



## Perry County Democratic Newsletter

# The Force

Volume 3, Issue 1: January 2007



Women's Democrat Association of Perry County [www.perrycountymocrats.com](http://www.perrycountymocrats.com) email: [womdem@excite.com](mailto:womdem@excite.com)

### Women's Democrat Association

**President** - Kimberley Collins  
**Vice-President** - Barbara Ewing  
**Treasurer** - Christal Moskos  
**Secretary** - Arvina Bozarth  
Candy Boerste, Debbie Elder, Martha Graves, Brandi Hess, Norma Rogier  
**Webmaster** - Brandi Hess

### Democratic Central Committee

**Chair** - Mary Kay Elder. **Vice-Chair** - Terry Lock, **Treasurer** - JoAnn Smith  
**Secretary** - Don Sherry

### Cannelton Democratic Board

Christal Moskos (President), Martha Graves (Treasurer), Arvina Bozarth, Ed Bozarth

### Democratic Elected Officials

#### County

**Assessor** - Mendi Ward  
**Auditor** - Connie Berger  
**Clerk** - Debbie Elder  
**Commissioners** Jody Fortwendel (President), Gary Dauby, Don Sherry  
**Coroner** - Darrel Riley  
**Council** - Pete Franzman (President), Alan Cassidy, Ryan Daum, Merle Doogs, Steve Goodson, Chet Mathena  
**Judge** - Lucy Goffinet  
**Prosecutor** - Robert (Bob) Collins  
**Recorder** - Jane James  
**Sheriff** - Bob Glenn  
**Treasurer** - Martha Wooldridge  
**Troy Township Assessor** - Brenda Powers  
**Township Trustees** - Rebecca Hagedorn, Roger Hagman, Betty Labhart, Jeffrey Paulin, JoAnn Smith

#### Tell City

**Council** - Gerald Yackle (President), Rick Greulich, John Little, Dianne Rudolph  
**Clerk-Treasurer** - Barbara Ewing

#### Cannelton

**Council** - Bruce Myers (President), Dale Duke & Louis Scarboro

#### Troy

**Clerk-Treasurer** - Vicki Tuggle  
**Council** - Michael Parker (President), John Mathena, Ed Sweeney, Darrel VanWinkle

#### State of Indiana

**Representatives** - Dennie Oxley, Russ Stilwell  
**Senator** - Richard Young

#### Federal

**Senator** - Evan Bayh

### Good year for democrats!

In November 2006, thirty-three (33) Perry County democratic candidates, some new - most incumbents, won the general election despite a strong effort by republicans to unseat them. In addition, Richard Young, Russ Stilwell and Dennie Oxley were re-elected to represent Perry County in the Indiana State Senate and House, and Baron Hill was returned to Congress. The voice of Perry County voters was heard - loud and clear!

This 'clean-sweep' by local democrats followed much hard work by the candidates, organizers and supporters, the Democratic Central Committee, the Precincts, Cannelton Democrats and the Women's Democrat Association of Perry County. But, you the voters, made it happen! Congratulations to all democrats.

### Women's Democrat Association Of Perry County 100th Member!

The Women's Democrat Association of Perry County was proud to honor **Donora (Donnie) Boerste** as its 100th member at the Perry County Jefferson Jackson dinner that took place last fall. President, Kimberley Collins presented her with a plant and a special red, white and blue feather hat. **Janice Champion, Phyllis Crocket, Rose Reed, Annette Reid, Faye Schwartz and Emogean Stein** joined the association as well - big welcome to all!



### Adopt A Highway

Thanks to board member Arvina Bozarth, the Women's Democrat Association of Perry County has been approved to participate in the State Adopt-A-Highway program that promotes and establishes stewardship of public lands. Through this program, a two-mile stretch on the new highway 237 has been adopted. Two signs 'Women's Democrat Association of Perry County' have been installed by the Transportation Department. Litter/garbage will be picked up about four times a year. Volunteers are needed for litter pick-up - if interested, please contact Arvina at 547-6284 or by email: [bozarth@yahoo.com](mailto:bozarth@yahoo.com).

### Membership Dues

Annual **Membership fees** are **due** - please mail to P.O. Box 244, Cannelton, IN 47520 or give to any board member. A single membership is \$10 per year, free for seniors 65 years and over. Please include your mailing address, phone number and email address. Further membership information can be obtained from [www.perrycountymocrats.com](http://www.perrycountymocrats.com).



