

## How Free Trade & Deregulation Are Making Us Less Safe



David Sirota

This week, I joined the Campaign for America's future as a senior fellow focusing on globalization, trade and economic inequality.

As part of my work at CAF, I'll be contributing to CAF's blog on trade/globalization issues over at their website (though rest assured, my daily ongoing blogging/writing will remain at my home at Working Assets, and I will still be co-chairing the Progressive States Network, writing my column and finishing my book...and theoretically taking a vacation in December).

Today, I did my first post over there in conjunction with CAF's brand new report showing how the government is simultaneously passing free trade deals while starving our product safety agencies of resources.

As we are opening our country up to more imports made without any regard to product safety standards, we are weakening our domestic systems that are supposed to protect us against hazardous products and chemicals (this is the subject of my upcoming nationally syndicated weekly newspaper column).

Beyond the Consumer Products

Safety Commission being underfunded, it is also statutorily inhibited from being an aggressive regulator. As the Wall Street Journal notes in its front-page report today, the commission "usually refrains from alerting the public about potential hazards until an agreement is reached" with the company that made the product in question.

Put another way, our government may know a hazardous product is on shelves in American stores, but it leaves those products there so as to make nice with the manufacturer first.

Go read CAF's full report here and see how the right wing's free trade and deregulatory ideologies are putting our country at risk.

As you can see, a number of Democrats are pushing legislation to strengthen the CPSC and to stop the new package of NAFTA-style trade agreements that once again include no basic labor, environmental or product safety standards.

And in the next few days, the Progressive States Network should have a Stateside Dispatch showing what states can do in the event that lobbyists in Washington stymie congressional Democrats' efforts.

*David Sirota is a political journalist, New York Times bestselling author and nationally syndicated newspaper columnist living in Denver.*

### In This Issue

- Page 1 Making Us Less Safe
- Page 2 Candidate Announcement
- Page 3 Candidate Announcement
- Page 4 Candidate Announcements
- Page 5 PCP Bio's
- Page 6 Calendar
- Page 7 MCDCC Leadership List
- Page 8 Rebooting Democracy 08

### The Multnomah Democrat

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### Michael Dembrow Announces Run For House District 45



Michael Dembrow

If you're like me, you've been frustrated the last few years with where things are going for our families and the decisions politicians make that hurt our future.

We're stuck in a war for oil that has cost tens of thousands of lives and wasted countless billions of dollars. Ethics scandals grow, but corporate lobbyists keep buying access and selling out regular people.

The priorities we share -- quality public schools and colleges, providing good health care to every Oregonian, creating more family wage jobs and protecting our environment - get lost in political gridlock.

Thanks to the new Democratic majority in the State House, we saw major progress this past session. But there's much more left to be done. With Representative Jackie Dingfelder leaving to run for the Senate, we need to make sure Northeast Portland continues to have a true progressive leader as our voice for change in Salem.

That's why I've decided to run for State Representative in House District 45.

My background, my leadership experience, my record of integrity, and my commitment to progressive causes all make this the right decision.

In my years as an educator at Portland Community College's Cascade Campus, I've seen where our need for academic change is greatest. We need to provide all Oregonians with a college education at an affordable price. As Faculty Advisor to the State Board of Education, I've drawn on my experience to help build a public education system that allows our children to move seamlessly from pre-K through college.

As President of PCC's Faculty Union, I've fought for better treatment for Oregon's workers and a health care system that serves all Oregonians. As State Representative I will fight for high-quality, affordable health care that provides universal coverage -- even for part time and temporary workers. And I'll push to make Oregon a state where we truly value the independence and dignity of all our senior citizens.

My wife Kiki and I raised our son and daughter in Portland's Alameda/Irvington neighborhood, where we've lived for 21 years. We now have two lovely grandchildren.

I'm running for State Representative to make sure that we step boldly forward with progressive solutions that keep Oregon at the forefront and make sure every Oregon child gets a real chance.

I hope you'll join the fight for bold, progressive leadership in Salem. I'd be honored to have your support in this campaign for the future of Oregon.

Please visit [www.michaeldembrow.com](http://www.michaeldembrow.com) to learn more about my campaign.

