

12/23/08

Editor's Note:

The newsletter is always available online at www.larimerdems.org/newsletter.html.

There will be no newsletter next week due to the holidays.

As always, please submit any and all newsletter items to Anne Wilseck anneeliz73@gmail.com and Adam Bowen adambowen@frii.com. Deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm Sunday.

From the Chair:

Deadline fast approaching!! - the future of transportation for Larimer County is being determined now. Do we add more cars to the road, or do we take advantage of our momentum for change and build transit? Please see below and help put the North Front Range on Track!

PARTY NEWS

NEWS FROM THE LARIMER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY SOUTH OFFICE

The office has started operating in earnest. We held two 'Change is Coming' sessions on Saturday and Sunday, 12/13 and 12/14, with a total of 50 people in attendance, followed by a planning session which was held on Thursday, 12/18. As you can see, plans are well under way to open for regular business hours starting on January 5, 2009.

Upcoming Events – please mark your calendars:

January 9: we will be open for Loveland's Night on the Town, which is held every second Friday of the month from 5:30 - 9:00 pm.

January 10: we will host the next 'Change is Coming' session from 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

January 10: we are having our Grand Opening from 3:00 - 6:00 pm.

Other Activities:

Putting the Front Range on Track: We've supported this initiative by introducing ourselves to some of the downtown Loveland business owners. It was surprising to find out that they already knew we are in town and seemed happy we are here. In addition to introducing ourselves, we also asked for signatures for the I25 DEIS Package A proposal that recommends commuter/passenger rail between Fort Collins and Longmont on the existing BNSF rail. I believe this demonstrated that it is the LCDP that is on the front line in supporting the downtown businesses not only in Loveland but all along the Front Range.

Remaining Wish List:

Refrigerator

Some additional folding chairs

Donations are needed if we are to keep this office open. Please consider either increasing your current donation, or if you are not donating now, start a monthly donation.

PUBLIC CAN COMMENT ON U.S. SENATE SELECTION

Gov. Bill Ritter said he will move quickly, deliberately and thoughtfully to select a

replacement for U.S. Sen. Ken Salazar, who was nominated by President-elect Obama on Wednesday to serve as the nation's Interior secretary.

Gov. Ritter will consult with Coloradans throughout the state on this important decision.

In order to provide Coloradans with a way to send their views and comments to Gov.

Ritter, his office has established an email address: ussenate.comments@state.co.us.

"I will act as quickly as possible to name a successor for Sen. Salazar," Gov. Ritter said.

"I take this responsibility seriously, and my most important requirement is to pick the person who can best serve all of the people of Colorado in the U.S. Senate."

COMMUNITY NEWS

PUT THE NORTH FRONT RANGE ON TRACK!

Help bring commuter rail to the North Front Range.

In connection with Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) North I-25 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (NI25 DEIS) and to provide viable transportation choices for the movement of people and goods in the Northern Front Range (NFR), we support: **necessary safety upgrades on I-25, mass transit components of Package A, and most specifically commuter rail connecting city centers on existing track from Fort Collins to Longmont, there connecting with Denver Metro FasTracks and RTD bus routes.**

A Final EIS is scheduled for 2009 and the results will become a resource for the upcoming 2035 Land Use EIS.

Please submit comments supporting the components of Package A listed in bold above directly to CDOT before the public comment period ends December 30, 2008:

Please submit comments supporting the components of Package A listed in bold above directly to CDOT before December 30, 2008:

Online: www.cdot.info/northi25eis/

Mail: Carol Parr, CDOT Region 4, 1420 2nd St., Greeley, CO 80631

You must include your name, email address and/or mailing address.

Phone for comments and/or questions:

(970) 352-5455 or (303) 779-3384.

Please also submit a copy of your comments to CDOT to your elected officials (city councils, town boards, county commissioners, state and federal representatives.)

Join the effort further by sharing encouraging colleagues, friends, and family to support commuter rail by submitting their comments directly and/or signing our petition before December 28.

For more information and to get involved, please contact

FrontRangeOnTrack@gmail.com or call 970-669-0030.

Learn more!

<http://www.dot.state.co.us/northi25eis/>

FrontRangeOnTrack@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATES

Tue, Jan. 20	Inauguration Party!--Details TBA
Sat, Jan. 24	Volunteer Appreciation Open House--Details TBA
Sat, Feb. 7	Central Committee Meeting--Location and time TBA.
Sat., Mar. 28, 2009	Larimer Dems Annual Dinner

REGULAR MEETINGS

Larimer County Democratic Party Monthly Meeting (All are welcome!)

Date & Time: Third Thursdays, 6:30 pm social, Meeting at 7:00 pm

Location: Headquarters, 606 S. Mason St., Fort Collins

Contact: Irene Fortune for more information vladimir1992@hotmail.com

Democratic Breakfast Forum: Fort Collins

Monthly Meeting. No meeting in December or January.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:45 am

Location: Columbine Cafe & Bakery, NW corner of Drake and Worthington, Fort Collins.

Contact & RSVP: Anne Michaelson, 484-9621, annemich@comcast.net

Estes Park Meetup for Democracy: Estes Park

The Estes Park Meetup for Democracy is open to anyone interested in a return to progressive government. The group supports candidates who are fiscally responsible, socially progressive, and who promote honesty and candor in political discourse.

Date & Time: First Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

Contact: John Ericson, 586-5042

Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club

The Larimer County Jane Jefferson Democratic Club is going to be moving around this year! We are going to try some new activities and locations: breakfast, lunch, happy hour; Loveland, Fort Collins. Check the newsletter often and please join us!

Date & Time: Varies

Location: Varies

Contact: Kathy Batterton at kathybatterton@q.com for reservations.

Democratic Business Coalition: Fort Collins

Monthly Luncheon

Date & Time: Second Tuesday of each month. 12:00 noon, Guest presentation. Doors open at 11:30 am to socialize and start lunch.

Location: Home State Bank, 303 East Mountain, Fort Collins.

Contact: M.L. Johnson, 482-4979 or mjohnson@lamar.colostate.edu for reservations and to order catered lunch.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Larimer County Democratic Party

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Colorado Democratic Party

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Colorado House Democrats	200 E. Colfax Denver, CO	(970) 221-1473	cohousedems.typepad.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

If you have items to submit, PLEASE READ!

Due to the length of the newsletter, we are limiting the body of most items to 75 words (not including title and “date & time, location, contact” type information). If your submission is longer, it will be cut. We suggest including a link for additional information. **Our deadline for newsletter items is Sunday at 5:00 pm** for publishing by e-mail on Tuesday mornings. To be effective, send us your notices at least a week early, so that they can appear twice. This will give potential attendees time to put your events on their calendars. We would like to include House District meetings, committee meetings, neighborhood coffees or picnics, etc. Such notices may increase your attendance. Please send newsletter items to anneeliz73@gmail.com and adambowen@frii.com. (Sometimes one of us will be out of town.) Thank you.