

Utah County Democrats

The monthly newsletter of the Utah County Democratic Party

September 2008

Countdown to the Election



Monday, October 6

Postmark deadline for submitting your Voter Registration Form by mail.

Mail to: Utah County Clerk, 100 E Center St, Provo, UT 84604-3103. After this date, registration must be completed in person at the County Elections Office: 100 E Center, Suite 3100, Center St, Provo. Last day to register in person is October 20.

This is also the last day to register to be eligible for early voting.

Wednesday, October 15

Deadline for Absentee Ballot Requests for overseas voters. Requests must be submitted to Utah County Clerks Office.

Monday, October 20

Last day to register to vote. After October 6, registration form must be submitted in person at Utah County Clerk's Office: 100 E Center St, Suite 3100, Provo.

October 21 – 31 (excluding weekends)

Early voting. For locations and times, see

www.utahcountydems.com/vote.

To be eligible for early voting, voter registration must have been completed by Monday, October 6.

October 24 – 28

Poll watcher training. Time and place to be announced. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Michelle Bevan at 801-362-9855 or michbevan@gmail.com.

October 29 – November 4

Get Out the Vote (GOTV) Campaign. All volunteers needed! Contact Kathy Cook at kathryn@utahcountydems.com.

Friday, October 31

Deadline for absentee ballot requests for voters inside the U.S.

Tuesday, November 4

ELECTION DAY

Poll watchers and workers: to your polls! GOTV volunteers: to your stations!

ELECTION NIGHT

Celebration Extravaganza! 8pm – midnight. Location to be announced.

**For more voting information,
please visit
<http://utahcountydems.com/vote>**

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed for the County Voter ID phone bank, now through the election. Please contact Libi Lendall at 801-787-3298 or libilendall@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed to watch polls on election day. Contact Michelle Bevan at 801-362-9855 or michbevan@gmail.com.

Volunteers are needed for the Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign from October 29 to November 4. Contact Kathy Cook at kathryn@utahcountydems.com.

Message from the Chair

Richard Davis



We're in the midst of the election season in Utah. Our candidates in Utah County are walking door to door, speaking at meet the candidate nights, posting lawn and yard signs (as well as billboards), addressing civic groups, and on an on. For the first time in a long time, you're seeing Democratic candidates across the county wage competitive battles for legislative seats.

The contact they make with voters is extremely important. Not only do we have well qualified, well respected candidates, but they're reaching out to voters in a way that Republicans never do. They're talking to them one by one. One state senator who has run several successful campaigns in predominantly Republican districts told me

Continued next page.

Message from the Chair

that ‘the difference will be made AT THE DOOR.’

Our candidates are connecting with Democrats, unaffiliateds, and even Republicans. A Republican friend of mine, who is very close to Mike Leavitt and Norm Bangerter said in an email that he ‘was floored by the quality of the candidates recruited.’ He called our candidates ‘the best slate in over 30 years.’ He also lamented the extremism of the Utah Republican party. He noted: ‘Sadly, the Utah GOP simply has no center left. You know you have left planet Earth when so many Republican delegates think Hatch and Bennett are leftists.’

We are the mainstream party in Utah County. We represent the values of Utah County voters. We’re pro-public education. We’re real fiscal conservatives. We believe government needs to regulate business to avoid the kind of economic melt-down the Bush administration has helped cause. We want a humane and just immigration system. We value the sanctity of life and marriage. We want transportation options that improve our quality of life and our environment.

Voters are getting that message. Our research indicates that our candidates are very competitive. We have a real good chance in several of these races and a good chance in others. We’re running serious races where voters have real options.

Yet, I worry. I’m going to be blunt. I see two problems. One is there are still many Democrats who don’t realize what has happened and have not become involved. If you are reading this and are not actively assisting a candidate or the party, please get out there and help.

If you’re not sure who to work for or what you can do, let me suggest some simple things:

1. *Put out a lawn sign for your legislative candidate.* Candidates have lawn signs now and you should get one. Understandably, many Democrats want an Obama sign. But a sign for your legislative candidate might make a difference in the election. An Obama sign won’t. Obama isn’t going to win Utah County or Utah. But your legislative candidate can win and you can help elect a Democrat locally.
2. *Talk to your neighbors about your legislative candidate.* Help create a buzz. Republicans do this all the time. Democrats can, too.
3. *Volunteer to walk with your legislative candidate.* Give them some help in your neighborhood.
4. *Volunteer to help get out the vote near election day.*
5. *Volunteer to be a poll watcher on election day.*
6. *Write a letter to the editor or post comments on news media sites after news stories.* Use this opportunity to praise our candidates and talk about how the party reflects the values of Utah County voters.

The other problem is straight party voting. Talk to your friends and neighbors and encourage them to think about the candidates. The First Presidency of the LDS Church has put out a statement urging voters to be careful and thoughtful about the candidates they vote for. Remind your friends and neighbors about that counsel. The Church isn’t urging mindless straight party voting. In fact, they are encouraging the opposite.

