideon

Ron Gillespie

John Morgan

Jim Sommerhauser

### Editor/Publicity Chair:

Gene Bullock, 360-394-5635,  
bullockg@earthlink.net

**Webmaster**: Jacob Metcalf, 360-782-6836, jmetcalf@8bitjoystick.com

**July 8 (Sun) – 23<sup>rd</sup> LD Democrats General Meeting**, 4 – 6 p.m., Poulsbo Fire Hall; Speaker: Kitsap County Administrator Nancy Buonanno Grennan.

**July 14 (Sat.) -- 26th LD Democratic picnic**, Noon to 4 p.m. at Key Peninsula Fair in Key Peninsula Volunteer Park, Lakebay WA. Contact Gerry Baldwin, 263-884-9240.

**July 16 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.) -- Kitsap County Democrats General Meeting; 6 p.m. social; 7 p.m. meeting. Events Center, County Fairgrounds. Marilyn Curnow on "Inconvenient Truth;" Sheriff Boyer grills hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken.**

**Aug. 4 (Sat.) -- 35th LD Democratic picnic**, Noon to 4 p.m., Allyn Waterfront Park; special guests: Dave Ross of KIRO 710 Talk Radio and Frank Chopp, Speaker of the Washington State House of Representatives.

**Aug. 6 (1<sup>st</sup> Mon.) -- KCDCC Exec. Board**, 6:30 p.m., Machinists Hall, Bremerton.

**Aug. 7 (1<sup>st</sup> Tues.) - 26<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats**, 6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting; South Kitsap High School, Stage 2k Auditorium, Port Orchard.

**Aug. 19 (Sun)—KCDCC Annual Picnic and Dessert Auction; Jarsted Park, Gorst; Contact Marilyn Boynton (360-297-2776; mimib@donobi.net) for details.**

**Aug. 21 (Tues.) -- Washington State Primary Election.**

**Aug. 22 - 24 - Kitsap County Fair Booth.** To volunteer, contact Yvonne Saddler, 360-697-1278; email: ymsaddler@earthlink.net.

**Sept. 4 (Tues.) -- KCDCC Exec. Board**, 6:30 p.m., Machinists Hall, Bremerton.

**Sept. 4 (1<sup>st</sup> Tues.) - 26<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats**, 6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. meeting; South Kitsap High School, Stage 2k Auditorium, Port Orchard.

**Sept. 17 (3<sup>rd</sup> Mon.) -- Kitsap County Democrats General Meeting; 6 p.m. social; 7 p.m. meeting. Events Center, County Fairgrounds, Speaker: Tim Botkin, director of Kitsap SEED Project.**

**Sept. 19 (Wed.) - 23rd LD Democrats hold Salmon Dinner at Kiana Lodge in Suquamish. 6 p.m., Tickets \$50. Contact Martha Lynn-Johnson, 360-204-5257.**

**Sept. 26 (4<sup>th</sup> Wed.) -- Democratic Women, Angel's Buffet;** 11:30 a.m.

## Progress...Not Perfection – Carl Olson, Chair

Shortly after Congressional approval of the Iraq Emergency Appropriation bill I received a call from a disgruntled member unhappy with the votes recorded by our “slim” majority in Congress. The individual requested to be dropped from our mailing list and indicated their plan to withhold any future donations. While certainly understanding this individual’s frustration, it has given me cause to put this moment of political history into a broader historical/philosophical context.

The Founders envisioned a political process in which decisions would be arrived upon after careful, reasoned discussion. They rightly feared the results of any headlong rush to judgment. As a result, our system may seem almost plodding when it comes to arriving at critical decisions. As Sir Winston Churchill observed, “no one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed, it has been said that democracy is the worst form of government except all those other forms that have been tried.” While it is true we are experiencing difficult times, they are no more difficult than other periods in our history wherein

truth and good ultimately won out. To quote again from Churchill, “a pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty.

