

Clinton County Democratic Party Newsletter



October 23, 2024



Special Pre-Election Edition

By Kathie Elliott. Knowing how tough the final push to the election would be, the CCDP team decided to create a special edition to share some final thoughts, encouragement, and gratitude. We want to honor the range of emotions we are all experiencing in the final two weeks of the campaign and encourage you to take care of yourselves. If you need rest, give yourself that. If you wake up with lots of energy and fire in your belly, lean into that and sign up for a canvassing or phonebanking shift. Or, check in on other democracy warriors who may need some of your enthusiasm. We will carry one another over the finish line!

CCDP, thanks to all of you, has truly stepped up this election season. ***We have hope for our country because you have created hope in our county.*** Thank

you all for your time, energy and donations. Thank you for your courage to put out signs, to speak up, to try new things, to help us spread the word that Democrats Deliver. Thank you for the joyful and hopeful community we're creating. We believe in you and the hard work we're all doing.

As we approach the day we learn the outcome of our hard work, we ask you to be kind, courageous and faithful. Clinton County is turning Blue. If you didn't know it before, I hope there is no doubt in your mind now that you are NOT the only Democrat in Clinton County! We will not go back, we will stand our ground, we will press FORWARD!



We Need You in These Last Days! Help Create a Big Blue Wave on November 5!

By Melany Mack and Lauren Marshall. Election day is less than two weeks away, and it is shaping up to be a race to the wire, up and down the ballot. Election results will hinge on how many people vote. Large voter turnout numbers generally bode well for Democratic candidates, so we have a definite interest in helping ensure that eligible voters cast their ballots. Let's keep up our momentum!

Nationally, in the 2020 election, 81 million people voted for Joe Biden, 74 million voted for Donald Trump, and **77 million eligible voters did not vote at all**. Closer to home, in the 2020 general election there were 62,592 registered voters in Clinton County but only 48,208 voted. That's right—**14,384 fellow Clinton County residents who were eligible to vote in the election in 2020 did not vote**, creating an opportunity for YOU to make a big difference!

Beginning on October 25 and continuing through November 5, the Curtis Hertel Campaign will conduct a very vigorous Get Out The Vote (GOTV) drive. There will be opportunities for door knocking, phone banking, and poll greeting on election day. Door knocking will be easy and fun as canvassers will only go to the doors of Democrats to be sure they have a plan to vote. Lauren Marshall from the Hertel campaign will provide training for new people who will be paired with experienced canvassers when they set off to talk to voters. There will be light snacks and beverages at the kick-off location and lots of conviviality.

Given all that hangs in the balance in this election, the ugliness of many of the

political mailers or TV ads that we're exposed to, and the concerted effort to flood the airwaves with misinformation, it's easy to become discouraged and think that what we do won't make a difference. Think again! In the immortal words of Alice Walker, the most common way people give up their power is by thinking they don't have any. We do have the power to make a difference by helping increase voter participation!

Don't wake up on November 6 and wish you had done more. **Contact Lauren now** to be part of GOTV and help assure a great Democratic turnout!



Just How Much Have We Grown? We're Amazed and Grateful!

By Rob Mack. The 2024 election will be a watershed moment for our democracy. The significance of the election and charismatic candidates like Kamala Harris and Tim Walz are generating much excitement that has translated into increased CCDP membership, which has risen to 137 as of October 14, from 58 members last year!

We saw a similar spike in membership in 2008 with Barak Obama and smaller spikes in the following years. However, after the drama and excitement of the elections, interest and enthusiasm begins to wane and membership tends to drop off significantly. This is unfortunate because the work of sustained growth, election preparation, and difference making in the community never ends. Our goal is to inspire CCDP members to help identify and support strong Democratic candidates for local and state governmental offices and elect them in 2026 and beyond.

We will vigorously encourage current members after this momentous election to renew their membership and continue to recruit new members. Just look at what we've already accomplished. There is power in our growing numbers. **Join us** or renew your membership if you haven't already. Now is the time!



Remember to Vote the Whole Ballot!

Every race matters this year and we urge you to fill out your entire ballot so you have the chance to support our great Clinton County Commission candidates, regent and trustee candidates, and Michigan Supreme Court candidates. Candidates for local school boards are also on the back of your ballot, and these races are vitally important in our communities. Your vote in all of these races will help to ensure hard-working public servants who will lead with integrity will win the day!



Less Than Two Weeks to Make a Difference!

October 25 – November 5 GOTV Activities: In coordination with the Hertel for Congress campaign, we are starting to prepare for GOTV activities, which will officially begin on Friday, October 25, and will continue until election day. There will be canvasses to engage with voters in Clinton County and ensure that everyone has voting information and a plan to vote. Canvasses will kick off from DeWitt. **RSVP and learn more on Mobilize.**

October 25 - CCDP Office Hours - 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., 105 West Railroad Street, St. Johns.

October 26 - CCDP Office Hours - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 105 West Railroad Street, St. Johns.

October 27 CCDP Office Hours - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., 105 West Railroad Street, St. Johns.

October 31 – An Event So Good, It’s Scary: Join us to hand out candy on Clinton Ave, near our office, and enjoy this special St. Johns evening! We will have special office hours as well. Watch our social media for more details.

November 7 – CCDP Membership Meeting: The November membership meeting will take place at the DeWitt City Hall, 414 E. Main Street, DeWitt. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. **RSVP**

on Mobilize.



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