Michael Dembrow

Democrat for State Representative

House District 45

#### Editors Note:

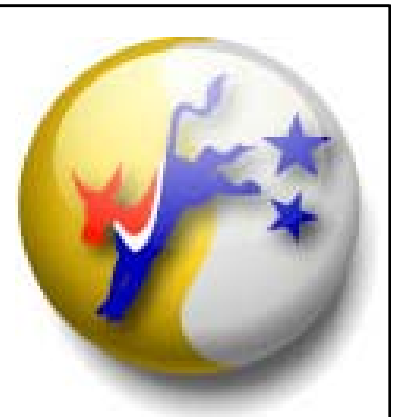
#### MCDCC Policy On Political Announcements

It is our policy to publish announcements of Multnomah Democrats who are running for city, county, state and national offices as they are sent to us.

Publishing these announcements does not imply, and should not be construed as endorsement or favoring one candidate over another.

Announcements for political office are treated and published as news of interest to our readers.

We will also publish news of national campaigns, especially regarding local events. These also should be seen as news of interest to Democrats, and not as implied endorsements.



# Mike Delman Announces Run For Multnomah County Commissioner - District 3



Mike Delman

I am deeply honored to run for county commissioner, not because the job is glamorous, but because the county's policies and programs make a difference in the lives of my family and yours.

My heart and soul is in Multnomah County. I'm passionately committed to causing

county government to work better, spend tax dollars more wisely, and make decisions in a more open way.

It's no secret that our county government is struggling -- to pay its bills, deliver services, and connect with the private sector and citizens.

County government is feeling the crush of poor spending decisions. It's time to pull back from the noise and controversy, and the lack of open dialogue. It's time to focus on solutions.

I have the experience -- from nearly 11 years as an executive assistant to a County Commissioner, and the Multnomah County Sheriff, and in my work at the Multnomah County Department of Aging and Disability services. In addition to my public sector and organized labor experience. Currently, I'm the public affairs director for a non-profit that trains and employs the disabled -- the Portland Habilitation Center.

I helped to originate the Public Safety Coordinating Committee. I lobbied and fought successfully for important state and federal money for Multnomah County. I understand the justice system challenges -- from opening Wapato jail to the management of our jails.

My experience with public education is important to me. Serving as the Fernwood PTA legislative representative, I lobbied local government for increased SUN funding, and lobbied state legislators for increased K-12 money.

The county must create community through positive relationships with neighborhoods, schools and partner governments. I believe in public-private partnerships, too -- which I know from my work helping to bring about McMenamin's wonderful Kennedy School Project.

Diversity is important in our community. I believe that county government must strive for equality of opportunity. I believe county government needs to care for everyone - not just those "at risk" of failure.

We need to create an effective County Mental Health Program. I propose a reorganization. I will work with developers, planning officials, advocates and non-profits to improve residential mental health facilities. We need to tackle these programs together, as a community. Our society needs us to do better, to care more about those unable to help themselves.

In our health care system, county money should go where it will do the most good. Coordination between medical facilities, county clinics and OHSU could result in serving more citizens. I will also push for increased partnerships between county health clinics and local hospitals -- Kaiser, Providence, Emanuel, OHSU, Adventist and Good Samaritan. I will fight for universal health care at the State and Federal level.

We are warehousing and recycling people in our county. We need to come together as a community to provide rational service delivery in the corrections system.

The county has successfully created partnerships to help our public education system through the Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN) programs. Currently these programs are sporadically located in low-income areas. I will strive to implement similar programs at middle-income schools -- schools that also have after-school needs for all students.

I grew up in this community. My wife, Lori, and I, and our two school-age daughters, want the same things you do: a good education system, a strong, healthy economy, and safe, vibrant neighborhoods.

I have contributed as a community activist and volunteer with Multnomah County Health Help, Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism, Save PIL Sports, the Laurelhurst Neighborhood Association, a school volunteer at Laurelhurst and Fernwood, as a mediator for the Victim-Offenders Reconciliation Project (V.O.R.P.) and currently as a member of the Portland Citizens Disability Advisory Committee and the Multnomah County Human Services Budget Advisory Committee.