In reading wellness expert, Dr. Erik Plaskar’s book *The 100 Year Lifestyle*, I have drawn connections regarding the critical issues facing our nation, which we as Democrats and citizens are rightfully concerned about. Dr. Plaskar discusses quality of life motivation vs. crisis motivation. We must do the same in terms of focusing our energies in support of ongoing quality of life issues, rather than simply reacting to a crisis. That translates into ongoing organizing and education within our precincts, legislative districts, county, congressional districts and state. We must also bear in mind what history teaches us...that change happens one choice at a time. Dr. Plaskar illustrates this through describing the classic school chemistry experiment in chemical titration in which you were given a beaker filled with a clear liquid and a dropper filled with another chemical. You were asked to take the chemical and add it, one drop at a time, recording

how many drops were needed to cause the liquid in the beaker to change color. “You would drop, drop, drop and it would still be clear, but then one last drop and the liquid’s color would suddenly change. So which drop was the most important, the first or the last? The truth is they were all of equal importance, because without any one of them, the solution would not have changed. In our continued political discourse it will take “all” of the drops we add to bring about desired change.

Bear all this in mind when issues become strained and you become frustrated and/or discouraged. We are “slowly” turning the corner and beginning to lay the ground for urgently needed course corrections. Remember that much of the course we’ve been following was plotted 27 years ago and will take more time (and more election victories) to undo. However, can we dare accept the alternative? Keep your energy high and your spirits bright in the months ahead. To paraphrase the words of Robert Frost, ‘we have miles to go before we sleep.’

### **Kitsap County Democrats**

# **Annual Picnic and Dessert Auction**

*Sunday, August 19  
Jarstad Park in Gorst  
Noon to 3:00 p.m.*

### **Meet candidates and elected officials**

*Bring a dessert for the Auction  
or a side dish to pass*

*\$10 adults, \$5 children or \$25 per family*

*Call Marilyn Boynton for details  
360-297-2776  
or e-mail [mimib@donobi.net](mailto:mimib@donobi.net)*

## 23<sup>rd</sup> LD News – Remo Barr, Chair

Our May 6 meeting featured updates from Rep. Sherry Appleton, Rep. Christine Rolfes, Commissioners Chris Endresen and Commissioner Josh Brown. Former Commissioner Tim Botkin gave a presentation on the Kitsap SEED Project.

Congratulations to 23<sup>rd</sup> LD board member Jim Sommerhauser who has been appointed to the Kitsap Planning Commission.

Marilyn Boynton has once again organized our 4<sup>th</sup> of July booth on Bainbridge Island. Thanks go to the booth volunteers and to our local Democratic politicians who spend time greeting visitors. Our new bumper strips, buttons and candy are always a big hit.

*Kitsap's new County Administrator Nancy Buonanno Grennan has been invited to speak at our next 23<sup>rd</sup> LD meeting, Sunday, July 8, 4-6 pm.. at the Poulsbo Fire Hall.*

As chief administrative officer for the county, Nancy is the direct manager for departments reporting to the Board of Commissioners, including Community Development, Public Works, Personnel and Human Services, Administrative Services, Information Services, and Facilities, Park and Recreation.

Nancy has more than 20 years experience in human resources, labor relations and policy development. Previously she was

Labor Relations manager for King County, and from 2000 to 2004 she was Labor Relations manager for Kitsap County.

Our annual **Salmon Dinner** will be at the beautiful Kiana Lodge in Suquamish on Wednesday, September 19. This is our main fundraiser, so we hope you will join us for a fun night at a beautiful waterfront location. Call Martha Lynn-Johnson at (360-204-5257) for reservations.

Thanks to all the new members and interested individuals who have stepped forward because of the Commissioner vacancy. We welcome you and hope you continue to participate.

## 26<sup>th</sup> LD News -- Susan Cruver, Chair

“Give me a K! Give me an Ilmer! What does that spell? KILMER!” This is a favorite parade cheer of 26<sup>th</sup> LD denizens and we had plenty of opportunities to shout it during the Maritime Gig Festival Parade on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sen. Derek Kilmer shook countless hands, as did Reps. Pat Lantz and Larry Seaquist, plus Pierce County Councilman/County Executive candidate Calvin Goings. Fifty of our best campaigners marched and

chanted. We were well received and Derek is a rock star in the eyes of Gig Harbor residents. Although the Republicans paid for parade entry, they failed to show up, or the few who did fled in shame. Summer fun continues with our picnic, this year scheduled in conjunction with the Key Peninsula Fair on Saturday, July 14, at Volunteer Park near Home. Our goal is to increase attendance at our picnic and also at the fair

while providing the opportunity to reach out to Democrats living on Key Peninsula.

