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The reality of forced democracy, It doesn't work.

Furman University Political Science professor Dr. Akan Malici was the guest speaker at the November meeting of the Greenville County Democratic Party. Dr. Malici Akan Malici is from a Turkish and Albanian family. He grew up in Germany and received his undergraduate education in Literature and Political Science at the University of Tuebingen. He came to the United States for graduate school in 2000. At Arizona State University, he received his M.A. degree in 2002 and his Ph.D. degree in 2004. He has been teaching at Furman University since 2005. Dr. Malici's remarks were insightful and fascinating. Dr. Malici provided a short summary for publication in The Bray. Dr. Malici explained that American political culture compels a naïve faith in military power. The Bush administration, for example, thought that Afghanistan and Iraq would be easy. Chasing the Taliban out of Kabul and toppling Saddam was easy, but American military superiority did not prevent the emergence of seemingly unresolvable war theaters. Military force is not what patriotism boasting politicians



Dr. Akan Malici

make it out to be. It's a crude instrument. Effects are hard to foresee and there are unintended consequences. It's important to recognize the utilities and futilities of power and also to recognize value of diplomacy as proven in the crucial nuclear deal with Iran.

He explained further the false belief in the need for American global leadership and engagement. For example, the idea of “remaking the Middle East” is an idealistic conviction of leaders that they can be political engineers in other countries (that they don't understand). Instead of advancing democracy in the

Continued on Page 2 See Malici



Democratic Revival by Roxanne Cordonier

I've never attended a religious revival meeting but I imagine it to be somewhat like the January meeting of Democratic Women. After a presentation by Jennifer Piver of Mental Health America of Greenville County, audience members gave their own testimony of how mental illness has affected their lives. Tears were shed when a mother spoke of her daughter who disappeared during a manic episode, another member told of her own personal battle with bipolar disorder and another shared the obstacles she encountered trying to obtain treatment for her adopted children. It was stirring, emotional and

Malici, Continued from Page 1

region, the United States has been a destabilizing force with serious repercussions for regional and global security. America cannot be the author of a global order. These are not arguments for isolationism, but for

a foreign policy that is driven by realism and strategic pragmatism.

For anyone interested, Dr. Malici recommends the book *The New American Militarism* by Andrew Bacevich (Oxford University Press, 2013).

Poetic Conversations focus on MKL

Poetic Conversations bring together different guest artists to share their work on a common topic and to start a dialogue with audiences. For this, Poetic Conversation designed to uplift Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream for equality, poetry and music collide in a performance that

takes audiences on a tour of the great Southern landscape, echoing the brilliance and darkness of the region's rich history.

In both solo and collaborative voices, renowned poet Glenis Redmond and award-winning Blues musician/historian Scott Ainslie perform from their piece *Southern Voices: Black, White and Blues*

followed by conversation with the audience.

Contact Taryn Zira with questions or to RSVP.

January 27, 2016; 7:00pm Peace Center's Ramsaur Studio

Admission is free but space is limited.

RSVP to Taryn Zira
tzira@peacecenter.org or

Spartanburg/Greenville Progressive Network

An Upstate chapter of the Progressive Network has formed and will be working on the Network's Racial Profiling project for the next few months.

The group is arranging meetings with area police agencies. To get involved, contact Jan Hammett at jjhammett7@att.net.

MDA Advocacy Training

Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America will hold a Legislative Advocacy Training session on Sunday, January 31. This meeting is for volunteers who want to lobby our legislators for gun safety measures. For more information contact Sharon Klompus at 834.9298.



Democratic Revival, *Continued from Page 1*

disturbing to learn that South Carolina ranks 38th in the nation in mental health services.

During the course of the discussion Greenville's Vice Mayor Pro Tem, Lillian Brock Fleming offered insight into cultural barriers in treatment of the mentally ill, a book recommendation was made "*Mind on the Run: A Bipolar Chronicle* by Dottie Pacharis and connections were created. It was how democracy should work. Collaboratively we learn about problems and use our resources to work for solutions. You can learn more about Mental Health America at www.mhagc.org

That's what being a Democrat means to me, the power of the group working together for the greater good. I feel a connection to the members of the Democratic party, common bonds of reverence for the power and strength of our democracy based on our desire for a better life for our families. It's like that old saying, "We didn't arrive together but we're all in the same boat now."

The Bray welcomes your contributions. Tell us what being a Democrat means to you in 150 words or less and send it to roxannewalker@hotmail.com .

Upcoming Meetings & Events

January 23, 2016 (Saturday) 8:30am

GCDP Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Long Branch Baptist Church
28 Bolt Street
Greenville, SC 29605

January 28, 2016 (Thursday) 6:15pm - 8:30pm

“Meet Your Muslim Neighbor”
Upstate Islamic Center
1601 Clement Road
Greer, SC 29650
RSVP to meetmuslimneighbors@gmail.com by 1/22.