I have been an active Democratic precinct committeeperson, serving King County in Seattle in 1980- 1982, Washington County 1984-1986 and in Multnomah County since 1988, helping Democratic candidates in every election cycle.

To win this election, I need your help. I need your help in my volunteer, grass-roots organization. I'd greatly appreciate your support and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Mike Delman  
mike@mikedelman.com

### **Carla “KC” Hanson Announces Candidacy for MCDCC Chair**

I'm Carla “KC” Hanson, and after a great deal of deliberation, I have decided to run for Chair of the Multnomah Co. Democratic Party.

Multnomah County is on the cusp of doing something great: forging a Democratic sweep in 2008. But in order to do that, those of us that are “on the ground” need to be informed, energized, and engaged.

I see the County Party as a team in which individuals from many backgrounds, from many areas, and of many talents work together to create a dynamic whole. I firmly believe that there is a wealth of untapped energy within our Party and within our County: folks that are willing and anxious to work for progressive change.

I want be part of developing a stronger party structure that will engage *all* these people. A vibrant Party structure will have a significant BLUE influence in the campaigns of 2008, and will maintain its energy *beyond* Nov. 2008.

After all, its not just about electing Democrats, it's also about maintaining democracy.

### **Susan Silodor To Run for MCDCC Vice Chair**

I'm Susan Silodor and I'm running for Vice-Chair of the Multnomah County Democratic Party.

For those of you who don't already know me, I'd like to share some of my background as well as the reasons for my decision to run for this office.

I grew up with parents who were active in the peace movement of the 1950s and sixties, and today, I am so very grateful to my parents for showing me that personal convictions are what make a person whole.

I spent my entire career working with nonprofits. I did everything from program development to fundraising at all levels, management and volunteer management. From all of this, I learned that working with volunteers - bringing people together to build a vibrant entity - was, and is, one of the things I most love to do.

I was elected Chair of the Multnomah County Democrats Health Care Work Group and have since gone on, with the partnership of other members, to form the Health Care Caucus of the Democratic Party of

Oregon. We have followed legislation and worked on behalf of Measure 50 - Healthy Kids. And now, we're forming a steering committee to devise a plan for future health care reform action. I was also recently elected to be an alternate to the State Central Committee.

I'm running for Vice-Chair because I'd like to be part of the rebuilding effort that will occur with the reorganization. I have the skills to help with expanding and enlivening our volunteer base and program, and I'm anxious to reach out to all the constituencies within the county to create a more diverse party.

I'm also very much a believer in working as a team, especially in a grassroots organization where every voice is important. I look forward to working with you all.

### **Laura Calvo To Run For MCDCC Treasurer**

Greetings Fellow Multnomah Democrats, My name is Laura Calvo and I am running for the position of Treasurer of the MCDCC.

As a deeply involved and committed Democrat, I found I needed to seriously consider the further personal commitment of time and work in being your MCDCC Treasurer. Having weighed those factors carefully and realistically, I can assure each and everyone one of you that I will do the best job possible in maintaining your trust and fulfilling the duties required of the Treasurer.

One of the important factors of fulfilling all the duties and responsibilities of Treasurer is the requirement of the Treasurer to be fully involved and engaged in all of the workings of the party from the planning stages, to the implementation, and to the analysis of all of our activities.

A successful Treasurer must be involved to guide, consult, and participate all along the way to insure the legal and timely reporting requirements are met with accuracy. I further believe that the finances of the MCDCC need to be as transparent as possible with full disclosure to any member of the MCDCC.

I am currently in my second term, having been recently re-elected, as Treasurer of the DPO GLBT Caucus. Over the years I have owned and operated several small successful business enterprises. I have experience in event planning for up to 300 people. I am a former paramedic and retired law enforcement officer.

## Prospective PCP Bios

### Prospective PCP Bios

*Prospective PCPs are asked to provide a brief biographical description, describe any previous political work or experience with the Democratic Party, and to tell what they hope to accomplish as a PCP. Here are the responses from recent applicants.*

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**Travis Ellis**

SE Morrison, Portland

**SD 23 HD 46 PCT 4155**

BIO: Wine broker. Degree in Political Science, University of London.