We’re living in (and creating) great times for Democrats in Utah County. Help make a difference this year.

Demos at Festival LatinoAmericano

Lynn Sorenson

Utah Country Democrats had a strong presence at the Labor-Day Weekend Festival LatinoAmericano. First, the County Party hosted a booth with the County Party Platform available in Spanish (and English). Maps were available to help people know

their precincts, districts, officials, etc. The Party booth registered a couple dozen people to vote and made friends for the County Party. Gloria Ruiz recruited volunteers for the booth, and Lynn Sorenson did set-up and take-down.

Other volunteers included Alex Green, Darren Hawkins, Gene and Lori Bradford, Renate Forste, Gordon Rees, Bruce and Margaret Young, Wilford Robers, Chet Bohrer, Clay Westover, Chandler Hatch, Tim

September 23, 2008



Dear Friends,

Long ago, pioneers came to a remote part of Mexico seeking freedom and opportunity. The country changed forever. It grew prosperous and earned its place in the United States. That place was Utah, and it’s our home.

Now, Jason Chaffetz wants to round up immigrant families and put them in tent cities surrounded by barbed wire—just for seeking the blessings we enjoy.

Intolerance is not a Utah value. I will fight to secure our borders without violating the principles we hold dear. I believe there is a solution.

Four points on illegal immigration that I will take to Congress:

1. Stop illegal immigrants at the border by properly funding security measures. America has a right to control its borders. In a post 9/11 world we must know who is entering our country.
2. Crack down on employers who hire undocumented workers.
3. Bring undocumented immigrants out of the shadows and put those who are in good standing on a pathway to citizenship so that they can contribute to society by paying their fair share of taxes.
4. Work with nations, like Mexico, to find a solution that will stem the flow of illegal immigrants on both sides of the border.

I need your help to make this a reality. Please go to my campaign website, www.bennionspencerforcongress.com and make a contribution to my campaign.

All the best,
Bennion Spencer

Heaton, Jeff Cold, and Tim and Fe Brownrigg.

In addition, legislative candidates Deon Turley and Boyd Petersen shared a booth and did some strenuous (friendly!) campaigning, as did Radene Hatfield and her volunteers in a “Hatfield booth.”

This annual Festival draws thousands of Utahns (Latino and Anglo); the Party is “investing” now and for the future.



Candidates Spotlight

Claralyn Hill

House District 62



Claralyn Hill has over 21 years of experience helping families in Utah County with estate planning, child protection, financial preparation, and other legal issues. She currently practices law in the areas of estate planning, adoptions,

guardianship and probate. She has an MS Degree in counseling psychology, a law degree from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, and is a trained mediator.

She co-authored the Bogert, Oaks, Hansen and Hill legal text, *Cases and Materials on the Law of Trusts, 6th ed.* and has taught Trust Law at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. She has taught Family Law in the Marriage, Family and Human Development School at BYU and frequently teaches estate planning at conferences, personal finance classes, and in the community.

She has emphasized financial responsibility and estate planning at BYU Education Week and Women's Conferences. She does board trainings on the role and duties of nonprofit directors. She worked at the Utah State Court of Appeals, researching, applying and interpreting laws to individual cases.

Claralyn has considerable experience representing children as a guardian ad litem (attorney for children), helped found the Welcome Baby program in Utah County and was founding president of Women Lawyers of Utah County. Mrs. Hill has served on a variety of nonprofit boards in the community, including United Way of Utah County (Executive Committee; Founding Chair, Professional Advisors Committee; and Founding Co-Chair, Resource Development Committee), Utah Community Credit Union (Board Chair 2000-2002), Provo School Foundation Board, Utah County Friends of the Children's Justice Center, and the Utah-Ouelessebougou Alliance. She has served as the President of the Utah Valley Estate Planning Council, as President of the Central Utah Chapter of Results (a nonpartisan citizen group that lobbies for governmental resources to be

directed to programs that emphasize self-sufficiency and best practices to reduce the effects of poverty worldwide), and is a member of the Concord Coalition (a nonpartisan citizen lobby encouraging fiscal responsibility). Recently, she was the Founding President of Women in Philanthropy of Utah County. She also served on the board of directors of Matrix Lifeline, an Indiana pro-life pregnancy counseling service, and as a volunteer for LDS Social Services.

Recent volunteer assignments in her church include Stake Relief Society Presidency, Institute Teacher, and Nursery Teacher. She is married to Ned C. Hill, the former Dean of the Marriott School of Management at BYU. They have five grown children and 15 grandchildren, her fondest delight.

Boyd McAfee

House District 60



Boyd McAfee, a veteran educator and long time resident of Orem, announced his candidacy for House District 60 on February 11, 2008.

Boyd believes his many years working with youth in public education helps him understand the top issue facing the state. "I will bring real life experience to the table when matters of education are discussed on Capitol Hill."

