



UPCOMING MAIN EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF)
Meeting - 5:30 p.m. – Dem HQ

Tuesday, July 16th

Pueblo County Democrats' Exec. Comm.
Meeting – Dem HQ – 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, August 8th

Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF)
Meeting - 5:30 p.m. – Dem HQ

Tuesday, Aug. 20th

Pueblo County Democrats' Exec. Comm.
Meeting – Dem HQ – 5:30 p.m

August 23rd – Sept. 2nd

Colorado State Fair

Saturday, Aug. 24th

Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce
State Fair Parade

10:00 a.m. – Downtown Pueblo (542-1704 for info)

Sunday, September 1st

10:00 a.m. Fiesta Parade - Bessemer
Fiesta Day at the State Fair

September – Party Picnic
(Date To Be Determined)

Thursday, Sep. 5th

Jac-X-Pres Monthly Meeting
11:30 a.m. – Pueblo Union Depot

Thursday, Sep. 12th

Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF)
Meeting - 5:30 p.m. – Dem HQ

Tuesday, Sep. 17th

Pueblo County Democrats' Exec. Comm.
Meeting – Dem HQ – 5:30 p.m

September 20th – 22nd

Pueblo Chile & Frijoles Festival

September 21st

Southern Colorado Labor Council's
Bob Scarlett Labor Leader Award Dinner
(see page 4 for info)

Friday, Sep. 27th

Party-sponsored Forum with

Colorado's 2020 Dem. U. S. Senate Candidates

CSU-Pueblo

(Details being worked on – Pueblo Dem. HQ 546-2745)



COLORADO
DEMOCRATS

STATE PARTY REORGANIZATION

The state Party's reorganization meeting was held on March 9th in Denver. Nine officers were elected: **Morgan Carroll**, re-elected as Chair; **Howard Chou**, 1st Vice-Chair; **Sandy Baca-Sandoval**, 2nd Vice-Chair; **Xochitl "Sochi" Gaytan**, Vice-Chair, Outreach; **Jeremy Van Hooser**, Vice-Chair, Outreach; **Sheila Canfield-Jones**, Vice-Chair, Rural Outreach; **Patricia Barela**, Vice-Chair, Communications; **Bob Seay**, Secretary; and **Susan Shepherd**, Treasurer. An email statement: "The Democratic Party is a big tent party, and we are so pleased to have the group of nine party officers who will help lead the way towards building on all the progress we made in 2018, and keeping Colorado a blue state in 2020." And, "These nine officers for the state Democratic Party will be tasked with working with our county and local parties to help register and turn out voters, and will be vital in our mission to defeat Donald Trump and Cory Gardner in 2020."

In May, **Halisi Vinson** was appointed as the Executive Director, replacing Pilar Chapa who moved on to a new opportunity.

Address and telephone number for the Colorado Democratic Party: 789 Sherman St., Suite 110, Denver, CO 80203; (303) 623-4762.

INFO ON UPCOMING MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS 60 and 70 BOARDS OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS

This odd-numbered year's election is referred to as the "Coordinated Election" and will be held on Tuesday, November 5th.

We'll be electing three City Council members: Districts 2 and 4, and one At-Large positions; one City Civil Service Commission member; and three Board of Water Works members.

Several people have announced their interest in these municipal positions. Dates to remember: August 6th is the first day a person can pick up a petition from the City Clerk, and August 26th is the last day to deliver it to her office. 100 valid signatures are required (petition limited to 200 signatures). The City Clerk has 5 days to determine sufficiency of the petition.

Several people have announced their interest in the school districts' Boards of Education positions: three District 60 positions, and two District 70 positions (Districts 1 and 2). August 7th is the first day a person may pick up a nomination petition from the respective Administration Office, and August 30th is the last day to file it.

PUEBLO DEMOCRATIC PARTY OFFICERS

Mary Beth Corsentino, Chair
Gary Thomas, 1st Vice-Chair
Kathy Javaneau, 2nd Vice-Chair
Mike Schuster, Treasurer
Breta Ross and Tory Marquesen, Co-Secretaries
Nick Hinrichsen, Communications Director



CHAIR'S CORNER

By Mary Beth Corsentino



As of today, there are 509 days until Election Day 2020. There are 7 months and 21 days until the Iowa Caucuses. Colorado's presidential primary is on Super Tuesday, March 3, 2020, and Caucus Day is Saturday, March 7, 2020. Once again, I cannot thank you enough for making the "Blue Wave" of 2018 a reality.

As we know so well, election results are the product of the work we put into them long before Election Day. We have to prepare, we have to build, and most of all, we have to raise money. It's exciting to see a large, diverse, talented field of candidates for President and the United States Senate here in Colorado. We simply cannot afford another four years of Donald Trump and another six years of Cory Gardner. We also need to keep in mind the 2019 municipal and board of education races as well. Even though these races are nonpartisan, they have a significance on our daily lives.

