

Clinton County Democratic Party Newsletter



January 2024

Democracy is not a spectator sport. It begins with you.
Tag, you're IT, Thom Hartmann



Monthly Message: It's Time for a Movement in Clinton County

By Tina Andrews. What is a movement you ask? In a **recent article** by Thom Hartmann that spoke about a movement versus a political party/campaign, he said a movement deals with identity and passion for an idea or cause. Think about both of President Obama's highly successful presidential campaigns. He created a movement that carried our country for the better for eight years. We also just celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 15. Oh, what a movement Dr. King created! Civil rights wouldn't be where they are today without him and those who dared to join him.

What are you passionate about? Clean water and air? A school board that doesn't focus on the manufactured crisis of the week, but instead creates a loving and nurturing learning environment for all students and their families? Your children being safe from gun violence?

President Biden recently said, "as we began this election year, we must be clear: democracy is on the ballot." Democrats are ready to take on all the challenges facing Clinton County as well as our state and our nation, but we can't do it without you! All of us need to get engaged and get involved in the fight of our lives this year. Democracy is not a spectator sport. Join us in this important and urgent work! Find some opportunities on our **Volunteer Page**.



Democrats Deliver!

By Melany Mack. Did you know that Democrats last controlled both chambers of the Michigan Legislature 40 years ago? In 1984, Democrats lost control of the Senate and did not regain control until the election in 2022. The Michigan House was last under Democratic control in 2010. The tables have turned, much to Michiganders' benefit. We now have both

what Ballotpedia calls a *trifecta*, when one party holds majorities in both houses of the legislature and the governor's office, and a *triplex*, when one party holds the positions of governor, attorney general, and secretary of state.

Democrats made the most of this important opportunity in 2023. Last January, Governor Whitmer and the Legislature picked up the reins of power and focused immediately on issues like restoring workers' rights, tax reforms (including phasing out the retirement tax enacted in 2015 by the Snyder Administration), gun safety, reproductive health, increased funding for schools, and expanding civil rights protections, to name just a few. Read *Michigan Advance's comprehensive guide* to what Governor Whitmer and the Democratic Legislature achieved for our state. You will quickly see that the adage is true: Democrats DO deliver!



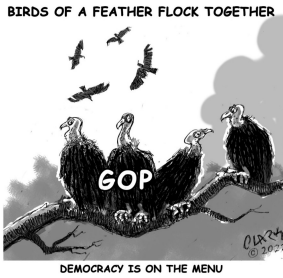
From the Blog - Local Government Needs You

Have you read **our blog posts** on CCDP's website? The latest is from Vice Chair Matthew Boak on the importance of getting involved in local government.

As Matthew writes, "Your government and your community need you and people like you to step up and be involved, whether it's county, city, or township elected offices, or appointed positions to boards and commissions...Find some way—any way—to get involved in your local government. There are a lot more opportunities than you think."

Remembering Fred Clark

We are sad to share that Fred Clark, a valued CCDP member, passed away on November 30. If you didn't

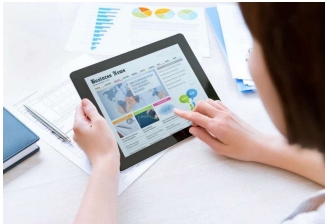


know Fred personally, you may recall his on-point **political cartoons** which have a featured spot on the CCDP website. We will miss his friendship, talent, and humor. May his memory be a blessing.



Join Us February 1 in St. Johns

CCDP's next meeting will take place on February 1 at the County Courthouse in St. Johns, with social time at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Find all of our meeting dates on **our Events Page**.



New Year, New Newsletter

We hope you enjoyed the new newsletter format. To help you stay on top of the latest developments and opportunities to get involved, watch your inbox for monthly newsletters from CCDP. If you have suggestions for future stories, **contact Ann McCulloch** on the Communications Committee. We'd love to hear from you!



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