



Montgomery County Democrats

The Newsletter of the Montgomery County Democratic Committee



County court of common pleas candidates celebrate their victory with MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen at the Great American Pub in Conshohocken. (l-r) Michael Shields, Joel Bernbaum, Groen, Ann Thornburg Weiss, and Richard Haaz. Not pictured are candidates Cheryl Lynne Austin, Jeff Lindy, and Lois Murphy.

Endorsed Dems Win County Primary

Conshohocken, 19 May. The MCDC endorsed slate of county court of common pleas candidates, Cheryl Lynne Austin, Joel Bernbaum, Richard Haaz, Jeff Lindy, Lois Murphy, Michael Shields, and Ann Thornburg Weiss, handily won the recent Democratic primary election, and most of them celebrated their victory with supporters at the Great American Pub in Conshohocken.

Well-trained Democratic committee people met voters at the polls, where they had the task of sorting out the large field of 18 candidates, including the endorsed slate, an unendorsed Democrat, and cross-filed Republicans. "Our committee people were magnificent," touted MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen. The results proved it, as the slate won by a margin of 3 to 5 times the number of votes of the other candidates. At the top was Austin, with 19,686 votes, followed by Murphy, with 19,482 votes. Although they were unsuccessful in their cross-filing efforts, Democrats performed reasonably well in the Republican primary; Murphy (7,009 votes) was top vote-getter among the Democrats.

Pennsylvania Budget Battle Continues

Harrisburg, 15 June. Faced with plummeting state revenues, and an uncooperative Republican-controlled state Senate, Montgomery County's Democratic legislators are faced with drafting a fiscally responsible budget while maintaining essential services and a fiscally sound economy.

"This is no easy task," observed **Josh Shapiro** (153rd), when reflecting on the need to make cuts and at the same time making the necessary investments to improve the economy and create jobs; nonetheless, he continued, "I am proud to have a seat at the table and fight for our common values." He noted that the recession is "by far, the biggest fiscal challenge to hit Harrisburg in decades," but he believes working along side fellow Democrats on the Appropriations Committee, the House will put forward a responsible budget.

Toward that end, **Josh Shapiro**, along with **Kathy Manderino** (194th), **Tim Briggs** (149th), and **Matt Bradford** (70th), members of the Appropriations Committee, voted in that body on 8 June along party lines (20 to 14) to defeat the Senate Republicans' proposed draconian budget, S.B. 850, a measure state Senator **Daylin Leach** (17th) described as "an irresponsible, almost

continued on page 3

State-wide Judicial Race Results

Harrisburg, 19 May. Democratic candidate for State Supreme Court Jack Panella running unopposed garnered 534,161 votes in the May Primary. A former trial judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Northampton County since 1991, and currently an appellate judge on Superior Court of Pennsylvania since 2004, Panella will oppose Republican Joan Orié Melvin, also currently an appellate judge on the Superior Court, in the November General Election.

The Primary Election for Democratic candidates for Superior and Commonwealth courts, however, proved to be less predictable.

Three vacancies on the state's Superior Court led to a six-way race that included the state party's endorsed candidates, Robert Colville, a judge on Allegheny's Court of Common Pleas, and Anne Lazarus and John Younge, both members of Philadelphia County's Court of Common Pleas. The race, however, was in large part determined by the heavy turnout in southwestern Pennsylvania, and consequently only two of the endorsed candidates won election. Colville and Lazarus posted first and third, respectively, in Allegheny and surrounding counties, while Younge was returned fifth. Instead, Democrats there voted heavily for unendorsed candidate Kevin Francis McCarthy, an Assistant District Attorney in Allegheny County, placing him second among the top three positions. In addition, McCarthy came in either first or second in 41 of the 67 counties, including every county in western Pennsylvania. Philadelphia and its adjacent counties returned all three endorsed candidates to the top positions, but Younge's total for the two powerful geographical areas of the state nonetheless left him a distant fourth. Moreover, Younge was returned first, second or third in only 7 counties (Beaver, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Montgomery, and Philadelphia) and was not competitive in the remaining areas. Despite his endorsement by the state party, he finished sixth.