To quote Tom Perez, Chairperson of the Democratic National Committee:

"We must never forget what we are fighting for:

- Lifting wages, closing the wealth gap, and expanding Social Security
- Lowering health care costs, covering preexisting conditions, and protecting Medicare and Medicaid
- Combating climate change
- Passing common sense gun safety measures
- Guaranteeing civil rights for all
- Protecting and promoting every American's right to vote
- Investing in education and jobs programs
- Creating jobs and building America's infrastructure
- Guaranteeing liberty and equality for all

Throughout the Summer and Fall, your Pueblo Democrats will also have some fun. We hope many can join us as we participate in parades and festivals. Volunteers are always needed to staff booths such as the State Fair, Chile Festival, and PRIDE events. Our September picnic is always fun. The Party will host a series of smaller reasonably priced fundraisers. Please keep in mind our Act Blue button on our website. This is an easy way to contribute. As you know, Bingo Funds cannot be used to support political activities or candidates.

As always, it's an honor to serve as your Chair. I will continue to keep you posted.

STATE PARTY CHAIR'S CORNER

Morgan Carroll, Chair

Excerpts from the June 14, 2019 *Democratic Dispatch*

What does your State Party do?

When we talk to Democrats and unaffiliateds across the state, one question we often encounter is: *What does the State Democratic Party do?*

In a word: **alot.**

Our goal is to win every single competitive seat, and run trained candidates for every office. We aim to unite the party, mobilize volunteers, and empower voters.

Let's break down just a few things that your Colorado Democratic Party is doing every day to accomplish these goals:

- **Messaging:** One of the toughest things the Democratic Party encounters is explaining to voters what we stand for. To ensure voters know what the Democratic Party believes in and is fighting for, the CDP is using messaging from the Narrative Project, sharing it with our base, 64 counties, 65 house districts, and all Democratic candidates running. We have distilled this into a 1-page **We Believe** document.

Volunteer Recruitment: The CDP has doubled-down on forming the most active volunteer army our state has seen in a long time. Since 2017, we have recruited and trained over 5,300 active volunteers working on over 60 projects to get Democrats elected. **Want to volunteer? Sign up in our Talent Bank!**

- **Voter Registration:** The CDP has been registering voters at high schools, rallies, marches, fairs, and parades on themes likely to attract progressive voters (like Women's March, Pride, March for our Lives, Cesar Chavez, Juneteenth, etc). **We now have more registered Democrats than Republicans in Colorado.** Our volunteer recruitment efforts include voter registration training, and are able to do drives in English and Spanish.

- **Candidate Training:** The CDP has created candidate kits to train people to run for every level of office. This includes school board, municipal, state legislature, and Congressional.

- **Voter Protection:** The CDP headed up the legal voter protection effort for 2018 elections in Colorado, and will be doing so again in 2020. This is to ensure voters know their rights, when/where/how to vote, that elections are conducted properly by the 64 county clerks and the Secretary of the State.

People to People: The CDP has been running a statewide field, outreach, and voter empowerment effort since 2017, targeting 1.5 million Democratic and Unaffiliated households, with a deep canvass and a simple script: "If you could tell your candidates or elected officials anything, what would it be?" This information will be made available to all Democratic candidates post primary.



The newsletter can also be accessed on this website:

www.pueblodemocrats.com



“Best wishes to all Democrats”



10th Judicial District Attorney



STATE FAIR BOOTH

The Democratic Party will have a booth at the Colorado State Fair which runs from August 23rd through September 2nd. For information on volunteering to help staff the booth, contact Dem HQ at 546-2745 (if line is busy or no answer when you call, leave a message with your name, telephone number and date you called). Every effort will be made to accommodate volunteers' preferred date and time but there may need to be some readjustment after all the volunteers' information is received.

ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

The Party's annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner was held at the Pueblo Union Depot on March 16th. Over 300 people attended. Congratulations and thank-you to Second Vice-Chair **Kathy Javaneau** who chaired the Dinner Committee, and thank-you to committee members **Tory Marquesen, Gary Thomas, Breta Ross, Pam DiFatta, Carole Partin, Scott Ross, Diana Ortiz, Pearl Chavez, Mike Schuster, Tom Carrigan, Jason Munoz, Erick Javaneau, Mary Beth Corsentino, Gilbert Ortiz, Argerie Hoty, Elaine Baker, Sharon Stealey**, and to the other volunteers for their work in making the event a big success. **Governor Jared Polis** was the keynote speaker. **Jason Munoz** served as the Emcee; **Jaylen Sankey** sang the national anthem, **Reverend Livingstone Pogson**, Regional Pastor, Rocky Mountain District, Seventh-Day Adventist, gave the invocation. The silent auction was a big success – a **big thank-you** to all the donors.

