



25th Legislative District



Democratic Focus



**SPEAKER AT THE DECEMBER 2 MEETING WAS
WILLIE PAINTER, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
FOR
THE FRANKLIN PIERCE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING

The January 25th LDD general meeting will be replaced by the Legislative kick-off dinner on Friday, January 10 at the Puyallup Elks Club located at 314-27th St NE., Puyallup.

Our guest speaker for that meeting will be Bill Baarsma, former Tacoma Mayor, who will speak to us on the history of the Pierce County Democrats and their role in reshaping and reforming the state party organization.

Details for getting tickets to this event are on page 6.

**25TH LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC
(LDD) OFFICERS**

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Email: eherde@earthlink.net

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Tel: (253) 431-1003
Email: rdgallogly01@gmail.com

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Ass't Treasurer
Kathryn Wright
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Secretary: Eric Renz
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Tel: (253) 770-6158
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**25TH DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC
ELECTED
OFFICIALS**

REPRESENTATIVE
DAWN MORRELL



(253) 786-7948
Email:

morrell.dawn@leg.wa.gov

For all other elected officials:
Legislative Hotline:
1-800-562-6000

**DEMOCRATS
CONTACT INFO**

DNC: www.democrats.org

WA State Dem Party
www.wa-democrats.org

**25TH LDD E-BOARD
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REPRESENTATIVES**

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ies of FOCUS check out 25th
LDD Website at: 25dems.org
www.25dems.org

MEETINGS

**NOTE changes for Jan -
Jan 25th LDD general meet-
ing will be replaced by the
Legislative kick-off dinner on
Friday, Jan 10 at the Puyallup
Elks Club located at 314-27th
St NE, Puyallup. Ticket info
on page 6.**



**Jan 18 Sat DEAD-
LINE FOR FOCUS**
articles, pictures, etc.

**Mon 27 Jan E-Board meets at
7 PM at Fire Station 66**

**Mon 3 Feb 25th LDD General
Meeting at 7 PM Puyallup
Library**



FEB DEADLINE
FOR FOCUS Sat 15
Feb for articles, pic-
tures, etc.

**Mon 24 Feb E-Board meets at
7 PM at Fire Station 66.**

**Mon 3 Mar 25th LDD General
Meeting at 7 PM at Puyallup
Library.**



**Mar 16 Sat DEAD-
LINE FOR FOCUS**
articles, pictures, etc.

Minutes of 25th Legislative District Democratic Organization
Member Meeting, December 2, 2013
Held at Puyallup Library

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm by Chair Ed Herde who led the flag salute and called roll.

Officers present:

Chair Ed Herde
Vice Chair Rebecca Gallogly
Treasurer Luanne Green
Assistant Treasurer Kathryn Wright
State Committeeman David Henry
State Committeewoman Ellen Zulauf
PC Dem Rep #1 Eric Herde
PC Dem Rep #2 Rebecca Gallogly

Officers absent:

Sergeant-at-Arms Bryan Yambe
PC Dem Rep #3 Mervin Swanson

Officers excused:

Secretary Eric Renz
Focus Editor Joan Cronk

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

Ed Herde presented the speaker, Willie Painter, Public Information Officer, FP School District. Mr. Painter informed that there will be two levies on the upcoming February ballot to renew expiring Educational Programs and Operations and Technology Levies. This is not a new tax, but rather a continuation of what voters approved in 2010. The proposed rates will not exceed actual 2013 rates. He was eager to make sure that the reality of these two levies was understood (renewal). He took questions at the end of his presentation.

He informed that the School District would welcome phone bank volunteers and he will get back with the point of contact for this (Eric?) when they have their process "laid out".

Jim Kaimber was allowed on a "walk-in" basis to inform the gathering of his campaign to be the State Democratic Party Chair. He provided background on recent history of the party and how we need to gain additional ground in the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens. He's the guy who wants to map out this ambitious course.

We were reminded of the Legislative Kick-off Dinner is scheduled for Friday, 10 Jan, and this dinner will be in lieu of our usual 1st Monday of the month meeting. Tickets for this event **purchased by 2 Jan 2014, will be \$20/pp, \$35/pc**. Pricing **after 2 Jan 2014 will be \$25/pp, \$45/pc**.

Jerry Beckendorf presented the Pierce County Labor Agency Gift Drive and explained exactly what it is for and who it helps. He passed around an envelope for those desiring to assist in this effort.