## Perry County Precincts

### Committee Chairs & Vices

- Cannelton 1** - Arvina Bozarth, John Yaggi
- Cannelton 2** - Pat Reed, Morris Graves
- Tell City 1** - Bill & Dolores Goffinet
- Tell City 2** - Jayne Glenn, Bob Collins
- Tell City 3** - Albert Faulkner, Kathy Tsantis
- Tell City 4** - John Little, Jenny Brunner
- Tell City 5** - Dale Groves, Shelly Sherry
- Tell City 6** - Barb Spear, Dan Goble
- Tell City 7** - Mary Kay Elder, David Weatherholt
- Tell City 8** - Jennifer Little
- Troy Township 1** Tom Hagedorn, Cathy Hagedorn
- Troy Township 2** - Marshall Terry, Ruth Terry
- Troy** - Michael Parker
- Anderson** - Hubert Hagedorn, Dorothy Lagrange
- Clark 1** - Bill & Phyllis Crocket
- Clark 2** - Hilbert Denu
- Oil** - Robert Flamion & Janie Flamion
- Leopold** - Curtis & Sue Rogier
- Tobin** - Pam & Terry Lock
- Derby** - Noah Steve Howell & Pat Howell
- Rono** - Charlie Goffinet

## Profile- Morris (Smokey) Graves



Smokey Graves' first attempt in the political Arena was just short of four years ago, when he decided to run for mayor on the Democrat ticket in Cannelton. Although he fell short by a mere 42 votes, his party managed to change the complexion of the politics in the City of Cannelton after twenty-five years of republican domination. This well thought out plan could only be accomplished by the selection of a strong Democrat ticket, in which the drive will continue as he is preparing for his second attempt for the same office seat in 2007.

Smokey's first introduction to politics came from a lifelong Democrat, his father-in-law, Walter "Boob" Amos. He assisted Boob and several other county Democrats as they vied for county seats in their election as early as 1970. Smokey has been married to Martha "Amos" Graves for 37 years. They are the parents of two children, Myra and Milo Graves and the proud grandparents of three grandchildren. Smokey and his wife reside at 533 Knight Street in Cannelton.

Smokey has been retired from the United States Army for twelve years, after serving his country for twenty-four years. During his time, he served as an Infantryman and a Training and Education NCO. He also worked as a Senior Administrative Supervisor for a Division Level Reenlistment Office. Although, the majority of his time in the Army was as a Senior Career Counselor he found time to serve as well in the Recruiting arena for the Army, Army Reserve and the Army National Guard. For the many years of serving his country he has received several awards and decorations.

Since retiring, Smokey began working as a service and parts manager for an automobile dealership only to leave the position to train Military personnel throughout the nation as Senior Vice President for Target Marketing, USA. At the same time he has continued to renew his political relationships within the County. Fortunately, his work today gives him the opportunity to continue to support the Democrat party from the City to the National level. Smokey also continues to be an active participant in the Community by being a member of the American Legion Post 142, the Loyal Order of the Moose, the Cannelton Booster Club and an avid member of the Cannelton Democrat Committee. He retains his membership with the Masonic Lodge in Tennessee, Charter member of the Lions Club of Oak Grove, Kentucky and is proud to say a member of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division Association.



Deputy prosecutors Seth Hailey, Anthony Quinn and Jim Tyler were also sworn in at the Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> inauguration ceremony for elected officials.



### Election Calendar

**Friday, February 23rd** – deadline to sign-up for primary elections

**Monday, April 9th** – Voter Registration ends; Absentee voting begins

**Thursday, April 26th** – Confined voters can vote before traveling board.

**Monday, April 30th** – deadline for Circuit Court Clerk to receive mailed or faxed absentee ballot applications from voter who requests to vote by mail.

**Monday, May 7th (noon)** – deadline to vote absentee

**Tuesday, May 8th** – Primary Election Day

**Saturday, April 28th & May 5th (noon)** – Clerk's office open for absentee voting.

### And the winner is...



County Assessor **Mendy Ward** was the winner of this 'Proud to be a Democrat' painting by Candy Boerste. The draw took place at the pre-election November Democratic Rally. Over \$700 of raffle tickets was sold with proceeds going to the Women's Democratic Association of Perry County to fund activities. Congratulations Mendy and thank you to Candy Boerste for donating her painting, Thomas Glass and More for donating the frame and to everyone that sold or bought tickets.