SOUTHERN COLORADO LABOR COUNCIL'S BOB SCARLETT DINNER



The *Southern Colorado Labor Council's Bob Scarlett Labor Leader of the Year Award* dinner will be held on **September 21st** at 5:00 p.m. at the United Steelworkers' Hall, 1414 E. Evans. Reservations can be made by calling 719-561-3521, or by email: pameladifatta@gmail.com.

Congratulations to the following people who received the annual Democrat awards: **Jack McFadyen-Ray**, *Young Democrat of the Year*; **June Lipitz**, *Bingo Volunteer of the Year*; **Kathy and Erick Javaneau**, *Horizon Award*; **Gary Thomas**, *Democrat of the Year*; and **Kathy Bacino**, *Lifetime Achievement Award*. Write-ups on these recipients are included throughout this newsletter.

A *Special Recognition plaque* was presented to **Al Becco** (see page 5 for a related article). Also, farewells were presented to outgoing County Commissioner **Sal Pace** and former Party Officers **Al Becco, Breta Ross, Michelle Wiseman, Nick Voss, and Jason Munoz** for their service to the Party.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU to State Senator **Leroy Garcia** (SD-3 & President of the Senate), State Representatives **Daneya Esgar** (HD-46), **Bri Buentello** (HD-47), and **Donald Valdez** (HD-62) for their successful session at the Legislature. We appreciate the hard work they do on behalf of our communities. They need our continued support



JAC-X-PRES DEMOCRATIC CLUB

At its March 7th meeting, the following new officers and Board member were elected: **Mike Schuster**, Chair; **Norma Becco and Cindy Jones**, Co-Vice Chairs; **Tory Marquesen**, Secretary/Treasurer; **Mike Orazem** re-elected Board Member At-Large. **Kathy Bacino** is on the Board as Immediate Past Chair.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Pueblo Union Depot. Annual dues (January-December) are \$10. The meetings are a good time to socialize with fellow Democrats, have a good lunch, and listen to good speakers.

There will not be a meeting in July or August. Mayor **Nick Gradisar** is scheduled to be the speaker at the September 5th meeting.

For information on Jac-X-Pres' organization and activities, call Mike Schuster at his cell phone (303)-912-3330.

THE PUEBLO DEMOCRAT KICKER

Mike Orazem, Editor Geri Lane, Assistant Editor
Committee Members:

Pearl Chavez, Terry Hart, Paul Guerrero,
Pam DiFatta, Rosanna Padilla, Mildred Mattingly,
Cindy Jones, Al & Norma Becco,
Mary Beth Corsentino, Kathy & Erick Javaneau



KUDOS TO AL BECCO AND A "SHOUT-OUT" TO MIKE SCHUSTER

(Article from the *Steelworkers of America Retirees (SOAR)* Spring 2019 Issue)

SOAR Activist Receives Honorary Award

Pueblo, Colorado is a steelmaking town. It has been since 1881 when William Jackson Palmer founded the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company (CF&I). As one of the town's major employers, it seems like everyone in Pueblo knows someone that works at the plant, which is now operated by EVRAZ Steel. Having such a great impact on the local economy, it should come as no surprise that the United Steelworkers Union is a major player in Pueblo politics. USW volunteers are the backbone of the Pueblo County Democratic Party, knocking on doors and calling voters to remind them to support labor-endorsed candidates.

One of those volunteers is SOAR Executive Board member, Albert "Al" Becco. Becco is a CF&I retiree who was the longest serving President of USW Local 3267, which represents the office and technical workers at the mill. He retired in December 1986 and became an active member of SOAR; soon after to be elected president of SOAR Chapter 38-3.

In 1992, Oregon Steel purchased the mill. In 1997, Oregon decided to go to war against its workers. Steelworkers went on strike, and the company brought in scabs to keep the plant operating. The USW filed charges against the company, which were upheld by the NLRB. The strike was declared an unfair labor practice lockout, and the Steelworkers launched a corporate campaign to force Oregon Steel back to the bargaining table. SOAR played a key support role in the action, which was eventually successful in ending the seven-year labor dispute, and is the longest in USW history.

In addition to working with his locked out brothers and sisters at Oregon Steel, Al branched out and became active in the county Democratic Party. His first volunteer effort was to establish a weekly bingo game that grew to be one of the most anticipated events in Pueblo County and became the Party's largest fund generator. Several years after initiating bingo, Becco was elected First Vice Chair of the county Dems, a position he held for many years, until February of this year, stepping down at election-time to provide an opportunity for "younger blood" to move into a position of leadership.

