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S. C. Democratic Chairman, Jaime Harrison; former governor, Richard Riley and gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen at the Jefferson-Jackson Dinner at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center during the 2014 Democratic Convention Weekend recently.

Democratic State Convention Weekend

Tim Kaine and Tulsi Gabbard Honor Dick Riley;
Vincent Sheheen Gives Rousing Performance

By Eric Graben, GCDP Chairman

U.S. Senator and former Virginia Governor Tim Kaine and Hawaii Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard headlined a great Democratic Weekend in Columbia May 2nd and 3rd, honoring former Governor and U.S. Secretary of Education Dick Riley and featuring State Senator Vincent Sheheen, our candidate for governor this year.

The theme of the weekend was "When Governors Govern." Tim Kaine, elected Lt. Governor of Virginia in 2002, Governor in 2006 and Senator in 2012, spoke about

transforming Virginia from a red state into a state in which both U.S. senators and all the constitutional state officers are now Democrats. He focused on the importance of public education in building a state's economy as well as its people.

Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard, D-Hawaii, is the youngest person to serve in Hawaii's state legislature; she was elected in 2002 at age 21. She deployed to Iraq in 2004 and served two combat tours of duty. She's one of the first two female combat veterans to serve in Congress. She spoke about

Convention Weekend

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the importance of servant leadership. Both Senator Kaine and Congresswoman Gabbard honored Dick Riley, our former governor and U.S. Secretary of Education, named by Time Magazine as one of the ten top US cabinet secretaries of the 20th century.

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Vincent Sheheen gave a rousing performance at both the

Jefferson-Jackson dinner Friday night and at the convention Saturday morning. Speaking extemporaneously, he walked among the delegates, microphone in hand, pausing mid-speech to give our own County Councilwoman Lottie Gibson a hug. He spoke movingly about our core values -- public education, access to healthcare and ethical leadership.

Our Greenville delegation returned home energized and optimistic about winning the governorship, U.S. Senate seats, and other statewide offices in the November 2014 elections.



Why I Am a Democrat

By Trevor Rodgers

I am a Democrat because I believe that there is a certain social floor, below which, no one should fall. I am a Democrat because I believe we should all look out for the least among us. I am a Democrat because I believe all people deserve a fighting chance at life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

June 10 is Primary Day Democratic Primary Offers Choices For Careful Consideration

Tuesday, June 10 is primary election day in South Carolina. The media's focus thus far has been on Republican primary contests, but Democrats have crucial choices to make as well. Our decisions in June may spell the difference between success or failure in November.

Recently, S.C. Democratic Party chairman, Jaime Harrison cautioned Dems to pay attention to the history and qualifications of candidates who compete to run under the Democratic Party mantle. With the Alvin Greene debacle fresh in our minds, we cannot take for granted that every person trying to run as an S.C. Democrat represents the values and interests of our party or our state.

Please take a few minutes to read the following blog post about political shenanigans in our state, including an assessment of recent S.C. resident and Senatorial candidate Jay Stamper.

<http://www.rob-servations.com/1/post/2014/04/fake-democrats--and-south-carolina-politics.html#.U0YPYRJwSw.email>.

Also revealing is an article from last fall in The State newspaper. Bear in mind that it was written before State Sen. Brad Hutto declared his desire to run against Lindsey Graham as the Democratic candidate.

<http://www.thestate.com/2013/09/14/2980396/exclusive-another-unknown-democrat.html>. These articles and other information are posted on the GCDP website, www.greenvilledemocrats.org.

Candidates in contested Democratic Party primaries on June 10 are: U.S. Senate seat (Tim Scott): Joyce Dickerson, Harold Pavilack, Sidney Moore. U.S. Senate seat (Lindsey Graham): State Sen. Brad Hutto, Jay Stamper. State Superintendent of Education: Montrie Belton, Sr., Sheila Gallagher, State Rep. Jerry Gover, Tom Thompson.

Democratic candidates who are unopposed and will run on our ticket in November are: State Sen. Vincent Sheheen, governor; State Sen. Bakari Sellars, Lt. Governor; Ginny Deerin, Sec. of State; Parnell Diggs, Att. Gen.; Kyle Herbert, Comptroller General.

We expect to publish statements from many of these candidates in the June Bray.

May 2014 Calendar

Greenville 2014 Phone Banking

Every Tuesday and Wednesday throughout May, 6-8 pm, GCDP Headquarters, 1300 E. Washington Street, Suite J, Contact info: Trevor Rodgers, 940.765.8302, trevor@scdp.org.

