

**STOP  
ASIAN  
HATE.**

**THE EUCLID  
DEMOCRAT**

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 4

April 2021

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

**SHOW ME WHAT DEMOCRACY  
LOOKS LIKE!...**

Welcome Dems, spring is finally here, and it is the best of times and the worst of times...all at the same time. On one side, the wheels of progress are finally rolling forward towards the America we want to see.

The Covid vaccine is likely to have been administered 200 million times by the end of Joe Biden's first 100 days. That is double the number of shots the administration set as their goal.

The Infrastructure Bill is nothing short of a Roosevelt caliber game changer.

Ol' Mitch McConnell is reeling and threatening a scorched Earth Senate with filibuster reform pending.

All of this is what this country needs, and we need it now. We need to be safe and healthy. We need quality roads, bridges, utilities, and internet access. We need the good jobs come with improving infrastructure. We need to stop the ridiculous partisan game playing that Senate Republicans have turned into a way of life.

**IS THIS WHAT DEMOCRACY LOOKS  
LIKE? IN A WORD, NO.**

Tragically, the America we want to see is not the America everyone wants to see.

*Continued on page 2*

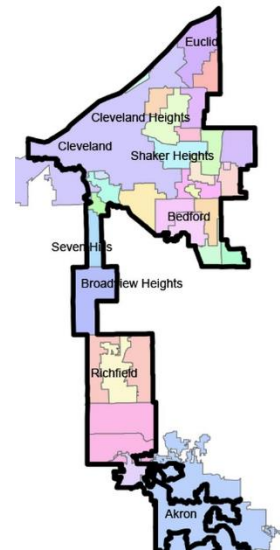
We have a new email address for membership and Zoom login information-

**[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)

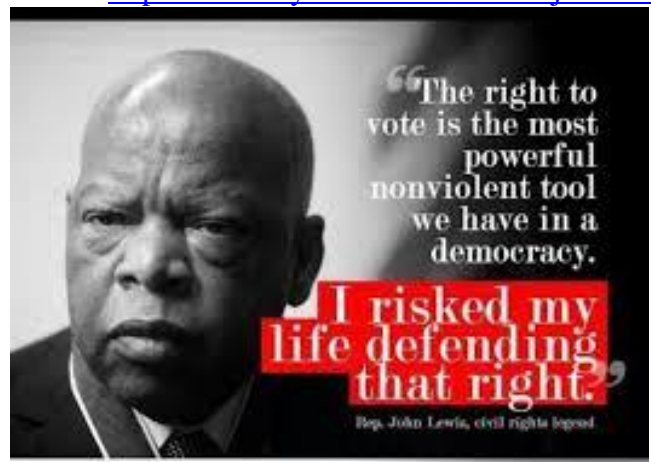
## **Be sure to join us for Q&A sessions with the candidates from the 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District!**



*Is this what democracy looks like? Continued from page 1.*

There are plenty of people, I'm looking at you Georgia Republicans, who are not interested in any of the things mentioned on the previous page. They clearly, by their actions, are only interested in one thing, maintaining their power structure. Georgia Republicans are using nonexistent election fraud as the basis for legislation designed to suppress the vote in their state. Not all votes are being affected by their legislation, they are clearly targeting the African American vote in heavily populated neighborhoods. Please see the April 6<sup>th</sup> article from Jamelle Bouie and the New York Times for a more in-depth look . <https://www.nytimes.com/column/jamelle-bouie>.

Rather than develop a platform that appeals to all voters, the right has chosen to rig the system to their advantage, again. Please see <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-politics-redistricting/how-the-battle-over-redistricting-in-2021-could-decide-control-of-the-u-s-congress-idUSKBN2A11CX> . It is a very good look at the Republican gerrymandering of the last decade. Of all the potential progress that can be made at the Federal level, the John Lewis Voting Rights Bill is the most important piece of legislation we are likely to see in the foreseeable future.



*EDIT- Following Joe Manchin's April 8th comments stating his absolute refusal to move on the filibuster, I have to rethink the issues at hand. If we do not push for D.C. statehood and take the absolute power out of Manchin's hands we can forget any upside and real progress during this term, including the Voting Rights Bill.*

*-Chris Ericksen, President Euclid Dems*

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## **April is Autism Month!**

If you think someone you know has autism, direct them to their pediatrician for a referral to a specialist. While waiting on the diagnosis, you can enroll a child in speech and occupational therapy. The diagnosis is important to the child's success! AutismSpeaks.org (website) is a great resource for: what is autism, how to get involved which include a response team, partners, supporters and walk information. Briefly, the autism spectrum means that 1 in 54 children possess a broad range of challenges to include social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. In 2013, the American Psychiatric

Association produced 4 distinct diagnoses: Autistic disorder, childhood disintegrative disorder, pervasive developmental disorder and Asperger Syndrome. Each person with autism lives a different life, this is due to their individual characteristics. Early intervention is key to positive incomes.

