

GERMANTOWN DEMOCRATIC CLUB

GERMANTOWN, CORDOVA, COLLIERVILLE, BARTLETT, EAST MEMPHIS, LAKELAND, MILLINGTON, ROSEMARK, BOLTON SINCE 1993

www.gdctn.org APRIL 2023

<u>President:</u> Dave Cambron davidpcambron@gmail.com

Vice Presidents:

Judy Palmer, Barbara Williams

Secretary: Rose Ann Bradley

Treasurer: Dick Klenz

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Newsletter: Diane Cambron

Memberships:

Individual: \$25/year Family: \$35/year

Send checks to Dick Klenz, Treasurer, 2041 Whispering Pines Dr, Germantown, TN 38139.

"This is the democracy that's going to lift up the victims of gun violence instead of supporting the NRA and the gun lobbyists. This is the democracy that they're scared of... Because this is the democracy that changes the status quo."

-State Rep Justin Pearson (D-86) upon reinstatement to TN State legislature.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR MEETINGS ARE HELD AT COLETTA'S RESTAURANT 2850 Appling Rd, Bartlett

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023, 6:30 PM PROTECT OUR AQUIFER

Our guest speaker will be Sarah Houston, Executive Director of Protect Our Aquifer. POA is a citizen advocacy non-profit organization.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023, 6:30 PM STATE HOUSE LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

A member of the Shelby County House Democratic Caucus will speak to us on the 2023 Legislative session.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28, 2023, 6:30 PM TO BE ANNOUNCED

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023, 6:30 PM SHELBY COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY STEVE MULROY

Has graciously accepted our invitation to come speak on his first year in office and other topics of interest.

Our meetings start at 6:30 pm, but if you wish to dine before the meeting, please make sure to arrive and get your orders in before 6:00 pm to cut down on the traffic during the speakers' presentations. Thanks!

NEW SCDP CHAIR ELECTED

Congratulations to the newly elected chairperson of the Shelby County Democratic Party, Lexie Carter. We wish her all the best in her efforts to unify and lead the local party forward.

MEMBERSHIP INFO NEEDED

Germantown Dems are slowly working on a project that has been a long time coming – trying to unify our member database. For years we have had a separate mailing list and an email list. We would like to get as many people on our email list as possible, so that in the case of a last-minute change of schedule we could reach out to as many members as possible. In comparing the two lists, we have discovered that many of the folks who receive our newsletters by mail are not on our email list. If you are one of those people, please send an email to GtownDems@gdctn.org requesting to be added to our email list. Please include your name so that we can match you to our newsletter list. We do not send out a lot of emails, mainly meeting notices and pertinent information about upcoming elections, so you will not be receiving more than one or two emails a month from us. However, if you wish only to be informed of club news, please specify that with your request.

Diane Cambron

REDISTRICTING CHALLENGE

The lawsuit challenging the 2022 GOP led redistricting of the state legislative districts in Tennessee is moving forward. Hearings are scheduled for the week of April 17, stay tuned to the news for developments. This case has the potential to create more opportunities for Democrats running for the Tennessee House or Senate.

Here are some details of the case:

Davidson County Chancery Court – Wygant V. Lee, Case No. 22-0287-IV, challenges the constitutionality of the House and Senate maps enacted by Republicans in 2022.

The summary judgment order outlines the questions to be resolved at trial for both the Senate and House maps. The numbering of districts is being challenged as being in violation of the Tennessee State Constitution, as well as the splitting

up of counties into multiple districts, which is by ruling of the Tennessee Supreme Court to be held to a minimum, but demonstrably deviates from that standard.

Senate Democratic leadership issued a statement Friday on the trial: "Democracy depends on fair maps that keep our communities whole and reflect who we are as a state. Tennesseans deserve nothing less."

Related: State Democracy index, which rates gerrymandering and voting rights in states, ranked Tennessee as the most compromised democracy in the nation. [*Vox*, 4/7/23]

- From the TNDP press release dated 4/17/23, and condensed from the summary judgment

TRAINING WEBINAR FOR GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNING

If you are considering working on a campaign next year or perhaps running for office, the DNC in conjunction with the Best Practices Institute is offering a free six-week, twelve-part webinar, the 2023 T3 Training Program. The program seeks to expand the skills of progressive activists and volunteers by ensuring that comprehensive training is free and accessible for Democrats all over the country. If you are interested in signing up, please contact Dave Cambron at 901-830-3283. Registration deadline is Sunday, May 14, at 11:59 pm EDT.