

August 2006

# Democratic News

## Special points of interest:

- **Biographies of local Democratic Candidates**
- **Recycling Locations**
- **Local Democratic Organizations**
- **Mark Your Calendar**

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## The Time is Now by Rachel Stevens

Many Americans are tired of the direction our country is heading under the Bush Administration and many Missourians are fed up with the guidance of our state government under Matt Blunt, as well.

Even some life-long Republicans want to see some major changes...

It is time for Democrats to unite in support of our fellow Democratic candidates. We need a

change; we need fresh perspectives and open minds. We need people who are not scared of progress, but whom insist on it. We need people who think with their hearts as well as their minds...we need more Democrats in Missouri government!

The 2006 elections are crucial to our state's well being. I urge everyone to do his or her parts this November and vote.

Greene County has some wonderful Democratic candidates running for state and local office. The heart of this newsletter is devoted to those candidates to share with you the experience and goals that they bring to the table.

This much requested and overdue newsletter will be published seasonally, so look forward to more Democratic News from the Greene County Democratic Central Committee.

## Recycling in the Springfield Area

For those of you who are not aware of where you can take more uncommon recyclable items, here is a brief listing:

### Antifreeze:

City's Household Chemical Collection Center (call) 864-2000  
Jiffy Lube locations

### Appliances:

All Metal Recycling	862-0011
Bob's Scrap Metal	869-6633
Freedom Appliance	862-8585
C& C Appliances	865-3296

### Used Motor Oil:

Auto Zones, O'Reillys, Jiffy Lubes

### Auto/Marine Batteries:

Batteries Plus	823-8060
McCoy's Iron & Metal	866-3707

### Household Batteries:

Lowe's & Staples locations	(call)
Batteries Plus	823-8060
Chemical Collection Center	(call)

### Cell Phones:

Sprint & Staples location

### Computers & Office Equipment:

Computer Recycling Center	866-2588
Office Equipment Recycling Center	866-3131

### Pesticides/Cleaners/Paint:

City's Household Chemical Collection Center (call) 864-2000

### Printer Cartridges:

A-1 Laser Toner	881-2524
Office Depot & Staples	

### Propane Tanks:

Amerigas	866-6781
Ozark Gas & Appliance	869-6437

### Packing Materials:

Pack-n-Mail	886-0001
Sunshine Pack & Ship	891-9874

### City of Springfield Recycling Centers

864-1904



**August - September**

**All Candidates Fundraiser**

**When:** August 26th -4:30 - 10 p.m

**Where:** Old Firehouse at Commercial and Boonville

**Greene County Women's Democratic Club Meeting**

**When:** September 4th - 11:30 a.m

**Where:** Heritage Cafeteria (Battlefield & Fremont)

**Labor Day:** September 4th

**Democratic Alliance Meeting**

**When:** September 6th - 7 p.m. (see last page for details)

**Franklin D. Roosevelt Women's Democratic Club Meeting**

**When:** September 11th - 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Heritage Cafeteria

**Senior Democrats of the Ozarks**

**When:** September 14th (see last page for details)



## Meet Christopher Brown - 134th District Candidate



**Christopher Brown**

[electchristopherbrown.com](http://electchristopherbrown.com)

My name is Christopher Brown. I am the Democratic Candidate for the Missouri State House of Representatives for the 134th District. I have lived in Republic for nine years with my wife Christie and children Maegan, Heather and J.R.

I am running for State Representative for our future. Our Youth are the future, our future. We must provide them with the best education available. We must make access to healthcare affordable to everyone. A healthy childhood leads to a productive adulthood.

We must continue to ensure that our family values are intact, we must protect our children from sexual predators, both in our neighborhoods and on the Internet. We must protect the family by enacting Mandatory Arrests for Domestic Abuse in our state.

Finally we must aid the single parent family by enforcing Child Support and assisting those that require vocational aid to obtain meaningful employment and stop the cycle of imprisoning pointlessly and start rehabilitating.

I will be a active representative in our community, I will constantly strive to here your concerns and ideas to lead the 134th into the future. I look forward to meeting each and everyone.

Thank you and God Bless.

## Meet Nancy Hagan - 135th District Candidate



**Nancy Hagan**

[electhagan.org](http://electhagan.org)

My name is Nancy Hagan and I am running for the Missouri House of Representatives for the 135th District.

After I made my decision to run in the 135th District for State Representative I asked myself what issues were most important to me, having lived in the area for over three decades. For 31 years, I taught the youth of Springfield how to use their voices effectively,

and in doing so I realized the voting public has the same need.