Six Democratic candidates vied for two vacancies on the Commonwealth Court, resulting in an election where the roles of local favorites clearly sent the party's state-endorsed candidates, Jimmy Lynn and Dan Bricmont, down to defeat. The southwest counties of Beaver, Allegheny,

continued on page 18



Chairman's Corner

By Marcel Groen, Chairman
Montgomery County Democratic Committee

Looking forward to November

The 2009 primary is history, and now we look forward to a critically important general election in November. What's that? You didn't know there was a primary election? Unfortunately, you are not alone. Voter turnout in many Montgomery County communities averaged less than 15 percent. That is sad,

because this primary chose the candidates for local municipal seats that directly impact our daily lives, and also chose one third of our county Common Pleas Court. I hope November brings a greater interest and participation, and we will do everything we can to make that happen.

Despite the low turnout, our Democratic organization performed admirably. We were challenged to make sure our endorsed slate of candidates for the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas won the seven slots on the Democratic ballot in the November election. Our committee people and other election-day volunteers took up that challenge with incredible energy, dedication and professionalism, proving my contention that the Montgomery County Democratic organization is the most dynamic party organization in the Commonwealth.

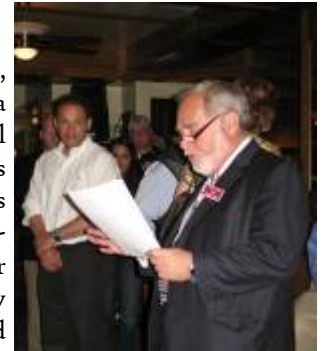
Our judicial candidates (Cheryl Lynne Austin, Joel Bernbaum, Richard Haaz, Jeff Lindy, Lois Murphy, Michael C. Shields and Ann Thornburg Weiss) defeated the other candidates on the Democratic ballot by margins ranging from 3 to 1 to 5 to 1, and they join me in thanking our committee people and volunteers for their tremendous effort on Primary Day.

Now the stage is set for the General Election in November where we have a historic opportunity to remake the face of our 21-person county bench, which currently lacks any Democrats, persons of color, and has only one woman. Our highly talented, diverse, and qualified candidates are committed to working hard over the summer and into the fall to make a historic change in our county court system.

So, it is time for us to move beyond the primary battles and unite behind all of our candidates from local municipal contests to the state Supreme Court, because our success in these races helps set the stage for next year's legislative, congressional and statewide elections.

Unity, however, is not enough. We need to continue to work hard. A familiar cliché is that success breeds success, and our victories over the past decade have, indeed, bred greater success. But beneath all of that success is a

continued on page 3



continued from page 1
 depraved budget.” That bill passed the state Senate after a four-hour debate on 6 May, also along party lines, 32 to 20, despite the opposition of the Senate Democrats, including **Leach** and **LeAnna Washington** (4th). S.B. 850, according to Leach, would have eliminated or drastically cut funding for programs reducing violent crime, legal services for the poor, welfare and aging services, education services, medical assistance, library funding, and trauma centers. Such programs, said Leach, are core functions of government, and, he added, the legislature has a “moral obligation” to fund them. “It was a bill,” concluded Leach, “that I was proud to oppose.”



State Sen. Daylin Leach



State Rep. Kathy Manderino.