### 2007 Elections

On Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> Primary Election day, voters in Tell City, Cannelton and Troy will once again go to the polls. These elections include five council seats and a clerk-treasurer for each city/town, and mayors for Tell City and Cannelton.

Four years ago, the **Primary Election** results reflected a total turnout of 3,018 voters representing 19% of registered voters. Statewide average was 9%. Absentee votes totaled 302 (2% compared to 9% state-wide). Voter turnout for mayoral races in Tell City was 2,501 and Cannelton 459.

The 2003 **General Election** total voter turnout was 3,749 - 24% of registered voters. Statewide average was 18%. Absentee ballots totaled 490 or 3% of registered voters, compared to 9% statewide. Voter turnout for mayoral races in Tell City was 1,990 and Cannelton 584.

### Recognized for professionalism...

**Mary Kay Elder**, Chair of the Democratic Central Committee was one of two local election board members that were recognized by Indiana's Election Board as "**Member of the Year**". Outgoing county clerk Debra Weatherholt, who forwarded the nomination to the state committee, commended Mary Kay Elder along with Republican Patricia Crawford on the pair's ability to put partisan views aside and work for the betterment of the electoral process. "They pull up their sleeves and dig in". Congratulations to both!



### Breakfast With Seniors...



Organized by the Democratic Central Committee, democrat candidates served a hot breakfast to over 100 senior citizens at the Twilight Towers in October 2006.



Kimberley Collins with Lee Hamilton  
Photo by:  
Carl Elder

### Tri-State Fundraiser...

Baron Hill with keynote speaker Lee Hamilton at the tri-state fundraiser for Congressman Baron Hill in October at Santa Claus Lodge



Martha Wooldridge & JoAnn Smith



### Farewell to County Clerk Debra Weatherholt



Debra Weatherholt

Holding back tears, Debra Weatherholt's last days managing the clerk's office was filled with many goodbyes and well wishes from supporters and friends. Debra was elected Circuit Court Clerk in 1999 and because of term limits, did not re-run. This month, she started a new job as Clerk Consultant for JTAC (Judicial Technical Automation Committee). This Indiana Supreme Court Committee is responsible for the development of a long-range strategy for technology and automation in Indiana's judicial system. Good luck Debbie – we wish you the very best!

### Young for Governor [www.youngforgovernor.com](http://www.youngforgovernor.com)



Senator Richard Young, who has been Perry County's representative for the past 18 years, announced in December his intentions to seek the democratic nomination for governor in 2008. Mike Edmondson, Executive Director of the Indiana Democratic Party said "Richard is a well-respected public servant that has done a lot of good things for the people of Indiana".

Governor Daniels says of Senator Young "He's kind and open, and he has Indiana's best interest at heart".

Richard Young says that he has been encouraged by many supporters and friends to seek the office and believes Hoosiers will embrace his philosophy of government. "I believe the people deserve a responsible government, one that is efficient, that makes the best use of taxpayer dollars and is transparent. And I think it's important that a governor be a leader and a consensus builder". Good luck Senator Richard Young!

### Perry County makes history

Lucy Goffinet, co-founder and past president of the Women's Democrat Association of Perry County, was sworn in on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007, at age 29, as Perry County's first female judge. Perry County's Bar Association welcomed Lucy by presenting her with an engraved gavel.





### Adopt a Highway Sign on State Route 237



### Prominent Perry County Democrats are missed; condolences to families

#### Shirley Little

1923-2007



For over 30 years Shirley was active in the Perry County Democratic Party, served as precinct committeeman, on the Tell City Common Council and on several boards and committees.



#### Louise Bruce

1914-2006

Louise was active in the Democratic Party on the local and state levels, was a member of the Lieutenant Governors Club, and was an honorary board member of the Women's Democratic Association of Perry County.

Joyce Peters, member of the Women's Democrat Association of Perry County, passed away Nov. 2006.

### Assignments

**Baron Hill** has a seat on the prestigious House Energy and Commerce Committee, the oldest standing committee to the U.S. House of Representatives. It is responsible for legislative oversight of telecommunications, consumer protection, food and drug safety, public health, air quality and the environment. Baron, when he heard the news that he had been selected to serve by Speaker Pelosi and House Majority Leader Hoyer said "This assignment will allow me a greater opportunity to represent Hoosiers on issues such as reducing our dependence on foreign oil and finding alternative fuel sources that will capitalize on our state's strong agricultural heritage. I will use this committee assignment to foster a positive environment for job growth and investment in southern Indiana, across our state and across our great country."

