



The Athens County Democratic Party Report

October 2003

Want to Vote Absentee?

In person

- ★ You can vote absentee at the Board of Elections now until Monday, November 3 at 4 pm. Saturday November 1st the Board of Elections will be open from 8 am until noon.
- ★ You will fill out a simple form requesting an absentee ballot.
- ★ After completing the form, you will receive your ballot and can vote immediately.

By mail

- ★ You can request a ballot by mail until Noon, Saturday, November 1.
- ★ The Board of Elections must receive the ballot by 7:30 pm Election Day, November 4.

Contact

Athens County Board of Elections
15 South Court Street
Athens, OH 45701
592-3201

How To Reach Us

www.athensco-democrats.org
740-594-8683
P.O. Box 191
Athens, Ohio 45701
Chair, Susan Gwinn
Work 740-594-8686
Home 740-592-5401
Cell 740-707-2435
party@frognet.net

Could We Really Save the World?

Vote the straight Democratic ticket this November and save the world! Pretty outlandish, right? How could the city elections in little ol' Athens have any possible impact on our piece of the cosmos?



Well, consider...

How would the world be different if a few more Dems had pulled the lever for Al Gore in Ohio, or Florida, for that matter? Never mind that our candidate got the most votes. What really made the difference in this situation is the way the other guys had gotten their people into position at all levels of the government. Like it or not, the R's have gotten better at filling up city and county offices, not to mention school boards and other non-partisan offices. In Florida, that translated into an ability to change the rules after the game was over.

What about the California recall. While Gray Davis makes Bob Taft look dynamic and decisive, he won his election and deserved to serve out his term. Enter one well-heeled R with a bone to pick and time on his hands and, once again, the rules are tweaked and a legally won election is overturned.

One more example. When good sense prevailed, first we completed the Census, then we redrew the districts. Now if you've been to the rodeo, you know that the party in power draws the lines to their benefit. We did it to them; they turned around and did it to us. Tit for tat on a ten-year cycle. Except in Texas. There, the Republicans decided to re-write the rules, yet again. They unveiled a redistricting plan and rammed it through the legislature only a few years after a bi-partisan effort to adjust districts after the Census.

See the pattern. Republicans act with impunity. They think they have all the aces. Hell, they act like they have all the cards!

We Democrats need to send a message. The message is that we are going to stand together and support each other because we believe in fundamental fairness. We believe that government can be an instrument of positive change in our world. We believe that now is the time to turn our nation around.

Wouldn't things have been different if Democrats had hung together? No Texas two-step with congressional districts. No Arnold. No Bush. No Iraq.

So this November, vote the straight Democratic ticket this November and save the world? Maybe not so farfetched an idea after all.

Send the message November 4. We can only take our country back one ward race, one auditor's race, one at-large race, and one judge's race at a time.

Yes, defeating George Bush does begin at home.

Dale Tampke

★ ★ ★ Defeating George Bush Starts at Home this Fall! ★ ★ ★

BAIN the Voice of Experience

Folks in Athens' Third Ward know that when it comes to their representative on City Council, there's no substitute for experience.

Nancy Bain, with 20 years' experience as the Third Ward representative, anchors a strong Democratic team on the Council. Nancy listens to her constituents and serves as a tireless advocate for the neighborhoods in her ward.

Nancy pushes for sensible and workable solutions to managing our solid waste. She wants to get our neighborhoods cleaned up and has sponsored revisions to the City Code to make it tougher on those who neglect their responsibilities to clean up after themselves. She has made improved garbage and recycling services a top priority.

Nancy supports making rentals safer by revising and enforcing Code requirements. She worked with tenants and landlords to provide input for a workable and practical update to our smoke detector ordinance.

City Council relies on Nancy's expertise in conservation and land use issues as well as her extensive knowledge of important city services like water and sewer. The consummate teacher, Nancy always takes the time to share her knowledge with other members of Council and the general public as well.

Her long term investment in the Athens community – Athens Conservancy, Uptown Kiwanis, Faith Build Habitat for Humanity, Christ the King parishioner – shows her passion for service and her commitment to serious work to solve persistent problems.

Nancy Bain has worked hard for Athens and she needs your vote on November 4. For the Third Ward, there's no substitute for experience. Vote for Nancy Bain.

Email Newsletter to Launch

The Athens County Democratic Party will launch it's email newsletter soon. The emails will contain relevant local party information. If you wish to subscribe email us at party@frognet.net.

