



34DEMS.ORG

34<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT DEMOCRATS

WEST SEATTLE ★ WHITE CENTER ★ BURIEN ★ VASHON AND MAURY ISLANDS

**Chair's Message...**

*It's Time to Review our Bylaws and Code of Conduct*

The Chair of the 34th District Democrats is the official spokesperson of the 34th District Democrats, however, we each represent the organization and its reputation and values through our public actions. We have each chosen to be part of this intentional community of local Democrats, and in doing so we are able to influence change in our neighborhoods for the better. We have done amazing work in the 34th Legislative District, and each member's contributions of time, expertise, passion, and financial support have made that possible.

Through our work we have established ourselves as a respected community institution that is in the public eye. With that comes the reality that all members of the 34th District Democrats -- especially Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) and Executive Board Members -- represent the organization through our conduct. Our Code of Conduct defines the standards expected of all members so we can build a healthy community with each other and in our public work. These standards include honesty, respect, and responsibility.

As Democrats we are deeply committed to the freedoms and rights that our democracy was founded on and recognize that members do not forfeit any of these as a result of membership in the 34th District Democrats. However, in our voluntary association, we submit ourselves to the rules, codes, and bylaws governing our organization.

In the coming months we will be re-evaluating our Bylaws and our Code of Conduct so that these documents accurately represent our values and the standards expected of our members. I invite anyone who would like to be a part of this important review to reach out to me (chair@34dems.org). While this work can be tedious, and at times emotionally charged, I appreciate everyone's commitment to the 34th District Democrats and passion for making our organization a model for effective Democratic advocacy in our community.

Sincerely,

Gina Topp  
Chair, 34th District Democrats

**Renew or Become a Member at**  
**34dems.org**  
www.34dems.org/contribute

**Wednesday, September 11, 2019**

**Meeting Notice**

**The Hall at Fautleroy, 9131 California Ave SW  
9131 California Ave SW (Across from the YMCA.)  
On the "C" Metro Line**

**6:30** Potluck Social Time. Please bring a dish to share

**7:00** Call to Order

Opening Ceremonies

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

VIP Acknowledgements

Review and Approval of the Minutes and Agenda

Approval of the Minutes

Adoption of the Agenda

Report of Officers and Standing Committees

Chair's Report

Membership and Treasurer's Report

**7:20 Housing and Homelessness Presentation**

Representatives of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance and the Housing Development Consortia of Seattle and King County will present on state and local level initiatives to address homelessness and affordable housing and how members of the 34th can get involved.

**8:30 New Business**

School Board District Endorsements

Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission's Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinances

