

## **NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

Joy Kennedy Esq., 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President EDC

National Women's History Month, observed in the month of March, is in recognition of the many accomplishments made by women throughout history. A variety of agencies, schools, and organizations observe the month by focusing on the "consistently overlooked and undervalued" role of American women in history. Libraries and communities promote special events that emphasize the achievements of women.

The significance of the month of March dates to the mid-19th century when, on March 8, 1857, a group of female garment workers in New York City staged a protest to demand better working conditions and pay. Police aggressively halted the demonstration, but several years later the determined women formed their own union. In 1911, March 19 was observed as International Women's Day (IWD) to acknowledge women's continuing struggle for recognition and rights. The date of IWD was changed to March 8 in 1921. In 1978 the schools of Sonoma county, California, named March Women's History Month as a means of examining women's history, issues, and contributions. The idea gained momentum, and in 1981 a congressional resolution proclaimed the week surrounding March 8 National Women's History Week. In 1986 the National Women's History Project played a significant role in the expansion of the observance to the entire month of March.

We could not let this month pass us by without mentioning the notable contributions that women have made to our democracy. While the list of those names below is by no means exhaustive, it serves to highlight women who have made great contributions to our democracy.

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# THE EUCLID DEMOCRAT

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

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

WWW.EUCLIDDEMS.ORG

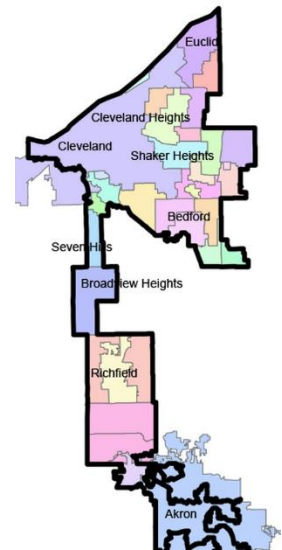
We have a new email address for membership and Zoom login information-

**[EucliddemsOH@gmail.com](mailto:EucliddemsOH@gmail.com)**

There were technical issues with the old address, please note the OH is at the end now and not in the middle.

Zoom Meetings will be held on the third Thursday every month at 7PM, watch your email for the login info. If we don't have your email address or for registration, email us here- [eucliddemsOH@gmail.com](mailto:eucliddemsOH@gmail.com)

## Be sure to join us for Q&A sessions with the candidates from the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District!



### *National Women's History Monty, Continued from Page 1*



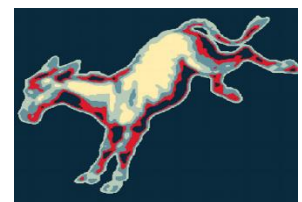
Jeannette Pickering Rankin was the first woman to hold federal office in the United States. She was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Republican from Montana in 1916.

Carole Moseley Braun was the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Senate, the first African-American U.S. Senator from the Democratic Party, the first woman to defeat an incumbent U.S. Senator in an election, and the first female U.S. Senator from Illinois.



**Did you see the note about the new email address?**

**Check page 1!**





First African American Female Appellate Judge Eighth District Court of Appeals Judge Patricia Blackmon made Ohio history when she was elected to the bench and became the first female African American to take appellate office 30 years ago.



Melody Stewart was elected in November 2018 to a full term as the 161st Justice to serve on the Supreme Court of Ohio. Justice Stewart is the first African-American woman elected to the Ohio Supreme Court.

## **National Congress of Black Women-Greater Cleveland Chapter Scholarships Available**

Pamela Gray-Mason, Euclid Democratic Member

Three or more college scholarships in the amount of \$500 will be awarded to a high-school senior (female) from the Greater Cleveland area. Applications can be obtained from your high school counselors, chapter member, or by emailing: [poetichoneybee@gmail.com](mailto:poetichoneybee@gmail.com) or [ncbwcleland@gmail.com](mailto:ncbwcleland@gmail.com). Late applications will not be reviewed: Deadline: March 22, 2021.



**PRIMARY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** High school senior: student who will receive their high school diploma from a high school during or at the conclusion of the current academic year and are immediately continuing their education at the beginning of the next academic year. Students must have a minimum GPA 2.5. Students who can demonstrate community service and involvement. Students who have applied to and/or been accepted into a college or university-proof of enrollment.

Part of the application, you must submit: A 500-800 word essay detailing your professional and academic goals, creativity, completeness and/or service. A letter of recommendation detailing community service. Interested, email: [ncbwclelandn@gmail.com](mailto:ncbwclelandn@gmail.com) or obtain application from [www.ncbwcleland.org](http://www.ncbwcleland.org). All submission should be email to : [poetichoneybee@gmail.com](mailto:poetichoneybee@gmail.com)



## *What is a Drug Court, Anyway?*

Judge David Matia

Nearly every American has heard of Drug Courts. While campaigning President Biden has indicated that he would like to expand the availability of Drug Courts. But what are drug courts and how do they differ from regular Court operations such as probation?