-Pamela Gray-Mason (Information by interview of Ebony Spano, Autism Speak, Ambassador, Northeast)



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

**Check page 1!**

# Follow the Euclid Dems on Social Media



## Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus

Steve Holecko, Political Director



[CCPC May Membership Meeting](#) Thursday, May 13 from 6:30 to 8 pm. Agenda items include 1) Ranked Choice Voting. Leah Nichols, Speaker's Bureau and Communications Director for Rank the Vote Ohio will discuss what Ranked Choice Voting is and how it can make our democracy better. 2) Presentation of how the Cuyahoga Democratic Party functions and is organized. Including how we can make it more progressive in the 2022 Central Committee, Executive Committee and Party Chair elections

**CCPC Twitter Handle:** @CCPCtweets If you do twitter please follow us and we'll follow you back!

**New Anti - Protest Bills are Rearing Their Ugly Heads in the Ohio General Assembly**

[Click here to read the sordid details and view the Toolkit to see what you can do to help stop the atrocities.](#)

**Some CCPC Partners in the Activist Community**

If you see something you like please click the link and get involved!



[Follow The Immigration Working Group CLE](#) for updates and actions from a coalition of organizations and local community activists advocating for immigrant rights.

### **#100DaysForFreedom**

Help us call for the release of immigrants from ICE detention in Ohio during Biden's first 100 days in office. This is an ongoing action that will continue until our community members are free! **Every Thursday from 9 am to 5 pm through May 2, 2021**, take action using [this guide](#). Calls only take about 5 minutes. [Click here for a script, graphics to share and more info.](#)

[End Poverty Now Cleveland](#) End Poverty Now is a coalition of 22 groups in Cleveland that works to address and combat issues of poverty in Cleveland communities. Northeast Ohio is one of the most segregated regions in the country, while its largest city, Cleveland, is one of the poorest.

[Sunrise Movement Cleveland](#) Sunrise is a movement of people uniting together to stop the climate crisis.

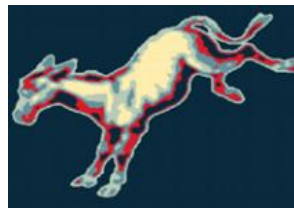
Welcome to our Cleveland Hub.

[Single Payer Action Network \(SPAN\) Ohio](#) Span Ohio advocates for single payer healthcare and believes that healthcare is a human right. **Medicare for All Yard Signs** - The signs are 18" by 24" and we're asking for a \$5 to \$15 donation. If you'd like one please email [clevelandspan@spanohio.org](mailto:clevelandspan@spanohio.org) or contact Thera Parks at 440 787 6517 or [tvparks8@gmail.com](mailto:tvparks8@gmail.com)

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## **Democracy**

Pamela Gray-Mason, Euclid Democratic Member



April is Poetry Month! Langston Hughes' Democracy poem is so appropriate for what is happening in Georgia (and other states) regarding voting and human rights. Langston Hughes wrote this poem in 1949.

Democracy will not come  
Today, this year  
Nor ever  
Through compromise and fear.

I have as much right  
As the other fellow has  
To stand  
On my two feet  
And own the land.

I tire so of hearing people say,  
Let things take their course.  
Tomorrow is another day.  
I do not need my freedom when I'm dead.  
I cannot live on tomorrow's bread.

Freedom

Is a strong seed  
Planted  
In a great need.

I live here, too.

I want freedom  
Just as you.



**Think about it! Are we not free to vote without suppressing our vote?**

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## **Labor in North East Ohio**

Dan O'Malley, Ex. Secretary Northshore AFL-CIO



Brothers and Sisters –

Although he is just a couple months into his term, President Biden is making good on his promise to be the most pro-labor president in American history. He has repealed anti-worker executive orders put in place during the Trump administration, and instituted protections for federal workers and those across every industry. The Labor Movement's highest priority now is the passage of the P.R.O. Act ("Protect the Right to Organize"), which passed the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support last month. The PRO Act's passage is critical to ensure the voices of working people are heard and our nation's economy works for all of us—not just the wealthy few.

The PRO Act will empower workers to exercise our freedom to organize and negotiate for better wages and working conditions. It will remove archaic barriers to organizing, increase worker protections and strengthen the institutions that hold corporations accountable. It will repeal the "right to work" laws that lead to lower wages, fewer benefits and more dangerous workplaces.

