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Committee Alternate

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Voter Protection Chair

The Greenville County Democratic Party Management Team meets on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 5:30pm at Headquarters. Anyone may attend.



Kate Franch, GCDP Chair

As I write this, Primary Election Day 2016 is less than a week away. I first want to extend a profound thank you to our local Democrats who have placed their name on the ballot this year to represent the citizens of Greenville County in an elected office. They have bravely stepped onto the political stage to advocate for and protect the ideals that are so very important to all of us. Considerable stamina and grit are needed to run and then to serve, never mind the resources. If only our gratitude were enough. . .

And now to the focus of my message this month – something with which I feel certain you will agree in spirit, but I hope to spur you beyond that to action. At a candidate’s event recently, a Republican voter shared with me that she has been telling her fellow political associates that they must “tear a page from the Democratic Party’s handbook” and enthusiastically rally around their nominee (i.e., Donald Trump) now that he has received the necessary number of delegates. Yes, I did then emphasize that the caliber of our candidates makes supporting them a no-brainer, and pointed out the significant differences between our candidates and theirs; but

A message from our Chair *June 11, 2016*

that’s not what has stayed with me since that evening.

What I have noticed, at the various events and forums in which our Democratic Party candidates have appeared lately, is the paucity of other Democrats in the audience to support them. This isn’t everyone – some of you have come out to get to know the candidates running to represent your district (although I know many more did not take advantage of the opportunities) and I hope you had your questions answered. I’m really talking about those of us who do not live in those districts, but could be a friendly face in the audience for a fellow Democrat who has braved the political spotlight. Even more importantly, by listening to the questions raised and answers given, we could gain a better understanding of the issues and concerns facing communities outside of our own. Doing so would actually more fully inform the votes we do cast. Imagine the message it would send to our Democratic candidates and neighbors if rooms were regularly filled with Democrats from across the county. Imagine the message it would send to Republican voters. . . talk about rallying around our candidates!

I have heard quite often, even before becoming party chair, the complaints that there are no or too few Democrats running for office. Your party leadership is strengthening our resolve to

Continued on Page 2, See Message

Message, Continued from Page 1

increase the number of Democrats throughout Greenville County on ballots. Our goals are to not only identify worthy candidates, but also to provide training and campaign support for them. In order to be successful, though, you must be a

part of this effort. We need you to be engaged – from the relatively simple act of attending forums and rallies to volunteering in a specific campaign or coordinated effort to providing financial support. This year there will be more excitement with the presidential race on the ballot, but let's each make a personal commit-

ment to step outside of our comfort zone and go somewhere we haven't been before. Let's be seen and be heard. Let's make a difference. Let's make it known together that Democrats are A PROUD FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH in Greenville County again.

a Tribute to Fred Sheheen By Roxanne Cordonier



A few years ago when Senator Vincent Sheheen made his second gubernatorial run, I hosted a fundraiser for him in Greenville. Senator Sheheen was unable to attend but sent his dad Fred and mother Rose. They more than made up for the

absence of the man himself. I had met Rose Sheheen at a Women in Blue day in Columbia and found her to be delightful. Fred Sheheen was warm, engaging, funny and a yellow dog Democrat to his core. He worked the crowd like a seasoned professional and was so incredibly gracious to me and the entire committee that hosted the benefit.

Fred Sheheen's service to our state was long lived. After graduating from Duke University, Sheheen worked as a reporter for the Charlotte Observer, covering the civil rights movement. Later he worked as an aide to SC Governor Donald Russell. During his tenure as head of the Commission on Higher Education, he helped create policies to provide equality for blacks attending

South Carolina's colleges and universities. The Sheheen family is well known in South Carolina politics. Fred's brother Bob, was Speaker of the SC House of Representatives.

Fred Sheheen was tragically killed in a car accident, earlier this month. He was 79 and his work was not yet finished.

Fred and Rose Sheheen provide a shining example of service to our state and their own family. They truly lived the values they espoused and their legacy is well served by their entire extended family.