Drug Courts are a member of the specialized docket family of courts. Other specialized dockets include Mental Health Courts, Veteran Treatment Courts, and Re-Entry Courts. Specialized dockets throw extra resources at a recurring problem in order to reduce recidivism. The aim of drug courts is to return an individual to health. A person in recovery no longer has to steal and commit other crimes in order to support their dependency. Specialized dockets all involve Judges volunteering to take on extra work to help target a problem issue.

I started Cuyahoga County's first felony-level Drug Court in 2008 with the blessings of my colleagues. Since 2008, Cuyahoga County's Common Pleas Court has added a trauma-based drug court and a medication-assisted treatment Drug Court. We now have three drug courts, each run by a separate Judge. Judge Nancy McDonnell now runs our original drug court. Judge Joan Synenberg runs a trauma-focused court called Recovery Court, and I handle the medication-assisted treatment docket.

When a person enters a drug court, he undergoes a medical assessment using the standard form of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM). The assessment is a valuable tool performed by trained professionals. It makes a medical diagnosis, calls for the correct level of care, and discusses significant trauma history or other social factors that may help or hinder a person's recovery. The drug court judge and their treatment team follow the recommendations in the assessment.



Most people entering Cuyahoga County's three Drug Courts are severely opiate-dependent and require a residential level of care. Most of our participants get treatment at Community Assessment Treatment Services (C.A.T.S.). We also use Matt Talbot, Stella Maris, The Lantern, The Keating Center, and others.

Upon entering drug court, each participant receives a case manager and a probation officer. The case manager helps the individual work through various life issues that have influenced their dependency. The Public Defender's Office has provided each of our drug courts with a dedicated attorney. All members of the Drug Court Team, including the prosecutor, have the person's return to health as a priority. Drug Court does not look to incarcerate. However, County Jail days are occasionally imposed as a sanction. Studies have shown that outcomes are improved by using incentives or rewards rather than sanctions.

Once an individual is enrolled in a drug court, the Judge sees that individual at least once a month. If the individual is doing well, they're rewarded with a small reduction in court costs. The judge also incorporates some motivational interviewing techniques into those monthly meetings, which are rewards in themselves. Praise from an authority figure goes a long way in keeping people on track.

What does drug court do when someone violates the terms of their participation? First, we look at the violation and ask if it is a violation of a distal or proximal goal. Violations of distal goals are sanctioned less severely than violations of proximal goals. Early on in recovery, showing up at a 12-step meeting is an easy, proximal goal. Relapsing early on in recovery is a violation of a distal goal, staying sober. I may sanction someone to a day in jail for failing to show up for their 12-step meetings early on in Drug Court. I would not issue a jail sanction for someone who was honest about a relapse early on in their recovery.

Most people complete drug court in approximately 15 to 18 months. A few people finish without any violations; however, most people have a bumpier road.

Dependency is a brain disease. It takes a while for one's brain to heal and that is why progress can sometimes be in fits and starts. Drug court is different from regular probation in that the Team really gets to know the individual. This familiarity affords the participant a much greater opportunity for success.

Drug Courts are a wonderful deal for the taxpayer. First, they greatly reduce crime. Of the first 250 people through our Drug Court, only 8% were rearrested within a year compared to 27% in a control group. That rate of crime reduction is simply astonishing. However, the real value in Drug Court is that takes a person in the prime of their life and returns them to the community as a caring parent, a conscientious employee, and a taxpaying citizen. The parents of these participants can go to bed at night without the worry of receiving about their loved one having overdosed.

Our graduates have gone on to do some amazing things, including starting an alumni support group, Project 180. Project 180 sponsors an annual Light Up the Night for Recovery event at Lakewood Park, which is attended by over 500 people. They have monthly events to show those currently in Drug Court that fun is possible in sobriety.





Running Drug Court has been the most fulfilling thing that I have done as a Judge. It's made me a more understanding and tolerant person. It thrills me to be able to take part in the unleashing of human potential.

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## **Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus**

Steve Holecko, Political Director



### **11th Congressional District Special Election**

CCPC 11th Congressional District Candidates Forum Wednesday, March 24 from 7 to 8:30 pm. Candidates who have confirmed participation so far include former State Representative John Barnes Jr. Cuyahoga County Councilwoman and Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Chair Shontel Brown, former State Senator and Cleveland City Councilman Jeff Johnson, former State Senator and Our Revolution President Nina Turner, activist Tariq Shabazz and former State Senator Shirley Smith. More Democratic Party candidates may be added to this list as the race develops. Please click the link above to the facebook event for format details. Click here to register for the event. After registering you'll receive an email with the Zoom link and information on how you can submit a question to the candidates. Questions must be submitted ahead of time.

