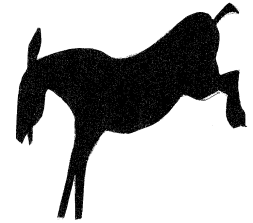


The *Benzie Kicker*

The Benzie County Democratic Newsletter



The Benzie County Democratic Party is a dynamic part of the community working inclusively and creatively for the betterment of all

Summer—2007

Visit our Web site: www.BenzieDemocrats.com

Volume 11 Issue 3

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Camp Millie is coming to Northwest Michigan

By Kathy Ralston

Mark your calendars for November 17th and 18th 2007. The Benzie County Democrats will host Camp Millie at Benzie Central High School. Camp Millie is a two-day comprehensive political action training program facilitated by Justice Caucus, Michigan's Democratic Progressive Caucus.

The talented volunteer faculty of the Caucus will share their gifts on subjects grass roots activists, campaign managers and candidates must know to succeed including: framing your issues and message development, volunteer recruitment and the importance of the precinct delegate, techniques and strategies to get out the vote; door to door canvassing; fund raising and campaign finance law compliance.

This is an unprecedented opportunity for us to build on our recent successes and make our great organization even better. We will also be privileged to share this opportunity with other Democratic and progressive organizations throughout Northwest Michigan. The training will be open to anyone who wishes to further progressive causes and get progressive candidates elected. There will be a \$35 tuition fee charged per student. This includes training materials and boxed lunches for Saturday and Sunday. Mark these dates on your calendar now!

'Camp Millie' is named in honor of the late Justice Caucus Board member, Millie Jeffrey. In her 93 years, Millie was a fearless champion of social and economic justice for workers, women and minorities. Co-Founder of the National Women's Political Caucus, and revered by progressive activists nationwide, Millie received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton in 2000. Millie reminded us: "You never win freedom permanently. You have to win it time after time, whether it's union rights, civil rights or equality for women. We have to keep at it."

Millie understood that to win the struggles for social and economic justice, we must constantly recruit and train new progressive activists. It is the goal of Justice Caucus to build an effective, progressive Democratic action movement in our state. Out of this spirit, Camp Millie was born. The first Camp Millie was held in Holland Michigan in November of 2005. Since then, Justice Caucus has continued to travel the state, sharing their wealth of knowledge of progressive Democratic politics.

The Justice Caucus mission is as follows: "Justice is the foundation of democracy. The Justice Caucus Mission is to promote the cause of progressive democracy within the Democratic Party, in government and in the legal profession. Progressive democracy recognizes that all human endeavor, including the exercise of legal power, though continually changing, must guarantee social and economic justice, civil rights, integrity and fairness. The Justice Caucus seeks to promote these values by participating in the nomination and election of progressive people of integrity, fairness and competence for judicial and other public offices, and by encouraging the exercise of these values in our government and the legal profession. www.justicecaucus.org

News from the Chair



Greetings,

It is hard to believe we have already begun raising funds to help elect candidates in 2008, however that is the reality.

Again, as in the past, we are asking our party faithful in Benzie County to step forward with their time, talent and money to get Democrats elected at every level of government in 2008. I hope we can count on each person to share in this march to a Democratic Victory in 2008.

How can you help? There are a number of ways, here are a few:

Become a member of the Democratic State Party. If you are a senior it is just \$5.00; \$50.00 for a couple and \$15.00 for a Basic membership.

Attend Democratic Fundraising events this year. Chicken Bar-B-Que on Saturday, June 30th in Maley Park on U.S. 31, Honor.

March in the Fourth of July Parades in Frankfort and Beulah. Bring your children and strollers and walk with us.

Click on the Benzie Democratic Party website: (www.BenzieDemocrats.com) and find out what a great site it is to get information.

Sign-up to be a volunteer during the election year.

Become a Precinct Delegate in your area (Call me if you have an interest)

I hope that this will give you some ideas how you can help us be successful.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU I wish thank personally Chairperson Chloe McGhee and the many volunteers who made the May Democratic Party Yard Sale a great success.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chicken Bar-B-Que to be held on June 30th from 12:00 – ? at Maley Park on M-31 in Honor. This is important fundraiser for the Party.