Support for defeating S.B. 850 was widespread. “We received hundreds of emails,” reported **Tim Briggs**, “urging us to defeat the Republican proposed budget.” Nonetheless, the burden of crafting a budget remains, and Briggs stressed the urgency of standing fast to the right priorities. Foremost, he observed, was to protect those Pennsylvanians who are the most vulnerable, those individuals “who cannot fight for themselves.” He also noted the need to protect early child care and education. “Approximately forty-three percent of the budget,” noted Briggs, “is dedicated for education, with another four to five percent for higher education.” There was little room, he added, for maneuver. **Kathy Manderino** ech-



State Rep. Rick Taylor

oed similar concerns: “There are no easy choices,” she observed, “and many citizens realized just how many crucial services existed when faced with potential cuts.” She added that more cuts may yet follow unless additional revenues are forthcoming. Manderino noted, as did **Briggs**, that even the Senate’s draconian budget failed to cover the \$3.2 billion shortfall. Imaginative and flexible thinking, they both agreed, will be required to resolve the crisis.

Equally somber was **Rick Taylor’s** (151st) assessment that the fight will be centered over filling the gap between revenues and expenditures. While he did not relish that situation, he was adamant on maintaining the right sense of priorities: “We need to protect our most vulnerable citizens, our older Pennsylvanians, and our children.” He too noted that the budget crisis will not be solved by simply slashing programs and services; even the Republicans, said Taylor, failed to accomplish that (in reference to S.B. 850) and added that sensible solutions will have to be agreed upon in order to see the state through these hard times.



State Rep. Tim Briggs

Currently, H.B. 1416, the proposed Democratic budget introduced on 4 May, sits in the Appropriations Committee awaiting action. It is, in essence, the governor’s proposed budget, but negotiations are still in progress with few willing to predict when and how the final budget will emerge. “I doubt we will make the June 30th deadline,” remarked **Larry Curry** (154th), “but hopefully we’ll have budget sometime this summer.”

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continued from page 2

simple formula: good candidates plus hard work equals victory. We have the candidates and an excellent organization. Now we need to invest our time, energies, and resources to have a great November 3rd.

An important component of a winning formula is money. Our biggest fundraiser of the year is our Annual Golf Outing. This year’s event is Monday, July 27th, at Talamore Country Club in Horsham Township. Please find a way to support it whether by sponsoring a hole, golfing, attending the dinner, or any combination of the three. For more information, call MCDC at 610-272-2000 or check our website at www.mcdems.org.

Have a great summer!

County Controller Kicks off 2011 Re-election Campaign

Ambler, 9 June. Montgomery County Controller Diane B. Morgan, the first female ever elected to that post, began her 2011 re-election campaign at a reception held at her home. Dozens of local supporters attended the event, including current county officials and numerous candidates for office. Ruth Damsker, former Montgomery County commissioner, acted as emcee.

Photo credit for this article: Bonnie Squires.



Current Montgomery County Officials: (l-r) Mark Levy (prothonotary), D. Bruce Hanes (register of wills), Morgan (controller), Walter Hofman, M.D., (coroner), and Joe Hoeffel (commissioner).



(l-r) Doug Pike, candidate for the 6th congressional district; Jonathan Saidel, former Philadelphia City Controller and potential candidate for Lt. Governor; Morgan; and Dan Onorato, Allegheny County Executive and potential candidate for governor.



(l-r) Julie Slavett, representing Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz, Morgan, and Susan Segal, representing U.S. Senator Arlen Specter.

Dainoff and Zurzola Win Local Primary

East Norriton, 19 May. Harris Dainoff and John Zurzola captured the Democratic nomination for East Norriton supervisor. Turnout for the Democrats at the East Norriton Township polls increased 26% from Primary 2005, the last time seats were open for the township Board of Supervisors.

With two seats at stake for East Norriton Township Board of Supervisors, the already heated race got even more exciting when the Republican vote fractured. Two Republican challengers ran against two Republican incumbents in the Primary and bumped the current chairman off the ticket for November, creating a rift in the Republican ticket for



(l-r) Harris Dainoff, John Zurzola and Todd Eisenberg at the MCDC Spring Reception.

the fall Election. The contentious issues of increasing property taxes and construction of a hospital at Wood's Golf Center seem to be the reasons for voter dissatisfaction with Republican stewardship of the Township.