In 2015, working with fellow SOAR member and party Treasurer, Mike Schuster, Al led an effort to give the Party a new, permanent home. After looking at several properties a site was selected and, with Becco co-signing the loan, the Dems bought a new headquarters.

With their leadership and continued fundraising efforts, he and Schuster pledged to pay off the building as soon as possible. For the next three years, nearly every penny that bingo raised went towards the building's mortgage. Finally, late last year, the \$175,000 tab was paid off.

In March, at its annual St. Patrick's Day fundraiser, to show its appreciation for his many years of service, the Pueblo County Democratic Party dedicated the building to Becco and presented him with a plaque honoring him for all that he had done for the local party and Democrats throughout the county.

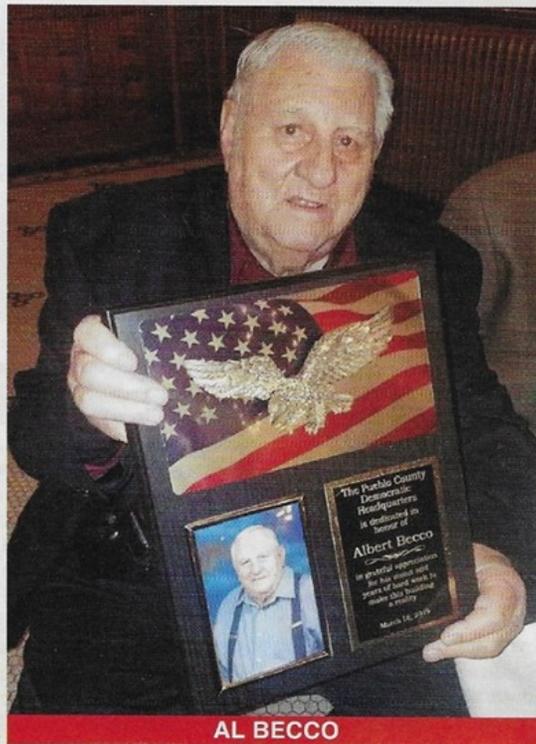
Becco, at 85, continues to lead his SOAR chapter as president and serves as an Int'l SOAR Executive Board Vice President. He remains involved with the Dems and continues to serve the Party as an At-Large member of the Pueblo County Executive Committee.

USW District Director Robert LaVenture offered the following statement: "Al has dedicated his entire life to workers and the labor movement and he should be very proud of this award and acknowledgment. On behalf of all the members and retirees in District 12, we give Al a big "thank you" for a job well done. I would also like to thank his wife Norma for her work, and for keeping the torch "lit" under his backside."

It should be noted that SOAR Chapter 38-3 is one of the Steelworkers' largest SOAR Chapters and was one of the first to recruit non-Steelworker, but like-minded, members. District 12 SOAR Board member, Joel Buchanan, told us, "It is our position that if you support the right to

join a Union, and support the principles of the organization, you belong in SOAR. Membership in this chapter includes city and county officials, firefighters, and area teachers. We also have a state senator and two state representatives." Buchanan added, "The Steelworkers Union is respected and recognized as an activist's organization. Like-minded politicians and political activists are proud to be part of the SOAR chapter in Pueblo."

SOAR congratulates Brother Al for receiving this honor. His work is another example of Steelworkers leading the struggle to improve lives for retirees, working families, and the community. Thank you, Al, for all you do!



AL BECCO



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Established in 2013 to honor a Pueblo County Democrat who's made exceptional contributions to the Democratic Party and the Pueblo community over time, this year's *Lifetime Achievement Award* was presented to **Kathy Bacino** at the March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

In presenting the award to Kathy, **Sharon Stealey** noted some of Kathy's achievements and activities she's been involved with:

"Every organization needs the worker bees who attend to all the little details needed by that organization. The Democratic Party is no exception. In the political wars despite the robo calls, the emails, and the paid TV advertising, we still need the boots on the ground that do the work of getting out the vote – raising money; picking up ballots, and all of the things big and small that get people elected to public office. You elected officials should give thanks every day of your lives for those people." "... [Kathy] has done it all."

"Kathy's been precinct chair on Goat Hill since the goats lived there – well, maybe not quite that long; at least 50 years! She's chaired get-out-the-vote committees; served a number of times as a member of the County Executive Committee, State Central Committee and the 3rd Congressional District Committee; has been a member of the Jac-X-Pres Democratic Club since it was established in 1986, and retired as its Chair this month after serving in that position for the past six years. She's been one of those "boots on the ground" in countless campaigns; was *Democrat of the Year* in 2011, and *Bingo Volunteer of the Year* in 2016."

"I've often wondered if this remarkable woman ever eats and sleeps. Aside from her work for the Democratic Party, she has served on numerous boards and commissions including those of the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center, Roselawn Cemetery, and the Pueblo Area Agency on Aging."

