

2/25/09

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:

The Larimer County Democratic Party sent 20 activists to the Wellstone training in Denver this weekend. Larimer County had the largest contingent by far and the standard joke during introduction times was, "*I'm not from Larimer County.*"

Our group included two executive board members, three house district directors, and six PCPs (attendees listed below). Wellstone is a progressive political training organization named after the late Sen. Paul Wellstone (Dem-MN). Special thanks go to Second Vice-Chair William Russell for making this happen!

Linda Bersch
Kristina Bulik-Hocum
Deborah Cape
Martha Coleman
Danielle Cogswell
Torsten Eckstein
Joan Shaffer

Bob Massaro
Tana Myers
John Morley
Alex Cobell
Cyrus Patten
William Russell
Michael Sledge

Peter Fisk
Cheri Nichols
Janell Weber

Jeremy Jasmann
Linae Warden
Anne Wilseck

PARTY NEWS

**Thur. Feb 26: Colorado Renewable Energy Society WEBCAST AT LCDP:
THE OBAMA ENERGY PLAN with FORMER US SENATOR GARY HART**

"We will harness the sun and the winds and the soil to fuel our cars and run our factories."

Never before has an American President uttered anything like this in his Inaugural Address, but Barack Obama said exactly this on January 20. Join CRES to find out more about how the Obama Administration plans to help the rest of America join Colorado in building a New Energy Economy!

Gary Hart was first elected to represent Colorado in the United States Senate in 1974 (having never before sought public office), and was re-elected in 1980. He served on the Senate's Environment, Budget, Armed Services, and Intelligence Oversight Committees. Since retiring from the Senate in 1987, he has been extensively involved in international law and business, as a strategic advisor to major U.S. corporations. He was president of Global Green, the U.S. affiliate of Mikhail Gorbachev's environmental foundation, Green Cross International. He is currently Wirth Chair Professor at the University of Colorado at Denver, and is a Distinguished Fellow at the New America Foundation.

Date & Time: Thursday, February 26, 7:00 pm

Location: LCDP Headquarters, 606 S. Mason Street, Fort Collins
Cost: FREE
For more info, contact LCDP, ldems@frii.com or call 689-6391

Sat. Feb 28: JANE JEFFERSON DEMOCRATIC CLUB PROGRAM: TOOLS FOR CITIZENS TO LOBBY LEGISLATORS

Join the Jane Jefferson Democratic Club of Larimer County at the Larimer County Democratic Party South Office on Saturday, February 28. Jodi Radke will teach us how citizens can effectively lobby their legislators. Taste Catering will provide breakfast for our February event and the cost is \$7.00 per person. The menu is herbed cheese frittata, cream scones with jam and butter, and honey dew melon, coffee and tea. RSVP to Kathy by February 24. Bring a friend!

Date & Time: Saturday, February 28, 9:00 am

Location: LCDP South Office, 505 N. Cleveland, Loveland

Cost: \$7.00 per person

RSVP by February 24: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations.

Wed, Mar 4: DEMOCRATIC BREAKFAST FORUM: ALL POLITICS ARE LOCAL

To prove that time-honored axiom, the Democratic Breakfast Forum will have the opportunity to hear from candidates for Fort Collins City Council and for Mayor on Wednesday, March 4. With the non-partisan election set for April 7, there is--and will be---time to support candidates with the donation of time and hard-earned dollars. Come join fellow Dems to quiz the candidates and hear their views. Special thanks to attendees at the February Breakfast Forum, who posed informed and incisive questions for Larimer County Clerk Scott Doyle regarding elections. Make the 1st Wednesday Breakfast Forum a staple on your calendar. In a non-election year there is still much to be done, and always time to celebrate accomplishments with fellow Dems.

Date & Time: Wednesday, March 4, 7:45 AM

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

RSVP by February 25: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annemich@comcast.net

Wed, Mar 11: LARIMER DEMS BOOK CLUB

The Larimer Dems would like to invite everyone in joining the formation of our new book club called "Off the Fence" that will educate and titillate lovers of history and political events. Along with informative discussions, we hope to generate real enjoyment and to share ideas and reactions with people of all walks of life (elephants included!). If you read, skim, scan, Google, cliff note or wait for the movie to come out, we would love to have you join us. Everyone will have the option of choosing a book. Some may not want to join every session but pick and choose those subjects that they find personally compelling. We contacted the Anthology Book Store in downtown Loveland, a struggling Democratic locally owned business, which is willing to work with our book club and provide us a generous discount. We have scheduled our first inaugural meeting and chosen the first book for expediency.