Democratic Sample Ballot

- ✓ Athens County Municipal Court Judge-**William Grim**
(County wide race)
- ✓ Mayor, City of Athens-**Ric Abel**
- ✓ President of Council, City of Athens-**William J. Bias**
- ✓ Auditor, City of Athens-**Kathy Hecht**
- ✓ At Large City Council, City of Athens-**Dale Tampke**
- ✓ At Large City Council, City of Athens-**Jim Sands**
- ✓ At Large City Council, City of Athens-**Sarah Sexton**
- ✓ 1st Ward City of Athens-**Paul Wiehl**
- ✓ 2nd Ward City of Athens-**Carol Patterson**
- ✓ 3rd Ward City of Athens-**Nancy Bain**
- ✓ 4th Ward City of Athens-**Debbie Phillips**

Vote for all **3** at large candidates!



Kathy Hecht is following in her father's footsteps as she carries on a family tradition of public service and commitment to her community. Her father was an auditor as she hopes to be. While representing Athens 1st Ward on City Council and serving as a leader in youth and community groups, Kathy has learned what is important to the people of Athens. As a member of Athens City Council's Finance Committee, she has been directly involved in the financial workings of the city. Kathy understands Athens and its financial needs.

In addition to her work for the city of Athens, Hecht has served as president of the P.T.O. at both West Elementary School and Athens Middle School, as president of Athens Friends and Newcomers, as a member of Athens Parks and Recreation Board, and as a leader of Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts. She is currently active in the Westside Community Association and the Athens Ladies Financial Association.

Hecht has a B.A. from Indiana University and works at West Elementary School as a librarian. She and her husband Bruce have three children, Paul, Amy, and Lisa.

opinion
Established 1825
The Athens Messenger
Athens, Ohio
Friday, April 25, 2003
Page 4

Plus and minus
Musical chairs in the auditor's office
Page 4
FRIDAY
April 25, 2003

...auditor's office no place for musical chairs
MINUS — What's happening with the Athens auditor's office reminds us a little of Abbott and Costello's "Who's on First" routine.
Auditor Matthew Mason, a Republican, is resigning effective May 6 because of military obligations. City Councilman Gary Van Meter wants the but because of election deadlines, he would have run in the November election as an independent. Athens businessman Dave Palmer wants the Republicans to appoint him to Van Meter's post, but he also would have to run for Council in November as an independent.
It looks like Van Meter will be running against Democrat Kathy Hecht in the general election for auditor.
We hope that whoever gets elected brings stability and a long-term commitment to the auditor's office, an important city watchdog agency. Mason served less than four months, and in retrospect probably should not have been appointed to provide an accurate accounting of how city money has been spent. There have been no allegations of wrongdoing, just an apparent inability so far by the center to give details of what equipment was bought with city funds.
"Obviously, we haven't been doing the oversight we should be doing," Councilman Ed Baum commented.
PLUS — Even though centenarians are becoming more common, it's still remarkable when you think of all the changes that someone like Gladys Maurer of Nelsonville has seen in her lifetime. She turns 100 on Saturday. When an article about her appeared this week, The Messenger received several telephone calls from people wanting to wish her a happy birthday. We also wish her a special day tomorrow.
MINUS — We live in an area that historically has had a relatively low crime rate, so we have been lulled into a false sense of security — leaving valuables in cars.
The recent rash of break-ins of homes, businesses and vehicles in Athens County has law enforcement officials reminding us that we also have a role in preventing crime. Basic things like locking cars and not leaving keys in them can help. And though it is an inconvenience, they also suggest writing down brand names and serial numbers of property so accurate descriptions can be given when items are stolen.

PLUS — We agree that rules need to be adopted for use of Athens County Courthouse property by protesters and other groups. Wednesday a group of anti-war protesters tapped into the building's electricity, apparently without permission, and Sheriff Vern Castle was put in the untenable position of having to "unplug" the group without having any rules or guidelines to back up his action. Commissioner Bill Theisen said the commissioners do not want to discourage free speech. We hope that is the case, and that any rules are not overly restrictive and allow people easy use of their Courthouse as a site for expression.

MINUS — The idea of the city of Athens handing money to an organization, and then not knowing how it is spent, is the type of thing that gives citizens the shivers.
City Council warned the Appalachian Media Access Center this week that it needed to hire an independent auditor to

✂ clip and take to polls

★ ★ ★ Defeating George Bush Starts at Home this Fall! ★ ★ ★

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Thank You!

Contributed or Pledged for
Fall 2003

Get Out the Vote Effort

If you have not mailed your
pledge please do so as soon
as possible to ACDP, P.O. Box
191, Athens, Ohio 45701

Special Thanks to Northern Democrats



In a touching show of support
to their fellow Democrats in
the City of Athens the Trimble,
Dover, York Democrat Club
donated \$100. and the York
Democrat Club donated \$250.
to the County Party to help
the Athens City Democrats
running for office. It is this
kind of dedication to the
party that helps to unite us as
fellow Democrats and give our
candidates in the upcoming
election the extra boost
of support needed for the
Democrats to win. Thank you.