Our gratitude goes out to the Sheheen family. May we all follow their example in being proud Democrats and engaged South Carolinians.

Greenville County Democratic Party June Breakfast Meeting

The Greenville County Democratic Party Breakfast Meeting will be held Saturday, June 25. The speaker will be Deb Morrow, former Congressional District 4 candidate, who will report on the People's Summit taking place from June 17-19 in Chicago.

Here's a brief description of the summit: "The Summit will include plenary and workshop sessions devoted to key issues such as the Fight for 15, mass incarceration and criminal justice reform, voting rights and expanding democratic participation, a tax on Wall Street speculation to fund human needs and jobs, climate

justice toward a sustainable economy, improved Medicare for All, the fight for free and debt-free higher education, secure retirement through expanding social security, ending HIV/AIDS, achieving Constitutional pay equity for women, and ending deportations and support for DREAMers, among others. . . And we will plan how to move our People's Agenda nationally and locally to help build the broad movement for people and the planet. thepeoplesummit.org

The breakfast is at no charge. Donations are welcome.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

June 25, 2016 (Saturday) 8:30am

GCDP Breakfast Meeting
Long Branch Baptist Church
28 Bolt Street
Greenville, SC 29605
(Details on page 2)

July 11, 2016 (Monday) 12:15pm

Democratic Women Monthly Meeting
Southern Fried Green Tomatoes
1175 Woods Crossing Road
Greenville, SC 29615
(Details below))

June 28, 2016 (Tuesday) 7:00am - 7:00pm

Greenville County Elections Run-offs

August 13, 2016 (Saturday) 8:30 - 10:30am

NAACP Greenville Branch Life Membership
Prayer Breakfast
Fuller Normal Industrial Institute
901 Anderson Road
Greenville 29601
(Details below))

Democratic Women July Meeting

The July meeting of Democratic Women of Greenville County will be held on Monday, July 11, 2016 at 12:15pm at Southern Fried Green Tomatoes. The guest speaker is Christale Spain, the new Executive Director of the South Carolina Democratic Party.

A buffet dinner is available for \$15.00. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made by calling 232-5531 or headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com

NAACP Prayer Breakfast

The NAACP Greenville Branch Life Membership Prayer Breakfast is on Saturday, August 13, from 8:30 - 10:30am at the Fuller Normal Industrial Institute, 901 Anderson Road, Greenville 29601.

This annual fundraiser recognizes and honors the steadfast commitment of Life members of the Branch. Tickets for the breakfast are \$15 - contact Kate Franch at 919-417-6406 if you'd like to attend.

Run-Off for County Council District 25

District 25's Democratic primary will go to a runoff. Voters will have to choose between Ennis Fant and incumbent Council woman Lottie Gibson.

Fant earned 39.65 percent of the vote with 98 percent of precincts reporting and Gibson received 24.70 percent. Bajeyah Eaddy, Martha Evans and Bunk Johnson will not move on to the runoff. Eaddy earned 22.82 percent, Evans earned 8.44 percent and Johnson earned 4.39 percent. June 28 is the run-off date.

Absentee voting for runoff races begin at noon on Monday June 20. Residents can cast their votes at County Square from 8:30am to 5:00pm Tuesday through Friday and 9:am to 1:00pm Saturday. The deadline for absentee voting is 5:00pm June 27.

Incumbent Karl Allen is the winner of the State Senate District 07 race. He will face opposition from Republican Glen L. Robinson in November.

UNDER THE GUN



Please Join Us for the Screening of Katie Couric's

UNDER THE GUN * documentary.

Tuesday, June 21

6:00 – 8:30pm

Hughes Main Library

Meeting Room C

Free Parking

Sorry, no food allowed.

*This documentary is rated R for language,
disturbing images and events.