Join the **Fourth of July Parades** and march with us (see article).

Carl Levin Fundraiser – July 14th (see article).

Have a great summer,
Ray Nichols



July 4th Parades



**CALLING ALL DEMOCRATS, YOUNG...OLD...
WEAK...BOLD. IT IS PARADE TIME!!!!**

Susan Koenig chair of WONDERFUL DEMOCRATIC PARADES asks that you all participate in the parades on the Fourth of July to show our enthusiasm for our party and our country.

Wear your Benzie Democratic T-shirt or anything red, white or blue, make signs of your important issues, decorate a bike, stroller or wheelchair and march with us. Do none of the above and still march with us.

TIMES

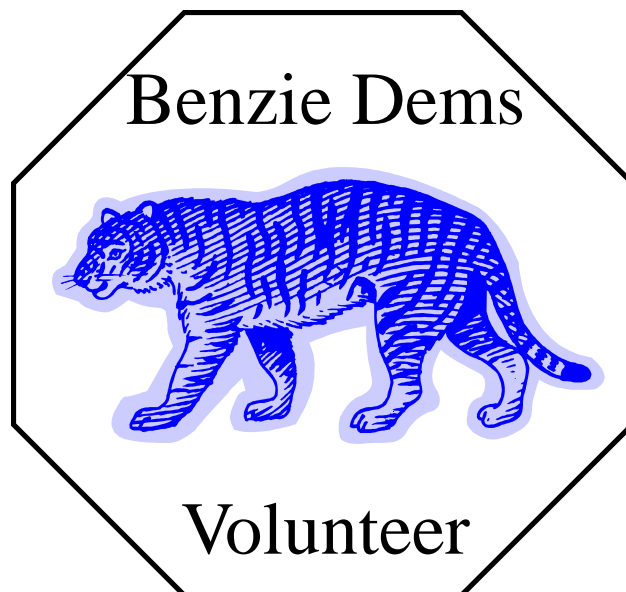
July 4, 2007 line up in Frankfort on Main St. around **9:15** near the back of Glen's Market.

Then recover briefly and the same day,

July 4, 2007 line up in Beulah around **12:30** near the Court-house.

Susan Pyne

We have many interesting projects in the planning and we need your help. Please join us by becoming a Blue Tiger Dem Volunteer. We have something for everyone to do. To volunteer or for more information: Call Ray at 882-4790 or Sue at 882-5721



Fundraising Committee

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Thanks to all who helped make this year's yard sale another successful money maker. We grossed \$2979.20; expenses were a canopy \$60, starting change \$60, and publicity \$95.75. So including late sales we netted \$2856.44. All this was possible because of everyone working together to make it happen very smoothly. We couldn't have had the sale without the generous outpouring of donations of items to sell. This year we added an extra afternoon of sales which added to our profits.

Thanks especially to the following persons who put in a lot of hard work to make the sale happen:

Planning & organization: Peg Lawrenson

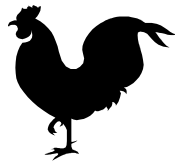
Haulers & heavy lifters: Dick Robb, Warren Call, Ted Curran, Keith McGehee, Margaret & Doug Wozniak, Ray Nichols

Sorters: Sue Pyne, Marcia Curran, Paula Nichols, Kathy Ross, Delores Berta

Pricers: Joyce Skinner, Judy Baker, Kay Boyne, Sue Green
Sales Helpers: Rosalie Pelch, Bea Stone, Sally Smeltzer, Diane Wilbur, Mary Lou Allen, Susan Breuer, Karen Roberts, Kathy Ralston, Phyllis Crowell-Van Hammen, Jan Robb, Carol Waddell & Carroll Volpe who also made delicious BBQ which we enjoyed!

And of course Jim Sheets who provided the space and porta potty for the sale.

And thanks to anyone else I might have missed in this list.
Chloe McGehee, Chair



Annual 4th of July **Chicken Barbecue** – This is always held the Saturday before the 4th of July. This year it will be on Saturday, June 30, in Maley Park in Honor. Rosalie Pelch is the Chair call 882-4780. We still need many volunteers to make this annual event a success– so please call Rosalie and sign up today. We will be serving 1/2 chicken, potato salad, baked beans, Roll and butter and dessert and hot and cold drinks. The cost is \$9.00.

