



The Anderson County Democrat

The Official Voice of the Anderson County Tennessee Democratic Party Jan 2017 Issue 34

Organization Fair on January 21st

Upcoming Events

Party Meeting on January 26th

Date: January 26th, 2017

Time: 6 PM

Location: Clinton Community Center.

101 Hicks Street

Anderson County Democratic Woman meeting on January 23rd

(See press release below)

Anderson County Democratic Party reorganization convention.

March 25th, 12 Noon, Social Hall, Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church.

Come join us as we elect new officers to the party!

Emerge Tennessee Board Member to Speak at Jan. 23 ACDWC Meeting

Cortney Piper, a board member of a new statewide organization training Democratic women to run for office, will be guest speaker at the Monday, Jan. 23, meeting of the Anderson County Democratic Women's Club. The club will have a dinner meeting at 6 p.m. at Swifty's Atomic Bar and Grill, 119 S. Illinois Ave., Oak Ridge.

Piper, president of Piper Communications in Knoxville, is a board member of *Emerge Tennessee*, founded in 2016 as the premier campaign training program for Democratic women in the state. The program is designed to inspire women to run for office and to hone their skills to win, aiming to increase the number of Democratic women in all levels of public office. *Emerge Tennessee* is an affiliate of *Emerge America*, a national organization operating in 17 states.

Since 2002, the *Emerge* network has trained more than 2,000 women to run for office at all levels of government. More than 50 percent of those women have run or been appointed, and 70 percent of those have won their races.

In the 220 years since statehood, Tennessee has sent only two Democratic women to the U.S. House of Representatives, and a

OAK RIDGE, JANUARY 21, 1-4 PM

STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE



WOMEN'S MARCH

- ON WASHINGTON -

OAK RIDGE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH, 809 OAK RIDGE TURNPIKE

MEET WITH COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS AND CONNECT WITH LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE GROUPS

WATCH STREAMING VIDEO FROM THE WOMEN'S MARCH

Hosted by the Anderson County Democratic Party

Save the Date!

ACDP is working hard to connect people and empower them to take action. More than 20 groups will participate in this ACDP event. It is crucial right now for us to stand together and speak out together in the defense of rights and values we hold dear and the hard-won progress we've achieved. **JOIN US! Like and share on [Facebook please!](#)**

woman has never served as governor or as a U.S. Senator, according to the *Emerge Tennessee* web site, <http://www.emergeamerica.org/content/emergetennessee>. Only two Democratic women serve in the state's 33-member Senate, and only seven as representatives in the 99-member House.

No reservations are necessary for the meeting. Those attending may order dinner from the menu. For more information, please email Ann Mostoller at amostoller@msw-law.com or call Mary Matheny at 483-8937.

Past issues can be found at:
www.andersoncountydemocrat.com

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Anderson County Democratic Party: Respect...Inclusion...Equality

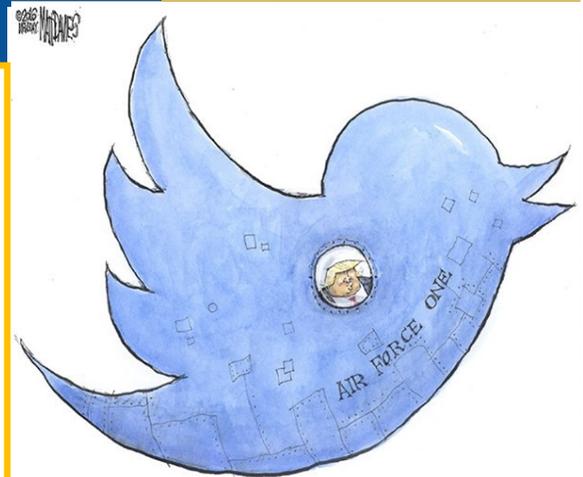
The Storm Before the Apocalypse. By Pat Fain

In just 5 more days we will be boycotting any TV station that carries the inauguration. The following day hundreds of thousands of citizens will hold Solidarity events in their communities supporting the Women's March on Washington by rallying against a newly installed racist, misogynist, narcissist who won the title President despite losing the vote by nearly 3 million ballots cast.

We live in a democratic republic and most of us place very high value on things like the rule of law and keeping your word. The Constitution sets out the exact process for electing a president. Americans value the Constitution above all other secular writings. So it is written: so it shall be. This same Constitution requires certain things of every citizen. We are expected to peacefully lay aside our differences and to acquiesce to being governed by someone for whom we did not vote if our candidate loses. Conversely the winner is expected to work in the best interests of all of the people, not just a privileged few. This is the social and political compact designed by the founding fathers (and definitely mothers). When, at the end of the Continental Congress, someone asked Ben Franklin what sort of government had been designed, he responded, "A republic if you can keep it." On January 20, 2017 the most basic beliefs of the country will be sorely tested.