East Norriton Township Democrats are organized and ready for change. Monthly meetings are held and the team continues to plan aggressively for the switch in leadership. The Dainoff/Zurzola team, which greeted voters at the polls, is now knocking on doors and organizing a grassroots campaign. GET INVOLVED by calling (484) 684-6522 or by visiting www.dainoffzurzola2009.org. Various events are planned through the fall. The team looks forward to victory in November!

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Around the County on Primary Day



In Elkins Park at the Cheltenham Township Building, Committeeman Steve Silvert (Cheltenham 3-2).



Committeeman Tom Kohler and pollworker Julia McGrath at the Upper Merion Township Building in King of Prussia (Upper Merion Candlebrook 1).



Pollworker Susan Galante at Upper Moreland High School in Willow Grove (Upper Moreland 6-1 and 6-2).



Pollworkers Antoinette Delanzo and John Wiggins at the Living Word Lutheran Church in Roslyn (Abington 14-1).



In Horsham at Simmons Elementary School, Committeewoman Kathy Walker (Horsham 2-2).



In Hatboro at the Enterprise Fire Company, Councilwoman and candidate Patty Fleming and pollworker Scott Brown (Hatboro South 2).

Around the County on Primary Day



Committeewoman Peggy Cline at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Glenside (Abington 13-3).



At the Horsham Public Library, Committeemen John Foster and Bill Gallagher (Horsham 2-4).



(l-r) Retired Commissioner and pollworker Elizabeth Green explains the sample ballot to a voter at the Willow Grove Bible School (Upper Moreland 1-1 and 1-2).



On left, (l-r) Pollworkers Andrew Barrett, Sandi Greenwald, Arielle Greenwald, Lillian Klasen, and Frazierita Klasen at Cheltenham High School in Wyncote (Cheltenham 2-4).



On left, (l-r) Councilwoman and Committeewoman Marianne Reymer and candidate for council Scott Johnson at Lollar Academy (Hatboro South 1).



At Upper Merion Baptist Church in King of Prussia (l-r) pollworker Josh Waks, candidate for supervisor Greg Waks and Committeeman Jonathan Mengel (Upper Merion Belmont 4).

Around the County on Primary Day



At Caley Elementary School in King of Prussia, School Board Member Marie Knox and Committeewoman Terry Stevens (Upper Merion Belmont 2).



(l-r) Pollworker Joseph Vasoli, candidate for council Laurie Vasoli, pollworker Andrea Myers, and Councilwoman Nancy Guenst at Crooked Billet Elementary School (Hatboro North 2).



Mike Robinson, pollworker and campaign volunteer for Doug Pike, 2010 candidate for the 6th Congressional District, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Glenside (Abington 13-3).

On right (l-r) pollworker Karl Klabe, Committeewoman and Commissioner Lisa Romaniello (1-1), and Judge of Elections Nick Scull at the Willow Grove Bible School (Upper Moreland 1-1 and 1-2).



On left, (l-r) Committeewoman Katrina Looby (1-1) and candidate for judge of election Geneva Standiford at Glenside Elementary School (Cheltenham 1-1 and 1-3).

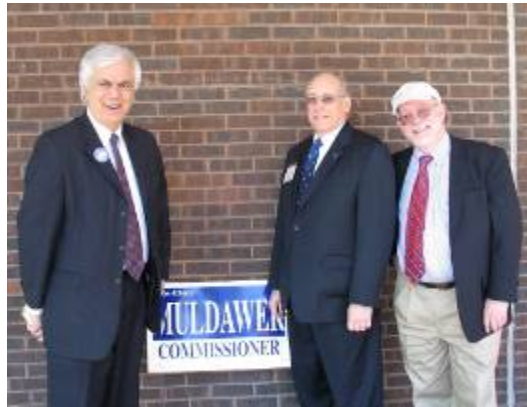


(l-r) Pollworkers Marian Williams and Rebecca Frisby at Willow Hill Elementary School in Willow Grove (Abington 5-2 and 8-1).