June's meeting was largely devoted to a discussion of the Iraq War with Clark Mather of Norm Dicks' staff. Other “theme” meetings will follow, exploring problems with our healthcare system, education, and economic development of the 26<sup>th</sup> and the entire Kitsap Peninsula.

## 35<sup>th</sup> LD News -- Jim Chapin, Chair

The 35<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats will have their annual picnic on Saturday, August 4, 2007 at the beautiful Allyn Waterfront Park from Noon to 4 p.m.

There will be games and activities for the children, lots of food and drink (non-alcoholic).

Our guest speaker is entertainer **Dave Ross**, famous KIRO radio talk show host and active Democrat (KIRO 710 Talk Radio, 9-Noon, M-F). **Frank Chopp**, Speaker of the Washington State House of Representatives, will also be our guest.

Further information and driving instruction are available on the 35<sup>th</sup> LD Democratic website, [www.35thdemocrats.org](http://www.35thdemocrats.org)

## Sen. Rockefeller Named Legislator of the Year

Senator Phil Rockefeller has been named Legislator of the Year for his outstanding environmental leadership during the 2007 legislative session by the Washington Conservation Voters (WCV).

As the architect of the Save our Sound bill that passed the House and Senate, Senator Rockefeller was instrumental in creating an agency that will ensure Washington has a plan to save the Puget Sound by 2020. "When Puget Sound needed a champion, Senator Rockefeller stepped up and made it a priority," said Kurt Fritts, WCV's Executive Director.

As a member of the Committee on Ways & Means, Senator Rockefeller ensured the funding of the Save our Sound provisions. "Senator Rockefeller's environmental leadership in

Olympia brought about a Puget Sound partnership bill with a strong plan to guarantee a healthy Puget Sound by 2020 and beyond," said Clifford Traisman, lobbyist for WCV.

This year, three of the four Priorities for a Healthy Washington had to pass through the Water, Energy & Telecommunications Committee before receiving floor votes. Senator Rockefeller's role as vice chair of this influential committee allowed him to shepherd these three priorities through the committee. For the first time ever, all four priorities passed out of the Legislature in 2007. "The environment enjoyed unprecedented success this year in Olympia," said Fritts, "and Senator Rockefeller was one big reason for these achievements."

In addition to protecting Puget



***Governor Gregoire and Senator Rockefeller at signing of Puget Sound Partnership bill.***

Sound, Senator Rockefeller was also instrumental in passing the Clean Air/Clean Fuels priority and banning toxic flame retardants (PBDEs), and he served as a strong voice for the environment during legislative negotiations on exempting agriculture land from critical area ordinances.



***Jim Sommerhauser has been appointed to the Kitsap County Planning Commission by Commissioner Josh Brown.***

## Sommerhauser Named to Planning Commission

Central Kitsap Commissioner Josh Brown has named Jim Sommerhauser to the Kitsap County Planning Commission.

Since returning to Kitsap in 2001 (he previously lived in the area from 1973 to 1988), Sommerhauser has attended a majority of county commissioner meetings and study sessions, as well as Planning Commission meetings.

The Kitsap County Planning Commission is an advisory body that assists the planning department in carrying out its

duties, including assistance in the preparation and execution of the comprehensive plan and recommendations to the planning department for the adoption of official controls or amendments. Regularly scheduled public hearings or work study sessions are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month.

## 2008 WILL BE NO PUSH OVER!

### Fred Finn, Past Vice Chair 35<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats

Considering the mess that George Bush will leave us, from Iraq and Guantanamo, to the environment, looming health care, social security and budget deficits or border issues not to mention various scandals and our country's loss of international moral and economic leadership, one would think that 2008 presidential election would be a cake walk for the Democratic Party. **WRONG!**

Remember, just 3 years ago when many of the same problems existed, and we were confident President Bush could not possibly be reelected? Remember an overconfident Tom Dewey and that famous Chicago newspaper headline announcing that he had won the 1948 presidential election? We, as Democrats, should take nothing for granted.

We must present a positive realistic and optimistic vision for the future for our wonderful country and not just run against George Bush. No doubt whoever the Republican candidate is, he will try to distance himself from Mr. Bush and paint Democrats as negative, weak on national defense and strong on tax and spending increases. These issues may still resonate with

swing voters. That is why I am not completely comfortable with the one issue Democrats have been most out front on and that is the need to immediately begin pulling troops out of Iraq. While we have been clear in our opposition to this totally ill-conceived and executed war, if this is our only issue we will loose. I remember, and no doubt Republicans will point out, that far more were killed by the internal struggles in South East Asia after we left then while we were actively engaged in the Viet Nam War. Will Iraq be any different?