Appointment of PCOs

General Election Campaign Donations

**8:30** Good of the Order

**8:45** Adjourn to Whiskey West

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## Executive Board

### Elected Officers

**Gina Topp** | Chair  
chair@34dems.org

**Rachel Glass** | First Vice Chair  
vicechair1@34dems.org

**Sophia Aragon** | Second Vice Chair  
vicechair2@34dems.org

**Chris Porter** | State Committee Person 1  
wsdccc@34dems.org

**Ann Martin** | State Committee Person 2  
wsdccc@34dems.org

**Max Brown** | King Co. Committeeperson 1  
kocdccc@34dems.org

**Leah Griffin** | KC Committeeperson 2  
kocdccc@34dems.org

**Ted Barker** | KC Committee Alt. 1  
kocdccc@34dems.org

**Martha Koester** | King Co. Committee Alt. 2  
kocdccc@34dems.org

**Carla Rogers** | Secretary  
secretary@34dems.org

**Ben Reilly** | Treasurer  
treasurer@34dems.org

### Committee Chairs

**David Ginsberg** | Bylaws  
bylaws@34dems.org

**Rachel Glass** | Caucus and Elections  
vicechair1@34dems.org

**Carla Rogers** | Communications  
digcomm@34dems.org

**Sofia Aragon** | Diversity & Inclusion  
inclusion@34dems.org

**Jacqui Morris & Lacey Watson** | Events  
events@34dems.org

**Dawn Rains** | Membership  
membership@34dems.org

**DeLancey Lane** | Fundraising  
fundraising@34dems.org

**Jesse Greene** | Hospitality  
hospitality@34dems.org

**Les Treall** | Leadership Development  
future@34dems.org

**Jordan Crawley** | Legislative Action  
lac@34dems.org

**Dawn Rains** | Finance  
finance@34dems.org

**Steve Butts & Karen Richter** | Outreach  
outreach@34dems.org

**Nick Bonazza** | PCO Coordination  
pco@34dems.org

**Gina Topp** | Program  
chair@34dems.org

### Other Roles

**Steve Butts** | Newsletter Editor  
newsletter@34dems.org

**Allan Munro** | Parliamentarian

## BURIEN CANVASS

**Saturday, Sept. 14th, 1:30pm at Boulevard Park Library**



Join us on Saturday, September 14th to talk to voters about Kevin Schilling and Sofia Aragon's campaigns for Burien City Council!  
First-time volunteers more than welcome. Please arrive at Boulevard Park Library at 1:30pm for a training, then we'll hit the streets!

RSVP: <http://bit.ly/buriencanvass>

Hosted By Joe McDermott and the 34th LD Democrats

## West Seattle Food Bank Cocktail Benefit



**This Roaring 20's themed party will feature:**

Casino Style Gaming with a chance to win prizes

Hosted Wine, Beer & Heavy Appetizers  
Themed Cocktails

Activities • Golden Ticket

Silent & Live Auction • Funds for Food

at the **Sanctuary at Admiral** 2656 42nd Ave SW

**Friday September 20th @ 6:30 pm**

Dress: Cocktail Attire, Era Costumes Encouraged

Tickets: \$75/guest - \$85 at the door

For info contact Judi at 206.932.9023 or [Judi@westseattlefoodbank.org](mailto:Judi@westseattlefoodbank.org)

<https://westseattlefoodbank.ejoinme.org/AGA>

Please join co-sponsors Tamsen Spengler, Rachel Glass, Marlene Allbright, Les Treall, KCDCC Chair Shasti Conrad, Nick Licata, Sen. Joe Nguyen, Tom Rasmussen, Councilmember Joe McDermott and 34<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democrats at a reception to meet

## Councilmember Lisa Herbold

and support her people-powered campaign to continue representing West Seattle and South Park.

Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> | 11:00am – 12:30pm  
Puget Ridge Co-housing Community Building  
7020 18<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, Seattle 98106

RSVP to [D1forLisa@gmail.com](mailto:D1forLisa@gmail.com)

**Bring your democracy vouchers!**

Suggested contributions: Champion \$250 | Friend \$150 | Supporter \$75

# 34th District Bulletin Board

## Executive Board

Open to all of our members  
Puget Ridge Co-Housing Common House  
7020 18th Ave SW  
Wednesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m.

## Other Meetings or Events:

### West Seattle Drinking Liberally

Pizzeria 22, 4213 SW College St.  
Every 1st Tuesday, 6:00 pm

### Evergreen Democratic Club

Angelo's Italian Restaurant  
601 SW 153rd St., Burien  
Please note new start time:  
Tuesday, September 10, 12pm

### Metropolitan Democratic Club

Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
911 Stewart St., Seattle 98101  
2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 12-1:30 pm

### Burien Drinking Liberally

Angelo's Italian Restaurant  
601 SW 153rd St.  
Wednesday, September 25, 6:30pm

### West Seattle Democratic Women

For more information regarding upcoming meetings check:  
[www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org](http://www.westseattledemocraticwomen.org)  
Or inquire at: [contact.wsdw@gmail.com](mailto:contact.wsdw@gmail.com)

### King County Democrats Monthly Meeting

Carpenters Union Hall  
231 Burnett Ave N  
Renton, WA 98057  
Tuesday, September 24, 7:00 pm



## The 15th Annual White Center Food Bank Harvest Dinner & Auction

**Saturday, September 14, 2019, 6pm**

At the **Brockey Conference Center** at the S. Seattle College  
*"Without the support of our community we would not be able to  
#KeepWhiteCenterFed. Come see what we've been  
#GrowingTogether."*

Info at: [Carmen@WhiteCenterFoodBank.org](mailto:Carmen@WhiteCenterFoodBank.org) or call (206)762-2848

For tickets visit:

<https://www.whitecenterfoodbank.org/harvest-dinner>

## Burien Fundraiser



The 34th Democrats and Councilmember Joe McDermott are hosting a fundraiser in support of the Burien City Council campaigns of

**Sofia Aragon and  
Kevin Schilling**

**Thursday, September 26th, 6-8pm**  
at Merrill Gardens, 15020 5th Ave SW

Please RSVP to [delanceylane@gmail.com](mailto:delanceylane@gmail.com)

*Suggested donations:*

Friend – \$50, Democratic Hero – \$100, Progressive  
Champion – \$200



## Postcards to Voters

**Every Thursday morning at 10:00-noon**

At **C&P Coffee**  
5612 California Ave SW

A great way for us to help out-of-state districts that  
need help with GOTV efforts!