Kathy was born in Los Angeles, California, her family moved to Springfield, Colorado when she was six years old. She moved to Pueblo when she was 17, worked at what was then the Colorado State Hospital for over 20 years, retiring in 1979.

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, KATHY, for always being there for your fellow Democrats and the Party, for your dedication, commitment, expertise, and for everything that you do!

YOUNG DEMOCRAT OF THE YEAR

Jack McFadyen-Ray received the *Young Democrat of the Year Award* at the March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner for his enthusiastic work on advancing the principles of the Democratic Party. He's a junior at CSU-Pueblo (CSU-P) studying political science with a minor in legal studies.

In presenting the award to Jack, **Pam DiFatta** described some of his work and accomplishments:

"Jack worked with Breta Ross and Gary Thomas at our Party's table at the CSU-P Student Involvement and Employment Festivals the past couple years. He's organized a Pueblo Young Democrats group -- believes it's so important to be involved in making a better community. He hopes to build the base of active Democrats; one of his major goals is to build a group of volunteers in the 18 to 36 age group who are active voters. That effort is ongoing. He's established a Twitter page for the *Young Dems*: @puebloyoung

He's currently working with a committee to hold a U. S. Senatorial debate that will include all the announced candidates for the Senate seat from Colorado. He's talked with a professor who will sponsor the event at CSU-P, and current plans are to have it in the Fall. He's met with several student groups to assist with the event, and plans to invite people throughout the region. He is also working with Nick Hinrichsen, our Party's Communications Director.

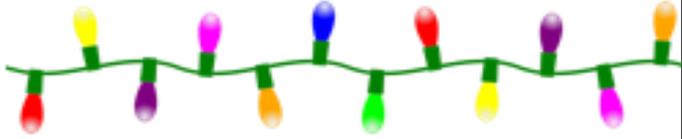
With an impressive young man like Jack and with such an enthusiastic young adult group, they set an example for others and certainly gives us hope for our Party's future."

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, JACK. More enthusiastic and dedicated young volunteers are needed – it's our hope that you'll continue to be involved.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY?

Not Quite – But See How You Can Assist in Making the Upcoming Holiday Season Brighter



2019 PUEBLO COUNTY COURTHOUSE LIGHTING

By: Adam Uhernik, County Public Information Officer

The focus of the 2019 Pueblo County Courthouse Lighting Ceremony is to honor service members and veterans by lighting up the Courthouse with LED lights and a 5-minute fireworks show synchronized to music. Our theme this year really resonates with people because Pueblo is the “Home of Heroes.” Our military deserve special recognition for all of the sacrifices they make to protect our freedoms here at home. The ceremony will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Starting at 4:00 p.m., there will be bounce houses, a DJ, and military vehicles on display on W. 10th Street in front of the Courthouse. The inside of our building will be beautifully decorated with many Christmas decorations. A 25-foot Christmas tree will be the key centerpiece as people walk into the Rotunda.

This year, many organizations, businesses, and citizens are helping and taking an active role in the celebration by donating private money. As the County’s Public Information Officer, I am helping plan and coordinate the event and am actively looking for sponsors for the Courthouse Lighting. If people wish to donate money, they can go to www.pueblcourthouselighting.com and click the *donate* button or they can contact me at 719-583-6534 or uhernik@pueblocounty.us to request a sponsor packet. Pueblo County does not use public money for the event which is why we need private dollars. This year, we are also making history as we are testing temporary LED lighting on the Courthouse. The LED lights will illuminate the Courthouse like people have never seen before in Pueblo. The LED lights, which are computer controlled and programmable to various color combinations, will stay up for a week or two after the ceremony.

In 2018, about 1,500 people attended the Courthouse Lighting and witnessed the first-ever fireworks show from the roof of the historic Pueblo County Courthouse. This year, we are hoping to double the amount of people who attend the lighting, and once again will be a memorable experience for those who attend.



THE PUEBLO LATINO DEMOCRATIC FORUM

By Jason Munoz, Chair

It’s summer and the Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF) is heating up! We want to make a positive impact on voter participation over the next two years, and to do that we’ve been making

strides to reach our goals. To start, we’ve commissioned a new vibrant logo that features a patriotic donkey with a Colorado “C” on its blue sarape. The most recent PLDF logo was very nice but, unfortunately we couldn’t find its digital copy and needed something we can use across digital platforms. Our new logo is sure to attract eyeballs that we hope will lead to participation. A logo is just the first step in distinguishing ourselves as a civic organization that makes a positive difference. More to come.

Additionally, we are currently planning two events that will happen this Fall. Our *Día de Los Muertos* themed fundraiser was such a blast last year that we’ve already booked the Union Depot for 2019! This year’s gathering will take place on Saturday, November 2nd which happens to be *All Souls Day* - making the occasion even more special as we remember and pray for our loved ones who have passed on.

