



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**REPRESENTATIVE DAWN MORRELL
HOLDS TOWN MEETING
IN PUYALLUP**

**THE 25TH LDD OFFERS THEIR CODOLENCES TO KEN PEACH
AND FAMILY ON THE LOSS OF HIS WIFE, RUTH, ON FRI 5 MAR 2010
AND TO THE FRANK BLAIR FAMILY ON THE LOSS OF
THEIR DAUGHTER, SHEENA.**

**READ ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING , NOTES FROM THE CHAIR, MIN-
UTES OF THE LAST MEETING, AND OTHER NOTES
PLUS UPCOMINGS (PAGE 2)
AND - - - - PAY YOUR 2010 DUES TODAY!**

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(LDD) OFFICERS**

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**25TH DISTRICT
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email:
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Representative
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For all other elected officials:
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**DEMOCRATS
CONTACT INFO**

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www.democrats.org
WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org
Pierce Co. Dem Party
www.piercecounty-
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25th District FOCUS
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FOR THE LATEST INFO
AND/OR COPIES OF THE
FOCUS CHECK OUT THE 25TH
LDD WEBSITE AT:
www.25dems.org

MEETINGS



29 Mar Mon E-Board meets at
7 PM at Fire Station 66, 9813
28th St E, Puyallup

NOTE: CHANGE OF VENUE

1 Apr Thu 25th LDD meets at
Boilermakers Hall, 16621
110th Ave E., Puyallup



17Apr Sat DEAD-
LINE for FOCUS arti-
cles, pictures, etc.

3 May Mon E-Board meets at
7PM at Fire Station 66.

NOTE: CHANGE OF VENUE

6 May Thu 25 LDD Meets at
Boilermakers Hall,
16621 110th Ave E,
Puyallup



15 May Sat DEADLINE for
FOCUS articles, pictures, etc.

You are invited to submit your
meetings/events to be included
in the Upcoming Events.

WHAT'S UP?

7 Apr Wed, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
Town Hall Meeting hosted by
Congressman Adam Smith at the
Steilacoom Town Hall, 1717
Lafayette St, Steilacoom
YOU ARE ALL INVITED!
Space limited: RSVP 593-6600

FROM THE CHAIR

There have been several requests for me to write a monthly article for the *Focus Newsletter*. This month I would like to address a question that some have asked me to clarify. What is our procedure regarding resolutions? Our 25th LD organization does have a specific procedure to follow according to our Bylaws, which are available on our website. Anyone in our organization can present a resolution to our membership for a vote as long as certain procedures are followed. The State Democrat Party requires that all resolutions be worded in a specific manner. This is where our own Resolutions Committee is involved. It is the responsibility of our Resolutions Committee to receive resolutions from members and word them according to the required manner. Once the resolution is worded correctly, it is formatted as a PDF document and emailed to the Chair. As Chair, I have the responsibility to do several things. First, I make sure that it is placed on our website; so our membership has knowledge that there will be a vote at the next general membership meeting. This allows anyone on either side of the issue to be present for the discussion and voting. Second, I place the resolution on the Executive Board Meeting Agenda. This allows our Executive Board to be aware of the upcoming vote. Third, I place the resolution on the General Membership Meeting Agenda for discussion and voting. It is very important that any resolution be emailed to the committee at least two weeks prior to our monthly meeting. This allows time for the important steps above to be done in a timely manner. At the present time the chair of our Resolutions Committee is Cliff Allo. You can find his email address on our website. I hope this clarifies our procedure dealing with resolutions. I felt that this was important with our upcoming Pierce County Convention (April 10th) and State Party Convention (June 26th). At both of these conventions our party will be focused on resolutions and platform.

Louis

PAST CHAIR LAUREN ADLER APPOINTMENT

Lauren Adler, past chair of the 25th LDD, has been appointed to the 2010 All-Washington Academic Team. Only two students from each community and technical college from around the country are chosen and Adler will be part of the All-State Academic Team, with the possibility of moving to the All-USA Academic Team.

