

1/13/09

Editor's Note:

The newsletter is always available online at www.larimerdems.org/newsletter.html. As always, please submit any and all newsletter items to Anne Wilseck anneeliz73@gmail.com and Adam Bowen adambowen@frii.com. Deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm Sunday.

From the Chair:

This past Friday saw two spectacular events in Larimer County. Gov. Bill Ritter and Senator-designate Michael Bennet addressed large crowds in Loveland and Fort Collins, and opened the floor to questions from constituents. We will see more of Sen. Bennet in our county in the future. When I spoke with him on the phone last week, (he was at DIA waiting to fly to Washington), Bennet said he was looking forward to his visit and getting to know the people here and the issues most important to us.

Hard to believe that the Bush administration is history in less than a week! (And history will not treat them kindly.)

See below for details on upcoming Inaugural celebrations.

PARTY NEWS

TODAY! Jan 13: DEMOCRATIC BUSINESS COALITION LUNCH: HEALTH CARE REFORM--THE COST OF DOING NOTHING

2008 sure closed out with a memorable and important event. Now, we're set to kick-off 2009 with Dr. Cory Carroll's presentation on state and national health care.

Our struggling health system seriously impacts the American economy. What are the current costs of health care in the U.S? Can incremental change control rising costs or is comprehensive reform required? How do other countries provide health care for all their people and achieve better outcomes than the U.S.? These questions will be touched upon as Dr. Cory Carroll suggests that changes in the financing of our health care are required - and doable - to create a sustainable system. Join us for an insightful presentation and discussion.

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 13th, Socializing: 11:30 am, Presentation: 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Location: Community Room, basement of Home State Bank, 303 E. Mountain Ave., Ft. Collins

Parking is available on Mountain Ave. or in the Old Town parking garage one block to the west. Home State Bank requests we do not park in their small lot.

RSVP to: M.L. Johnson, 482-4979, mjohnson@lamar.colostate.edu for reservations and to order a catered lunch (or you can bring your own lunch). For \$10 the sandwich box lunch or chef salad of your choice from Dorothy's Catering of Loveland will be waiting for you.

Sun, Jan 18: INAUGURAL BARACKFAST!

If you've been to Barackfast in the past, you know the drill. Our donations will go to

Housing Prevention Initiative, a local charity that helps to keep people in their homes. Share your interest in what form Barackfests might take in the future. If you'd like to bring bubbly, it sure seems appropriate!

If you're new to Barackfest, here's the deal:

- Invite your friends
- Come eat
- Meet interesting people
- Contribute the value of brunch to the Homeless Prevention Initiative
- Not a pot luck: breakfast is provided
- No RSVP necessary

About Homeless Prevention Initiative: HPI helps people stay in their homes in Larimer County. HPI helps regardless of nationality or the proof of citizenship that many organizations' funding mandates.

<http://www.uwaylc.org/homelessness.html>

<http://www.northfortynews.com/Archive/A200607HomelessnessPreventionProgram.htm>

Date & Time: Sunday, January 18, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Location: Dan Shaner's House, 3401 Terryridge Road, Fort Collins

Contact: Dan Shaner, dan.shaner@gmail.com

Tue, Jan. 20: FORT COLLINS INAUGURATION BALL!

All are invited to the Fort Collins Inauguration Ball! The Larimer County Democratic Party is partnering with two well-organized women, Bridgette Johnson and LaKendra Moore, who are representatives of the growing African-American community in Larimer county. They have done the major ground work for a classy gala at the new Drake Centre event facility.

The doors open at 6:30 pm., with a showing of the Swearing In and Inauguration Speech at 7:00, on two very large TV screens. Then the screens will show live coverage of the Washington festivities on the various major networks and cable channels for the rest of the evening.

Enjoy a plentitude of hors D'oeuvres, and the music of a live, and lively, local jazz quartet. There will exciting door prizes, champagne/sparkling cider to toast our new President, and cash bar.

Bridgette and LaKendra's organization is the The Conversations Book Club. Their mission is to enhance the diversity experience throughout Larimer County. They have organized a Martin Luther King Community Celebration at the Lincoln Center on Sunday, January 18, in conjunction with Abyssinian Christian Church; are now planning a May event at Rolland Moore Park; and perhaps most importantly, have a commitment to donate books to the libraries of our schools on African-American culture, well as those with authors of African-American descent.