Women's Spa Day – This will be on Nov. 10 at the Best Western Scenic Hill Motel. This event is just two years old, but has proven to be very successful.

In 2008 the anchor events to be held are: Chicken Barbecue, Honoree Dinner and the Women's Spa Day.

The Fund-Raising Committee is looking for more volunteers and workers to help out on each of these events. Please sign up to help call Phyllis Crowell, Chair of the Fund Raising Committee, Tel.: 325-2170 or 651-9105 or call the chair of the event.

Habitat for Humanity Events

Mark your calendars:

2nd Annual Betsie Valley Run

October 7, 2007 Crystal Mountain Resort

Half Marathon and Race Walk

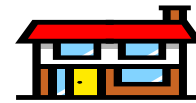
10K walk and Run

Go to BetsieValleyRun.com for registration and information

Sponsored by the Friends of the Betsie Valley District Library

3rd Annual Habitat for Humanity Golf Outing

September 16, 2007 Mistwood Golf Course, Lake Ann



Carl Levin Fundraiser

Help keep Carl Levin in the Senate! Join us for music, fun and Carl on July 14th, 5:30 till 7:30 in the wonderful barn of Nancy Kasperzak, 4965 Martin Rd. (off of Indian Hill).

You will be getting your invitations, for this fund raiser, in the mail soon, but mark your calendars today!!

We will have non alcoholic drinks, you bring wine and munchies. This is your chance to ask real questions and get real answers.

We need committee members to help with set up and take down , decorations and parking Call Mary Robling 231-882-9912



Benzie Democrats' Core Values

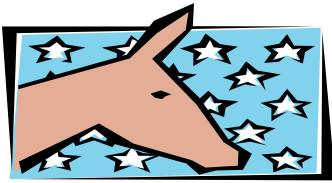
Integrity: *We believe that government, as well as the Benzie Democratic Party, must operate with transparency.*

Stewardship: *We are responsible for caring for and nurturing our human and natural resources.*

Tolerance: *We believe respecting differing points of view and the dignity of others are strengths.*

BENZIE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
P O BOX 63
HONOR MI 49640

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT #15
HONOR MI 49640



BENZIE DEMS DATEBOOK

***June 30, Noon—?: Chicken Bar-B-Que, Maley Park**

July 14th—Senator Carl Levin fundraiser

August 4, 9 a.m.: Regular Meeting, Benzonia Twp Hall

September 1, 12 noon: Family Picnic, Benzonia Twp Park, Bring dish to pass, hot dogs & cold drinks furnished

October 6, 9 a.m.: Regular Meeting, Benzonia Twp. Hall

November 3, 9 a.m.: Regular Meeting, Benzonia Twp. Hall

November 17th & 18th, Camp Millie, Benzie Central High School

November 10, Women's Spa Day, Eden Hill Best Western

November 30, 6 p.m.: Annual Christmas Party

Feb 9, 2008—Michigan Presidential Caucus

May 2008, Honoree Dinner/Silent Auction

Note: **Designates fundraiser*

All Meetings are on the 1st Saturday, except for April because of Easter, No meetings in July, September, and December.

Everyone is welcome to attend meetings - to be on the agenda, please call Ray Nichols prior to the meeting .

Join Us for a Family Picnic in September!

We are planning a family picnic for Saturday, September 1st (Labor Day Weekend) to be held in the Benzonia Township Park Pavilion.

Bring your family and a dish to pass and table service - we will furnish the grilled hot dogs and all the fixings and cold drinks.

We are planning games for all the kids with prizes for everyone and hope to provide some music for your enjoyment.

Sally Smeltzer is the chair for this event and would appreciate your help and input, please call her at 882-9367 to volunteer.

Put the date on your calendar now for a fun day in the park with other good friends.

The Benzie Kicker Newsletter Staff

Jim Dulzo - Carroll Volpe

Please let us know what you think! Send us your comments and suggestions! Call Carroll at 325-6692 or e-mail her at mcvolpe@centurytel.net. If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter send a note.