Often in politics the voices of constituents are lost in the shuffle of partisan ideals and political goals. I have dedicated my life to helping children and families and it is important to have a government interested in solving problems they encounter.

Voters of the 135th deserve someone who will seek solutions to

health care issues, find ways to ease the energy burden, and try to make certain that job opportunities do not pass us by.

My first loyalty remains with the voters of the district, not with party ideals, and if I need to develop a cross party consensus to further these goals, that is a step I'm willing to take.

## Meet James Owen - 136th District Candidate



**James Owen**

[electowen.com](http://electowen.com)

I was born and raised on a dairy farm just outside of Springfield where I worked my way through high school and college. I decided to become a lawyer because I could help people and make a difference in the community. I went to work for the Law Office of Rolland Comstock where I specialize in elder law and probate. In addition to my legal work, I also teach part-time at Drury University.

I've been taught that problems are solved through hard work and perseverance. But the politicians in charge of our great state are taking

the easy way out on difficult issues.

That's why I want to be the State Rep for the 136th District in central and western Springfield. With a strong work ethic, new ideas, and an unwavering set of values, I will tirelessly represent my neighbors in Jefferson City while standing up to corrupt special interests and the bloated bureaucracy.

Our leaders were elected based on tough talk of accountability and morality. Once they took their oath of office, they quickly began turning the work of the people, the work they were elected to do, to lobbyists and

wasteful corporations. They say they're fiscally responsible, but their incompetence hurts our pocketbooks.

I believe that our state's budget is a moral document and the decisions we make every year reflect on our priorities. I have a strong respect for life, from the womb to our golden years. I believe personal liberties guide our society. I believe that a representative should be available to constituents and to seek out their concerns. I look forward to talking with the great people of the 136th district on these issues and about the future of Missouri.



## Meet Robert M. Brantley - 137th District Candidate

I am running for office because nobody who is currently elected represents me, my family, my friends, or my neighbors. The only way to change a broken system is to immerse oneself into the system and get to work. Government agencies are no longer held accountable to the people they are supposed to serve and our locally elected leaders seem willing to do everything except represent the people who put them in office.

I am a self-employed organizational communication consultant and spend the majority of my time providing Pro-bono Constituent Services for Northwest Springfield Residents and

administrating local and regional informational web sites. I am also actively involved in numerous social, political, and neighborhood movements and organizations.

**In 2000**, Brantley first volunteered for Greene County Democrats with the Consolidated Campaign Headquarters headed up by Mike Schilling.

**In 2002**, you would have found Brantley driving Jim Kreider's brown farm truck throughout the four counties of the 20<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District .

**In 2004**, Brantley was responsible for coordinating the campaign of "Just Plain Bill" Szczepanski. He was the man behind the curtain that helped raise the Democratic vote in the 137<sup>th</sup> Legislative District by 100%.

**Additionally**, Brantley has provided intellectual, data, web, and ground support to countless Democrats vying for multiple seats over the years.

He has volunteered and actively participated in City Council, County Commission, Mayoral, Legislative, Senatorial, and Congressional contests.



**Robert M. Brantley**

[RobertBrantley.com](http://RobertBrantley.com)

[137th.com](http://137th.com)

## Meet Charles Norr - 137th District Candidate

I served in the military for four years and the Reserves for two years and was honorably discharged in 1967. I was a career firefighter in Baltimore for 20 years. After serving as a rookie firefighter I was promoted to:

Paramedic, then Pump Operator then Lieutenant then Captain. Upon retirement, my wife Peggy and I moved to Missouri in 1990 and raised cattle for several years before moving to Springfield, where we currently reside.

I am an active member of the North Springfield Betterment Association, Woodland Heights N.A., Urban Neighborhoods Alliance, Heart of the West Side and Mid-Town N.A.

**Education**  
I will fight for our fair share of funding so that our public schools can prepare our children to compete for the jobs of tomorrow.

**Healthcare**  
I will be your voice for the need of

affordable alternatives to cuts that have unfairly targeted the working poor, the disabled, and our children.

**Crime**  
I will demand strong penalties for convicted criminals; I am committed to work hard for better and safer neighborhoods. I will work to fight the scourge of drugs and gangs.



**Charles Norr**

[charlienorr.com](http://charlienorr.com)

## Meet Richard A. Napieralski - 137th District Candidate

My wife Verna and I have lived over ten years in Northwest Springfield. We have a son, Thomas, 18, and daughter, Jennifer, 14.

