

## Chair Check-In

Happy Friday, Democrats! And an early Happy Father's Day to all the proud fathers across our state and to the newest father in our party - Executive Director Vincent Harrington!

I always look forward to writing this letter to you and there are a few things I want to cover this week so let's dive in.

While it is a week with Flag Day and Father's Day, Monday is also Juneteenth - a newer and long overdue federal holiday that offers the entire nation a chance to commemorate the emancipation of millions of Americans who were denied basic human and civil rights for generations. As President Biden said when he signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, "Great nations don't ignore their most painful moments. They embrace them. Great nations don't walk away. We come to terms with the mistakes we made. The truth is, it's simply not enough just to commemorate Juneteenth... To honor the true meaning of Juneteenth, we have to continue toward that promise because we've not gotten there yet."

That last part - because we've not gotten there yet - is key. We have work to do. For every slow, deliberate, delayed step our nation has made in the fight for equality, we are reminded there are plenty more steps ahead of us. The goal of this nation since its birth has been to create 'a more perfect union' meaning our American experiment is never fully perfect or complete. We always have more work to do, more progress to be made. Complacency is the enemy of progress, and on equality above all other issues, we simply cannot afford to stop here. We celebrate freedom, we remember the blight and sacrifice it took to achieve that, and we honor those generations of Black Americans who were never given a fighting chance for a life with liberty or the pursuit of happiness by lifting voices that have been hushed, and by moving our state to be a more just and equal home for all Marylanders.

Next week also marks one year since the Supreme Court made a historically tragic decision to overturn Roe v Wade. As Marylanders, as Americans, as women, and as

human beings we were beyond disappointed when we heard the news. Since that day we have fought back against this partisan decision which was a culmination of decades of work by the Republican Party to deny a woman the right to make decisions about her own body and reproductive healthcare. Our leaders in Annapolis took the lead during Session and we will continue to be a safe haven for reproductive rights. This week, and every week, we must rededicate ourselves to this fight. We simply cannot go back. No nation on this planet should give more rights to gun owners than to women.

Now, on a lighter note, we're less than a week from the biggest event of the year - our annual Maryland Democratic Party Gala honoring our friend, the great Steny Hoyer. It's going to be an incredible night in Baltimore with our Governor and federal delegation joining us, and our Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries making the trip up from Congress to help give Congressman Hoyer the acknowledgement and appreciation he so richly deserves. If you haven't secured a ticket already, I strongly encourage you to get one before they run out. I love when we have an opportunity to bring our Democratic colleagues together from each region of the state, and to combine our state and federal leaders in one room. I cannot wait to see you all there.

In Unity & Solidarity, Yvette Lewis

**Events & Announcements** 

# MD# DEMS

# GAJA 2023



HONORING
CONGRESSMAN
STENY HOYER

WITH SPECIAL
GUEST
MINORITY LEADER
HAKEEM JEFFRIES

Martin's West

6817 DOGWOOD RD,
BALTIMORE, MD 21244
THURSDAY, JUNE 22ND
VIP RECEPTION 6:00PM

GENERAL RECEPTION 6:30 PM | MAIN EVENT 7:00PM

All funds solicited in connection with this event are by the Maryland Democratic Party and not by Congressman Steny Hoyer or Congressman Hakeem Jeffries. Paid for by the Maryland Democratic Party, www.mddems.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. By authority of Devang Shah, Treasurer.

**PARTICIPATE HERE** 



## SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023 10AM TO 11:30AM VIRTUAL MEETING

# LATINO DEMOCRATS OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

#### **RESERVATION REQUIRED:**

HTTPS://BIT.LY/LDPGC



THE ZOOM MEETING LINK PROVIDED IS UNIQUE TO YOU & WILL BE PROVIDED AFTER REGISTERING.



LDPGC.ORG



/LATINODEMSPGC



/LDPGC

PARTICIPATE HERE



# MD # DEMS

## **2023 Training Series** So You Want To **Run For Office?**

**TUESDAY JUNE 27TH 2023** 

IN THIS TRAINING, WE WILL DISCUSS ISSUES TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOU RUN FOR OFFICE, WHAT STEPS TO FIRST TAKE, AND HOW TO SET YOURSELF UP FOR SUCCESS!

VIRTUAL EVENT ? 7:00PM-8:30PM

PARTICIPATE HERE



Chair Lewis spoke to Democrats at the Frederick County Central Committee Annual Dinner with a clear message:

We haven't come this far just to come this far, we have work to do.



We were honored to host Kentucky Democratic Party Chair Colmon Elridge who attended as the keynote speaker for the Frederick County Central Committee Annual Dinner.

## Social Media

"It takes no compromise to give people their rights. It takes no money to respect the individual. It takes no survey to remove repressions."
-Harvey Milk.