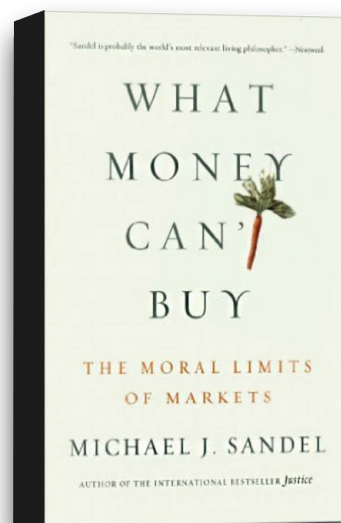
Books We Love *What Money Can't Buy: The Moral Limits of Markets* by Michael J. Sandel

By Edwina Synder

Do you think it is acceptable for those who can pay more to "jump the line" at Disney World so they don't have to wait for Space Mountain? Is it okay for people who can afford it to pay for priority screening at the airport while most have to wait in long lines? Is it all right for a college to relax its admissions standards for a student from a wealthy family who will make substantial contributions to the school? Have we given up the essential democracy of sporting events so that the wealthy can entertain in lavish skyboxes?

How do we prevent market values from reaching into areas of life where they don't belong? How also do we keep these market values from contributing to income inequality in our society? Almost without our noticing, these market values have infiltrated many aspects of life: medicine, education, law, sports, art,

even family life. For example: in Santa Ana, California, prisoners can pay to get an upgrade in their jail cells; foreigners who invest \$500,000 and create at least ten jobs are eligible for a green card entitling them to permanent residency; for \$1,500 to \$25,000 a year, a patient can have the cell phone number of his or her "concierge" doctor; companies in the European Union can pay for the right to emit metric tons of carbon into the atmosphere; and lobbyists can pay people \$10-20 an hour to stand in line overnight for them on Capitol Hill in order to attend congressional hearings or Supreme Court sessions crowding out ordinary citizens.



In our politically and economically divided society, Sandel argues, we may be reluctant to bring our moral convictions into the public arena, but if we don't, the market will decide for us. Sandel also writes, "The more things money can buy, the fewer the occasions when people from different walks of life encounter one another." This short and engaging book will make you think.

Michael J. Sandel is a political philosopher and Harvard professor. He is also the author of *Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?* based on his popular course, *Justice*, which has been taken by more than 15,000 students. This course can be viewed at www.justiceharvard.org.

Democratic Leadership Correction



Dexter L. Reaves - 1st Vice Chair

Dexter L. Reaves is a native of Latta, South Carolina, and is now a resident of Greer, South Carolina. Dexter holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice with a double minor in Political Science and History from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. Currently, he is pursuing a Masters Degree in Christian Ministry at North Greenville University.

Dexter was employed with the Greenville County School District as an Intervention Specialist. His role as an Intervention Specialist was to conduct prevention and awareness programs pertaining to violence, drugs, and gang activity. Dexter is currently the Executive Director for Pleasant Valley Connection, Inc.

Friday Forum Advocacy Lunch features Bakari Sellers

a Greenville Chamber Forum

June 24, 2016 | 11:30am - 1:00pm

Embassy Suites Conference Center
670 Verdae Boulevard
Greenville, SC 29601

General Admission is \$50.00

Contact: Katie Busbee at 864-239-3748
Email: kbusbee@greenvillechamber.org
Register at:
<https://greenvillesccoc.wliinc26.com/event/s/Friday-Forumwith-Bakari-Sellers-5578/register>
See News Blog at:
<http://greenvillechamber.org/events/2016/06/24/business-advocacy/friday-forum-advocacy-lunch--featuring-bakari-sellers/>



Bakari Sellers

Sen. Karl Allen honored by Greenville Technical College



Keith Miller, Greenville Technical College president, Sen. Karl Allen and Steve Hand, Director of SPICR Program at GTC

South Carolina Senator Karl Allen was recently recognized by Greenville Technical College (GTC) as a champion of second chances for his many efforts to provide opportunities for the poor, the underserved, and the under-skilled.