Around the County on Primary Day



At Willow Hill Elementary School in Willow Grove, Committeewoman Josephine Tripodi (8-1) (Abington 5-2 and 8-1).



(l-r) Committeeman and Commissioner Jeff Muldawer (4-3); Committeeman and Commissioner Paul Greenwald (2-4); and Co-Chair of Area 9, Committeeman, and MCDC Political Director Steve McCarter (1-2) at Wyncote Elementary School (Cheltenham 4-3; 4-4).



Commissioner Lori Schreiber at the Living Word Lutheran Church in Roslyn (Abington 14-1).



On left, Committeewoman Rebecca Field Emerson (6-2) at Upper Moreland High School in Willow Grove (Upper Moreland 6-1 and 6-2).



(l-r) Committeeman Arnold Horn (5-3), Committeewoman Cele Lumenthal (5-2), and poll watchers Irene and Marvin Schuman at Myers Elementary School/Modular in Elkins Park (Cheltenham 5-2 and 5-3).



On left, (l-r) Committeeman Bill Ross, Committeewoman Shirley Mckenzie, and poll worker Marilyn Vichnin at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shephard in King of Prussia (Upper Merion Belmont 3).

Around the County on Primary Day



(l-r) Committeeman Joe Kossey and poll-worker Kevin Burke at Upper Merion High School (Upper Merion Candlebrook 2).



Committeewoman Lynn E. Davis (3-4) at Hatboro-Horsham High School, (Horsham 3-4 and 3-5).



Committeewoman Jean Corrigan and Committeeman Joseph Corrigan at the Edge Hill Fire Company in Glenside (Abington 6-1 and 6-2).



On left (l-r) poll-worker Beth Share, Committeeman Michael Baurer, and candidate for commission Lois Koff at Elkins Park United Presbyterian Church (Abington 4-2).



(l-r) At the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Jenkintown, Committeewomen Bernice Slosburg (4-1), M. Anne Baumann (3-1) and Marge Sexton (3-1) (Abington 3-1).



At the Roslyn Fire Company (l-r) candidate for constable Ray Kuemmerle, Jr., Committeeman Paul Mamolou, and Co-Vice Chair of ARDC Barbara Halpern (Abington 14-2).



On left, Committeeman Angel Gauthier at Roslyn Elementary School (Abington 15-1 and 15-2).

Chairman's Club Holds Annual Reception

Jenkintown, 7 May. MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen and his wife Bernice welcomed members of the Chairman's Club to their home, where they enjoyed a buffet reception. Among the guests were state legislators Matt Bradford, Larry Curry, Daylin Leach, and Kathy Manderino; candidate for Pennsylvania Supreme Court Jack Panella; Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoeffel; Montgomery County Controller Diane Morgan; and all seven candidates for county court of common pleas. Groen thanked everyone for their continued support of the Party.



Bernice Groen and MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen.



(l-r) Candidates for county court of common pleas Cheryl Lynne Austin and Richard Haaz.



(l-r) State Representative Kathy Manderino and candidate for jury commissioner Joanne Olszewski.

On right, (l-r) candidate for county court of common pleas Joel Bernbaum, County Controller Diane Morgan, and Morris Gocial.



On left, (l-r) MCDC Executive Director Rob Dann, State Representative Larry Curry, and his wife Shirley.



(l-r) Neil Model, Brian Gocial, and Karen Model.

MCDC Says Goodbye to the Whitmans

Long-time Democrats and invaluable volunteers to MCDC, Betsy and Dave Whitman of Harleysville, are moving to State College in late August, where Dave has accepted employment. Betsy was MCDC's Corresponding Secretary and Dave was MCDC's IT manager. Both will be sorely missed, but we wish them well in their new endeavors.