Book: *The Lincolns: Portrait of a Marriage*, by Daniel Mark Epstein (paperback)

Date & Time: Wednesday, March 11, 6:30 pm

Location: 505 N. Cleveland Ave., Loveland

Contact: Larimer Dems South Office, LCDP_south@yahoo.com or (970) 461-5779

Sat. Mar. 14: EVENTS COMMITTEE KICK-OFF PARADE!

Community Events committee will kick off the Parade, Festival and Booths season by marching in Fort Collins' St. Patrick's Day Parade. Join us on Saturday, March 14 in Old Town Fort Collins. We'll start staging at 8:30, and the parade starts at 10:00.

Date & Time: Saturday March 14, 8:30 am

Location: Old Town Fort Collins. Location details tba.

For more information or to volunteer, contact LCDP, 689-6391, ldems@frii.com

Sat, Mar 28: LARIMER DEMS ANNUAL DINNER with DAVID SIROTA

Let's Celebrate! Our annual dinner and silent auction is coming up at the Marriott on March 28! Our guest speaker is New York Times Best-selling author **DAVID SIROTA**. Mr. Sirota is a political journalist, nationally syndicated weekly newspaper columnist and bestselling author. His two books, *Hostile Takeover* and *The Uprising*, were both New York Times bestsellers. He appears periodically on CNN, Comedy Central's *Colbert Report*, Fox News, and National Public Radio. His writing has won praise from across the political spectrum. Mr. Sirota's books will be available for purchase and book signing.

RSVP now! Table placement is based on when payment for the entire table is received by the Larimer Dems. We anticipate a HUGE turnout this year, so reserve your table early for prime seating. Please RSVP by March 20. If you need a special meal--kosher, vegan, gluten-free--the hotel is prepared to accommodate you with advance notice. Contact Steve Rose srose58089@earthlink.net

Date & Time: Saturday, March 28, 5:30 pm Cocktails (cash bar), 7:30 pm Dinner

Cost: \$85 per person/\$850 per table

Location: Fort Collins Marriott, 350 E. Horsetooth Road, Fort Collins

RSVP TODAY!: <http://www.larimerdems.org/specialevent.html>

Contact: Nancy Tellez, 689-6391, ntellez@frii.com

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED for the ANNUAL DINNER!

We'll be having a silent auction again, **so start looking for and soliciting those unique items that might be treasured by attendees. Wine is always a good seller, especially Champagne.** You can drop off your items at either party office, or we'll pick up your donation!

For more info, contact: Charlotte Miller, cimiller44@hotmail.com or Martha Coleman, marthacoleman@earthlink.net

Or call either office: Fort Collins Headquarters: 970-689-6391, South Office, Loveland 970 461-5779

NOMINATE YOUR LOCAL DEMOCRATS FOR AWARDS at the ANNUAL DINNER

We recognize area Dems with the following awards:

Volunteer of the Year

Lifetime Achievement

Robin Murphy Davis Award (awarded to a Dem whose efforts have made a material change in Democratic political activities or successes).

If you would like to nominate someone, please submit a letter of nomination, detailing what the person has done to deserve that particular award.

Nominations are due by March 1.

Email your nomination to: Nancy Tellez, 689-6391, ntellez@frii.com

[f Join the Larimer County Democratic Party on Facebook!](#)

VOLUNTEER NEWS

EVENTS COMMITTEE--SPRING, SUMMER AND BEYOND!

Start thinking about summer! Can you set-up or staff a booth at a festival or farmers market or can you organize a small team and staff a booth for an entire festival? Volunteering to staff a booth is a great way to connect with our communities and to provide visibility for our party. It is an easy way to volunteer, enjoy some sunshine and fresh air, and meet interesting people.

For more information or to volunteer, contact contact LCDP, 689-6391, ldems@frii.com

CAMPAIGN NEWS

COMMUNITY NEWS

Thur, Feb 26: KEEPING KIDS HEALTHY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Keeping Kids Healthy in the 21st Century Topics will include access to health care for kids, immunizations, and childhood obesity.

Presenter: Susan McColl, RN pediatric nurse. She worked as the health specialist in the Early Head Start program for the Poudre School District. She has participated in the Early Childhood Council and is widely known and respected in the early childhood community.