Eric Herde briefly gave an update on I-594 petition gathering.

Eric Herde gave a complete follow up of how candidates that we supported fared in this last election.

David Henry gave an extensive report on the Boeing Contract Negotiations.

This gathering adjourned at 9:00pm

Chair's Comment

Ed Herde

I hope everyone had a good holiday season and were able to get some relaxing time with friends and family. I was able to get away with my family for a few days to the snowless eastern slopes of the cascades. I am writing this looking out on an ice field where there is normally 2 to 4 feet of snow covering the grass. On the bright side the frozen pond is not covered with snow and is accessible for ice skating and hockey which I have not seen around here before.

Well, into the new year we go and looking forward a couple weeks we have our annual legislative send-off dinner coming up on January 10th. We will be sending our super hero Registered Nurse/Legislator Dawn Morrell off to the legislative session that starts the Monday after the dinner. At the dinner we will hear from Dawn on the upcoming session, and our guest speaker will be former mayor of Tacoma Bill Baarsma. I encourage all to come to the dinner as this is a fund raiser for our organization. Any profits from the dinner will add to our coffers to help our candidates and other causes that meet our Democratic principles. The dinner replaces our monthly meeting for January.

The dinner is on Friday January 10th at the Puyallup Elks Lodge at 314 27th Street NE, Puyallup, WA 98352. Doors open at 6:00pm for a social hour with the dinner and program starting at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$20 per person and \$35 per couple if purchase by January 2nd. After January 2nd the price is \$25 per person and \$45 per couple. You can mail your check to: 25th LD Democrats, P.O. Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373. For a credit card payment you can go to <http://25dems.org> and click on the "Click & Pledge" link.

If you have any questions about the dinner please call me at 253-219-8975. I hope to see you there.

Chair's Notes on Dec meeting:

He said Willie Painter spoke on upcoming levies on the February ballot and took questions from the audience on a variety of topics about the Franklin Pierce School District, which serves roughly on-third of the 25th LDD. The levies would replace existing expiring levies. The levy tax rates would be no higher than the expiring levy rates. The FPSD levy committee is looking for volunteers to phone bank likely "yes" voters to get the vote out once ballots drop from the February election.

CROSS OF IRON

By President Dwight Eisenhower

The recent budget negotiated by Senator Patty Murray and Rep. Paul Ryan in which Paul Ryan refused to allow any cuts from the largest War/Defense budget in the history of the world brings to mind an excerpt from President Eisenhower's Chance for Peace speech, better known as the Cross of Iron speech, delivered before the American Society of Newspaper Editors, April 16, 1953:

The free nations, most solemnly and repeatedly, have assured the Soviet Union that their firm association has never had any aggressive purpose whatsoever. Soviet leaders, however, have seemed to persuade themselves, or tried to persuade their people, otherwise.

And so it has come to pass that the Soviet Union itself has shared and suffered the very fears it has fostered in the rest of the world.

This has been the way of life forged by 8 years of fear and force.

What can the world, or any nation in it, hope for if no turning is found on this dread road?

The worst to be feared and the best to be expected can be simply stated.

The worst is atomic war.

The best would be this: a life of perpetual fear and tension; a burden of arms draining the wealth and the labor of all peoples; a wasting of strength that defies the American system or the Soviet system or any system to achieve true abundance and happiness for the peoples of this earth.

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

This world in arms is not spending money alone.

It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.

The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities.

It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 population.

It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals.

It is some 50 miles of concrete highway.

We pay for a single fighter with a half million bushels of wheat.

We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people.

This, I repeat, is the best way of life to be found on the road the world has been taking. This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.

Please join us for our 25th LDD General Meeting the first Monday of each month (schedule on page 2) generally at the Puyallup Library or at a designated location as announce in the monthly FOCUS.

JANUARY 10 LEGISLATIVE KICK-OFF DINNER

The January 25th LDD general meeting will be replaced by the Legislative kick-off dinner on Friday, January 10 at the Puyallup Elks Club located at 314-27th St NE., Puyallup.

Doors will open at 6 pm with dinner at 7 pm. The cost is \$20 per person/\$35 per couple if purchased by January 2 and \$25 per person/\$45 per couple after January 2nd.

Our guest speaker will be Bill Barsma, former Tacoma Mayor, who will speak to us on the history of the Pierce County Democrats and their role in reshaping and reforming the state party organization. Dawn Morrell will speak to us on the upcoming legislative session.