Allen, who serves on the Senate Corrections and Penology Committee and chairs S.C. Expungement Committee hosts a Second Chance Forum each year, with speakers from Greenville Technical College, the South Carolina Department of Corrections, the Solicitor's Office, and the Pre-Trial Intervention Program. In the program's five years, 3,000 ex-offenders have attended to learn about opportunities including GTC's Quick Jobs program, which can

deliver job skills, typically in 90 days or less.

The Corrections and Penology Committee also provides funding for the Self-Paced In-Class Education (SPICE) program, an inmate education and employment initiative. This partnership between the SC Department of Corrections, SC Department of Probation, Parole, and Pardon Services, and the state's technical colleges has a strong track record in assisting inmates to transition upon release.

Allen authored a bill signed into law by Gov. Nikki Haley to create the South Carolina Expungement Study Committee and has been elected chairman of that committee.

Allen has also worked to establish the Greenville Re-entry Coalition

with the Greenville Chamber, the legislature, and educators to bring the community together to assist those who need second chances. His motivation, he says, is to help the least of these. "Greenville Technical College has been a wonderful partner in reaching those with blights on their records who need and deserve a second chance at success," he said.

"We are pleased to recognize the strong contributions Sen. Allen has made to the Upstate through sustained efforts to assist people who have at one time made a mistake," said Dr. Keith Miller, president of Greenville Technical College. "Through these efforts that one mistake can be left in the past as people have an opportunity to move forward."

Congratulations to Senator Allen on his appointment to the State Senate Finance Committee.

Thanks to Our Contributors!

The Greenville County Democratic Party wishes to express its gratitude to its recent donors. These include *Yellow Dog* pledges.

Bill & Linda Hardman

Dexter Reaves
Jan Welch

Judith Zink
Starla Taylor

In Memory



Ronald H. Romine

Barry Wynn, former chairman of the South Carolina Republican Party, said Romine was “one of the really good guys” in the world of public policy. Wynn said he and Romine were on opposite ends of the political spectrum from time to time, but he always had a lot of respect for Romine.

“We don't have enough of what Ron represents, which is a level of decency and respect for people you disagree with,” Wynn said. “Everyone respected him, and he respected everybody. He will be missed.”

A memorial is planned for some time in July of this year.

Memorials may be made to Spartanburg Democratic Party, P.O. Box 2682, Spartanburg, SC 29304; American Heart Association, 3535 Pelham Road, Ste. 101, Greenville, SC 29615; American Diabetes Association, 119 Eastwood Circle, Spartanburg, SC 29302; American Lung Association, 2030 North Church Place, Spartanburg, SC 29303; Spartanburg Regional Medical Center, c/o Spartanburg Hospital for Restorative Care, Patient Care Fund, 389 Serpentine Drive, Spartanburg, SC 29303.

Excerpted in part from:

<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160604/ARTICLES/160609850>

For Ron's obituary from the Spartanburg Herald Journal and link to a news article in Go Upstate [goupstate.com/article/20160604/ARTICLES/160609850/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Spartanburg-Democratic-Party-Chairman-Ron-Romine-mourned-by-friends-in-both-parties](http://www.goupstate.com/article/20160604/ARTICLES/160609850/1083/ARTICLES?Title=Spartanburg-Democratic-Party-Chairman-Ron-Romine-mourned-by-friends-in-both-parties)

Ronald H. Romine, friend to so many throughout the Upstate and South Carolina and former Spartanburg County Democratic Party Chair, passed June 4, 2016 at Spartanburg Restorative Care. Ron had been experiencing poor health recently and was recuperating from heart surgery, but was continuing to serve his beloved community as 2nd Vice-chair.

Originally, from Rogersville, Ala., Romine was a Vietnam veteran and served a two-year tour of duty in the Army. He remained in the Army Reserve until he retired in 1990.

He taught American government and constitutional law at the University of South Carolina Upstate from 1975 until his retirement in 2007 and served as the chairman of the Spartanburg County Democratic Party.

