

The Polk County Democrat

Meet the Candidates

Polk County Democratic Candidates You Need to Know!

Volume 1, Issue 2 September, 2008

This issue of the Polk County Democrat we feature biographies of Democratic candidates you may not know. These new Democrats are sure to make an impact this November!

Polk County Democratic Party
P.O. Box 5102
Des Moines, Iowa 50305

Sign Up Now!
Send an E-mail to:
polkdems@gmail.com

Matt Pfaltzgraf—Candidate for House District 70

Matt Pfaltzgraf is the Democratic Party nominee for House District 70 which covers all of Ankeny and Saylorville township. Matt's political career began in the Summer of 2002 when was the only high school student to be hired by Governor Vilsack for a Gubernatorial internship.



During the Summer of 2004, Matt worked for Congressman Boswell in Washington D.C., and was selected as a youth delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Boston, Mass. In 2007 Matt worked in the Consumer Protection Division of the Attorney General's in Des Moines, IA and investigated complaints against businesses and assisted in telemarketing schemes focused at defrauding Iowa's senior citizens. He also was the Government Relations Liaison for the University of Iowa student body and represented nearly 30,000 students at the state and federal governments.

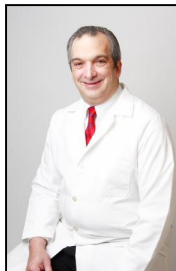
Matt led efforts to uncover the predatory marketing of credit cards to students that was taking place at the Regents University's in the state of Iowa and through his work he was asked to testify to the Joint Government Oversight Committee at the Iowa Capitol.

Matt has received numerous awards for his work including the Leader of Tomorrow certificate from the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce and his work on student debt has been profiled in several national publications.

Dr. Alan Koslow – A Progressive Realist

Is there a doctor in the Iowa House? Dr. Alan Koslow, a Vascular Surgeon and longtime community activist, is running for Iowa House District 60. He exclaims that there should be a doctor in the Iowa House to provide a much needed medical perspective if Iowa is to successfully reinvent health care for the 21st century. Koslow served on the Governor's Task Force for Early Childhood Care, earned national recognition for his advocacy of SCHIP insurance and stem cell research in the Iowa General Assembly and his initiating the Healthy Kids Legislation.

Unlike many politicians that talk in platitudes, Koslow is a straight talker and progressive realist. He has a real plan for the issues (including health insurance for all the uninsured) that would not increase the size of government. A few of his other issue concerns include, but are not limited to schools, the environment, education, and women's issues. Check out Dr. Koslow's website: www.koslowforiowashealth.com to learn about the issues and his plans to address them.



Polk County Democratic Party

Tom Henderson, **Chair**
Betty Brim-Hunter, **Vice Chair**
Stephan Hampton, **Treasurer**
Joseph Jones, **Secretary**
Tamyra Harrison, **Executive Director**

Polk County Democratic Party

Dave Stone, **Chair**
Max Knauer, **Secretary**
Mary Ann Ahrens
James Allen
Sean Courtney
Lucas Forte
Bridget McNerney
Carl Olsen
Sarah Rose
John Sachs
John Tenikat Sr.

NAME OUR NEWSLETTER CONTEST

The Polk County Democratic Communications Committee is seeking a name for our e-newsletter that goes out to all Polk County Democrats monthly.

Currently we are calling it the Polk County Democrat until we hear from you.

Get those "creative juices flowing" and share your ideas for a unique name.

Submissions for the name are due by September 26, 2008 .

You can either email them to drstone@mchsi.com or give us a call at 515-285-1800 with the title and your name, address, telephone and email. The winner will be recognized in the next E-newsletter.

The Committee reserves the right to make the final title decision.

The Polk County Democrat

Meet the Candidates

Polk County Democratic Candidates You Need to Know!

Nita Garvin—House District 63



Nita Garvin is running for State Representative for House District 63 (Urbandale in Polk County and unincorporated area between Johnston and Des Moines).

Garvin grew up in Des Moines and Urbandale. She was an editor in education publishing for 20 years. She returned to Iowa from Illinois in 2000. She has taught as a substitute in Urbandale and other of the suburbs surrounding Des Moines. Garvin is a writer; she enjoys writing articles and essays about national politics. She graduated from Urbandale High School, a B.A. from Drake University in sociology, with minors in psychology and education, and a M.A. from Loyola University of Chicago in criminal justice.

Garvin was a delegate to the Iowa Democratic conventions and a member of the Democratic Platform Committee in 2008. She has been a political activist for 39 years. During those years, she has supported the interests of those who don't have a strong voice in Washington, minorities of every stripe. Global warming and the conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitats have also been chief issues. Garvin is in favor of government-sponsored universal health care and government-negotiated discounts of pharmaceuticals, so that Iowa's seniors never have to choose between buying food or buying medicine.

"I'm excited about the prospect of putting my ideas into action. I'll be focusing on full-time jobs with good pay for Iowans, with the mission to stimulate Iowa's economy into the bargain. I'm convinced that the economy is *still* a key issue with Iowans; the rising cost of gasoline is causing the cost of all consumer goods to rise, as well. Some people are having difficulty making ends meet; others have been affected by the home building and mortgage lending crises."

John Scarpino—Candidate for Polk County Supervisor

Lt. John Scarpino of the Des Moines Police Department seeks to unseat incumbent Republican E.J. Giovannetti in the race for Polk County Supervisor.

Lt. Scarpino serves as assistant commander of the DMPD records division, and Democratic party activist. This is his first run for elected office.

Scarpino has served on the DMPD for over 32 years, and seeks to help make a difference in Polk County. Some of the issues Lt. John Scarpino seeks to address are the new county jail, and the failed referendum to remodel the Polk County court house.



Scarpino hopes to bring an "independent" Democrat to the seat, and better serve Polk County residents than the current incumbent.

In July, a fundraising reception was held for John Scarpino's campaign in Ankeny.

Sign Up Now!
Send an E-mail to:
polkdems@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

Polk County Central Committee Meetings

Sept. 11th, Oct. 9th, Nov. 13th
[Click Here for Info](#)

Secretary of State Michael Mauro's 60th Birthday Bash & Fundraiser

Save the Date!!!! Secretary of State Michael Mauro's 60th Birthday Bash & Fundraiser on September 25, 2008.
[Click for more info](#)

2008 Polk County Coordinated Campaign Lunches

Polk County Democratic Elected Officials Lunch/Coordinated Campaign meeting
Sept. 25th, Oct. 7th, Oct. 27th
[Click for more info](#)

Harkin Steak Fry

Sept. 14th

Latino Heritage Festival

Sept. 20-21st

Capitol City Pride Festival

Oct. 5th

DEMOCRATIC DIMES WORTH

Our newsletter will include a section entitled "Democratic Dimes Worth" similar to the Des Moines Register's *Your Two Cents Worth* which many people enjoy reading.

Send us your thoughts via email to: drstone@mchsi.com or by mail to:

Polk County Democratic Party
P.O. Box 5102
Des Moines, Iowa 50305

Or by phone at **515-285-1800**
Due date is the last Friday of every month. Let us know your thoughts and perspectives surrounding our political environment. Thoughts could include humor, wisdom, frustrations, praise, etc. We are counting on you to make this a success! Look forward to hearing from you!

The Committee reserves the right to make final content decisions.