This month the Maryland Democratic Party celebrates Pride Month and the LGBTQIA community's rich history and culture. #pride



As early as the 17th century, same sex activity was heavily criminalized in the Province of Maryland. Despite there being over forty cultural groups already inhabiting the state, with stark differences in gender and sexual practices, the colony adopted several English laws like the Buggery Law of 1553, which made sodomy a capital offense. However, several LGBTQIA historians know that gender imbalanced or same-sex environments like military institutions, same sex colleges, covenants and seminaries for example, were likely to produce same-sex relationships.

The 1970s marked an unprecedented time of progression for LGBTQ rights. In 1970, a state commission recommended the decriminalization of private homosexual acts of adults by a vote of 12-2. This led to the Senate passing a bill repealing the Sodomy Law. In 1971, HB921 was passed to forbid the discrimination of homosexuals in employment.

By the 1990's, all laws against private consensual sex were overturned by the Maryland state courts, ensuring the decriminalization of homosexual adults, thanks in part to the decision made in Williams v. Glendening. This invalidated laws against relations with same sex couples. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) called the court decision 'the first deal of its kind.'

In 2013, with our state's democratic representation and former Governor Martin O'Malley's lead, same sex marriage was officially legalized in the state of Maryland. Known as the Civil Marriage Protection Act, Governor O'Malley stated, "I have concluded that discriminating against individuals based on their sexual orientation in the context of civil marital rights is unjust."

Since this historical passing, the Maryland General Assembly has enacted laws that protect LGBTQIA rights that vary from honorable discharge from the military, LGBTQIA education, healthcare, adoption and parenting, along with anti-hate crime laws. Maryland has become a safe haven for all members of the





**View insights** 

**Boost post** 













### Liked by msmorganmurphy and 17 others

mddems This month, The Maryland Democratic Party celebrates African American Music Appreciation Month by honoring the amazing musicians and genres that are integral to American History. This week, we highlight Maryland's finest jazz musicians and their amazing contributions to American culture both on and off the stage. #swipeleft

June 7



👛 Maryland Democratic Party 📦 @md... • 1d This month and every month, the Maryland **Democratic Party celebrates our LGBTQ+ legislative members and the strides** they've made to build a Maryland that's truly one for all.

 $\bigcirc$  2

172

1 378



Show this thread



👛 Maryland Democratic Party 📦 @md... • 1d

Replying to @mddems

Maggie McIntosh is a former city public school teacher & 1st woman in MD's history to serve as the Majority Leader in the HOD & 1st openly gay elected member of the MGA. She was named in the "Top 100 Women in Maryland" list in 3 seperate decades, and is widely respected.



# MAGGIE **MCINTOSH**

The first woman to be appointed Majority Leader in the House of Delegates and the first openly gay elected







## Maryland Democratic Party 🧇



Posted by Instagram

23h · 🕙

### Happy Birthday, Congressman Steny Hoyer!

For over 60 years, Congressman Hoyer has dedicated his time and effort to his fellow Marylanders. To show him our appreciation, The Maryland Democratic Party will be honoring Congressman Hoyer at our annual Gala!



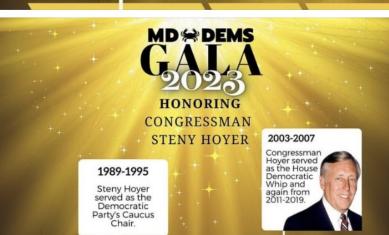
HONORING CONGRESSMAN STENY HOYER

#### 1966

Hoyer graduated from Georgetown University earning his Law Degree. That same year, he won a seat in the Maryland Senate.

#### 1978-1981

Hoyer served as a member of the State Board of Higher Education.







2019-2023 Steny Hoyer served as Majority Leader again. In 2022, Hoyer announced he would step down from his leadership position



1995-2000

Hoyer served as Chief Candidate recruiter for the House Democrats.

#### 2006

After the Middern election. Democrats gained control of the House and Steny Hoyer was elected the Majority Leader.

#### 2007-2011

Hoyer becomes the first Marylander to serve as Majority Leader and the highest ranking federal lawmaker in Maryland history







**View insights** 

**Boost post** 











#### **Name of the contract of the c**

mddems Today and every day we honor the memory of all the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice while serving our great state and nation. We can never repay them for the sacrifices they have made, but we can honor them with our actions. We take today to reflect and remind ourselves that we are forever indebted to these service members and their families, and we strive to honor their memories each and every day.





## **CHECK OUT OUR NEW MERCHANDISE!**



#### **SHOP FOR MD DEMS SWAG HERE**

## DONATE HERE!







Paid for by the Maryland Democratic Party, www.mddems.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. By authority of Devang Shah, Treasurer.

Maryland Democratic Party 275 West St Suite 70 Annapolis, MD 21401 United States

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please (Unsubscribing is not supported in previews).