Former U.S. Rep. Liz Patterson said she first met Romine when they worked on former Gov. Richard Riley's first campaign for governor.

When Patterson launched her congressional campaign, Romine was a big part of that. “I know I would not have won my first congressional campaign without him,” Patterson said.

Follow Fedalei

Chris Fedalei, candidate for the 4th Congressional Campaign Events for Late June and July 2016

Wednesday, June 29 | 5:00pm – 8:00pm

- Meet and Greet
Spartanburg Growler Haus
113 N Church Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306

Saturday, July 2 | Gates open at 5:00; Concert at 8:00pm

- Patriotic Pops at the Independence Day Celebration
Heritage Park Amphitheater
861 SE Main Street
Simpsonville, SC 29681

Sunday July 3 | Game starts at 6:00pm

- Military Appreciation Day at The Greenville Drive:
Greenville Drive Stadium
945 S Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601

Wednesday, July 20 | 6:00 – 8:00pm

- Meet and Greet
Hub City Tap House: Home of Ciclops Cyderi & Brewery:
197 E St John Street
Spartanburg, SC 29306

All Public Events are Available at:
<http://www.votefedalei.com/Events>
or

Check them out on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/votefedalei/>

Report from South Carolina Democratic Party Executive Council and Executive Committee Meetings

May 26, 2016

The Executive Council and Executive Committee of the state party met on May 26. Several upcoming dates were announced and are discussed in more detail below:

Deadline for Clyburn Fellowship Applications June 30

Jefferson-Jackson Dinner (Columbia) September 30

John Spratt Issues Conference (Columbia) October 1

Opportunities for joining committees for 2016 Convention Lessons Learned and 2018 Candidate Recruitment, as well as the newly formed Disability Caucus were announced.

Ingrid Erwin, Fourth District female representative, attended the Executive Council meeting. Chairman Jaime Harrison discussed the recent state party convention. Over 1,000 delegates attended, as compared with 400-500 delegates to the recent Republican convention. Jaime met with Matt Moore, his counterpart with the South Carolina Republican Party, to discuss possible improvements to the convention process. The Republican Party Congressional delegates to the National Convention are chosen in advance of the convention. Additionally, the Republicans prepare and agree on resolutions at a different time.

Jaime acknowledged that the day was extremely long. Several factors contributed to the length of the day, including: (1) the election of a new DNC committee person; (2) debate on a number of resolutions; (3) long lines at lunch; and (4) the scanning process for delegate voting. Jaime

expressed the opinion that box lunches would shorten the lunch recess. Council members suggested asking a convention committee of interested Democrats to help the state party staff (because of turnover, many of the staff have not worked a convention) with convention logistics. They also suggested that the Party gather Lessons Learned from this convention to use in planning future conventions. Jaime encouraged that anyone with thoughts on how to run the convention more efficiently provide input to Executive Director Christale Spain.

Both Greenville County Executive Committee members, Chris Shipman and Ingrid Erwin, attended the Executive Committee meeting. Chairman Harrison introduced and welcomed new Executive Director Christale Spain. Ms. Spain is returning to the party from an assignment for the Bernie Sanders campaign; she was a finalist for the position when Jason Perkey was chosen.

Chairman Harrison outlined party activities for the past several months. Moving forward, he wants to begin recruiting strong candidates for the 2018 elections. He believes the 2018 gubernatorial election, when a new governor will be elected, will be very important in South Carolina. He would like to name a candidate recruitment committee to begin work this fall. He asked that anyone interested in serving let Christale Spain know.

Chairman Harrison also noted that he would like input from Committee members on the issues to be discussed at the Committee meet-



Ingrid Erwin
State Executive Committee Delegate

ings. He would like to hear reports from the Congressional districts. A proposal to establish a Disability Caucus was presented by Anthony Thompson, a member of this year's Clyburn Fellow class. Committee members voted unanimously in favor of launching this caucus.