February 8, 2016 (Monday) 12:15pm

Democratic Women Lunch Meeting
Southern Fried Green Tomatoes
1175 Woods Crossing Road
Greenville, SC

February 27, 2015 (Saturday)

Democratic Presidential Primary: Per the Greenville County Voter Registration Office, all 151 precincts will be open except for 5 or 6 due to scheduling conflicts. Alternate locations will be announced

March 12, 2016 (Saturday) 10:00am

Precinct Reorganization Meetings
Details to come in the February issue of the *Bray*

3rd Wednesdays each month 5:30pm

Management Team meetings
GCDP Headquarters: 1300-J Washington Street
Greenville, SC 29607
Open invitation to anyone who wants to attend

Meet Chris Fedalei



Chris Fedalei

Chris Fedalei is a young South Carolina attorney and Spartanburg local is running for the 4th District Congressional seat against Trey Goudy. The literature Fedalei distributed at the GCDW lunch meeting advises he “is running because he know se have not time to waste. South Carolina deserves to have the highest quality representation possible in Congress.”

Fadalei core issues are Women’s Healthcare, A Revamped Tax System, National Security and Veterans Care.

Greenville County DP January Breakfast Meeting

The GCDP Breakfast will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at 8:30pm; Long Branch Baptist Church. Members of our state legislation will give updates and plans for the 2016 session. Delegation training for the 2016 Democratic National Convention will also be available. Ingrid Erwin and Jonathan Metcalf are scheduled to conduct the training. The breakfast is at no charge; donations are appreciated.

Democratic Women of Greenville February Lunch Meeting

The February DWGC meeting will be on Monday, February 8, 2016 at 12:15pm; Southern Fried Green Tomatoes. The speaker will be Grier Mullins, Director of Public Education Partners. More details will be in the January issue of *The Donkey's Tale*.

This is an opportunity to renew your membership for 2016.

Books We Love

By Roxanne Cordonier

Egyptian American journalist and activist Mona Eltahawy attempts to ignite a feminist revolution in her book *Headscarves and Hymens*. By highlighting the repression of women under the tenants of the Islamic faith and the traditions of Islamic countries Eltahawy lifts the veil on the lives of girls in the Middle East and North Africa and it's not a pretty picture.

Eltahawy personal experiences no doubt influenced her writing and her outlook. In the Egyptian uprising in 2011 during street clashes with protesters and security forces in Cairo, she was arrested by police, sexually assaulted and

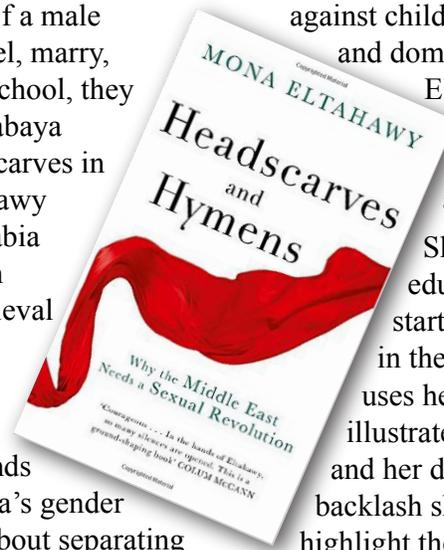
beaten, suffering a broken hand and arm. In Egypt 99.3% of women have experienced sexual harassment. In Saudi Arabia, women need the permission of a male guardian to travel, marry, work or attend school, they must also wear abaya robes and headscarves in public. As Eltahawy says, "Saudi Arabia keeps its women locked in a medieval bubble and the world is shamefully silent."

Eltahawy contends that Saudi Arabia's gender apartheid isn't about separating women from men, much less "protecting" women from men, but about restricting women's mobility

and their autonomy. In many Middle Eastern countries women's lives are governed by religious law that often fail to protect women against child marriage, marital rape and domestic violence.

Eltahawy blames women's fate on a toxic mix of culture and religion.

She advocates sex education as a means of starting a sexual revolution in the Middle East. Eltahawy uses her own experiences to illustrate the path to freedom and her difficulties and the backlash she's suffered certainly highlight the arduous task confronting women who wish to practice their faith and live their best lives.



Save the Date

Precinct re-organization is coming March 12 at 10:00 a.m. More details to come in the February issue of the Bray.

Thanks to Our Contributors!

The Greenville County Democratic Party wishes to express its gratitude to its recent donors. These include *Yellow Dog* pledges. The list includes November and December donations.