Under \$99

Nancy & David Aiken
Debbie Arnold
Dave Baer
Tom Bailey
Don & Marge Barrett
Noel & Elizabeth
Barstad
Robert Borchard
Sara & Roy Boyd
Pat Brooks
Sam Buffington
Larry Burnett
Jo & Mike Carpenter
Francine Childs
Sheila & Jack Claxton
Marian & Arthur Clubok
Mary Costello
Rudy Covella
Richard Dailey
Mary & Bill Diles
Audrey Dishong
Kevin Dotson
Gifford Dorse
Tom Eslocker
Ruth Goodman
Lee Gregg
Deborah Gump
Pat Gyi
Diane & Bill Gwilym
Debbie & Terry Haas-
Hogan
Jeanne & Luther
Haseley
Jeanne & David Heaton
Helen & David Horn
Ruth Ingham
Sam Kamento
Marilyn & Ralph Koker
Holly & George Korn
Aliene Linwood

Wendy & John McVicker
Margo & Daniel
Marazon
Vicky & Kevin Mattson
Sherry Meyers
Diana & Gerald Mollica
Tony & Julie Mollica
Peg McDargh
Tom O'Grady
Bill Owens
Eva Poling
Mary Lee Powell
Altha Snyder
Jane Swartzback
Anne Roberts
Anne Rubin
Joel Rudy
Opal & James Scott
Leo Sheridan
Wanda & Pat Sheridan
EH & Edith Stanley
Kay Tousley
Carole & Fred Weiner
Lois & Bob Whealey
June Williams
Jane Wood
Art Woolley
Virginia Woolley

\$100 to \$199

Charles Adkins
Huzoor Akbar
Eleanor Barstow
Paul Benedict
Rita & Doug Bennett
Bill Bias
Bill Biddlestone
Penny Brooks
Patricia & Vibert
Cambridge

Mary Jane & George
Cotter
Betty Deal
Jim & Berry Dilley
Judith Edinger & David
Sturbois
Jim Edwards
Leslie Fleming
Kathleen & Jim Fuller
Mary Giffin
Pearl Graham
L. Alan Goldsberry
Kenneth Kerr
Judy & Scott Jenkinson
Jean Jewell
Kathy Krendl
Shirley & Bob Harper
Tom McGuire
Rex Maiden
Lorraine & Frank
Meyers
Don Nunley
Mary & Roger Pedigo
Gary Seeley
Jim Shirey
Judith & Archie Stanley
Trimble, Dover, York
Club (TDY)
Kenny Thomas
Jim Wallace
Ric Wasserman

\$200 to \$499

Mary & Ric Abel
Linda & Guy Phillips
Nancy Pierce
Tanya & Harold
Thompson
Cheryl & David Warren
York Township
Democrat Club

\$500.00 and up
Terry Anderson
Susan Gwinn
Robert Shostak
Gerald Springer
Jack Stets

Sponsors of Fall Dinner Program

Athens County
Commissioners
William H. "Bill"
Theisen, Lenny
Eliason and Mark
Sullivan
Athens Flower Shop
Athens Lawn Butlers
Javon Kittle Cooper,
Athens County
Treasurer
Damos Restaurant
Patrick Lang for State
Representative
John Lavelle &
Associates, Attorneys
William and Ann Lavelle
Christie Mitchell, Clerk
of Courts
Oak Room Restaurant
Red Brick Tavern
Julia Michael Scott,
Athens County
Recorder
Snider, Fuller & Porter
Associates—Financial
Planners
Archie Stanley, Athens
County Engineer
Toscano's Restaurant



A Salute to the Democratic Women Candidates this Fall



The 19th Amendment granted women equal rights in politics in 1920, yet gender equality is still a work in progress. Women have outnumbered men in voting for the past 40 years, but are still the minority when it comes to being elected to public office.

Women make up approximately 52 percent of the adult population. In theory, women's representation in our government should be a fair reflection of population, but as it stands right now, women account for a mere 14 percent of Congress. More specifically, only 3 of Ohio's 19 Representatives in the US House are women.

The number of women running for public office is currently declining and so is the number of female candidates that actually get elected. Women's participation and representation continues to be an ongoing struggle in American politics, so it takes a strong, independent woman to take on the challenge.

That is why the Athens County Democratic Party is proud to have five qualified women on the ballot this fall.

