

Northwest Democrats News



January, 2008
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Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

January 19th Program: Judicial & Sheriff Candidates

Don't forget to attend our January 19th meeting where you will get the chance to hear the candidates running for Sheriff along with the contested race for the 175th District Court.

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 a.m. at Luby's, 6200 Bandera Rd.

2006-2008

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SUPER BOWL

February 3, 2008

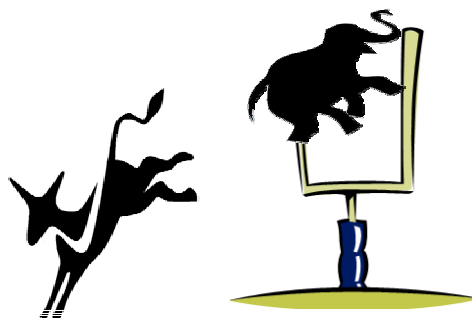
4 - 9 pm

Home of Judge Tessa &
Roger Herr

8760 Cross Mountain Trail

Tickets \$25 or 2 for \$45

Call 680-5701



January 19th, Eckhert Road Clean-up

The next clean up will take place after the January meeting. We look forward to seeing the regulars plus some new faces. It is good exercise and contributes to the beauty of our community!

We are recycling the cans and bottles collected to help save the Earth.

Questions? Call Gene Marck, Special Projects Chair.
Office: 614-7400; Cell 273-9201

Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:

TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

A Few 'Joyce' Words

by Joyce Dorrycott

I never thought I could get tired of politics, but the presidential campaigns are really wearing me out. Seems it has gone on forever. Then, to think that two small states should alone determine who our Democratic nominee is makes me furious. Isn't this a nation where all of us should have a voice?

It seems that more and more the media dominates our political discussion. And, I can't decide whether they create the news or really just report it. Are the other candidacies really dead after only two very small states, dominated by independent voters, vote? Are Democrats not to have a candidate who is selected in Democratic primaries where you must be a Democrat to vote? If you want to be an independent, fine. Your turn to vote comes in November when you help us choose a president - not when we are choosing the party's nominee.

On another note, it is truly exciting to see so many young people coming out to vote. Finally, someone has ignited within a great many voters the fervor to participate in the democratic (little "d") process. Now, we need to keep them involved for the presidential election.

Once again, however, Texans find themselves without a meaningful voice in the nominating process. Regardless of which candidate we support, we are unable to have any impact on which one becomes the nominee. Our only hope is that we end up with a deadlocked convention wherein the delegates to the convention will have a meaningful role to play.

If you are interested in being a delegate to the state and/or national convention, be sure to attend the January 19th meeting when Zada True Courage will be speaking on this subject. We will also have candidates from two of the contested races on our Democratic Primary ballot - the sheriff's race and Judge Mary Roman's race. Next month we will feature other contested races in our primary, so please put our February 16th meeting on your calendar.

And, on one last topic - our Northwest Democrats' Super Bowl. This will be the 9th year we have held our Super Bowl fundraiser to raise money for our general election efforts. We really need you to step up and become a part of this event. This is one of our most important activities of the year. Every member should buy a ticket, contribute items to the Silent Auction and/or attend the event itself. Sometimes we can't participate, but we do hope you will come if you possibly can. We always have such a great time, have lots of fun and get to see lots of our fellow Democrats. See you there.

Don't forget. We are still working on the phone number project. After the Super Bowl we'll get together for lunch again.

WEAR YOUR T-SHIRTS AND BRING YOUR MUGS

Don't want to have to think about what to wear to the Northwest Democrats' meeting: WEAR YOUR NORTHWEST DEMOCRATS' T-SHIRT. If you are a member of Northwest Democrats and you have Northwest Democrats' t-shirt (blue or red) wear your t-shirt to the meeting.

If you have a Northwest Democrats' mug, bring it to Luby's and use it rather than the styrofoam cups. We know styrofoam is bad for the environment, so do your part to help it.