**Community Involvement**  
Member Grand Beach & Heart of the Westside Neighborhood Associations  
Mo. Head Start Parents Ass'n President

**Political Involvement**  
137th District Chairman  
Field Director SWMO "Clean Money"  
Campaign Finance Reform initiative

I am seeking public office because I care about the lives of people in Northwest Springfield! When elected, I

vow to **PUT THE PEOPLE FIRST!**  
Every man, woman and child should have access to a standard level of health care. We need to do all we can at the state level to **expand health care coverage for all our citizens.**

Hard work should pay. Missouri's workers deserve to receive proper pay for their work. I support the **minimum wage petition** on the November ballot.

I care about what is happening to the people of Northwest Springfield. We always seem to get the short end of the stick. It is time for this to end.

The people of Northwest Springfield deserve a leader who will value them, not the corrupt special interests of Gov. Blunt. It is time we stand up for what we deserve.

In only two years, Gov. Blunt has already cut education, forcing local taxes to be raised. We need a leader who is willing to stand up for our children and our families.

Healthcare, fair wages, education and corruption are only some of my concerns. Big business interests already have enough representation— it is time for us to have a voice.



**Richard Napieralski**

<http://democrat.meetup.com/363/members/861000>





**Sara Lampe**

[saramampe.com](http://saramampe.com)

## Meet Rep. Sara Lampe - 138th District Incumbent

Sara Nell Thomas Lampe graduated from Southwest Missouri State University in 1970 with a Bachelor's in Education, Elementary Education, and Theatre and received a Master's in Elementary Administration in 1976. While attending college, she participated in Tent Theatre and in 1968 toured with the USO in the South Pacific.

Sara has lived in the district for 39 years. She has three sons who attended Springfield Public Schools. She is also a long time member of South Street Christian Church.

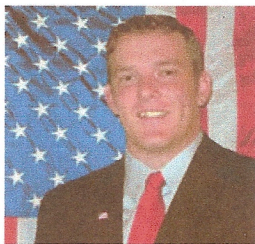
After teaching elementary school for 7 ½ years, she co-founded WINGS

(Working With the Individual Needs of Gifted Students) in 1978 and spent 17 years as Principal at Phelps Center for the Gifted. Since 1979 she has been an Adjunct Professor at Drury University and since 1985 has been a consultant to school districts nationwide.

Sara is a member of a number of professional associations, including Gifted Association of Missouri, Drury University's Center for Gifted Education, Delta Kappa Gamma, Kappa Kappa Iota, Springfield and Missouri Retired Teachers Association, and the American Association of University Women.

In her campaign she is focusing on the issues that have the biggest direct impact on the people of the 138<sup>th</sup> district. Given her experience in the public school district, she is committed to increased state support for public schools. Additionally, Sara is committed to providing affordable colleges and universities for Missouri's students. She also recognizes the importance of issues related to seniors. In addition to fighting for increased access to health care, during the last session she introduced legislation to increase the penalties for those who commit identity theft of seniors.

## Meet Jamie Schoolcraft - 139th District Candidate



**Jamie Schoolcraft**

[electschoolcraft.com](http://electschoolcraft.com)

Throughout my life, I have been surrounded by true public servants. I have seen the work my grandparents did through founding the Good Samaritan Boys Ranch and pastoring Baptist churches. I also watched my mother unselfishly raise four children on her own and still find the time and energy to volunteer as a medical missionary to South America.

I knew growing up that my life would be spent helping others like my family had done. I began volunteering for my local fire department at a very young age and

have been a volunteer firefighter now for almost 15 years.

After graduating from the University of Missouri Kansas City in 1997, I returned home to southwest Missouri where I taught at the alternative school in Willard while getting my degree in paramedicine. I began working on an ambulance in 1998 for Cox Hospitals, and today I am a paramedic supervisor for their ambulance service.

I believe there are five things that a representative should try to ensure for everyone they represent.

Affordable healthcare, a quality education, a good paying job, shelter, and food. As State Representative, I will fight everyday to ensure that everyone in the 139th and across the state has these essential tools to be a productive member of society.

I hope you will join me in this fight. Please call 417-742-1227 or visit [www.electschoolcraft.com](http://www.electschoolcraft.com) to volunteer or for more information.

## Meet Tonya Cunningham - 140th District Candidate



**Tonya Cunningham**

My name is Tonya Cunningham and I am running for the Missouri House of Representatives in the 140th District. I am a graduate of Springfield Public Schools, Central High School and Drury University. I am the youngest of 9 children and the proud mother of Eli Cunningham. Eli and I have been very active at Springfield Little Theatre. I am currently employed by Upstage Productions as an actor and Sunnyland Tours as a Tour

Specialist. I am a Democrat because I believe in Justice for All and creating opportunities for people to help themselves and others I believe education is a public duty and not a privilege reserved for the wealthy. I believe in collective bargaining and a living wage. I am running for office to stand up to the bullies who are changing these

Democratic, American principles.