Adler, who will be honored as member of the team on March 25th, said this appointment means a lot to her and she is very excited to participate on the Academic Team.

The March 25 ceremony will recognize these top scholars with scholarship prizes and Adler will receive a \$750 scholarship from Key Bank and the National Education Loan Association.

25th LDD MEETING
March 4th, 2010
By Melissa Thompson

Call to order at 7:05 p.m. Flag Salute

Vice Chair- Michelle Donaldson excused and Parliamentarian Cliff Allo came in late. All other Executive Board members were present.

Adopted Agenda

Chair Louis Tibbs explained why we weren't at the Puyallup Library. There was a scheduling snafu and the library was already booked. For the meetings of April, May, and June we will be meeting at the Boiler Makers Hall at 16621 110th Avenue East, South Hill, WA. We will be back at the Puyallup Library starting in June.

There was an announcement for funeral plans for Frank Blair's daughter Sheena, who had been killed in a drunk-driving accident. The service is March 13, 2010 at 3:30 p.m.

Washington State Auditor Brian Sonntag was our guest speaker. He started off as Pierce County Clerk in 1978. He thanked the 25th District for support of his career. He talked about the State Auditor's office and what they do. There are 390 employees which help to audit and improve state agencies. There are 2,700 units of government that the auditor's office will review. He is compiling a report about the vision of where the office is going. It will be on the auditor's website. When the office reviews the different state agencies they do a detailed risk assessment and compare their findings to past audits. The State Auditor works for the public which is the people of Washington State.

Suzan Delbene, 8th Congressional District Candidate spoke about her background which helps her campaign. She gave a report of how the race is going. At the end of last year she had outraised Congressman Reichert. She got endorsed by Emily's List and is compiling a great team to work on her campaign. The campaign office is in Renton.

The LD Caucus is Sunday March 14th at the Puyallup Elks Club at 1 p.m. We will elect 22 Delegates and 11 Alternates to the County and State Convention. There is a suggested \$50 donation for the State Convention which will be June 25th-26th in Vancouver, WA. On April 10th is the Pierce County Convention which will be at the IBEW starting at 10.

Legislative Action Committee had their last meeting of the year prior to this meeting. They talked about the events on President's Day. The site to check on the status of a bill is www.leg.wa.gov. 34 Senators have signed on to support a Public Option in the Congress's Health Care Bill. At the time of the meeting we weren't sure that Maria Cantwell had signed on and so we had a motion to send her a letter in support of signing on for Public Option. She has signed on.

Our Treasurer Luanne Green announced that Al Gray has volunteered to be our assistant Treasurer.

We adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

REPRESENTATIVE DAWN MORRELL TOWN MEETING

By Joan Cronk

Approximately 100 people gathered on February 20 at the Puyallup City Hall for a Town Hall meeting with State Representative Dawn Morrell.

Morrell really walked into the lions den but she bravely stood up to tea party folks and many who were anti government, answering questions regarding taxes, education and health care, just to mention a few.

Stating she was against a sales tax increase, Morrell told the mixed crowd that, in addition to serving on the Capital Budget Committee, Health Care and Wellness, Rules, Health and Human Services Appropriations and Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs, she is the Majority Caucus Chair. Morrell does as much as she can for those she represents, but "it is hard to serve on every committee." She works hard on K-12 educational issues and on health care issues, and said, "People look at me for leadership."

Representative Morrell and others are looking for loopholes to close the large gap in the budget, things like out of state businesses that are not paying B and O taxes. In addition, Representatives are trying to create tax incentives to draw businesses to Washington State. She stated that the recession has affected every single state and people are scared. She is very aware of these issues and is diligently working to help balance the budget, saying that in 2008 our state had 150M in savings and now, one year later, are in deficit mode.

When questioned about less government, Representative Morrell did a good job stating how we need things like infrastructure for our cities, and when grilled about the government staying out of family's business, she stated she will always be concerned about issues like children being vaccinated and educated at an early age.