Any proceeds beyond expenses will go to support these endeavors. The cost for this historic event is \$30 individual, and \$55 for couples. **Please join old friends and new at the Drake Event Centre, 802 W. Drake, Fort Collins, from 6:30 to 10 p.m. on Tues., Jan 20th, to celebrate the Inauguration of the 44th President of the United States, Barack Obama!!**

Call (689-6391) or e-mail (ldems@frie.com) LCDP Headquarters to RSVP. Keep checking our website, where you will be able to pay in advance by credit or debit card.

Cash, check or card accepted at the door.

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 20, Doors open at 6:30 pm, Swearing-in will be shown at 7:00 pm.

Location: Drake Event Centre, 802 West Drake, Fort Collins

Cost: \$30 individual, \$55 couple

Contact: Larimer County Democratic Party, ldems@frii.com or 689-6391

Sat, Jan 24: VOLUNTEER OPEN HOUSE

Have you volunteered for the Larimer Dems? Stop by and celebrate our successes in 2008! Would you like to volunteer for the Larimer Dems? We have opportunities throughout Larimer County. Join us and learn about specific volunteer opportunities on Saturday, January 24. We appreciate all of our volunteers!

Date & Time: Saturday, January 24, 2:00 - 6:00 pm.

Location: Larimer County Democratic Party Headquarters, 606 South Mason Street, Fort Collins

Contact: Larimer County Democratic Party, ldems@frii.com or 689-6391

Sat, Jan 31: JOIN THE JANE JEFFERSON DEMOCRATIC CLUB FOR A PRESENTATION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION WITH JOHN KEFALAS

Join the Jane Jefferson Democratic Club of Larimer County at Catalyst Coffee, 3501 S. Shields, Fort Collins for a presentation by Representative John Kefalas on Economic Development and Job Creation.

Catalyst will have food available for purchase, including quiche, breakfast burritos, pastries; many kinds of coffees and teas.

Please RSVP to Kathy Batterton so we can give Catalyst a general idea of numbers.

People do not have to eat or drink if they don't want to, but it would be nice to support local business.

Date & Time: Saturday, January 31, 9:00 - 10:30 am

Location: Catalyst Coffee, 3501 S. Shields Street, Fort Collins

Contact: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations.

Wed, Feb. 4: DEMOCRATIC BREAKFAST FORUM: ELECTION PRESENTATION WITH REPUBLICAN CLERK & RECORDER SCOTT DOYLE

After a break to enjoy the euphoria of the election, the Democratic Breakfast Forum resumes its 1st Wednesday schedule on February 4. Mark your calendar to join fellow Dems for an election presentation by Scott Doyle, Larimer County Clerk. Here's your chance to ask the many questions that emerged the morning after big Democratic wins. Doyle will recap how elections were conducted in Larimer County and around the state, in addition to commenting on how and why elections may change in the future.

You'll also want to plan ahead for the March Breakfast Forum--an opportunity to hear from announced Fort Collins City Council candidates, and (if you choose) invest some post-election energy in these brief, non-partisan campaigns.

Date & Time: Wednesday, February 4, 7:45 am

Location: Columbine Cafe & Bakery, NW corner of Drake and Worthington, Fort

Collins.

RSV by January 28: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annemich@comcast.net

Sat, Feb. 7: CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING

All Precinct Committee People will elect the Larimer County Democratic Party Executive Committee at the Central Committee Meeting on Saturday February 7 at Thompson Valley High School, Loveland; 8:30 - noon. This is the biannual reorganization meeting; all Democrats are welcome.

Date & Time: Saturday, February 7, 8:30 am - noon.

Location: Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive, Loveland

Contact: Larimer County Democratic Party, ldems@frii.com or 689-6391

Feb 20-22: CAMP WELLSTONE COMES TO COLORADO

Just one month after we inaugurate President Barack Obama, join us at Camp Wellstone to grow the skills of the next wave of leaders, enhance the talents of long-time activists, and continue to build the foundation for the progressive movement. We all have to be ready to hit the ground running in 2009! Larimer Dems receive a special rate of \$50 for this training!