Greenville Voter Registration

Every Saturday throughout May, two shifts- 10am-noon and noon-2 pm, meet at GCDP Headquarters, 1300 E. Washington Street, Suite J. Contact info: Trevor Rodgers, 940.765.8302, trevor@scdp.org.

Monday, May 12

Democratic Women of Greenville County, luncheon meeting, Ryan's Family Restaurant, 2426 Laurens Road, 12:15 pm. Speaker--attorney Anna Maria Darwin, Protection and Advocacy for People with Disabilities, Inc. Reservations are required for lunch and may be made by calling Greenville County Democratic Headquarters, 232-5531 or send email to headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com.

Monday, May 12

Gallivants Ferry Stump, parking lot of the general store, 125 W. Hwy. 501, Gallivants Ferry, SC, 4-7 pm. Get in your car and go!

Looking Ahead....

Wednesday, June 4

Rep. Jim Clyburn, portrait unveiling and book signing, Global Trade Center, 200 Fairforest Way, Greenville 29607, 3:30 pm. All invited. Not a fund-raising event. For more information, contact Billy Wilkins at BWilkins@nexsenpruet.com.

Monday, June 9

Democratic Women luncheon meeting, Fried Green Tomatoes restaurant, 12:15 pm. Speaker-- environmental attorney and former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education Frank Holleman.

Tuesday, June 10

SC Primary Election Day

Thanks to Our Contributors!

It's always a pleasure to recognize the people who take that extra step of support and write a check to the Greenville County Democratic Party. They make the difference between being sure our point of view is expressed.... or remaining silent as a party. Won't you help? Please mail your contribution check made out to Greenville County Democratic Party (GCDP), 1300 E. Washington Street, Suite J, Greenville, SC 29607. If your financial contribution is over \$100, please indicate your profession or retired. This information is required by the SC Ethics Commission.

Yellow Dog Club pledge payments in April -- Edwina and Bruce Snyder, Ingrid Erwin. Yellow Dog Club members pledge annually at the Bronze (\$250), Silver (\$500) or Gold (\$1000) level. For more information, please contact our treasurer, Anita LeBold, at 864.325.8540 or anitalebold@hotmail.com.

Other contributions: Joy Bennett, Betty Bostic, Charles and Sharon Cherry, David Evans, Sapp Funderburk, Lottie Beal Gibson, Archie Huff, Carol Kelley, Jean Knox, Linda Neely, Susannah Ross, Patricia and Windell Rodgers, Shirley Scott, Karen and Aron Tannenbaum, Jonnie Terry.

To one and all: thank you!

Short but Sweet.... And Important

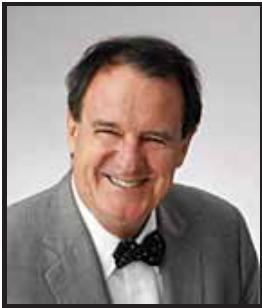
- Welcome to new headquarters office volunteer Don Harlan. We appreciate your service to our party!
- Congratulations to the new president of the Furman College Democrats, Frances "Gray" Johnson. We wish you success and look forward to partnering with you and your members.
- All-points bulletin from Roxanne Cordonier: Democratic Women recently purchased a 9-foot portable projection screen and tripod. It was stored at Democratic Headquarters and is now missing. If you have the screen, please return it to Democratic Headquarters ASAP.

Greenville County Democratic Party
1300-J East Washington Street
Greenville, SC 29607

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Remembering Former Congressman Butler Derrick



"On May 5 we lost a great statesman and a true leader in the passing of former Congressman Butler Derrick. A long-time public servant who represented the people of South Carolina with distinction, Congressman Derrick was respected by all — regardless of party. Personally, Congressman Derrick was a personal and dear friend, and I have been honored to know and work with him to promote our Democratic values and fight for the people of our great state for so long. On behalf of the South Carolina Democratic Party and all our

members, we offer our condolences to Congressman Derrick's family and will hold them in our prayers. Congressman Butler Derrick will surely be missed, but his great work for South Carolina and his example of true leadership will live on."

Jaime Harrison
Chairman, S.C. Democratic Party

The Bray is published by the Greenville County Democratic Party, 1300-J Washington St., Greenville, SC 29607/232-5531, Eric Graben, chairman. Karen Tannenbaum, editor. Linda Neely, format and distribution. Know someone who would like to receive The Bray? It is available by email or traditional mail. Call HQ or contact headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com. Please mail contributions to party headquarters. If your financial contribution to the GCDP is over \$100, please indicate profession or retired (required by SC Ethics Commission). Thank you.