Tyler and Harlingen Decide for the Entire State

by Jacob Middleton

What if Texas picked its nominees for governor or senator through a system like the current presidential primary system?

Staying on this train of thought, what cities would get to go first? Well, Iowa is 30th in population and New Hampshire is 41st in population. According to the 2000 census, Tyler is 30th in population and Harlingen is 41st. Don't like those two cities getting all the attention and choosing the nominees? Okay let's move onto to the South Carolina equivalent, 24th in population; Wichita Falls is third in line. Still not happy? Okay, how about the Nevada equivalent, 35th in population; Baytown gets to go fourth.

If it sounds ridiculous to you that the cities of Tyler, Harlingen, Wichita Falls, and Baytown would get to decide who your statewide candidates will be, why does it make much more sense for states like Iowa and New Hampshire to continually go first? A nationwide population estimated to be over 303 million and two states with a combined population of 4,296,980 get all the attention and essentially get to decide for the whole country.

GET RID OF THE CURRENT PRIMARY SYSTEM. I don't say this as a disgruntled Obama, Clinton, or Edwards supporter (Personally, I like Bill Richardson; so it's not like I have any illusions of grandeur).

The current system is unfair and caters to only a small minority of the population. On top of that, all the candidates treat Iowa and New Hampshire like little gifts from God, while the rest of the country is treated like the black sheep of the family. It infuriates me when a candidate (and all of them have been guilty of this at one time or another) says that voters in New Hampshire take the process seriously. Or that Iowa voters listen and evaluate the candidates. So then I guess the rest of us are just brain-dead, drooling idiots who should be grateful that those all-knowing and omnipotent voters from Iowa and New Hampshire are first in the process.

Moving on to another issue. From Mad Magazine's list of the 20 dumbest people, events, and things of 2007, "Finally there is compelling evidence that the theory of evolution is wrong! For proof positive man's intelligence has not evolved in eons, consider the Cro-Magnon brained imbeciles behind the recently opened Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky. The museum's exhibits don't merely challenge science, they ignore it completely! It's the only place in the world you can see man riding bareback on a dinosaur—except, of course, in an old episode of the *Flintstones*."

For those who didn't hear, the issue of evolution came up late last year in Austin. More specifically, the state director of science curriculum, Chris Comer, was forced to resign after it came out she supported evolution over intelligent design/creationism. Comer had been in the position for 9 years (prior to her state position she spent 27 years as a teacher).

From the National Center for Science Education: *Comer herself appeared on NPR's "Science Friday" on December 7, 2007, relating her story to the show's host, Ira Flatow. After receiving the e-mail announcing Forrest's talk, she said, "you know, I had a half minute and I said, gee, this is really interesting. And then, I looked up the credential on my computer, I Googled Barbara Forrest and I said, oh my goodness, this is quite a credential[ed] speaker. And then I thought to myself -- you know, I'm telling my biology teachers almost on a weekly basis, teach the curriculum, teach the evolution curriculum because it's part of the state-mandated curriculum. And now, I should be -- you know, I should be walking the talk here, and I -- there's nothing wrong with this e-mail, of course." Less than two hours later, a colleague was calling for her termination, and in the following week, she was effectively forced to resign.*

If you want to find out more, just Google: Chris Comer, evolution. Click on the "news" button at Google for even more.

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LIVE AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Gather up items for a super-duper
silent or live auction...
such as campaign memorabilia,
political books or gift certificates for
restaurants, services, theaters,
weekend getaway cabins, condos,
hotels, jewelry, games, music -
whatever might bring in dollars

If you received after shave, cologne,
perfume or other unwanted items for
Christmas, please bring them to the
January meeting. We'll put them in
baskets for the silent auction. Artificial
flowers in good condition can also be used.

DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY

**Remember that changes in the bylaws
means that all dues are now due in
January. Dues are \$15 for the entire family.**

**If you are not able to attend the meeting
you can send in a check to:**

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