King of Prussia, 2 April. A large group of Democrats attended the Annual MCDC Spring Reception held at the Crowne Plaza. Guests enjoyed the buffet-style hors d'oeuvres and the chance to mingle and talk politics. Chairman Marcel Groen emceed the reception, thanking the members of the State Committee for their sponsorship and support and Joanne Olszewski, Patty MacLauchlan, and Betsy Whitman for planning and organizing the event. Introducing the guest speaker, Groen asserted: "how wonderful for all of us that our state Treasurer is our own Rob McCord." McCord (pictured at top right) spoke briefly about Pennsylvania's response to the economic crisis. He also stressed President Barack Obama's plan to cut taxes for working families. In addition to committee people and Democratic supporters, numerous state and county representatives attended the event, as well as state-wide and county judicial candidates.



JoAnn and Charles Sisian.



(l-r) Mary Jo Pauxtis, Nancy Lotz, and State Representative Kathy Manderino (194th).



(l-r) Rick Daugherty, Penny Gerber, and Bill Myrtetus.



(l-r) Karl Myers and Shelly Waldman.



(l-r) Seth Rovner, Howard Rovner, and candidate for county court of common pleas Richard Haaz.



(l-r) Lori Schreiber, Michael Baurer, State Representative Rick Taylor (151st), and Jury Commissioner Greg Holt.



On left, (l-r) Elise Bowers and Patty MacLauchlan.



(l-r) Hal Lichtman and Nathan Murawsky.



(l-r) Lisa Hastings and Joanne Olszewski.



(l-r) Kevin Poole with candidates for county court of common pleas Lois Murphy and Michael Shields.



(l-r) Judge Robert Colville and Judge Steve Barrett.



(l-r) State Senator LeAnna Washington and Gail Inderwies.



(l-r) Jack Hansen and Chris Fazio.



(l-r) Jerry Oleksiak, State Representative Josh Shapiro (153rd), and Linda Weaver.



Sharon Levy with her husband County Prothonotary Mark Levy.



On left, (l-r) State Representative Tim Briggs (149th), State Representative Paul Drucker (157th), 2010 candidate for the 6th Congressional District Doug Pike, and Abe Dyk.



(l-r) State Representative Matt Bradford (70th) and Chris Fazio.



(l-r) County court of common pleas candidate Jeff Lindy, County Controller Diane Morgan, and Pat Parkinson.



(l-r) Jeannette Maitin and Maureen Cooley.



(l-r) Gloria Richardson, Elizabeth Parziale, and Nita Hester.



(l-r) Deb McCarter and Richard Bioteau.



(l-r) Bob Winkelman, Mary Jo Pautis, State Representative Mike Gerber (148th), and Nancy Lotz.



(l-r) Lisa Moore, Andrea Batiste, and Cathy Kernan.



On right, (l-r) Jim Graf and Allen Mason.



On left, (l-r) Larry Hughes and Judge John Younge.

LMNDC Honors Retired State Senator Connie Williams

Philadelphia, 3 May. Nearly 200 Democrats, including Lower Merion and Narberth committee people and elected officials, and current county officeholders, honored retired State Senator Connie Williams at the Annual Spring Dinner held at the Bala Golf Club. The “t’roast” was a fun evening of entertainment with numerous speakers, including State Representatives Tim Briggs, Mike Gerber, Kathy Manderino, and Josh Shapiro; MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen; former LMN Chair Nora Winkelman; former Montgomery County Commissioner Ruth Damsker; former Williams’ staffer Debbie Barol; and Williams’ daughter Betsy. The comedians of the night were State Senator Daylin Leach and Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoef-



fe l , both of whom clearly won't h e crowd w i t h

their “acts.” Special guests included Governor Ed Rendell, who commended Williams’ service and gave her a pen “stolen from his desk” (pictured above); Congressman Joe Sestak, who lauded Williams’ “loyalty and friendship,” and presented her with a congressional citation honoring her service (pictured at far right); and State Treasurer Rob McCord, who called Williams “a mentor to us all.”



(l-r) Leigh Anne Smith, State Senator Daylin Leach (17th), and Sam Adenbaum.