Don't miss out! [Register today](#): Denver, CO: February 20-22, 2009

This training runs from 3:00 pm Friday to 3:30 pm Sunday. The location will be announced to registered participants.

[Learn more about Camp Wellstone](#)

If you are interested in Camp Wellstone, the Larimer Dems will be coordinating transportation to Denver and a discount. Please contact LCDP Headquarters if you are interested in attending Camp Wellstone.

LARIMER DEMS ARE ON FACEBOOK!

Join the Larimer County Democratic Party on Facebook! Invite your friends! Network with old friends and make new friends. We are listed as Larimer County Democratic Party.

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=42563568153&ref=ts>

LARIMER DEMS SOUTH OFFICE NEWS

We have all the 'stuff' it takes to operate an office: phones, chairs, desks, water cooler, microwave, etc – thanks to the great volunteers who donated these items for the office! On Thursday evening, Ralph Trenary and I installed the new Larimer County Democratic Party Sign outside our office. It looks Grrrrrrrrrrrrrrreat. You can't miss it driving south on Cleveland in Loveland.

On Saturday we hosted the Grand Opening, which started after the Obama 'Change is Coming meeting.' At least 70 people attended the event and listened to comments from Bob Bacon, John Kefalas, Randy Fischer, Cecil Gutierrez, Kent Solt, Adam Bowen and Bill McCreary. The success of the event can be attributed to the hard work of Trudi Manual, Carolyn Taylor, Melissa Taylor, Nancy Kain, Linda Bersch, and Dianna Greer. Thanks goes to all those that took time to attend; thanks to those that helped us get to this point in our operation; and thanks to those who helped make this a great event.

Next on the agenda is an Inaugural Breakfast on Jan. 20, starting at 8:30am and ending

whenever. Come on down, have a cup of coffee and a snack and witness this historic event live. Hope to see you there.

Bob Massaro

COMMUNITY NEWS

Tue, Jan 13: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DISCUSSION ON KRFC's "IMAGINE ACTION"

This week's "Imagine Action" show will feature Jennifer Walton, MS, whose career has focused on sustainability, conservation, and communication of those issues. Discussion will focus on the recent election and implications for environmental policy nationally, statewide and at the local level. How will all of this affect you? Tune in and find out!

Call-ins welcome.

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 13, 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Location: KRFC, 88.9 FM

Sat, Jan 17: JOHN KEFALAS HOSTS FIRST COMMUNITY CONVERSATION OF 2009

House District 52 Representative John Kefalas will host his first Community Conversation of the New Year to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing our state. The morning of Saturday, January 17, Representative Kefalas will answer questions and solicit comments from community members. The meeting is free and open to the public and will be held at DazBog Coffee, 401 Mason Court, Fort Collins. Dazbog Coffee is wheelchair accessible.

The public is encouraged to share a cup of coffee and actively participate in the political process in order to improve our representative democracy and make good public policy.

Date & Time: Saturday, January 17, 9:00 -10:30 am

Location: DazBog Coffee, 401 Mason Court, Fort Collins

Contact: Cyrus Patten, 970-690-2066, cyruspatten@yahoo.com, www.johnkefalas.org

Tue, Jan. 20: INAUGURATION POT LUCK PARTY AT AVOGADRO'S NUMBER, BENEFITING THE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION INITIATIVE

Inaugural Speech airs at 7:00

Featuring:

The Poudre River Irregulars, 5:00 - 7:00

Inaugural Speech, 7:00 - 7:30

The Bob Montgomery Jazz Band, 7:30-9:30

The Horsetooth Mountain Rangers, 9:30 on...

Fact: the average age of a homeless person in Colorado is only 9 years old.

The Homelessness Prevention Initiative (H.P.I) provides immediate rental assistance to low-income working households facing temporary financial crisis and unable to pay their rent. H.P.I. also links clients to budget-stretching resources that help meet their basic needs. The average cost to keep a family facing crisis in their home through H.P.I assistance is only \$238/year. Please come and help us raise money for this incredible program. Be the change you wish to see in the world.