The group broke into smaller groups by Congressional district to elect Executive Council members for the next two years. From the Fourth District, Jonathan Metcalf (Spartanburg County) and Ingrid Erwin were reelected. Chris Shipman was elected as Fourth District representative to the State Board of Municipal Canvassers, which becomes involved in the event of disputes over partisan local elections in the Fourth District.

Chairman Harrison noted that applications for Clyburn Fellowships for the next class are now open, with a deadline of June 30. He would like to have all 46 counties represented this year. There are 50 slots; if there is more than one applicant per county, he will enlist the help of the Executive Committee members and the County Party Chair in selecting the participant. He noted that the age limit (45) had been removed from the requirements for participation.

The Jefferson-Jackson Dinner will be held in conjunction with the John

*Continued on page 8, See **Executive***

Spratt Issues Conference this fall. The dates are **September 30 - October 1**. The events will be held at the Columbia Convention Center. This is a home football weekend for USC, so participants need to make reservations soon. The party staff is finalizing details on hotels which will offer special pricing; this information will be available on the party website. The 2017 Issues Conference will be held in Beaufort; no further details are available.

An updated VoteBuilder Agreement (with new Price List) was distributed. This is the Democratic Party data base of names, addresses, and telephone numbers for likely Democratic voters. The DNC has worked to incorporate data gathered during the 2014 elections.

Chairman Harrison invited party candidates for Congressional seats to speak briefly. Dimitri Cherny (1st District), Arik Bjorn (2nd District), Hosea Cleveland (3rd District), Chris Fedalei (4th District), Fran Person (5th District), and Mal Hyman (7th District) spoke to the committee members. Chris Fedalei noted that he wants to hold Trey Gowdy accountable for the embarrassment that his sideshow of Benghazi hearings has caused.

Fedalei wants to restore service back into public office. Pastor Thomas Dixon, who is challenging Senator Tim Scott, had a prior commitment and was unable to attend.

The Aiken County Party presented a proposed resolution that was designed to discourage so called “fake Democrats” from running for office. Although he has admitted that he is a “Democrat on Paper” only, Phil Black has announced that he is running against Arik Bjorn for the 2nd Congressional District seat. Mr. Black has run as a Republican in 2008, 2010, and 2012. In 2014, he ran as a Democrat and defeated another Democratic candidate in the primary but then failed to run a general election campaign. While the Party does not generally endorse one Democratic candidate over another at the primary stage, the Aiken County Democrats argued that this situation was unique and warranted the party’s endorsement of Mr. Bjorn. Some committee members expressed concern that such an endorsement could be used as an argument to support future requests for endorsements when the issues are not so clear cut. After spirited debate, the resolution passed. Chairman Harrison noted that the party needs to be aggressive in dealing with Republicans who are

attempting to run as Democrats.

Chairman Harrison, Party First Vice Chair Kaye Koonce, and Executive Director Christale Spain went to Philadelphia recently to observe the arrangements for the South Carolina Delegation to the National Convention. Delegates will need to arrive on Sunday, July 24; all credentials for the week will be distributed that night. The South Carolina Delegation will be staying at the Doubletree Hotel, where there is a five night minimum and a minimum room charge of approximately \$400 per night. At present, there is a waiting list for volunteers.

Fred Sheheen, Executive Committee representative from Kershaw County, encouraged the attendees to work hard on candidate recruitment. He suggested that the South Carolina Party examine how other states handle candidate recruitment, and noted that a recruitment seminar at the Issues Conference could be useful. He asked that the Executive Committee put together a plan for concrete action that would involve everyone. Jaime Harrison noted that he is waiting to hear from the DNC whether there will be a coordinated campaign and said that he had communicated to the national party that a Democratic Southern Strategy is needed.

We’re with



the Democratic Party
presumptive nominee

The Bray is published by the Greenville County Democratic Party, 1300-J Washington St., Greenville, SC 29607/232-5531, Kate Franch, chair; Roxanne Cordonier, editor; Linda F. Neely, formatting & printing; Ann Funderburk, 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.