(l-r) MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen presents guest speaker State Treasurer Rob McCord with The Drillmaster of Valley Forge, by Paul Lockhart.



(l-r) Candidate for county court of common pleas Richard Haaz, his wife Jennifer, County Register of Wills D. Bruce Hanes, and Lou Freimiller.

Williams’ thanked everyone for their warm, and sometimes funny, remarks, and quipped, “I’ll give unsolicited advice to any one that wants to hear it.”

For the past two years the LMN Democrats have used an electronic slideshow to present the evening’s sponsors, and this year even used electronic invitations, saving paper and thousands of dollars. The committee would like to thank Julie Levitt for writing a nice biography of Williams and Anne Umbrecht and her committee for their work in planning and organizing the event.



On left, (l-r) Steve Paylor of Ardmore, Betsy Williams, State Senator Daylin Leach, retired State Senator Connie Williams, and former Williams’ staffer Debbie Barol.

ARDC Honors the Past, Empowers the Future, and Has a Great Time

By John Spiegelman

Ambler, 19 April. On a recent Sunday in April, the Abington-Rockledge Democratic Committee (ARDC) celebrated Democratic victories of the past and prepared for more in the future at the 18th Annual ARDC Spring Banquet, held at the Old York Road Country Club in Ambler. The Banquet theme, "Honoring the Past, Empowering the Future," paid tribute to past commissioners, school board directors, ARDC chairpersons and committee people, and other Democratic pioneers who proudly served the community in the days when Area 8 was hardly friendly territory for Dems. Many of these groundbreaking Democrats were in attendance.

ARDC committee people and supporters honored Democrat of the Year Kathleen Joyce and Outstanding Community Leader Al Herrmann. Those in attendance were energized by a keynote address by Congressman Patrick Murphy and the inspiring words of Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz, State Senator LeAnna Washington, State Representative Josh Shapiro, Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoeffel, Montgomery County Jury Commissioner Greg Holt, and ARDC Chairman Michael Barbiero. The Committee also heard from many 2009 judicial candidates—including the seven "Judges We Can Believe In" running for the county court of common pleas—and applauded the excellent 2009 slate of candidates for Abington Commissioners, Rockledge Borough Councilors, Abington Treasurer, the School Board Directors, and Abington Constables.

The banquet also showcased an environmentally and fiscally responsible innovation—the Green Program. Instead of spending thousands of dollars and sacrificing trees to print a black-and-white program, the ARDC presented its program in full color as a large-format projection. This virtual program played throughout the banquet, is available on the ARDC website

(AbingtonDemocrats.com), and will be distributed to the large and ever-growing electronic ARDC mailing list. Moreover, the Green Program, which was organized by the Banquet Committee (headed by Robin Beall) and designed by ARDC Committeeperson John Spiegelman, will be cited in *The Green Nonprofits Handbook* (in development by GreenNonprofits.org for publication by Wiley in October 2009) as an example of a political organization going green.



State Senator LeAnna Washington confers a certificate of appreciation on ARDC's Democrat of the Year, Kathleen Joyce, at the 18th Annual ARDC Spring Banquet.

The banquet, which is the ARDC's premiere social and fundraising event of the year, also featured a book signing by Congressman Murphy, a silent auction, and photographs with a President Obama cardboard

standee, all of which contributed to a very successful fundraiser. To further underscore the ARDC's commitment to community service, the banquet also served as a food drive to benefit the Abington Food Cupboard.

Cheltenham Democrats Host Spring Dinner

Flourtown, 3 May. A large crowd of 125 guests attended the Cheltenham Township Democratic Committee Dinner at the Flourtown Country Club. The committee honored Democrat of the Year Steve Burns, Committeeperson of the Year Arnold Horn, and Volunteer of the Year Steve Banks. Congressman Chaka Fattah gave the Keynote Address. Also in attendance were MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen, State Senator LeAnna Washington, State Representative Lawrence Curry, Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoeffel, several of our Montgomery Row Officers, the seven endorsed court of common pleas candidates, and candidate for Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court Jimmy Lynn.