## D1 Council Debate

Council Member Lisa Herbold and Phil Tavel

**Saturday Sept. 14 | 6:30 – 8:00 pm**

**at the Duwamish Longhouse**

4705 West Marginal Way SW

Presented by the **District 1 Community Network**

Overflow parking provided

Children activity provided but must RSVP to  
[tamsenspengler@gmail.com](mailto:tamsenspengler@gmail.com)

## Contact Information and Committee Assignments for Our Legislators

### Senator

#### Joe Nguyen

Human Services,  
Reentry & Rehabilitation (Vice  
Chair), Environment, Energy &  
Technology  
Rules  
Transportation

213 John A. Cherberg Building  
PO Box 40434  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7667



### Representative Eileen Cody

Chair, Health and Wellness  
Appropriations

303 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7978



### Representative Joe Fitzgibbon

Environment & Energy (Chair)  
Appropriations  
Rural Development, Agriculture,  
& Natural Resources

305 John L. O'Brien Building  
PO Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 786 - 7952



## Letters and Submitted Articles

We are Democrats, and like most Democrats we have strong opinions and like to express them. We welcome letters and articles.

All submissions are subject to editing. If submissions need to be shortened, you will be given the option of editing your own work.

Photos and notices of upcoming events are always welcome.

**The deadline for the October 2019 newsletter will be Thursday September 26, 2019.**

Mail to Steve Butts,  
10254 36th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146  
or email to [newsletter@34dems.org](mailto:newsletter@34dems.org)

## In Case You Missed Our Last Meeting...

Our August 14th meeting shared the date with the return of the Rolling Stones, who lured some 34th Democrats to CenturyLink Field. But a respectable group turned out to do business. In an interesting change of our normal procedure, several of first-time attendees got up to introduce themselves to the room as we began the meeting.

The main program was delivered by **Leah Griffin**, a 34th member and our KCDCC Committeewoman, who recounted her evolution from being a victim of sexual violence to an advocate for other victims. Her activism has gained the notice of Patty Murray and state leaders. She serves on Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Task Force in the Washington legislature. She also helped write and lobby for the Survivors' Access to Supportive Care Act with Senator Murray and Representative Jayapal to increase access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners in hospitals. One in five women will experience sexual assault, as will one in 33 men. Non-binary individuals suffer most.

Leah discovered after an assault in 2014 that our medical and law enforcement agencies were largely unprepared to document rape and pursue offenders. She sought to report the crime against her, having as a frame of reference – as many of us would – TV shows such as “Law and Order, Special Victim’s Unit”, and that there were systems in place to gather forensic evidence to help seek out and prosecute her attacker.

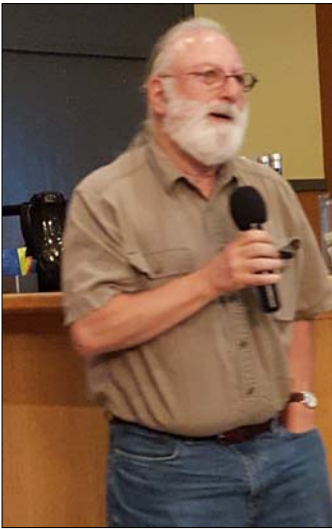
At the hospital where she sought help, she was dismayed to discover that they had no method to gather evidence such as a rape kit, nor were nurses there trained in assisting rape victims. She learned that the only medical facility across King County that was prepared to handle sexual assaults was the Harborview Medical Center, a potential barrier to women in the more remote areas of the county. She was also disappointed with the response that she received from the police when reporting her assault. It was difficult, with a victim-blaming attitude. Their follow through was lax.



Leah Griffin

Patty Murray wanted to hear Leah's story, and was surprised to learn about the nation-wide lack of rape-kit availability and the shortage of rape crisis nurses trained to collect evidence. Rep. Pramila Jayapal has also been supportive, as has Sen. Mankra Dhingra and Rep. Tina Orwall at the state level. The MeToo movement has increased awareness.

Through the efforts of initiatives such as The SAFE Task Force, on which Leah serves as



Neal Traven has recently moved to the 34th District. Neal was the 7th CD Presidential Alternate Elector in 2012.