Sadie Carter
Stanley Crowe
Susan Cyr
Ingrid Blackwelder Erwin (*in memory of Bette Smock*)
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Joe Norwood
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Ruth Richburg
Carla Rood
Susannah Ross
Bruce and Edwina Snyder
Judith Zink

Hope Institute Winter 2016

As Chair, I'm committed to making sure we are recruiting and training the next generation of leaders in South Carolina. I wanted to pass along information on an exciting program called the Hope Institute. The Democratic National Committee is looking for candidates with little previous exposure to politics to participate in the Hope Institute Winter 2016 program in Washington, DC.

Ideal candidates are those individuals eager for political campaign training with an interest or goal of working on a campaign in the 2016 election cycle. Candidates should be enthusiastic, politically minded future leaders between the ages of 20 and 24 from diverse backgrounds all across the country.

All costs will be covered, including airfare to and from Washington, accommodations, meals, and ground transportation to and from Hope Institute activities.

Let's make sure South Carolina is represented! Apply at <http://my.democrats.org/page/s/hope-institute-winter-2016> share the information with anyone who may be interested in this wonderful opportunity.

Jaime Harrison
Chair, South Carolina Democratic Party



THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
INVITES YOU TO APPLY FOR

HOPE INSTITUTE 2016

FEBRUARY 25-27, 2016
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The hope institute is a program of the DNC that provides critical professional development and career mentoring to applicants with many different types of backgrounds in the field of politics.

APPLY ONLINE BEFORE
MONDAY, JANUARY 25TH

<http://my.democrats.org/page/s/hope-institute-winter-2016>

Contact hopeinstitute@dnc.org with any questions.

ALL COSTS OF TRAVEL AND ATTENDANCE COVERED BY THE
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Thinking about becoming a delegate?

Are you interested in being a Delegate to your county, state, or national convention? Join us for a "Delegate Selection" training where we'll explain the step by step process for becoming a delegate. There will be trainings in each congressional district, so please attend the one that works best for you! Also, you can find the SCDP Delegate Selection Plan and the "If you Want to be A Delegate" Summary of the process at scdp.org website.

3rd Congressional District

Third Congressional District Meeting
February 6th at 12:30pm
Ryan's Steakhouse
1703 SC-72, Greenwood, SC 29649

4th Congressional District

Greenville County Party Breakfast
January 23rd at 8:30am
Long Branch Baptist Church
28 Bolt St, Greenville, SC 29605

If you have any questions, you may contact Jessica Church, Political Director of the SCDP at 803.799.7798 ext. 2.

Report from South Carolina Democratic Party Executive Council and Executive Committee

Ingrid Erwin

December 8, 2015

Party Chair Jaime Harrison led the meetings. The Executive Council and Executive Committee meetings were very similar and are summarized as a single unit.

- Four of six candidates were certified by the Executive Council in a Monday teleconference for the Democratic Presidential Preference Primary. The candidates certified are Hillary Clinton, Martin O'Malley, Bernie Sanders, and Willie Wilson. (Only candidates who are (1) generally acknowledged or recognized in news media throughout the country as viable candidates and are (2) actively campaigning in South Carolina are certified.)
- The Candidates Forum in November was a very successful event. Jason Perkey, Party Executive Director, conducted a survey of attendees through Survey Monkey and summarized the results in an After Action Report. 100% of the 120 respondents said they enjoyed the Forum. Four thousand people were transported to the Winthrop

University campus from parking at the school coliseum without incident. Jaime also mentioned the events that took place prior to the Forum. The Town Hall organized by Gilda Cobb Hunter was the subject of a very favorable article by Joan Walsh in *The Nation*.

- The Delegate Selection Plan will soon be translated into Spanish and made available on the party website. Jaime plans to do something similar to his Chair Chats walking viewers through the Delegate Selection Process.
- With elections for county party officers coming up, Jaime encouraged everyone to remember the young people in the party and to ensure that they are given the opportunity to hold leadership positions.
- Jaime would like to have a Democrat on the ballot for each State House and Senate seat in the upcoming elections. He believes that such a presence is important and will help identify and mobilize voters in preparation for the 2018 governor's race.
- The voting laws will allow South



Ingrid Erwin
State Executive Committee Delegate

Carolina residents who will be 18 by the time of the general election (November 8, 2016) to vote in the primary. High school and college voter registration is important. A recent drive in Berkeley County registered 635 young voters.

- The Association of State Democratic Chairs met in Charleston on December 9-12.
- The National Federation of Democratic Women will meet in Charleston June 9-12, 2016. Jane Pulling of Berkeley County encouraged everyone to get involved in planning and providing financial support.
- Tangee Jacobs, chair of the Rural Caucus, noted that members of that caucus would be glad to visit other counties to speak at party events.

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