MCDC Endorsement Convention

Plymouth Meeting, 12 March. Committee people from across the county gathered at Colonial Elementary School to endorse candidates for the county court of

common pleas. "The last time we had a judicial race we were only able to find one candidate, who did very well," MCDC Chairman Marcel Groen told the crowd. "Look at our current slate," he proclaimed to loud applause. Groen proceeded to introduce the seven county court of common pleas candidates (pictured top right [l-r] Michael Shields, Lois Murphy, Joel Bernbaum, Cheryl Lynne Austin, Richard Haaz, Ann Thornburg Weiss, and Jeff Lindy), the statewide judicial candidates, and the current state and county representatives who were in attendance. On a motion by Penny Gerber, seconded by Kelbin Carolina, the seven county court of common pleas candidates received a unanimous endorsement. Jury Commissioner candidate Joanne Olszewski spoke to the crowd, and on a motion by Teri Simon, seconded by Jeanne Bland, she was unanimously endorsed.



(l-r) Jim Lynch and Larry Greenley of Area 4.



(l-r) Bernice Groen and Arlene Smuckler.



(l-r) Area 13 Committee persons Annette Sussman (8-2), Rick Pasquier (8-3) and Louise Polis (8-3).



(l-r) President of the MontCo Young Democrats Abe Haupt and Treasurer Sarah Hunsicker.



(l-r) Kelbin Carolina, Montgomery County Commissioner Joe Hoeffel, and Frank Custer.

(l-r) Howard Rovner and Kevin Hoke of Area 7.



On left (l-r) John Sprouse, Dave Fritz, and Bev Dodds of Area 5.



MCDC Endorsement Convention



(l-r) Larry Handy, Kathryn Carlson, Rita Conley, and Suzan Leonard.



(l-r) Eileen Fournier checks in Michael and Kim Rubenstein (Area 6).



(l-r) State Representatives Mike Gerber (148th) and Larry Curry (154th).



Bill Ridenhour of Area 14.



(l-r) Edward Scheuring, Anne Henning-Scheuring, and Jack Hansen.



(l-r) Deb McCarter and Andrew Barrett.



(l-r) Mike Melnyk checks in with Olivia Brady.



(l-r) Wendell W. Young III and Earl Helfand.

On right (l-r) Frank Augustine and Jesse James.



MCDC Endorsement Convention



(l-r) Mickey Simon and Linda Hee.



(l-r) Sheila and Ed Cheri.



(l-r) Mary Jo Pautis and Leigh Anne Smith of Area 13.



(l-r) John Spiegleman and Michael Baurer of ARDC.



(l-r) Harry Hannigan and Steve Lindner of Area 13.



(l-r) Laura Hanes and Greg Moll.



(l-r) Rich DiGregorio and Steve Morris.

continued from page 2

Washington, Greene, Westmoreland, and Fayette posted impressive numbers for Barbara Ernsberger and Michael Sherman, both from Pittsburgh, while the southeast counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery returned large vote totals for Lynn and Stephen Pollock, both from Philadelphia. Nonetheless, the totals from those 11 counties left Ernsberger, thanks to her southwestern numbers, with a slight lead over Lynn, Linda Judson, a Pittsburgh attorney, third, and Bricmont, also from Pittsburgh, a distant fourth. The race, however, appears to have been decided in the remaining 56 counties, where Democratic voters in 53 counties consistently returned Ernsberger and Judson, respectively first and second, over the remaining candidates. Therefore, they won the party's nominations, while the endorsed candidates Lynn and Bricmont were returned third and sixth, respectively.



(l-r) At the MCDC Endorsement Convention in Plymouth Meeting Judge John Younge, Judge Anne Lazarus, Judge Jack Panella, Judge Jimmy Lynn, and Judge Robert Colville.