Since we need to give the Elks Club a head count on January 3rd, you can mail your check to the 25th LD Democrats at P.O.Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373. You can also go to 25dems.org and click on the "Click and Pledge" link to pay with a credit card.

IT'S A NEW YEAR! SUGGESTIONS FOR RESOLUTIONS

What can you do for your health over the next 365 days? Make a healthy resolution to walk for 20 minutes a day. You could lose weight, be in a better mood, get fewer colds and reduce your risk for heart disease.

Did you know that Tango dancing lowers stress and makes dancers feel sexier and more relaxed. Any dancing will improve your health.

Popcorn can curb your appetite instead of eating chips and dips while watching TV. One cup of low-fat popcorn (15 calories) 30 minutes before lunch consumed 105 fewer calories during their meal than those who had one cup of potato chips (150 calories).

Walnuts help the body react to stress. Consuming walnuts as a part of your diet will lower resting blood pressure.

Here are some simple ways you can save money at home: First, use dishrags instead of paper towels. Rinse out after each use. Second, buy loose tea, and use one-third less than recommended. Third, close all closet doors when not in use - otherwise you are spending money to heat or cool the contents of your closets.

Christmas: War!

By *Jim Hightower* – <http://jimhightower.com>

12-23-13

Ah, 'tis the season for family, friends, eggnog, chipmunks singing Christmas carols – and all-out, no-mercy, blow-'em-all-to-hell WAR.

Not war like in Afghanistan. No, no – this is the far-right's God-awful "War on the War on Christmas." In this season of Peace on Earth, these delusional hucksters are fomenting hatred of... well, of whom? Blasphemist-liberal-Democrat-atheist-humanists, they shout – those heathens who actually go around saying "Happy Holidays," rather than "Merry Christmas," as Jesus taught us to say. Or was it Constantine the Great in the Fourth Century who came up with that?

Never mind, the rightists' point is that diabolical lefties – ie, Marxists – are out to ban Christmas entirely. No less of a heroic defender of the faith than Sarah Palin has even written a thin book about this devious plot, revealing that "Happy Holidays" is merely "The tip of the spear in a larger battle to... make true religious freedom a thing of America's past." Luckily, note the Merry Christmas crusaders, such bright lights as Gov. Rick Perry of Texas are pushing state laws to by-pass the silly US Constitution and allow Christian icons and ceremonies into our schools. "A crèche in every public space," is their cry, "a cross on every city hall." To hell with Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, the winter solstice, etcetera – this is war!

No, this is hokem, hoodoo, camel dung. It's also insulting that they would attempt to create a fictional piece of religious discrimination, whine that they are a repressed minority, and equate it with war. First, Jews, Muslims, and others don't get to brand public spaces as their religious property. Second, about three-fourths of Americans are Christian, so drop the martyr pose. And third, war really is hell, with blood, lifelong trauma, and death – so stop pretending you're in one.

"'War on War on Christmas' led this year by Gen. Palin," *Austin American Statesman*,

**25th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
FINANCIAL REPORT
WILL NOW BE AVAILABLE EACH MONTH UPON REQUEST BY
A MEMBER INSTEAD OF BEING ON THE WEBSITE.**

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ?

DUES SHOULD BE PAID NOW FOR 2014!

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

Name: _____ Address: _____
City/ _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ 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, PO Box 73594, Puyallup, WA 98373 or

Pay by credit card: click on <https://secureform.cloud.clickandpledge.com/20184/1/>



**Well, you should be if you want the truth about politics
by Frank Blair and Traci Kelly 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 equaltimeradio.net.
Tune in or be tuned out.**

NOT A 25TH LD MEMBER? YOU ARE NEEDED

Dear Democrat,

I am writing to ask you as a past member of the 25th Legislative District Democrats organization to consider renewing your membership for 2014. In the present political climate with organized attacks on voting rights, a vibrant media, the environment, labor laws, worker safety, Social Security, Medicare and more it is important that we have funds available to help candidates and issues even at a local level. The right wing and corporate interests that are now trying to take away the advances that have kept many Americans out of poverty over the past six decades are attacking us on a state and local level because it is easier to sneak past the people with our weak local media, than it is to change national policy.

Please join or renew your membership with the 25th Legislative Democrats to help stem the tide of attacks on democratic principles. It is more important than ever to become more involved.

Sincerely,

Ed Herde, District Chair