PRIOR EXP: Canvassing

I WANT TO BE A PCP to make sure people are informed about what is really going on.

**Judy Shiprack**

SE 76th, Portland

**SD 23 HD 46 PCT 4178**

BIO: Lawyer. Teacher. Former deputy District Attorney. I am Director, Public Safety Coordinating Council of Multnomah County.

PRIOR EXP: Former PCP, Former State representative (1989-1991)

I WANT TO BE A PCP to participate with my neighbors to elect Democrats.

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## Becoming a Precinct Committeeperson

The precinct is the smallest political unit in the country. A precinct cannot be divided by legislative, congressional or supervisor district. A precinct is where elections are won or lost. Most importantly, it is your neighborhood.

You know the people, the schools and the community centers. You have your hand on the pulse of the precinct; you understand the problems and potentials and have a desire to improve your neighborhood.

Never underestimate the power of the precinct worker! It is the precinct worker, actively participating in the Democratic Party at the precinct level, who wins elections for the Democratic Party at the local, state, and national levels.

The Democratic Party begins with the Precinct Committeeperson. A Precinct Committeeperson is a representative of the Party in the precinct in which he or she resides.

For every 500 registered voters in a precinct, there should be one precinct person of each gender. Each Precinct Person is a member of the County Central

Committee of the county party. The Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee (MCDCC) is the highest authority in county party policies.

This body has the authority to adopt rules or resolutions covering any matter of party government within the county.

Being a Precinct Committeeperson can mean a lot of hard work, a lot of educating and persuading and a good sense of organization, but Precinct Committeepersons are the cornerstone of the party, and can really have an impact.

To find out more about becoming a Precinct Committeeperson, contact us today or download the form below and send it to us.

Help change our community, our county, our state and our nation. We are dedicated to making people's lives better!

Download the Committeeperson interest form at: [http://www.multdems.org/files/committeeperson\\_form.pdf](http://www.multdems.org/files/committeeperson_form.pdf)

Fill the form out and send to us at MCDCC, Attn: Vice Chair, 232 NE 9th, Portland, OR 97232-2915

**Mult Dems Executive Committee Meeting**

December 6 2007 - 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Multnomah County Democratic Party Executive Committee meeting. Prior to the meeting there is a \$5 dinner from 6 to 7 p.m. Donkey Stable, 232 NE 9th, Portland, OR, 97232

**Gun Owner's Caucus Meeting**

Dec 9 2007 - 11:00am - 12:00pm

We're meeting at the Steamfitters and Plumber's Hall in Tualatin. just before State Central Committee meeting Plumbers and Steamfitters Hall  
20210 SW Teton Ave, Tualatin OR 97062

**4th Quarter State Central Committee Meeting**

Dec 9 2007 - 1:00pm - 4:00pm

We're meeting at the Steamfitters and Plumber's Hall in Tualatin.

**Mult Dems Monthly Meeting**

December 13 2007 - 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Multnomah County Democratic Party Monthly Committee meeting. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and is only \$5.  
Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 NE 40th, Portland, 97212

**Mult Dems Reorganization Meeting**

January 10, 2007 - 6:30pm - approx. 9:00pm

Credentialing starts at 6:30 (elected PCPs are qualified electors), meeting starts at 7:00. No dinner.  
Bylaw amendments passed in November include the following:

Article IX, Section 1 B.

An organization meeting will be held during January of 2008 for the purpose of electing officers for an 11-12 month term.

Hollywood Senior Center, 1820 NE 40th, Portland, 97212



**Mult Dems Monthly Meeting To Feature State Treasurer Candidate Ben Westlund**

Dec 13 2007 7:00p - 9:00pm

Dinner begins at 6 p.m. and is only \$5

Our working meeting begins at 7 p.m.



*Ben Westlund*

The business meeting of the Central Committee begins at approximately 8 p.m. Senator Ben Westlund, Candidate for Oregon Treasurer, will address the Central Committee.