All CCPC candidate endorsements are done by a vote of our membership. Candidates are required to submit an application and questionnaire which is first reviewed by a screening committee and then if appropriate submitted to our membership. The 11th Congressional District Special Election endorsement vote will be conducted electronically shortly after the March 24 candidates forum. If you are not a CCPC member and would like to vote on the endorsement please click here to become a CCPC member.

### **CCPC March Membership Meeting**

CCPC March Membership Meeting Wednesday, March 31 from 6:30 to 8 pm. Our March meeting will focus on the Ohio Statehouse with a specific emphasis on the biennial state budget and what you can do to help make it as progressive as possible. Speaker's include District 13 State Representative Mike Skindell, Zach Schiller from Policy Matters and Larry Bressler from NOBLE ( Northern Ohioans for Budget Legislation Equality ) Click here to register for the event. After registering you'll receive an email with the Zoom link

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## **Follow the Euclid Dems on Social Media**



*CCPC continued from Page 6*

**A Few Other Project's We're Working On**

The People's Archive of Police Violence in Cleveland is a space for healing, accountability, and justice. Add your voice and tell the real story of the ongoing protests in and around Cleveland. Go to [archivingpoliceviolence.org](http://archivingpoliceviolence.org) and click on "Tell Your Story" to submit pictures, videos, and narratives with your name or anonymously. This archive is also endorsed by Black Lives Matter Cleveland, Black Man Army, Puncture the Silence - Stop Mass Incarceration, and the Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition. Visit the Facebook page.



Seeds of Self Sufficiency is a seed sharing project beginning this spring to help alleviate the financial and food related stress brought on by COVID in Cleveland. The basic plan is to create a massive seed distribution program and encourage people to plant gardens. Please click the link for more details and what you can do to help. A special thanks to CCPC member Ursula McVey for initiating this very worthwhile project. If you can help Ursula on this project please contact her at 216 744 6571 or [ursulamcvey@gmail.com](mailto:ursulamcvey@gmail.com)

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***Cuyahoga County Democratic Party***

**Happy Women's History Month!**

**Deadline Extended for 2021 Yearbook Ad Submissions!**

If you were thinking about purchasing an ad in the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party's 2021 Yearbook, there is still time to do so! The final date for ad submissions has been extended to March 26th. The yearbook is distributed county-wide and will be put on the CCDP website. It provides contact information for Democratic Clubs and Elected Officials and is an opportunity for you to say "thank you" to your supporters.

If you decide to support the 2021 Yearbook, please complete the order form on [www.cuydem.com](http://www.cuydem.com) and return it with your check/money order. Please email your image as a pdf/jpg to [hjohnson@cuydem.com](mailto:hjohnson@cuydem.com) along with your requested ad size. Checks can be made payable to the Democrats of Cuyahoga County and mailed to 3615 Superior Ave., Suite 4401A, Cleveland, OH 44114. You may also pay online at <https://cuydem.com/2021-ad-book/>.

If you have any questions regarding the yearbook contact Hayley Johnson at [hjohnson@cuydem.com](mailto:hjohnson@cuydem.com) or call 216-621-9750. We hope you decide to support the 2021 Democratic Party Yearbook!



## Office News

Our staff is in the office on a part-time basis, so we ask you to please be patient with follow up phone calls. If you plan on dropping off checks or cash to the office, please email Hayley Johnson at [hjohnson@cuydem.com](mailto:hjohnson@cuydem.com) or leave a voice message on the office telephone (216) 621-9750 and someone will get back to you with available office hours.

Submit your Elected Executive Committee dues! Payment can be mailed to 3615 Superior Ave., Suite 4401A, Cleveland, OH 44114 or pay online [HERE](#).

If you are an Appointed Executive Committee member, please refrain from making any membership payments until notified by Chairwoman Brown. Appointed Executive Committee members will not be confirmed until a later date.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

-Cuyahoga County Democratic Party

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**Forward this newsletter, far and wide! Help  
us get the word out!**





**Euclid Democratic Club**

**ZOOM Agenda**

**Thursday, March 18, 2021- 7 p.m.**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Certification of a Quorum
4. Speaker(s)-Nina Turner and John Barnes will be speaking at designated times during the meeting. Both are running for congress in OH-11.
5. Certification of Minutes from the February 18, 2021 Meeting
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Correspondence Secretary Report
8. Committee Reports- Update from By-laws Committee
9. President's Report
10. 1st Vice President's Report
11. Old Business
12. New Business- Fund Raising Committee volunteers appointed to the committee. Discussion on previous members who are yet to pay their 2021 dues.
13. Open Forum
14. Announcements
15. Adjournment