**Senator Richard Young** remains the Senate Democrat Leader and also serves as the ranking Democrat member on the Senate's Agriculture and Small Business and Rules & Legislative Procedure standing committees and as a member of the natural Resources Committee. He is also an active member of the Indiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, the Administrative Rules Oversight Commission and the Lobby Registration Commission.

**House Representative Russ Stilwell**, the number two man in the House, serves as the Majority Floor Leader. He is also the vice chair of the Rules & Legislative Procedures Committee. In addition, Stilwell will serve on the Ethics, Joint Rules, Labor & Employment, and Roads & Transportation Committees.

**House Representative Dennie Oxley** serves as the Majority Whip. In addition to his leadership duties, Oxley also serves as vice chair of the Election & Apportionment Committee and as a member of the Financial Institutions and Rules committees.

### Perry County JJ Dinner



Joe Pearson – Democratic candidate for Secretary of State, Senator Richard Young, Dan Pearson - Indiana State Party Chair, Representatives Dennie Oxley and Russ Stilwell at the September 2006 Perry County Jefferson Jackson dinner.



Legislative Calendar

- Feb. 27 - Last day for third reading of House bills
Feb. 29 - Last day for third reading of Senate Bills
March 7 -- Last day Senate bills can be assigned to a Senate committee.
March 9 -- Last day House bills can be assigned to a House committee.
April 10 -- Last day for third reading of Senate bills in House.
April 11 -- Last day for third reading of House bills in Senate. Last day for adoption of House and Senate conference committee reports.
April 29 -- Both chambers are required to finish their work.

Senator Evan Bayh



Senator Evan Bayh, a democrat with a record of political success in republican-leaning state of Indiana decided last month not to seek the democratic nomination for president in 2008. The announcement was a surprise to many of his supporters but at the end of the day Bayh concluded, 'due to circumstances beyond our control, the odds were longer than I felt I could responsibly pursue. This path and these long odds would have required me to be essentially absent from the Senate for the next year instead of working to help the people of my state and the nation'.

2007 Indiana Legislative Session State Representative Russ Stilwell



What a difference an election makes. Only two short years ago, there was total Republican control at the Statehouse. Today, after the 2006 elections, the Democrats have regained control on the Indiana House. Now it is our duty to govern responsibly. We will provide a balance in our government and a real voice for all Hoosiers.

I believe that Perry County is fortunate to be sending a delegation to the Statehouse that includes some of the most experience lawmakers around. Along with House Democratic Whip Dennie Oxley and Senate Democratic Leader Richard Young, I hope we can form a strong coalition at the Statehouse for Perry County and southwest and south central Indiana. I expect changes at the Statehouse this year. House Democrats will not allow Gov. Daniels to continue his efforts to sell off our state government. We will give Hoosiers a chance to review all of these privatization proposals in public hearings. We will enact legislation to give the Legislature greater oversight in determining whether we should sell our state assets and programs to foreign investors and out-of-state management teams.

We believe that Hoosiers can do the work of our state government. We believe in the work ethic, ability, compassion and willingness to assist others that Hoosier state employees bring to work with them every day. Changes will be coming in this area.

One of the most talked-about issues in the 2007 session will be full-day kindergarten. I do believe that some form of full day K will happen this year.

Another topical issue is the Hometown Matters legislation to provide more home rule for cities and towns and local government. It would give these units the ability to implement or eliminate taxes at the local level without coming to the General Assembly each time they need revenue. This is a controversial measure, but one that is needed to make sure that our local governments can provide the services that are needed.

I look forward to the breath of fresh air that the 2006 elections brought. We have had a referendum on the governor that showed that Hoosiers wanted change, but not the kind of change that Mitch Daniels provided.

This fresh air also elected Democrats in record numbers across this state. There are many new faces in government now, from your local courthouse to the Indiana Statehouse. Now is the time for us to govern. I believe that we are all up to the challenge.

'The Force' is a quarterly publication of the Women's Democrat Association of Perry County that is edited by President Kimberley Collins. Send us your comments, ideas and concerns to womdem@excite.com. Website: perrycountymocrats.com.