A man who lost by nearly 3 million votes will take the oath of office. The man who won is widely seen as deficient in manner, speech, intellect, character and moral and ethical behavior. It remains to be demonstrated if the judgment of the majority of the voters will be borne out. In the meantime, those of us who are pledged to peaceful transition will be working very hard to change the Congress and Senate in 2018 and the Presidency in 2020. Demographics are not on their side. However, if we do not do the ground-work starting today, we can be beaten again.

The Democrats in Anderson County are launching our campaign to take back American honor and promise to the people. We will be reaching out to every person who voted in the last Democratic primary. We will be asking each of you to give us names of people who did not vote. We intend to talk directly to each of you and to welcome you into the Democratic Party. We will have committees and officers working diligently toward a change in leadership at every level. Our reorganizing meeting will be Saturday March 25th. We will be electing new officers and signing up people who want to work on committees at that time. Mark your calendar and watch upcoming details. If we do not stand in solidarity with other Democrats, we cannot prevail against those who are, even now, flaunting their intent to scorch the earth. We have now had ample evidence that failure to vote for the Party's candidate condemns us all to the coming disaster. Together we can change the future.



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"THE U.S. NEEDS A SECRETARY OF STATE WHO CAN PUT THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION **ABOVE ANY OTHER LOYALTY.**"
MR. TILLERSON
DID NOT GIVE ME CONFIDENCE
IN HIS ABILITY TO FULLY DO THAT."

Sen. Tim Kaine



Keep your ear to the wall. By Scott Julius

Some people have a routine they like to keep. In my case, I take that to an extreme. I mean to a big extreme. Each evening, official party business aside (and even then I still go, just at a different time) I'm at the same coffee shop/bookstore. I HAVE to have my two hours each day there, to me it is sacred. It is at a point where I am not really a customer, but not really an employee either. I am however, a legend there and my routine is well known.

I have been going to this place every evening since just after I turned eighteen (I am thirty-five now). In that time I have met a huge variety of people of all walks of life. My political views I doubt are a secret there and I am happy to talk politics with many of the regulars or staff. Even when we do not quite agree, we have civil discussions. One regular who always votes Republican (I peg him center-right) voted for Hillary, a Democrat, for the first time in his life. He even left the Republican Party after this election (or as he put it, "the Republican Party left me") to become an Independent. While not a Democrat yet, I shall work on him, you never know.

A bigger surprise came a few weeks before Christmas. There was a lady who had been working there for about a month. I did not really know her well yet. Given I'm an introvert to the max and tend to only fully chat with people I know well, we had not really spoken much. She (I will call her Liz) knew of me. She had heard of me through the other staff who spoke of me to her. They warned her I do not open up easily to strangers so do not take it personally if I seem aloof. Liz made it a mission of hers she told me later to get me to talk with her. I would be a tough nut to crack for sure, but she was determined.

As I was leaving one cold night, she stopped me as I was just outside the door. She said "Excuse me, are you the person with the Obama and Hillary stickers on your car?". My car is deeply endowed with political stickers from our side of the aisle by the way. Not knowing her beyond the fact she works there, I was not sure where this was heading. I had not a clue what her political leanings were. So this could go two ways I figured. Either she is a Republican and wanted to express her dismay at my leanings, perhaps ask why I support those two...or she wanted to give me a thumbs up and say she loved them. I hesitated for a second, taken a little off guard by the question then told her that I am the owner of that car. Liz then replied "Awesome! I love those stickers and people!". With that comment she cracked the nut that I am quicker than most people do. My reply? "Keep knowing me. I am the secretary of the county Democratic Party". The look on her face was priceless.

In the month since that brief conversation, I have spoken with her

about our party, what we have done in the past, and what we plan to do in the future. Let's just say we will be seeing her and her husband at party events very soon.

The moral of this story is in the title of this article. Keep your ear to the wall. People all around you may be Democrats and support our cause, but not know we are here or how to get started. I was one of those people not so many years ago who first learned of the party's existence from a fellow liberal who once worked at the bookstore. I was joking about there being an Anderson County Democratic Party with this employee. Having just got back to Tennessee from getting my Bachelor's Degree in Maryland I was frustrated at being what I thought was one of the only Democrats around. "Yeah the Anderson County Democratic Party, all four members me, my dad, and sister being three of them" I sarcastically said. I was floored when she told me there really was such an organization. Why didn't she tell me about them sooner?

Many people around us may want to get involved but need to know we are here. Who knows what sort of amazing Democrats are right under our noses! Do you have a favorite place you frequent? A club or organization you belong to? Pay attention! Keep your ear to the wall, for the next active member of the party may be right in front of you.

Light Reading for the Political Junkie

1. It has long been a dream of Republicans to deny affordable healthcare to millions of Americans. [As this article points out](#), a repeal of the Affordable Care Act would be very expensive.
2. [Let's give it up for our Vice-President, Joe Biden!](#) He received the nations highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.
3. Donald Trump still has not resolved [his many conflicts of interests](#).
4. Want to share your health care story or how the Affordable Care Act has helped you? Go to [this official Democratic Party website](#) and do so.