Thank you,

Tonya Cunningham



### Meet Mark Blevins II- 141st District Candidate

My name is Mark Blevins and I am running for Representative of the 141st Legislative District. I grew up on a small farm in Christian County where I attended Nixa Schools from kindergarten until graduation. I then volunteered to serve my community and country in the United States Air Force where I was a Signals Intel Operator. I was raised to respect everyone and work hard for what I believed. I used that raising to graduate with honors from my training in the USAF.

I feel the citizens of the 141st District need a hard working, ethical man who has the integrity to stand up for a better education system that truly leaves no child behind. I believe it is our moral obligation to provide affordable, quality health care coverage for our seniors and children. NO senior should have to keep working just to afford their medications and no parent should have to decide between groceries and taking their sick child to the

doctor. I want to give the citizens of the 141st real representation in Jefferson City, the type of representation that doesn't vote for bad policies and big money, the type that the residents of Southwest Missouri need. I would greatly appreciate your vote.



Mark Blevins II

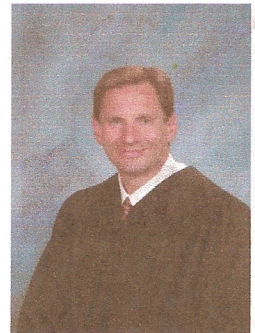
### Meet Jason R. Brown - Associate Circuit Judge -22nd

It is my privilege to serve as Associate Circuit Judge of Greene County. My docket consists of a broad range of both criminal and civil matters. My 18 years as a lawyer and Judge have provided me with the depth and diversity of experience necessary to handle the challenges and responsibilities of being a judge.

fairly and impartially-- on its own unique facts, issues and applicable law.

I strive to run my courtroom in a courteous, firm and efficient manner. Despite the heavy volume of cases each day, I try to maintain the same judicial temperament that I feel each person deserves. I understand that most people who come in my courtroom would rather not be there.

I feel fortunate that my active involvement over the years in local service clubs and not-for-profits has acquainted me with the needs and issues our community. It is my goal to make a positive impact upon our community each day that I serve. I would very much appreciate your vote.



Judge Jason Brown

[Judgejasonbrown.com](http://Judgejasonbrown.com)

### Meet Mark A. Powell - Associate Circuit Judge - 24th

It has been my privilege to serve the citizens of Greene County and the State of Missouri as Associate Circuit Judge of Division 24 for the past 6 years.

becoming a judge, I practiced law with the Miller & Sanford law firm (now Lathrop & Gage) for 15 years. My trial experience as a lawyer has been invaluable as I now preside over trials from the bench.

I am very fortunate to run unopposed in this year's election. I would like to thank the citizens of Greene County

for their confidence in me.



On a daily basis I try to bring to the bench those attributes important to my father Judge Jack Powell: intelligence, a good temperament, and a sense of fairness. Prior to



## Meet David L. Coonrod - Presiding Commissioner



David L. Coonrod

[greenecountymo.org](http://greenecountymo.org)

For the last seventeen years it's been my honor and a privilege to serve the citizens of Greene County as a member of the Greene County Commission. Since 1994 I've been entrusted with the office of Presiding Commissioner. Prior to being placed in public office by the voters, I worked four years on staff as a county land use planner, and was the Founding Director of what is now the Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.

My Bachelor of Science in Environmental Geology as well as Masters of Science in Resource Planning have provided an excellent

academic background in preparation for the challenging issues Greene County faces every day.

Greene County Commission's main focus is the administration of a calendar year budget. Most folks see several more obvious contributions of our work through improvements to our road and bridge system. Greene County is one of only three counties in Missouri to have all public roads paved. Virtually all of Greene County's bridges have been repaired

or replaced. We also act on zoning requests and subdivision developments thereby shaping the economy of our region. The commission strives to strike a balance between quality growth and environmental stewardship.

Fundamentally, what is needed to meet our growing pains and the demands of a robust economy is steady, proven leadership. My record of accomplishments and environment advocacy should instill confidence in Greene County voters. I ask for your vote and appreciate your support.

## Meet Derek White - Greene County Circuit Clerk



Derek White

[derekwhite.us](http://derekwhite.us)

The election year brings a vast number of opportunities for Democrats in the area and all across this great country of ours. Locally and nationally it seems that the Republicans have left a lot of doors open that we could take advantage of; but there are many challenges that face us as modern day Democrats.

Whether I am serving as Chair of the Springfield Citizens Advisory Committee for Community Development or as Secretary of the 137th Legislative District Committee, I strive to serve the people in this area to the best of my ability.