Marcelle Johnsen informs us of the "Between the Lines" exhibit at the Log House Museum that documents the annexation of West Seattle.



Chris Porter introduces his son Anthony.

the Representative of Survivors, gaps in the current system are being identified and changes have been made. Recently a program to end the rape kit backlog has been launched, and an online system for victims to track the documentation progress has been put in place. Also, statute language has been changed for third-degree rape to clarify lack of consent. The statute of limitations has also been removed for assaults on children under 16 and extended for adult survivors. The CODIS DNA data base can help identify repeat rapists, and training for law enforcement officers will be increased.

The future will be feature pushes for better training for judges and prosecutors to help them in better relating with assault survivors, and not be quick to blame the victim as is too often the case. Mandatory sex education will be coming up in the next session. We can help by following bills as they make their way through the legislative process.

We also heard from others. School Board President **Leslie Harris** spoke about the collective bargaining agreement process that was underway. She also told us that there will soon be a uniform dress code across the district that will be cognizant of ethnic hair styles and attire. **Krystal Marx** and **Kevin Schilling** from Burien spoke. Krystal is working on renter's rights as part of her role on the city council. Kevin thanked us for our support, and specifically Nick Bonazza's role in arranging canvassing events. Schilling also lamented the low primary voter turnout of 30%. **Lisa Herbold** thanked us as well. She wants our continued help to fight the outside PACs that are "subverting" our District 1. Seattle School Board District 1 candidate **Eric Blumhagen** introduced himself and noted that he is endorsed in his run by Leslie Harris.

We passed a resolution submitted by **Ben Reilly** against the Trump administration's practice of immigrant child separation. We also passed a resolution presented by **Chris Porter**, our State Committee Person in support of affirmative action. Referendum R-88 will be on the ballot in November, and we will need to reaffirm the legislature's action to end the restrictions imposed by Tim Eyman's 1998 Initiative 200.



Burien City Councilmember Krystal Marx



Burien City Council Candidate Kevin Schilling



Peggy Abby speaks at Good of the Order

# Resolution in Support of the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission’s Draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance

**Whereas** Seattle is losing not only its biggest trees, but much more of its green cover, as developers scrape properties clean of trees in order to maximize their buildable area; and

**Whereas** Seattle has failed to require developers to replace all “exceptional” trees and trees over 24” DBH (diameter at 54” high) as prescribed by SMC 25.11.090; and

**Whereas** Seattle, unlike Portland and other major cities, has not instituted a permit system to govern tree removal on developed property or property being developed, but relies instead on a complaint-based system that is applicable only to already-developed property and does not protect trees even there; and

**Whereas** the Seattle City Council voted in 2009, and again by Resolution 31870 in April 2019, to support an updating of its Tree Protection Ordinance; and

**Whereas** the City concluded, in its 2017 Tree Regulations Research Report, that “Current code is not supporting tree protection” and that “we are losing exceptional trees (and groves) in general”; and

**Whereas** Seattle’s trees and urban forest comprise a vital green infrastructure that (a) reduces air pollution, stormwater runoff, and climate change impacts like heat-island effects, while providing essential habitat for birds and other wildlife, and (b) is important for both the physical and mental health of Seattle residents; and

**Whereas** the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission has drafted, at the suggestion of several City Council members, an updated Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance consistent with the eight recommendations specified by the Council in Section 6 of its Resolution 31870, which would:

- a) Increase protections for Seattle trees and tree canopy volume by requiring, in each land-use zone in the city, a permit for removal of any tree over 6” DBH on both developed property and property being developed;
- b) Require two-week on-site posting of tree removal and replacement applications (as SDOT already does);
- c) Require on-site tree replacement equivalent, in 25 years, to the tree canopy volume removed, or payment of a fee into a Tree Replacement and Preservation Fund for planting and 5-year maintenance of trees elsewhere in the city;
- d) Retain current protections for exceptional trees and reduce upper threshold for exceptional trees to 24” DBH;
- e) Allow no more than two significant non-exceptional trees to be removed over 3 years on developed property;
- f) Require registration of all tree services providers with the city;
- g) Track all significant tree loss and replacement; and
- h) Provide adequate funds to administer and enforce the ordinance.