Boyd says it is "time for legislators to start listening to the people." He promises that he would listen to the views of his constituents more than the incumbent has.

Currently the administrator of Clear Creek, Alpine School District's outdoor education program, Boyd has served 30 years as a schoolteacher in the Alpine School District.

He is also well versed in finance. He has been involved in property management in three counties over the past 35 years and has served in various positions with local financial institutions for 29 years, including Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Boyd also has served for over 30 years as a registered Scouter, including 11 years as a

scoutmaster. He received the Silver Beaver Award for his lengthy Scouting service.

Mary Lou Huffmon

House District 57



Mary Lou Huffmon is originally from Detroit, Michigan. While growing up she was greatly influenced by the strong work ethic of her mother, who worked hard, never complained, and always remained cheerful. Mary

Lou took this great work ethic and used it throughout her life while raising her own children, working as a middle school teacher for 29 years, and in her community involvement.

Before moving to Utah in 1995 to be near her daughter and grandchildren, Mary Lou lived in New Jersey, Maryland, Jerusalem, and Oxford, England.

She greatly enjoys living in Utah Valley, both for the spectacular mountains and the wonderful friends and neighbors she has met as she has volunteered at the Springville Art Museum and as a trustee of the Pleasant Grove Library Board. Mary Lou is a longtime active member of the League of Women Voters, as well as the Utah State Women's Legislative Council. She has also volunteered as an election judge, in voter registration drives, and helped in other campaigns.

Her involvement in the community has been extensive, including Trustee and former chair of the Pleasant Grove Library Board, active member of the League of Women Voters (state and county), co-editor of the Juvenile Justice Report project, former Chair of the Utah County Democratic Women, Utah State Women's Legislative Council, Utah County Birders, and a former Springville Museum volunteer.

Mary Lou holds a BA in Liberal Arts and English Literature from Wayne State University, as well as an MA in Reading Specialist and Supervision and Administration, Kane college.

COUNTY-PLATFORM CORNER

ENERGY AND
NUCLEAR WASTE

As Utah County Democrats we believe in wisely using the abundant energy resources of our state while carefully preserving our environment.

We support initiatives to decrease our dependence on foreign oil, such as mass transit, conservation, and alternative energy sources.

We decry attempts to import radioactive waste from nuclear facilities outside of Utah for storage, particularly at sites within minutes of population centers.

We call for measures to ensure that our county and our state never become a dumping ground nor a transit point for the nuclear waste of the nation.

The entire platform of the Utah County Democratic Party is available online at <http://utahcountydems.com>.

A Memorable Evening with Kurt Bestor

Those in attendance at the Kurt Bestor benefit concert for Utah County Democratic candidates on Friday, August 23, were treated to a beautiful selection of moving compositions reflecting Bestor's deepest feelings for family—his parents, his children, his extended family, and the whole family of mankind.



Bestor is an Emmy-award winning composer whose works have been featured in more than 30 film scores and more than 40 themes for national TV programs and commercials. His music has introduced Good Morning America, NFL Monday Night Football, and ABC's Sunday Night Movie. He was awarded an Emmy for his collaboration with Sam Cardon on the original music for ABC's coverage of the 1988 Winter Olympics.

At the concert, performed in the intimate Centre Stage theater at UVU to an audience of about 130, Bestor shared stories about how he acquired his passion for music. He told how his mother inspired him with a love for composition at a young age by asking him to play for her "what a sunrise sounds like."

The experience gave him an immediate fascination with the ability to describe visual imagery through music, and an outlet through which he could express himself.

He performed several numbers inspired by his love for nature, including "Fishing the Sky," "New England Air," and "Fire on Ice." He also played some pieces in tribute to his family, including one celebrating the life of his grandmother, and another dedicated to his

father, who, with his mother, was in attendance at the concert.

Bestor explained that his concern for the well-being of families has grown beyond his own family to encompass the entire family of the human race, especially children. His feelings for the children of war-torn Yugoslavia inspired his famous "Prayer of the Children," which he also performed at the concert.

Bestor plays an active role in several organizations for children, including Primary Children's Medical Center, Children's Miracle Network, and the Make a Wish Foundation. He is a National Advisor for ASCEND, A Humanitarian Alliance, which provides sustainable development programs for children living in poverty in Africa and Latin America. Bestor interacted with children in the audience and delighted them with a medley of popular patriotic tunes.

Bestor, who served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, encouraged those in attendance to take an active role in the community and in the political process. He commended the candidates running from Utah County for their outstanding qualifications and their courage to stand for policies that will ensure a bright future for generations to come.

Ad Campaign to Appear in Daily Herald

Over the coming weeks until the election, the Utah County Democratic Party will be printing a series of issues-based advertisements in the *Daily Herald* newspaper. The goal of the messages is to help voters recognize that, in fact, the Utah County Democratic Party best represents their interests and values.

Look for the advertisements in the Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday papers.



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