Date & Time: Thursday, February 26, 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Location: Fort Collins Main Library, 201 Peterson St, Fort Collins

Fri, Feb 27: FORT JAZZ BIG BAND AT THE SUNSET EVENT CENTER

Join Eric Weedin, trumpet player and **Senate District 15 chair!**

By popular demand, the Fort Jazz Big Band will return to the Sunset Event Center in Fort Collins for another enjoyable evening of entertainment. Please come and join us for our 5th anniversary birthday party and dance to celebrate our success. Our wide demand and recognition through out the Rocky Mountain region has prompted us to change our name from FortJazz Big Band to Colorado Swing Big Band in order to reflect our regional audience. Don't worry though, as we still have the same great players and the same great music that you have enjoyed over the years. The Sunset Event Center offers a good dance floor and comfortable seating where you can meet your friends, grab a bite to eat, and dance. Admission is for ages 18 and over unless with parent, so bring your ID. Early birds get the best seats.

Date & Time: Thursday, February 26, 7:00 pm

Location: Sunset Event Center, 242 Linden Street, Fort Collins

Cost: \$8

18 and over unless with parent.

For more info visit www.fortjazz.com

Sat, Feb 28: COMMUNITY ISSUE FORUM WITH KEFALAS AND FISCHER: FOCUS ON LONG TERM CARE AND AGING IN NORTHERN COLORADO

State Representative John Kefalas (HD-52) and State Representative Randy Fischer (HD-53) host an Issue Forum on long term care and aging. ***“Community Issue Forum with Kefalas and***

Fischer – Focus on Long Term Care and Aging in Northern Colorado”

These issue forums are open to the public, and all residents are invited to share a lively conversation with Representatives Kefalas and Fischer about the long term care and aging issues facing Northern Colorado residents.

Invited panelists include Yvonne Myers with Columbine Health Systems and Dennis Shelby with Ernest Health, Inc., Bev Dahan with Total Long Term Care and Lori Carlson.

Date & Time: Saturday, February 28, 1:00 - 2:30 pm

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

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS: A SETBACK OR A STIMULUS FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM

Airing of a special program on Fort Collins Public Access Network, Channel 97. Presented by Dr. Alexandra Bernasek, Professor of Economics at Colorado State University, the discussion addresses the intersection of the current financial crisis and the movement for health care reform. Is the reform movement knocked off the agenda by the financial crisis or does the crisis increase the pressure for comprehensive reform of the health care system?

The hour and a half program will air in February at these times:

Sundays 9:00 pm

Mondays 6:30 am

Wednesdays 10:30 am

Fridays 3:00 pm

Saturdays 11:00 am

Health Care for All Colorado is a statewide nonprofit organization working to achieve comprehensive, quality, affordable health care for all. For further information visit

www.HealthCareForAllColorado.org

Tue, Mar 3: A PHYSICIAN'S PERSPECTIVE AND PROPOSAL FOR REFORM, Presenter: STEVEN THORSON, M.D.

How do current proposals for reform stack up? What advantages does a single payer system offer? Presenter: Steven Thorson, M.D. is a family physician and co-founder of the Family Clinic of Fort Collins. He has served as the President of the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians and President of the Larimer County Medical Society and currently is a member of the Board for the Health District of N. Larimer County.

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 3, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

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

Sat, Mar 7: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH REP. KEFALAS: FOCUS ON 2009 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

State Representative John Kefalas (HD-52) will host the next community conversation with constituents. ***“Community Conversation with Kefalas – Focus on 2009 Legislative Session”*** is scheduled for Saturday, March 7.

These community conversations are open to the public, and all residents are invited to share a coffee and lively conversation with Representative Kefalas about the issues of the day.

Date & Time: Saturday, March 7, 9:00 – 10:00 am

Location: Dazbog Coffee, 401 Mason Court, Fort Collins

Sun Mar 8: NAMAQUA FORUM: WHY DOES U.S. HEALTH CARE COST SO MUCH AND WHAT SOLUTIONS

Film: “Health, Money and Fear” and discussion with Bernard Birnbaum, MD

The writer and producer of the film is Dr. Paul Hochfeld, a physician certified in Emergency Medicine, who currently resides in Oregon. He interviews doctors and health care providers for an insiders look at reasons for the rising costs of health care. Suggestions of solutions for corralling costs, an essential component of any health care reform proposal, are outlined.

