



The Anderson County Democrat

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SPECIAL PARTY RE-ORGANIZATION ISSUE

Save the date: Party reorganization meeting on March 25th

Gearing up for 2018 By Pat Fain

I and several other Party activists attended a 2 ½ day training on effective techniques for changing the political landscape, put on by the Gamaliel Foundation out of Chicago this last weekend. Their claim to fame is that they are the ones that trained Obama to be a community organizer in his early days as a political activist. The training was intense, tiring and rigorous.

The cardinal rule of effecting change is that the pain of not changing has to exceed the pain of changing. It is now well documented that the pain inflicted on us has become intolerable and that they will give no quarter, voluntarily or easily. The training caused squirming, discomfort, resistance and excitement in the building of new skills. We ended with the resolution to do what it takes to recapture our values and free democracy from a would-be fascist dictator who denies the rule of law, the welfare of the people, and the human and civil rights guaranteed in the Constitution, and seemingly, the validity of both the Constitution and the authority of the courts.

Since the election of Trump many groups, big and small, have been formed to resist him and his unconstitutional misuse of the power of the president. The Tennessee Democratic Party has created a Rapid Response Team focused on the super-majority Republican-controlled government in Nashville. If you want to be on this team search TNDP, RAPID RESPONSE TEAM

At the federal level there are several groups focused on the Congress and the President. Moveon.org is holding Sunday evening training via phone. They are found at www.Moveon.org/readytoresist. I listened in Sunday evening and was very pleased with the presentations that lasted about an hour. Over 6000 people were on line and call-in questions were accepted. When you sign up, you will be called at 8pm every Sunday. Weekly actions will be recommended to you.

Indivisible.com is a new organization that appeared quickly following the election. It is an outgrowth of the dismay over the election and followed the publication of a 26 page guide to peaceful political change written by a group of progressive Congressional and Senate aides. The publication can be downloaded and is an excellent guide for winning your battles with elected officials. You can sign up for regular notifications needing action on their website. ACDP has become an affiliate of [Indivisible](http://Indivisible.com).

The Women's March also produced a spinoff featuring Huddles. The initial purpose is to take 10 actions in the first 100 days. The first step is to gather neighbors and friends to plan, define and transform energy into local and national action to win back the country. (womensmarch.com/100/action2).

These four places are each an excellent start. Gather together 5 or more of your like-minded friends, Huddle, read *Indivisible*, listen to Move on Sunday evenings, get your daily or weekly assignment, make and execute your plans. The Anderson County Democratic Party will be leading actions you can join also.

At the ACDP convention on March 25 we will be dividing into District groups and naming a District Chair and alternate. We will be setting up training for all District groups to assist you in building activist groups, district by district. Training will be provided by our members who have already received activist training. Our goal is to become the very best we can all be in our quest to save ourselves from the devastation that the trio or Trump, Pence and Ryan are determined to cause our democratic nation.

"Your voice can change the world"

Barack Obama



The struggle for the Voting Rights Act taught us that people who love this country can change it. Don't give away your power - go vote.

Barack Obama

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

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

Anderson County Democratic Convention by Pat Fain Pick up the phone and call! By Scott Julius

March 25th, 2017

The Biennial Convention of the Anderson County Democratic Party will convene at 10:30 am at the social hall of the Oak Ridge Unitarian Universalist Church on Saturday March 25 to elect officers.

Catherine Denenberg, party chair, will open the doors at 10:30 a.m. for registration and brunch to be followed at 11:30 by closing and locking the doors so that voting can begin. Membership is open to all registered voters in Anderson County that support Democratic values. Membership in the Anderson County Democratic Party shall not be denied because of race, color, sex, religion, age, disability or ethnic origin.

There will be an election of seven (7) officers by all the voting members present. Following this the body will divide into eight (8) districts, as defined by Anderson County Commission Districts, each electing its own chair. These fifteen individuals will comprise the Executive Committee for the next two years. There will also be the opportunity for all members to select standing or issues committees they would like to work on.

The Democratic Party of Anderson County will be actively standing **against** many of the President's initiatives and positions that we find to be dangerous, ill informed and subversive to democracy and the welfare of the people.

Party members will be able to form interest committees and to solicit members and to put forth agendas. We will be standing **FOR** Human Rights and Women's Rights and Civil Rights and Children's Rights and Veterans Rights and LGBT Rights and Immigrant Rights and Disability Rights and Health Care Rights. We will be supporting: Respect for the Rule of Law, respect for the Environment and Respect for Science and Respect for Public Education and Respect for the Right to a Fair Wage and to Protection for Consumers. Come and influence the future of America as we say NO to those who would destroy DEMOCRACY.

COME IF YOU TOO SHARE OUR VALUES.

Have phone will call Congressman. That should be a slogan to commit to memory. We need to be on the phone to our members of Congress to the point their phone lines ring off the hook. I was encouraged when I tried to call Senators Corker and Alexander's offices, but could not get through. That means we are making calls. Even if they do not vote the way we want them to, they need to know their constituents are not happy. Thus is born the Indivisible movement that will be using phone calling, among other methods, to make as much noise as possible. It will come to a point where even Republicans cannot ignore us. No doubt the massive amount of phone calls were a factor in two Republicans defecting to vote against Betsy DeVoss.

For the past several weeks, I have been overseeing a developing chapter of *Indivisible* in Anderson County. It is headed up by two enthusiastic young Democrats named Meghan and Tyler. They have both been doing a fantastic job getting this off the ground! In the next issue of *The Democrat*, they will be writing a special piece for us introducing themselves and Indivisible itself.

In the meantime, I am listing some important phone numbers to call our members of Congress. These include offices across the Volunteer State, so pass these numbers on to people in other parts of the state. You can find these numbers below. If you are in Knoxville, you can also stop by the Senator's offices in the Howard Baker Federal Building to hand deliver letters (due to extra security for postal letters I do not recommend mailing them) or speak with a staffer.

So what are we waiting for? Let's make those calls!

Senator Corker's Offices:

Chattanooga 423-756-2757	Memphis 901-683-1910
Nashville 615-279-8125	Tri-cities 423-753-2263
Jackson 731-664-2294	Knoxville 865-637-4180

Senator Alexander's Offices:

Chattanooga (423) 752-5337	Memphis (901) 544-4224
Jackson (731) 664-0289	Nashville (615) 736-5129
Knoxville (865) 545-4253	Tri-cities (423) 325-6240

Don't Forget:

U.S. Capitol switchboard: [202-224-3121](tel:202-224-3121)

We have been passed some important information from AKIN, Allies of Knoxville's Immigrant Neighbors. [Click this link](#) for a PDF of ways to get involved in upcoming events with them.