**Therefore, be it resolved that**, in recognition of the environmental importance of trees and the need to update and strengthen Seattle’s current ordinance, we urge the Seattle City Council to pass the Seattle Urban Forestry Commission’s June 15, 2019 draft Tree and Urban Forest Protection Ordinance.

*Originated by Steve Zemke, [stevezemke@TreePAC.org](mailto:stevezemke@TreePAC.org)*

*Submitted by Ann Martin*

## 34th Democrats Presidential Preference Straw Poll

Just for fun, we ran an on-going Presidential Straw Poll at our events this summer to get a feel of leanings of our neighbors here in the 34th LD. Below are the cumulative results. Bucking the current national polling, Elizabeth Warren consistently came out on top at each event. Guess we’ll know whether or not this means anything next March.



Elizabeth Warren – 32%	Tulsi Gabbard – 1%
Pete Buttigieg – 16%	Kirsten Gillibrand – 1%
Kamala Harris – 15%	Beto O'Rourke – 1%
Bernie Sanders – 10%	Marianne Williamson – 1%
Joe Biden – 9%	Andrew Yang – 1%
Jay Inslee – 3%	Other – 2%
Cory Booker – 3%	Undecided – 5%



Georgie Bright Kunkel is celebrating her 99th birthday, and friends gathered with host Ann Martin and the West Seattle Democratic Women – of which Georgie is a past president – to fete her with a cake to flowers and two golden “9” balloons – Photo by Patrick Sand/West Seattle Blog



Leah Griffin got a chance for a selfie with Senator Elizabeth Warren – after putting in 11 hours of volunteering at the Warren Rally August 25. Leah was also able to seek the Senator’s co-sponsorship of the Survivors’ Access to Supportive Care Act which will increase access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, so that fewer rape victims will be turned away from hospitals for lack of rape kits.



Nick Bonazza inducts new PCOs. **Jesse Scott Kandoll** serves in SEA 34-1487. He is Pacific NW Carpenters Lead Business Rep and a union activist. **Wendy Noble** is in Sealth precinct on Vashon and is a retired nurse working locally on health care and the environment with SURGE and Indivisible. <https://www.surgereprojustice.org/>



We met up with Mayor Jimmy Matta and son at the B-Town Fiesta August 25. Left to right are 34thers Laurence Redman, Karen Richter, Steve Butts and Leslie Larson posing with Jimmy and Jimmy, Jr.

## September Outreach Events

### Fiestas Patrias Parade and Fiesta



#### September 14th, in South Park

**Parade** 11 am – 12 pm

March with our candidates! Assemble by 10:30 at the SeaMar Community Health Centers complex, 1040 S Henderson St

**Fiesta** 1 pm – 6 pm

Join us at our booth at the Fiesta following the parade at the South Park Community Center, 8319 8th Ave S

#### Adopt-A-Street Clean Up Party -

**Saturday, Sept. 28, 1pm**



We will meet at the Triangle at the corner of 16th and Roxbury and head out to the north to clean our portion of 16th Avenue SW

Contact [outreach@34dems.org](mailto:outreach@34dems.org) to help at either event



Newsletter Editor  
10254 36th Ave. SW  
Seattle, WA 98146

Return Service Requested



## Join the 34th District Democrats!

Sign up by filling out this form and mailing it with a check made payable to:  
**The 34th District Democrats, 6523 California Ave SW, Box 183, Seattle, WA 98136-1879**

Or join at online [www.34dems.org/contribute/](http://www.34dems.org/contribute/)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If you use a P.O. Box, do you live in the 34th District? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ \* Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

\*Employer \_\_\_\_\_ \* Employer City \_\_\_\_\_

\* Required by Washington State Public Disclosure Commission/ Contributions are not tax deductible.

**Please consider paying your dues in monthly installments...Go online to [www.34dems.org/contribute](http://www.34dems.org/contribute)**

- \$3 Living Lightly       \$34 Friend of the 34th       \$50 Sponsor       \$1,000 Endowment
- \$100 Benefactor       \$250 Sustaining       \$500 Underwriter

In the interest of protecting our environment and building funds to support endorsed candidates, the 34th District Democrats wish to communicate electronically.

**Please check this box if you do not have access to electronic communications and need to receive a mailed newsletter**

Paid for and authorized by 34th District Democrats. 6523 California Ave SW Box 183, Seattle, Washington 98136. Contributions to this committee are not tax deductible. State campaign finance law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, employer and city and state of employment for each individual whose contribution exceeds \$100 in the election cycle.