Bernard Birnbaum, MD is a family physician and faculty at the Fort Collins Family Medicine Residency Program. Prior to his current position he worked on the Navajo Reservation in Chinle, AZ, for the Indian Health Service. Dr. Birnbaum completed his residency at Thomas Jefferson University and medical school at George Washington University and is a member of Physicians for a National Health Plan and Health Care for All Colorado. He currently serves as a Board member of the Health District of N. Larimer County.

Date & Time: Sunday, March 8 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland

For more info: 484-2295

NAMAQUA FORUM: UPCOMING EVENTS

Namaqua Unitarian Church is hosting several health care events in March and April. Join us to learn about how to fix our health care system.

Sun, Mar 22: What Can the U.S. Learn from Other Countries to Reform our Health Care System?

Film: "Sick Around the World" and discussion with Kevin Mabry, D.P.M.

Veteran Washington Post correspondent, T. R. Reid, traveled to five other capitalist countries that provide health care to all -- with less cost and better outcomes than the U.S. He discovers the successes and failures of the system in United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, Taiwan and Switzerland, and raises the question "What can the U. S. learn?" Presenter: Kevin Mabry, D.P.M., a retired podiatrist, who has recently completed a Master's degree in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. He is a graduate of the California College of Podiatric Medicine and Luther Seminary. He is a member of Physicians for a National Health Program and a Board member of Health Care for All Colorado. **Date & Time:** Sunday, March 22, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537

For more info: 484-2295

Sun, April 5: What Health Care Reform Proposal Is Best for the United States? Presented by Earl Baumgartel, MD

What elements are essential for comprehensive health care reform? Which proposals are most likely to create positive change? Presenter: Earl Baumgartel, M.D. practiced as a Board Certified General Surgeon in Loveland for 27 years until his retirement in 2004. He has served as a member of the Board of Hospice in Larimer County, a member of the Larimer County Medical Society, and as Chief of Staff at McKee Medical Center.

Date & Time: Sunday, April 5, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537

For more info: 484-2295

Sun, April 19: Imagine Action!

How can citizens get involved in shaping a sustainable health care system for our country? What are the ways congregations can help create a just and sustainable health care system? Panel discussion with representatives from Foothills Unitarian Church, Fort Collins.

Date & Time: Sunday, April 19, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Namaqua Unitarian Church, 503 East 7th Street, Loveland 80537

For more info: 484-2295

Tue, Mar 10: WHAT HEALTH CARE REFORM PROPOSAL IS BEST FOR THE UNITED STATES, Presenter: EARL BAUMGARTEL, M.D.

Which proposals are most likely to create positive change? How can citizens get involved in shaping a sustainable health care system for our country?

Earl Baumgartel, M.D. practiced as a Board Certified General Surgeon in Loveland for 27 years until his retirement in 2004. He has served as a member of the Board of Hospice in Larimer County, a member of the Larimer County Medical Society, and as Chief of Staff at McKee Medical Center.

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

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

SAVE THE DATES

Sat., Mar. 28

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: LCDP Headquarters, 606 S. Mason, Fort Collins

Contact: Anne Wilseck for more information anneeliz73@gmail.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, annemich@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

2nd Vice Chair	William Russell	227-6303	rwjr3@msn.com
Secretary	Anne Wilseck	484-4399	anneeliz73@gmail.com
Treasurer	Lynn Alldrin	490-2772	lynn@ravenwindjewelry.com
HD49 Director	Martha Coleman	221-2581	marthacoleman@earthlink.net
HD51 Director	Bob Massaro	402-3678	massaror2001@yahoo.com
HD52 Director	Nancy Tellez	689-6391	ldems@frii.com
HD53 Director	Kristina Bulik-Hocum	266-8562	fromtinatoyou@aol.com
SD14 Director	Kevin & Julie Caffrey	225-9424	kcaffrey98@aol.com
SD15 Director	Eric Weedin	962-9725	eweedin@hotmail.com
Communications Committee Chairs	Jennifer Walton Anne Wilseck	420-2590 484-4399	jenniferawalton@gmail.com anneeliz73@gmail.com
Webmaster	Jennifer Walton	420-2590	jenniferawalton@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Anne Wilseck	484-4399	anneeliz73@gmail.com
Volunteer Coordinators	Lynn Alldrin Julie Lechtanski	490-2772 232-9683	lynn@ravenwindjewelry.com
CSU Young Dems President	Mandi Asay		manman@holly.colostate.edu
CSU Young Dems Vice President	Alesia Gifford	303-519- 2281	avsangel@simla.colostate.edu

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. Thank you.