3rd Ward City of Athens

Nancy Bain

2nd Ward City of Athens

Carol Patterson

At Large City Council,
City of Athens

Sarah Sexton

4th Ward City of Athens

Debbie Phillips

Auditor, City of Athens

Kathy Hecht



For Judicial Service

VOTE



William A. Grim Athens County Municipal Court

Bill Grim believes that judges are elected to serve the public and pledges that he will serve, not rule, from the bench. Judicial service means caring about the individuals in the courtroom and the community at large and making decisions that uphold constitutional rights while protecting the community.

Bill Grim believes in public service as evidenced by his service in the U.S. Navy, service to Athens County as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, and service to his community as a Boy Scout volunteer since 1991. Bill is currently Committee Chairman of BSA Troop 357, District Family Friends of Scouting Chairman, and a recipient of the 2002 Hockhocking District Award of Merit.

Swearing In Ceremony

On Sunday December 7, 2003 the Athens County Democratic Party will host a swearing in ceremony for any Democrat who won on November 4th, in partisan and non-partisan races. Invited to participate are Congressman Ted Strickland who will administer the oaths of office. The ceremony will start at 2:00 PM at the Athens County Historical Society and Museum with a reception following at the Blue Gator.

Democratic Presidential Campaign Committee Information

Amb. Carol Mosley Braun
www.carolforpresident.com

Wesley Clark
www.clark04.com

Gov. Howard Dean
www.deanforamerica.com

Sen. John Edwards
www.johnedwards2004.com



Rep. Dick Gephardt
www.dickgephardt2004.com

John Kerry
www.johnkerry.com

Rep. Dennis Kucinich
www.kucinich.us

Sen. Joe Lieberman
www.joe2004.com

Rev. Al Sharpton
www.sharptonexplore2004.com

★ ★ ★ Defeating George Bush Starts at Home this Fall! ★ ★ ★

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The Provisional Voter *the Decider of Close Races*

What is a Provisional or Walk-in Voter?

A provisional voter is a voter who is registered somewhere else in Ohio than their current address. A provisional voter can vote even if they failed to change their address.

If they have moved from another county in Ohio and are registered to vote in Ohio, you must go to the Board of Elections or Baker Center to vote. They will be given an Athens County ballot to vote. You can vote early. Encourage people to beat the rush and caution them that they need to be sure to fill out the envelope correctly. The voter will be a provisional voter and their vote will be counted 14 days later.

If they have moved from one precinct to another, they can go to their new precinct (if they can identify it) or to the Board of Elections. At the new precinct on Election Day, they will be permitted to change their address and vote. Call the Athens County Board of Elections at 592-3201 to find out their new precinct and where to vote. They will be a provisional voter and it will be counted 14 days later.

If they have moved within their precinct, they can go to their precinct on Election Day and change their address. The voter will not technically be a provisional voter and their vote will be counted that night.

Some people will want to know if they are still registered, please call the Athens County Board of Elections for that information.

Some people are under the misconception that they have to register every year. This is totally untrue. One does not have to register every year.

If someone is a provisional vote they are entitled to vote either on election day or 30 days before.

Jim Sands Dedicated to Athens

Jim Sands, running for re-election as an At-large Member of Athens City Council was born in Sheltering Arms Hospital - the pre-cursor to O'Bleness Hospital, attended Rufus Putnam Elementary School from Nursery School through sixth grade, graduated from Athens High School (now the middle school) and then graduated from Ohio University with a degree in Biology. He joined the U.S. Navy and was assigned to the Hospital Corps because of his pre-med and Biology degree. His service ended in Washington, D. C. and prior to coming back to Athens, he taught elementary school (fifth grade) in the Virginia suburbs for 12 years.

In 1985, Jim moved back to Athens as a co-owner of the Athens Flower Shop. He joined the Chamber of Commerce soon after purchasing the Flower Shop. As a committee member of the Chamber, he and Barbara Briggs established the Fabulous Fourth of July celebration that continues today. He continued to serve on Chamber committees and was subsequently elected President of the Chamber. After that he was asked to serve on the Boards of the Dairy Barn and the Athens Foundation and was later elected President of both these Boards. He is also a charter member of the Athens AM Rotary Club and is a past president

of the club. Jim was an early participant in the efforts of Project Plant to add blooms and beauty to our city. He also served on the Board of Zoning Appeals for five years.

In 1997, Jim was elected to serve on Athens City Council as a member-at-large, and has been re-elected to two additional terms. He is now running for re-election to that office.

Jim has been an effective member of Council, carefully listening to and considering all view points and working with other Council members to make decisions in the best interest of all the citizens of Athens.