**MCDCC Reorganization Meeting Notice**

**Thursday, January 10, 2007  
Hollywood Senior Center**

**Credentialing starts at 6:30 (elected PCPs are qualified electors), meeting starts at 7:00. No dinner.**

**Bylaw amendments passed in November include the following:**

**Article IX, Section 1 B.  
An organization meeting will be held during January of 2008 for the purpose of electing officers for an 11-12 month term.**

# MCDCC Leadership List

## OFFICERS

Chair	Gavin White	971-404-7294	chair@multdems.org
Vice Chair	KC Hanson	503-312-1970	vicechair@multdems.org
Recording Secretary	Nicholas Kohl	503-481-7264	recording@multdems.org
Communications Secretary	Sue Hagmeier	503-236-4005	communications@multdems.org
Treasurer	Moses Ross	503-226-0862	treasurer@multdems.org
Historian	Kevin Nettleship	503-329-3089	historian@multdems.org

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Budget & Finance	Paul Terdal	503-295-6451	budgetchair@multdems.org
Campaign & Gov. Liaison	Tom Markgraf	503-285-9549	campaignchair@multdems.org
Organization & Outreach	Vacant		organizationchair@multdems.org
Platform, Resolutions, Legis.	Gordon Hillesland	503-234-7270	platformchair@multdems.org
Rules	Mark Peterson	503-246-1241	ruleschair@multdems.org

## STATE DELEGATION

Delegation Chair	Jill Selman-Ringer	503-669-0789	statechair@multdems.org
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## DISTRICT LEADERS

Dist 27,31,33,35	Dave Jackson	503-246-6827	27leader@multdems.org
Dist 36	Jane Netboy	503-224-4038	36leader@multdems.org
Dist 38,41	Mark Schwebke	503-963-8214	38leader@multdems.org
Dist 42	P. Shane Jackson	503-233-0241	42leader@multdems.org
Dist 43	Steve Satterlee	503-281-1504	43leader@multdems.org
Dist 44	Pam Arden	503-289-9475	44leader@multdems.org
Dist 45	Jay Jackson	503-253-1611	45leader@multdems.org
Dist 46	Bing Wong	503-771-3215	46leader@multdems.org
Dist 47	Aaron Minoo		47leader@multdems.org
Dist 48	VACANT		48leader@multdems.org
Dist 49	Vern Cook	503-665-5762	49leader@multdems.org
Dist 50	VACANT		50leader@multdems.org
Dist 52	Julie Christensen	503-695-2474	52leader@multdems.org

## CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CHAIRS

1st CD	Gary Lane	503-235-2012	firstchair@multdems.org
3rd CD	Joe Smith	503-284-5552	thirdchair@multdems.org
5th CD	Kathy Jackson	503-248-6827	fifthchair@multdems.org



**Multnomah Democrats**

[www.multdems.org](http://www.multdems.org)

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 **inside the party**

 **news & action**

 **in the blogs**

Visit the always improving party website at [www.multdems.org](http://www.multdems.org) today for updates on coming events and party information. Sign in or create an account for access to all the site has to offer!

Multnomah County Democratic Central Committee  
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“Dedicated To Making People’s Lives Better“



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### **MCDCC General Meeting**

Thursday, December 13th, 7 pm  
Dinner begins at 6 pm and is only \$5.  
The Central Committee business meeting  
will come to order at 8 pm.

Hollywood Senior Center  
1820 NE 40th Ave.  
Portland, OR, 97212

## **Rebooting Democracy**

January 11-13, 2008  
Portland, Oregon



*“Rebooting Democracy had big vision—I felt the earth move.”  
-Anonymous 2006 feedback*

We’ll be ringing in the New Year at beautiful **Montgomery Park**, with a full weekend of workshops, trainings, speeches, schmoozing, zippy parties, **tasty little num-nums**, and the inaugural installment of our **Progressive Policy Battle Royale!**

You heard it here first, folks.

## **Early Bird Tickets Going Fast. Get Yours Now.**

Cost a limiting factor? We know how you feel. Rebooting Democracy Scholarships are available for fine folks of all ages. Don’t hesitate to ask us to **hook one up at [www.engageoregon.com](http://www.engageoregon.com)**