Unless we as Democrats articulate a fresh and uplifting vision for our future we will suffer the "malaise" of Jimmy Carter in his reelection effort. The "Vision thing" really is important.

We do not yet have a candidate to unite behind who has combined a clear vision with a solid track record. Whether it is a tendency to polarize Democrats and unite Republicans, a lack of experience or a \$400.00 haircut, no announced candidate seems perfect, although any of them would be far far superior to what we now have. This is not unusual. We are still

more than six months from the first primaries and caucuses and the candidates are still formulating their messages. I, for one, hope they do so soon and that it is not just an anti George Bush or an anti Iraq war message.

The Democrat message in 2008 must be uplifting and pro environment. It must also recognize the importance of maintaining and promoting well paying jobs and a positive business climate. It must appeal to our better natures, while pointing out the negative impact that the growing disparity between the very rich and the middle class has on our country.

The fact that we are still early in the election process should not be an excuse for inactivity at the local level. Now, is the time for us to organize. If you are in a precinct which does not have a Precinct Committee Officer, volunteer for that office. If you are a PCO, come to the meetings and get involved. Considering the number of challenges we face and the mess that this president has made domestically and internationally, 2008 will be the most critical election in our lifetime.



Eleven candidates for county commissioner faced 86 Kitsap County Democratic Precinct Committee Officers in a special two-hour caucus. After weeks of campaigning by the candidates, PCO's narrowed the field to Stephen Bauer, Tom Nevins and Clarence Moriwaki. Commissioners made the final choice.

## Redefining the Good Life -- Gene Bullock

Nude bikers, painted bodies and pagan drums highlighted this year's Fremont Solstice Festival. But for me the main event was the SCALLOPS Summit (Sustainable Communities ALL Over Puget Sound). For a couple of hours, Gas Works Park was the epicenter of a grassroots movement that is sprouting all over Puget Sound.

Over the past couple of years, SCALLOPS has grown into a consortium of some three dozen sustainability groups, including Sustainable Bainbridge and Sustainable Bremerton.

At this year's Solstice Festival, delegates from 16 SCALLOPS groups gathered to share ideas and gain inspiration from each other.

Rick Turner from Sustainable Wallingford pointed out that the American Dream of owning a big house and lots of big cars is leading us down an unsustainable

path. The question is whether people can change their definition of the "good life" in time to avoid a major collapse in our support systems.

Observers are reporting a worldwide groundswell of grassroots activism. People see things headed in the wrong direction and governments trapped in the past. As 91-year-old civil rights legend Grace Lee Boggs explained to Bill Moyers recently, we can't wait for government to do it, because once people are elected to public office they become captive to the system. They risk losing office if they disturb the status quo. Individuals at the grassroots level are the only ones who can really bring about change. When enough people join in, change happens. Grace talked about the folly of waiting for leaders to emerge. That makes us impotent followers waiting for

someone to tell us what to do. As Grace puts it, "we are the leaders we have been waiting for."

The grassroots energy crackled and sent sparks in Fremont. We heard about imaginative campaigns such as Sustainable Ballard's "undrivers" program. It's a novel approach to getting people out of their cars and walking. At community events, the group will have booths that issue "undrivers" licenses and offer "undrivers" classes.

Groups are promoting victory gardens, farmers markets and walking trails that call attention to the pleasures of walking. They're also exploring ways to engage the community and partner with other groups.

What's needed is a fundamental shift in values from "more is better" to "simpler, slower, smaller."

## Activist of the Year

Washington Conservation Voters named Gene Bullock its Activist of the Year. Presenting the award were Brendon Cechovic of WCV, Kitsap County Commissioner Josh Brown, Representative Christine Rolfes and Aisling Kerins of FutureWise.

Bullock serves on the boards of the Kitsap Conservation Voters, West Sound Conservation Council, Kitsap Audubon Society, the Kitsap Democratic Central Committee and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District Democrats.



He was also recently honored by Audubon Washington "In recognition of outstanding advocacy to organize citizens to conserve birds and their habitat."

*Pictured above, left to right, Commissioner Josh Brown, Gene Bullock and Representative Christine Rolfes.*

**THE KITSAP  
DEMOCRAT**

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