Deborah Phillips is the Democratic candidate for Athens City Council in the 4th Ward. Being a candidate is new for Phillips, but her experience on policy issues and organizing give her a solid background in getting things done politically. Phillips has worked with many area organizations, including the League of Women Voters of Athens County, the Athens Area Mediation Service, the ACLU of Ohio, the Appalachian Peace and Justice Network and Rural Action. She's probably best known for her work to get students, parents, teachers and community members involved in Ohio's school funding struggle.

Ohio's school funding case was filed in 1991. The young people who graduated from high school last year were in kindergarten when the case was filed, and the system is still unconstitutional.

The main problem with the system is the over-reliance on local property taxes, which creates an unstable and inequitable distribution of resources for schools. In 1997, after the first Ohio Supreme Court ruling, Phillips (with APJN) worked with a local group of citizens from Athens, Meigs and Vinton counties to create an alternative funding proposal.

In 2001, as a Rural Action staffer working on school facilities issues, Phillips helped organize a student essay contest and involved area students in a conference, legislator meetings and a rally on school funding. After 12 years of litigation without legislative response, some education advocates decided that it was time to branch out and work on a grassroots organizing strategy. Phillips began working with other education leaders to gather the troops. The result

Debbie Phillips and the Fight for School Funding

was the formation of the Ohio Fair Schools Campaign.

Phillips is the Executive Director of the Campaign. The Campaign is working for a real solution to the funding system crisis. The members of the Campaign are community organizations, faith-based groups, and non-profits. Last spring, 1000 members gathered at the statehouse for a rally to protest budget cuts, and parents met with legislators at four schools. This fall, students in 20 schools around the state are surveying their classmates to put a face on the impacts of the funding system. A fair tax system and a fair chance for all of Ohio's children, rural and urban, rich and poor, black and white—it's worth fighting for. To learn more, visit www.ohiofairschools.org

Support Sarah Sexton

It is 6:45 in the morning and Sarah Sexton is waking up to begin another day on the campaign trail. After finishing breakfast, she heads to campus for a morning full of challenging classes. Although classes may end at 1:00, this student's day is just beginning. Sarah spends her afternoons going door to door, visiting with concerned residents, hearing their suggestions for making Athens a better place to live. She has been working on involving students in the political process by registering them to vote and educating them about

the importance of local issues. Also, for the past six months Sarah has been attending nearly every city council meeting, ensuring that she is well aware of the operation of the council as well as the issues under current consideration by the council. As an 18 year resident of Athens, Sarah is in touch with these issues facing Athens. She grew up on the East side. Her parents, Colleen and Tim are professors at Ohio University. Her sister, Celeste is a senior at Athens High School. Besides spending time with her family, she makes time in her day to be

an active member of the Athens Rotaract Club and teach Spanish weekly to Alexander Elementary school students.

One challenge Sarah has faced as a student and as a first time candidate for elected office is raising the funds to get out her message to the community and the student body. In the next two weeks wants to make sure that every Athens resident hears her message and votes Democrat on November 4th. Supporting Sarah is a way of supporting your community.

Calendar of Events

All Democrats Are Welcome

Nov. 4
2003

8:00 PM Victory Party for Athens County Democratic Party.
The Blue Gator, upstairs, 63 North Court, Athens.

Dec. 7
2003

2:00-4:00 PM Athens County Historical Society and Museum,
65 North Court. A reception will follow in the Blue Gator next door.
Swearing In Ceremony for all Democratic candidates, including
those who won non-partisan races but are Democrats. Congressman
Strickland will administer the oaths of office at museum.

Jan. 22
2004

4:00-7:00 PM Blue Gator, 68 North Court, Athens. Ted Strickland
for Congress Fund raiser hosted by Terry Anderson. Appetizers
and a cash bar. Cost \$25.00 per person.

Feb. 21
2004

10:00 AM-12:00 Noon Straw Poll Breakfast. Tri-County Vocational
School Cafeteria, Nelsonville. Cost \$10.00 Come join the
Democratic Party for a lovely breakfast, good company and an
opportunity to cast your ballot for President and other local offices.

March 6
2004

Fund raiser for Congressman Ted Strickland at home of
Terry Anderson. Cost \$250. RSVP to Strickland for Congress,
P.O. Box 580, Lucasville, Ohio 45648.

July 17
2004

6:00 PM to Midnight Chair Susan Gwinn's Annual Birthday Party.
Details will follow later but rumor is it will be a casino night.



Jerry Springer kisses our Central
Committee Chair, Ruth Goodman.



Paid for by the Athens County Democratic Party, Susan Gwinn, Chair.

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