**Next meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m., April 16, 2021, via Zoom**

## EUCLID DEMOCRATIC CLUB Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, February 18, 2021

### **Zoom Meeting**

#### **Attendees:**

David Bielek Jr., Schuyler Cook, Phil DiBianca, Miguel Duran, Chris Ericksen, Jake Ericksen, Maria Ericksen, Kirsten Gail, Carrie Hilif, William Hilif, Kandace Jones, Bonita Kale, Betsey Kamm, Joy Kennedy, Charlene Mancuso, Pamela Mason, Sue McGinn, Chrtistine McIntosh, Retanio Rucker, Kent Smith, Donna Sudar, Richard Tolton, Larry Williams

**Guest:** Charles E. Bibb Sr, Shontel Brown, Kimberly Edwards, John Farina, Ruth Gray, Jeff Johnson, Barbara Morton, Judge Michael Nelson, Dick Peery, Shirley Smith, Judi Zivic

**I. Call to Order:** 7:01pm by President Chris Ericksen

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

**III. Certification of a Quorum:** Satisfied

**IV. Approval of Minutes:** Richard Tolton said he did not get email of the January meeting minutes. Schuyler will follow up with Richard in getting his 2021 registration and verify we have correct information. Motion to accept the January 2021 meeting minutes by Phil DiBianca, Kirsten Gail seconded. January 2021 meeting minutes – approved.

**V. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer sent out PDF of the treasurer report to club members in good standing. He reviewed the club and PAC account activities. If you have not received a membership packet, please let Schuyler know. Osshoff donation check finally cleared. The Warnock donation check is still outstanding. Post office annual rental will be going up, not known how much. Currently budged \$125.00. Schuyler made a motion to amend the budged to increase the postal office box line item to \$150, seconded by Kirsten Gail, motion passed. Chris requested a motion to accept the Treasurer report, motioned by Phil DiBianca, seconded by Kent Smith, motion passed.

**VI. Correspondence – Betsey** reported club received communication from Charlene ManCusco regarding the outstanding Club Newsletter.

**VII. Committee:** a. Audit Committee – The Audit Committee gave an update on the outcome of the Audit for the Club account. A copy of the completed audit has been forwarded to Treasurer for filing. Retanio Rucker made a motion to accept the findings of the Audit Committee Report, Kandace seconded.

b. By-Laws Committee – Kandace gave an update on the status of the committee.

c. Presidents Report – Chris Ericksen mentioned we have 3 of the candidates that will be running for the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District to Marcia Fudge’s remaining term. Two other candidates will join our March meeting. Chris asked at the last meeting where do members see the Club going. He asked that club members email him the suggestions or opinions. Email to EucliddemsOh@gmail.com, he will report to the club responses. The change of the email address will be posted in the Newsletter.

d. 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report – Joy Kennedy – she is here to manage and increase our membership. Our meetings are recorded for attendance purposes. Please make sure you let host know you are on if your name does not show up in the participant list. Please complete your membership enrollment packets.

a. Shontel Brown – current Cuyahoga County Councilperson (9<sup>th</sup> District)

b. Shirley Smith – Former State Senator

c. Jeff Johnson – Former State Senator

d. At our March club meeting we will have candidates Nina Turner and John Barnes as guest speakers

**VIII.** Guest Speakers: 3 of the candidates running for 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Congressperson, to replace Marcia Fudge for her remaining term. There will be a special election (Primary & General) in 2021 to fill this position. Three of the candidates are joining us tonight.

**IX. Old business –**

**X. New business – a.**

**XI. Open Forum – a.** Kent Smith – shared information of what is going on in Columbus.

b. Mayor Kirsten Gail – the city experienced computer virus, without operating system. Resources are working to help get systems back up. Budget hearing meetings to start next week. Shared infrastructure projects planning.

c. Council President Charlene Mancusco – invited anyone to join and listen to budget meetings and hear about things they want to do this year.

d. Councilperson McIntosh – March 13<sup>th</sup> 10am – ward 5 meeting via Zoom

e. Donna Sudar – schools are back to hybrid learning. Teachers have received their first shot of the vaccine. Two new career technical education programs – Robotics & Automation and Education & Training is a pathway. Have students become aware of all the different fields of education.

f. Kandace Jones – expressed again to make sure those on the call if you are listed as just a phone number, we may not know who you are so please share with the group when you join.

**XII. Announcements** – President Chris Ericksen shared Nina Turner and John Barnes will be joining the Club meeting. They are candidates for the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District to fulfil the remaining of Marcia Fudge’s term

**Raffle:** N/A

**XIV. Adjournment:** EDC meeting adjourned at: 8:37pm,

**Next meeting:** Thursday March 15, 2021 –using Zoom.

Rec. Sec. Kandace Jones

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*Thanks for reading and thank you to all of our contributors!  
See you in next month's edition and on Zoom.*



***-Euclid Democratic Club***

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[www.eucliddems.com](http://www.eucliddems.com)

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