All admission proceeds and donations will be contributed directly to the Homelessness Prevention Initiative.

www.homelessnessprevention.net

www.avogadros.com

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 5:00-11:00 pm

Admission: \$10 (free if you bring a dish to share)

Location: Avogadro's Number, 605 South Mason Street, Fort Collins

Thur, Jan 29: HEALTH CARE IN AMERICA: A MEDICAL, MORAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

Does the U.S. have the best health care system in the world? What health outcomes do we achieve for our health care dollars? How did the health care system become linked with employment and how does this compare with other industrialized countries?

Presenter: Cory Carroll, M.D. is a family practice physician in Fort Collins. He is a past president of the Larimer County Medical Society and a member of the Colorado Medical Society Physicians' Congress for Health Care Reform.

Date & Time: Thursday, January 29, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: Harmony Library, 4616 S Shields Street, Fort Collins

Sponsored by Fort Collins Regional Library Series

For more info: Norman Fitzpatrick, 224-6122

TOM GRIGGS FOR MAYOR

Tom Griggs announced his candidacy for Fort Collins Mayor! Learn more about Tom and his plans for Fort Collins at TomGriggsForMayor.com.

SAVE THE DATES

Tue, Jan. 20	Inauguration Party!--6:30 - 10 p.m., Drake Centre, 802 W. Drake
Sat, Jan. 24	Volunteer Appreciation Open House, LCDP Headquarters, 2:00 - 6:00 pm
Sat, Feb. 7	Central Committee Meeting--Thompson Valley High School, 1669 Eagle Drive, Loveland; 8:30 - noon
Sat., Mar. 28, 2009	Larimer Dems Annual Dinner, Marriott Hotel

REGULAR MEETINGS

Larimer County Democratic Party Monthly Meeting (All are welcome!)

Date & Time: Third Thursdays, 6:30 pm social, Meeting at 7:00 pm

Location: Headquarters, 606 S. Mason St., Fort Collins

Contact: Irene Fortune for more information vladimir1992@hotmail.com

Democratic Breakfast Forum: Fort Collins

Monthly Meeting. No meeting in December or January.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:45 am

Location: Columbine Cafe & Bakery, NW corner of Drake and Worthington, Fort Collins.

Contact & RSVP: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annewmich@comcast.net

Estes Park Meetup for Democracy: Estes Park

The Estes Park Meetup for Democracy is open to anyone interested in a return to progressive government. The group supports candidates who are fiscally responsible, socially progressive, and who promote honesty and candor in political discourse.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Contact: John Ericson, 586-5042

Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club

The Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club is going to be moving around this year! We are going to try some new activities and locations: breakfast, lunch, happy hour; Loveland, Fort Collins. Check the newsletter often and please join us!

Date & Time: Varies

Location: Varies

Contact: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations.

Democratic Business Coalition: Fort Collins

Monthly Luncheon

Date & Time: Second Tuesday of each month. 12:00 noon, Guest presentation. Doors open at 11:30 am to socialize and start lunch.

Location: Home State Bank, 303 East Mountain, Fort Collins.

Contact: M.L. Johnson, 482-4979 or mjohnson@lamar.colostate.edu for reservations and to order catered lunch.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Larimer County Democratic Party

Chair	Adam Bowen	481-6806	adambowen@frii.com
1st Vice Chair	Charlotte Miller	207-1933	cimiller44@hotmail.com
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Colorado Democratic Party

Colorado Democratic Party	777 Santa Fe Dr. Denver, CO 80204	(303) 623-4762 (866) 400-3367	www.coloradodems.org info@coloradodems.org
Colorado House Democrats	200 E. Colfax Denver, CO	(970) 221-1473	cohousedems.typepad.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

If you have items to submit, PLEASE READ!

Due to the length of the newsletter, we are limiting the body of most items to 75 words (not including title and “date & time, location, contact” type information). If your submission is longer, it will be cut. We suggest including a link for additional information. **Our deadline for newsletter items is Sunday at 5:00 pm** for publishing by e-mail on Tuesday mornings. To be effective, send us your notices at least a week early, so that they can appear twice. This will give potential attendees time to put your events on their calendars. We would like to include House District meetings, committee meetings, neighborhood coffees or picnics, etc. Such notices may increase your attendance. Please send newsletter items to anneeliz73@gmail.com and adambowen@frii.com. (Sometimes one of us will be out of town.) Thank you.