Greetings From Our Chairwoman!
by Saundra Ellison

2018 is a very important election year! We have the opportunity to turn Georgia BLUE so that we can affect change in Columbus, Atlanta, and in our Nation's Capitol - especially the White House!

Remember: We Win if You Vote! Your Vote is Your Voice!

Happy Spring!
Saundra

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ADVANCE VOTING
GENERAL PRIMARY/NONPARTISAN ELECTION
ACTUAL VOTING DATE IS MAY 22, 2018

April 30 – May 18, 2018
City Services Center
Community Room
3111 Citizens Way
Columbus, GA 31906

Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM,

Saturday
May 5, 2018 & May 12, 2018
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Sunday
May 6, 2018 & May 13, 2018
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
Democratic Primary Preview!

We are officially in primary season! As of March 9, Qualifying Week has ended at federal, state and local levels, and we now have our candidates and incumbents who are running in our May 22 primary. We are ecstatic for the number of progressive candidates who are competing in the primary, especially our two powerhouse candidates for governor, Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans!

This year is shaping up to be a year in which Georgians from all walks of life are running for office for the first time:
- All 8 statewide executive offices have Democratic candidates, from governor to agriculture commissioner
- 39 (out of 59) State Senate seats have received Democratic candidates, including 19 Democratic incumbents
- 122 (out of 180) State House seats are receiving Democratic candidates, including 62 Democratic incumbents
- Both odd-numbered Public Service Commissioner seats up for election – Districts 3 and 5 – have received Democratic candidates
- 13 (out of 14) Congressional seats have Democratic candidates, including 4 Democratic incumbents

A special note for SD29; after the terrible tenure of the Republican incumbent, we now have two Democrats running for Senate District 29: Ben Anderson, a healthcare administrator from Grantville, and Valerie Haskins, an educator from Manchester! With our long-serving incumbents Rep. Calvin Smyre, Rep. Carolyn Hugley, Rep. Debbie Buckner and Sen. Ed Harbison who are all running for re-election, we are going to have an exciting Election Day in November!

And let’s not forget that we have two wonderful candidates for the 3rd U.S. House District, Chuck Enderlin and Rusty Oliver!

The fact that we have Democrats campaigning for 122 State House seats is huge because, unlike many past elections, we are now competing for a full 2/3rds of the State House! This is 35 more seats than what we campaigned for in 2016, and we can’t be more excited for our chance to take the House and move Georgia forward.

The fact that a full 65% of our candidates for State House are women speaks to how the actions of the Republicans in the White House, Congress, the Governor’s Mansion and the General Assembly have spurred a strong reaction from today’s Georgia Democrats from all over the state. We are no longer letting Republicans slide with their disenfranchisement and dispossession of the working class. We are offering a progressive, democratic vision for Georgia, and we’re ready to move this state forward!

Finally, the local nonpartisan races for mayor, city council and school board will be closely watched by us, and we invite all Muscogee Democrats to vet these candidates on their stances on such local issues as infrastructure, civil rights and school funding. We will publish endorsements by the District Post Committee on certain local races in the near future.

So get ready to vote! The deadline for registering to vote in time for the primary and local election is April 24. Early voting will take place at the Citizen Service Center Community Room at 3111 Citizens Way from April 30 to May 18, and Primary/Nonpartisan Local Election Day will take place at all precincts in Columbus on May 22.

Good luck to all candidates, and may they offer their best progressive vision for our state!

Sincerely,
Harry Underwood
Communications Director
Muscogee County Democrats

MUSCOGEE COUNTY DEMOCRATS
MCDC in the COMMUNITY!

On Tuesday, March 27, the Muscogee County Democratic Committee hosted Dr. Michael C. Owens, Chair of the Cobb County Democratic Committee, as our General Membership Meeting’s guest speaker! We learned how the CCDC built up their membership using inclusive, grass roots methods like getting involved in all local progressive groups and providing membership and fundraising levels that encourage ALL Democrats to find a comfortable way to contribute. We thank Dr. Owens for giving us his time and energy!

The MCDC hosted its inaugural Happy Hour on Friday, March 30, at Speakeasy! We had a great evening full of relaxation and conversation - we hope you join us at our next Happy Hour at the end of May!

Ben Anderson, GA State Senate District 29 Candidate, and Laura Walker, MCDC Communication & PR Subcommittee Chair

Mary and Charles Walker

Charles Walker and Harry Underwood, MCDC Communications
UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Monday, April 16, MCDC Executive Committee Meeting
- Tuesday, April 24, 7 pm, CSU Democratic Gubernatorial Forum with Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans
- Thursday, April 26, 5:30 pm, MCDC HAPPY HOUR, Sapo’s Mexican Cantina, Manchester Expressway, Come Meet Other Dems!
- Thursday, May 3, 5:30 pm, Communications & Public Relations Subcommittee Meeting, for details email lauraw64@aol.com
- Tuesday, May 22, ELECTION DAY for Local Elections and Primaries

SPOTLIGHT ON: Democratic Gubernatorial Forum

- Tuesday, April 24
  - 7:00 pm
- Columbus State University, University Hall
- Democratic Governor Candidates Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans, guests

Columbus State University, WRBL News 3 and PMB Broadcasting are joining together to host, televise, and simulcast a series of political forums and debates. Democratic gubernatorial candidates Stacey Abrams and Stacey Evans will debate at CSU University Hall on April 24 at 7pm. The public is invited to attend and hear these two candidates promote and debate their stances on such issues as education, infrastructure and the economy. MCDC Chair Saundra Ellison will speak on behalf of the MCDC during introductions.

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