We also have plans to conduct an educational forum in September that aims to inspire and activate voters young and old. A date for that has not yet been finalized. We hope you’ll join us at one or both of these PLDF events, or please consider making a financial contribution that will help us achieve our goals.

Have a happy and safe summer!



Our appreciation, thoughts and prayers are with all Puebloans currently serving in the military, and with all emergency first responders.

“Nothing is so contagious as enthusiasm; it moves stones, it charms brutes. Enthusiasm is the genius of sincerity, and truth accomplishes no victories without it.”

*By Edward G. Bulwer-Lytton,
English novelist, poet, playwright, and politician*



DEMOCRAT OF THE YEAR

Gary Thomas received the *Democrat of the Year Award* at the March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner for his outstanding service and commitment to the Pueblo County Democrats.

In presenting the award to Gary, our Party's Treasurer **Mike Schuster** stated:

"The reason for this award is pretty much summed up by what you are seeing now:

Gary created and has been advancing the slide shows this evening. As you will note, he just now brought up his own picture – and he is dashing up to accept – and then he'll dash back to bring up the next category. He is a busy guy! Especially for someone who thought he was retiring to sunny Pueblo to do yard work and relax ...

What intrigued us about Gary is the range of things he is capable of and willing to do. At the height of the campaign season last year, he hosted three candidate "meet and greets" in his home, served on another's steering committee, and supported the State Party Get-Out-the-Vote effort with time and money. And he hosted a huge yard sign this season in his front yard along a busy street.

Although somewhat new to Pueblo, Gary came with a full set of campaign skills learned over the years in Fort Collins, including how to input and extract information from the Democratic VAN Data Base. He made literally hundreds of calls for different candidates. And, given his talent with our data system, Gary was able to make many of his calls from the Party's headquarters so we could keep the building open for handing out yard signs, running precinct reports, and answering questions throughout the campaign.

The Pueblo Democrats are always looking for bingo volunteers for our Friday night games. Gary became a stalwart regular volunteer and has become one of our callers. With the pending retirement of Al Becco as the Games Manager, Gary agreed to run for 1st Vice-Chair of the Pueblo County Democratic Party and assume responsibility for the bingo operation.

But best of all, while Gary has the life skills to rub shoulders with governors and legislators, he does not blink at any and all small jobs when needed. From picking up trash around the building to loading results from this event into the spreadsheets, to staffing a booth at a CSU-P community outreach day, Gary is always ready with his favorite question: "How can I help?"

We're very glad that Gary and his wife, Susan, have chosen Pueblo for their retirement home and we look forward to many more years of Gary's "relaxing"! "

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, GARY, for all that you've done and continue to do. Your dedication to the principles of the Democratic Party and your community work are much appreciated!

PUEBLO YOUNG DEMOCRATS

By Jack McFadyen-Ray

As the 2020 election cycle draws near, Pueblo will have a new variable mixed with its local politics in the form of the *Pueblo Young Democrats*. After being dormant for several years, the *Pueblo Young Democrats* are reinvigorated, and as our numbers grow, so do our goals of having a positive impact on our community. With the consequences of climate change lingering around the corner, a demagogue of a President, and a U.S. legislature that has failed the American people in checking the authority of the Judiciary and the Executive branches, the youth of Pueblo have determined that we must act so to protect our futures.

Since May 2019, through community and social media outreach efforts, the *Pueblo Young Democrats* have experienced a dramatic increase in numbers. The most recent example of such an outreach effort comes as the *College Democrat Club at Colorado State University-Pueblo*, which will undoubtedly draw in further amounts of eager, ambitious, and young Democrats ready to lead a positive impact on the Pueblo community. Such growth is terrific; however, as a group, we are not satisfied knowing that we must continue this trend of growth so to face the challenges that await us in 2020.

Furthermore, confident that our numbers will continue to grow, it is imperative that we use our increasing influence to improve upon our community. We see it as our responsibility to ensure that young voters participate in every election. It is for this reason the *Pueblo Young Democrats* have determined it our mission to lead Pueblo County to the highest voter turnout percentage for individuals aged 18-24 of any county in Colorado for the 2020 election cycle. This requires getting out and engaging with the youth of the community, knocking on doors, making phone calls, and extending a helping hand and ear to the community ensuring that everyone in the community has a voice that is not only heard but also respected. Such a goal is ambitious and a steep challenge. However, I am confident the *Pueblo Young Democrats* can rise to meet such a challenge.