The crowd was not a particularly friendly one, but Representative Morrell remained calm and professional as she took question after question from the crowd. Some of the questions came from folks who were clearly combative.

Morrell spoke passionately about the issue of health care and said if folks wanted to be mad, they should direct those feelings toward insurance companies and stated, "I will not let people die outside the hospital doors."

Representative Morrell can hold her head high and be proud of her performance at the Town Meeting. Many representatives are holding their "town meetings" over the phone and monitoring the questions before they deal with them. Representative Morrell would have none of that ... She dealt openly with all of the folks attending and was clear and professional in all of her answers.

NOTES FROM SENATOR KASTAMA

The 2010 Session: An Opportunity for Job Creation, Economic Development, Public Safety, and Reform

To state the obvious, this has been an extremely difficult session, facing a budget deficit of \$2.8 billion.

In the area of economic development, we created a tax credit of up to \$4,000 for businesses of 20 or fewer employees that create family-wage jobs. The credit is for each new job created, and is estimated to create as many as 5,000 jobs. We've also doubled the B & O tax break for small businesses and restructured the Commerce Department to focus exclusively on economic development, as opposed to being the clearing house for numerous unrelated state programs.

We responded to the Lakewood officer tragedy by passing a measure that, if approved by the voters, will amend the State Constitution to allow judges to deny bail to someone who has committed a crime that could result in life in prison if the individual has shown a history of violence that could endanger public safety.

Two of my bills would fundamentally change the way we do things in our state.

SB 6786, my proposal for an ARROW commission modeled after the congressional BRAC commission that closed unnecessary military bases, would take the politics out of streamlining state government. The commission would have the freedom to consolidate, abolish or create state agencies or departments, transfer duties and missions, and redefine the roles of state officers. Their recommendations would be in the form of legislation for next session. This bill is currently in the Senate budget.

SB 6409 would dedicate state Lottery revenues, similar to highly successful programs in Georgia and Arkansas, to higher education which has suffered severe cuts to balance the budget, and could eventually bring our state as much as \$456 million in additional revenue. A small portion of revenues would be dedicated to pre-school education, while the loss in K-12 funds would be made up with higher education funds from the general fund. We can't keep cutting higher education if we want our kids, our businesses and our state to thrive. This bill just passed the Senate in the special session.

**25TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
March 10, 2010
By Luanne Green, Treasurer**

Period Reported: February 1 - 28, 2010

Beginning Balance February 1, 2010	\$	10,479.61
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Expenses:

Puyallup Meeker Days Festival – Reserve Booth	90.00
Joan Cronk – Refreshments	28.00
US Postmaster – Stamps for Focus	26.40
Total Expenses:	(\$144.40)

Income

Dues & Donations	320.00
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Balance as of February 28, 2010	\$10,655.21
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Checking A/C Balanced, C-3's filed, C-4 filed 3/10/2010

NOTES FROM WAYNE KELLER

President Obama has cut taxes for 95% of the American people.

Most Republicans slammed the stimulus bill. Then they arrogantly took credit for providing the money for their state. This is pure hypocrisy.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 2010 MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

IF SO, THANK YOU - IF NOT SEE PAGE 8!

**Use this form to recruit friends and neighbors to join you
in helping our Democratic party.**

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Zip: _____ City/ _____

Precinct: _____

Email: _____

Dues: Evergreen (includes Senior, outside district, etc) \$10 per member; Rainier \$25; Chair's Voice \$50; Senators Club \$100 (can be paid in installments.)

Please send dues to: 25th LDD, POBox 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373



IS ANYONE
OUT THERE
LISTENING?

**Well, you should be if you want the truth about politics
by Audrey and Frank on their radio show
Fridays at 1200 to 1 PM on KLAY 1180 AM!**

**And if for some reason or other you miss it then go to
<http://www.liberaltopia.org>. There is a link on the right hand side of
the screen that says: Frank and Audrey. Tune in or be tuned out.**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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