Many people have lost trust in the current Greene County Court System as they have lost trust in national and local leadership. We can reverse this trend and I plan on doing my part by focusing on three core values: People Service, Honesty, and Real Change.

People Service should revolve around Excellence and Quality of Service. When citizens request information about their court case or requests copies of court documents they should be served quickly, accurately, and pleasantly.

The people who come to the Clerk of County Court are many times already

facing painful situations and it is not the job of administrative personnel to further degrade, intimidate, or create an unpleasant experience.

I will serve everyone equally once elected as Greene County Circuit Court Clerk. With your very active support I can and will instill these three core values into the workings of Greene County Government.

We should be proud of our elected leaders but this requires that we work together toward common goals and that we personally ensure those who would best represent us are elected to public office.

## Meet Andrew Brown - Prosecuting Attorney



Andrew Brown

[citizensforbrown.com](http://citizensforbrown.com)

For the first time in eight years, Greene County voters will have a choice for prosecuting attorney. This year the right choice is Andy Brown.

After passing the July, 2000 bar exam, Andy established Ikard & Brown Law Offices with attorney Jolie Ikard. For the past six years, Andy has ran a successful criminal and general civil law practice in his hometown of Republic. He has represented the City of Republic and City of Everton (Dade Co.), and has served as prosecutor for the City of Strafford and municipal judge for the City of Miller for the past three years. Andy believes the prosecutor's office can be improved in

many ways, including:

**DISCRETION.** By hiring and retaining the best persons available for assistant prosecutors and affording them more discretion than they currently possess, Andy will maintain a professional, fair, and quality staff.

**LISTENING.** Andy will listen to and work with everyone from judges to law enforcement agencies to bail-bondsmen in order to make our criminal justice system as efficient as possible.

**PRIORITIZING.** Andy believes that prosecutorial resources should be

focused on criminals who are a threat to other persons rather than criminals whose actions pose risks to only themselves.

**EFFICIENCY.** Andy will work hard to see that overcharging and unnecessary charging is stopped, and that the unbelievable burden now present on our criminal justice system is lessened.

**SENTENCING ALTERNATIVES.** Andy supports sentencing alternatives such as drug and mental health court, realizing that treatment of the underlying problem reduces recidivism rates much more than punishment alone.



### About the GCDCC

#### GREENE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

1907D S. Stewart Ave.  
Springfield, MO 65804

Phone: (417) 886-8980  
Fax: (417) 886-5661  
E-mail: [chairperson@gcmodemocrats.org](mailto:chairperson@gcmodemocrats.org)

This newsletter compiled by  
Rachel A. Stevens, GCDCC Intern

MSU - Socio-Political Communication

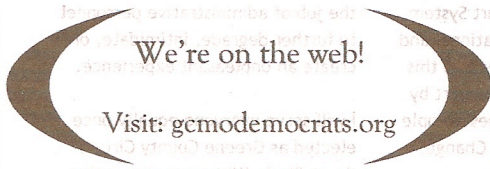
The Greene County Democratic Party is organized with the Greene County Democratic Central Committee, whose members are representative to the political divisions of Wards and Township throughout the county. There is one Committeeman and one Committeewoman for each Ward or Township.

Our chair is Craig Hosmer, a former state legislator with 12 years of experience serving the citizens of Springfield. Our co-chair is Sondra Vaught, a teacher who served thirty years in the elementary classroom before her recent retirement.

We are involved in community education initiatives, and in efforts to increase voter participation in every election cycle. The local party works to recruit and support candidates.

### Volunteers Needed

The Greene County Democratic Central Committee relies on volunteers from the local community to function on a daily basis. If you are interested in helping the local Democratic party, please contact us.



## Local Democratic Organizations

#### Democratic Alliance

Meets on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7 PM  
Location varies  
Contact:  
Susan Rubino - (417) 725-6368

#### Franklin D. Roosevelt Women's Democratic Club

Meets on 2nd Monday each month  
Dinner at 5:30 PM,  
Meeting at 6 PM  
Heritage Cafeteria  
(Battlefield & Fremont)  
Contact (417) 886-8980 for details

#### Greene County Women's Democratic Club

Meets on 1st Monday each month  
Lunch at 11:30 AM  
Meeting at noon  
Heritage Cafeteria  
(Battlefield & Fremont)  
Contact:  
Donna Dinger - (417) 886-5282

#### Senior Democrats of the Ozarks

Meets on 2nd Tuesday each month  
Contact:  
Rev. Nelson Parnell - (417) 882-3738 for details

#### Democratic Veterans

Contact:  
Jack Hembree - (417) 886-7199 for details