CONGRATULATIONS

TO Kathy Javaneau on her appointment to the *Human Relations Commission* and now serves as the Treasurer; **Norma Becco** on her appointment to the *Board of the Pueblo Area Agency on Aging*; **Erick Javaneau** on his selection as *Chairman of the Pueblo Community Corrections Board*; **Mike Orazem** on his selection to serve on the Board of Directors of the *Steelworks Center of the West*; **Leslie Gates, Daneya Esgar, Brandice Eslinger, Venice Gallegos, Hilary Glasgow, Gail Martinez, Terry Martinez, Mary Jo Ryals, Rebecca Sudduth, Anne Weierbach, Niki Toussaint, and Michelle Wiseman** on being recognized by the *Pueblo City-County Library District* as their selected *2019 Outstanding Women* at its March luncheon; **Georgia Way** on her appointment in March as a new member of the *Pueblo Human Relations Commission*; **Steve Nawrocki** on his appointment in March as a *member of the Board of Water Works*; **Del Olivas** on his induction into the *County High School Alumni Foundation Hall of Fame* in March; **Jacqueline McCall** on her April appointment by the Governor to serve on the *Community Corrections Advisory Council*; **David Cockrell** on his appointment by the Governor in April to the *Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund State Board*; **Margaret Wright** on her reappointment by the Governor in April to the *Colorado Juvenile Parole Board*; **Walter Ross** on his appointment by the Mayor in April to serve on the *Pueblo Memorial Airport Advisory Committee*, **Steve Montez** on his appointment by the Mayor to serve on the *Pueblo Streetscape Advisory Committee*.

ALSO TO State Senator Leroy Garcia who served as a commencement speaker at *CSU-Pueblo's two commencement ceremonies* in May; **Corinne Koehler** on her selection in May to serve on the *Colorado Humanities Board of Directors*; **Aimee Tihonovich** on her retirement as *Director of Pueblo County's Dept. of Budget and Finance* in May after 19 yrs in that position (was with the County for a total of 23 yrs); **Dawn DiPrince** on her new position as *Chief Operating Officer of History Colorado* in Denver after serving as *Assistant Director, then Director of the El Pueblo History Museum*; **Mike Schuster** on his appointment in June by the County Commissioners to serve on the *County Planning Commission*, **AND TO Joe Koncilija and Jim Koncilija** on receiving the *Keep Pueblo Beautiful's Beautification Award* in June.

TO the following who were honored by the *YWCA* at its *18th Annual Southern Colorado Tribute to Women* in May: **RoseAnn DiSanti, Sandy Taylor, Jennifer Chavez, Michelle Garcia, Antonia Phillippi, Lindsay Reeves, Velma Romero Roybal, and Teri Wiseman.**

AND TO the following who were honored by the *Latino Chamber of Commerce* at its *inaugural 2019 Emerging Leaders Award Dinner* in June: **State Representative Bri Buentello, State Senator Leroy Garcia, Kyle McCarthy, County Commissioner Garrison Ortiz, Lindsay Reeves, Dynelle Abeyta, Adam Davidson, Joshua Gallegos, Kimberly Hinkle, Sarah Martinez, Derrick Martinez, Zolanye McCulley, Alyssa Parga, David "Nick" Potter, Antoinette Ramos, Erika Retzlaff, Alexandria Romero, Steven Varela, Taylor Voss, Ken White III, and Timothy Zercher.**

PASTA AND POLITICS FUNDRAISER

A "Pasta and Politics" fundraiser was held on May 23rd at the Do Drop Inn at Pueblo West. **Kathy Javaneau**, our Party's Second Vice-Chair, thanks all of those who attended or who bought tickets but weren't able to be there. As Second Vice-Chair, she's in charge of our fundraisers and will be planning other events this year. She invites people to volunteer to serve on this important *Fundraising Committee* – please contact her at 719-283-8044 or email: kjavaneau3890@gmail.com



"Every great and commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of some enthusiasm."

Anonymous

FAREWELL AND BEST WISHES

We've learned that several of our Party activists have moved, or are moving, and we want to wish them best wishes in their new endeavors: **Dawn DiPrince and Chris Markuson** to Denver, **Aimee Tihonovich** to Salida, and **Lynn Sebacher** to Virginia.





COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Some of the recent community events in which the Pueblo Democratic Party has participated include:

- Sponsored a bowling team for the *Dream Weavers' Bowl-a-Thon* on April 27th.
- Sponsored a table at the March 29th *Southern Colorado Equality Alliance (SCEA)* dinner.
- Made a donation for the June 7th *Sangre de Cristo Arts Center Gala*
- Made a donation for the *American Legion Girls' State*
- Made a donation for the June 22nd *Juneteenth Organization of Pueblo's* celebration
- Donating to the *Pueblo Area Soup Kitchen*
- Donating to the *Historical Society Ghost Walk*
- Donating to the August *Pueblo PRIDE Festival*
- Participating in the *CSU-P Student Involvement and Employment Festival*
- The *Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum* had a table at the May 4th *Cinco de Mayo* celebration at Bessemer Park and at the June 22nd *Juneteenth Celebration*, with **Jason Munoz and Lisa Bustamante** staffing the tables.



BINGO VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

First awarded in 2006 to recognize a volunteer for his or her dedication and work at our Friday night bingo games, **June Lipitz** received this award at the March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

Our 1st Vice-Chair and Bingo Manager **Gary Thomas** stated in his presentation to June:

"June is the kind of volunteer every organization wishes they had. Every Friday, she shows up to work early and gets all the materials, games, money, etc. out and ready for the other volunteers to start selling as soon as they can. In addition, June is proficient at all the different roles on the Bingo team. Two of the most difficult jobs are running the cash register and calling the game. June is excellent at both positions and can fill in on short notice wherever she is needed.

It turns out Bingo is in June's blood. She started volunteering at the Bingo games for St. Leander Church when she was just 15 and her father was one of the callers.

As I am sure everyone here knows, Bingo has been an important source of revenue for the Pueblo Democrats for many years. There is a remarkable team of volunteers – any one of whom would qualify for this award. This year, it's our pleasure to recognize June for all her good work on behalf of us all."

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, JUNE, for all the work you've done and continue to do!

HORIZON AWARD

First awarded in 2004, the *Horizon Award* was established to recognize someone new to the Pueblo Democratic Party who has made significant contributions. **Kathy and Erick Javaneau** received this year's award at the March 16th St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

Carole Partin was the presenter of this award to Kathy and Erick and stated:

"I met Erick and Kathy accidentally at the Noodles Restaurant. It was during the 2016 election. I had worked the Hillary Clinton campaign that day and was dressed in my Hillary shirt. I was starving and stopped to get a late dinner. As I was waiting for my food, here came this smiling, energetic couple. They introduced themselves and began asking questions about the campaign, Pueblo, and the Dems.

The next time I came into contact with the Javaneaus was at Democratic Party HQ. I remembered them, and they remembered me. Kathy grew up in Pueblo. Erick attended what was then Southern Colorado State College (SCSC). That's where they met; they moved to California and lived there for 42 years.

Then they decided to move back to Pueblo. Lucky for us! They've been here for 18 months and here's [some of] what they're currently involved in:

Erick is a member of the Pueblo Airport Advisory Committee; Executive Board Member of the Pueblo NAACP; Chair, Pueblo Community Corrections Board; member of the Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF); At-large member Pueblo Democratic Party's Executive Committee; Pueblo E.A.S.T.; CA Bar Association.

Kathy is a Mentor, United Way Middle School program; Organizer/Fundraiser Co-Chair Women's March for Southern Colorado; Treasurer and Commissioner of the Pueblo Human Relations Commission; 2nd Vice-Chair of the Pueblo Democratic Party; Secretary, House District 47; and Treasurer of the Pueblo Latino Democratic Forum (PLDF).

As you can see, they like being active and to help where they can. They're an excellent addition to our community and to the Pueblo Democratic Party. I'm glad I met them, and I'm happy to call them my friends."

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, KATHY AND ERICK, for your enthusiasm, dedication, commitment, and all that you do!



THE PUEBLO COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC PARTY
INVITES YOU TO PLAY BINGO
WITH US

FIRST AND SECOND FRIDAY AND THOSE
MONTHS WITH A FIFTH FRIDAY at 7:00 P.M.

AT

BINGO CASINO

4901 Club Manor Drive

(across from the main Post Office)

\$1,900 PAYOUT EVERY SPONSORED FRIDAY

ALSO WE HAVE TWO PROGRESSIVE GAMES,
ONE WITH A PAYOUT OF \$1,199 AND ONE UP TO
\$5,000.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are always in need of volunteers to help
with bingo. This is the primary fundraiser for
the party. If you have even one night that you
can help, please call:

Gary D. Thomas—1-970-218-8379

Email: Gary-d-Thomas@att.net

or Mike Orazem at 564-2377





The Pueblo Democrat Kicker

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The Pueblo County Democratic Party provided the start-up funds for the publication of *The Pueblo Democrat Kicker*. In order to continue its publication, we are trying to become self-sustaining through donations and purchase of ads. The earmarked item account pays for the newsletter's ongoing printing, mailing, and supplies. The frequency of publication will depend upon the item account's financial status. Your continued help will enable us to achieve our goal.

A BIG THANK YOU to the following people who donated to the newsletter fund since the last issue

- Rita Gonzales
- Doug Tihonovich
- Corinne Koehler
- Rudy Krasovec
- Ernest J. Lucero
- Terry Sheridan
- Sharon Stealey (In Memory of Felix Cordova)
- Cynthia Mitchell

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