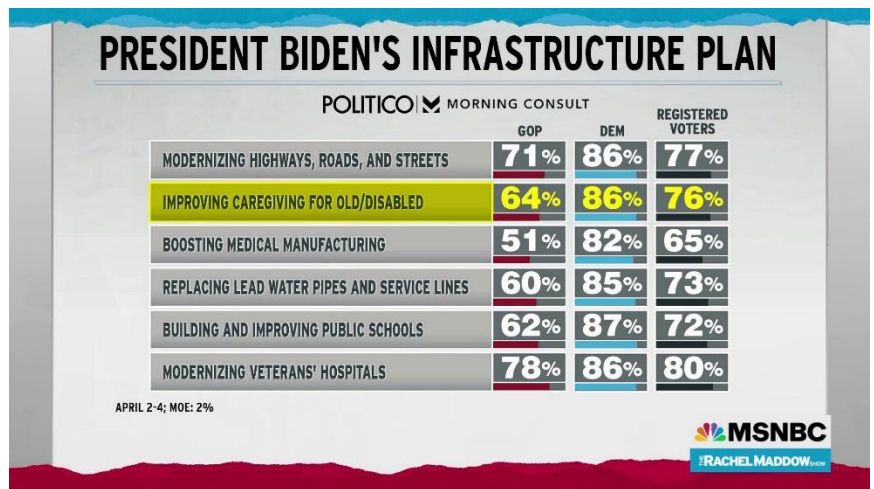
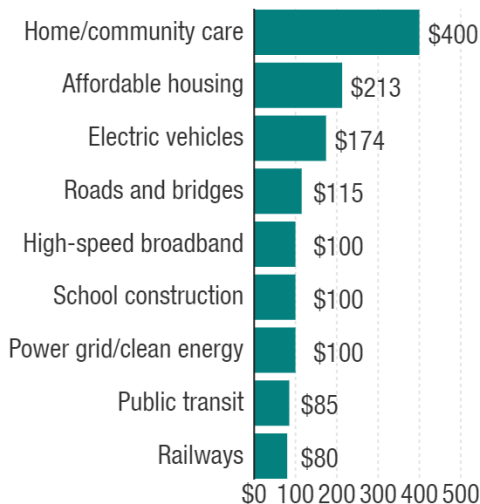
All workers want dignity and respect at work, and a fair share of what we produce. A union contract is the single best tool to ensure workers—all workers—have safe working conditions and earn a fair wage.

The PRO Act will empower America’s workers and make America’s economy work for working people. I’m delighted (but not surprised) to report that our great Senator Sherrod Brown is a leading co-sponsor of this important bill. Sadly, Senator Rob Portman is not. If we really want to see great cities like Euclid flourish in the 21st century with a community of well-paid workers, we must advocate for passage of the PRO Act. Call Senator Portman at 866-832-1560 and tell him to Pass the Pro Act!

Finally, April 28th is Workers Memorial Day, an annual day of commemoration for workers who lost their lives on the job. This year we remember especially those front-line workers who sacrificed their health and lives in the service of others. In their memory, we must continue our fight for safer working conditions. To paraphrase Mother Jones, we must “mourn the dead, and fight like hell for the living.”

## *Biden’s* *Infrastructure Plan* *at a Glance*

### Key Provisions, In Billions



**This very popular plan would create jobs and improve communities. It is supported by ¾ of resisted voters. Blocking the bill’s passage would be a partisan stunt meant to be obstructionist and nothing else.**

# **Cuyahoga County Update**

Sunny Simon, Cuyahoga County Council, District 11



Dear Friends,

This has been a difficult year for everybody. However, I believe we are moving in a positive direction, on numerous issues. As your County Council representative, I would like to provide you with a brief update on some recent matters that may be of interest to you, your neighbors, and your constituents.

## **COVID UPDATE**

Governor DeWine has recently broadened the parameters for receiving one of the approved vaccines and the Wolstein Center, in downtown Cleveland, was selected as a mass vaccination location. Information regarding parking, registration, and available times is through the following link:



[CSU's Wolstein Center Mass Vaccination Clinic | Cleveland State University \(csuohio.edu\)](#)  
Open 7 days a week  
Open 8AM-8PM

## **COUNTY SHERIFF**

Recently, there has been much media attention surrounding the operation of the Cuyahoga County Jail. The County Sheriff is responsible for the maintenance of the County Jail, as well as the obligation to safely house the inmates. The County Council recently confirmed a new Cuyahoga County Sheriff, Chris Viland. I believe he will provide much needed stability to this important position. Sheriff Viland has more than 30 years in law enforcement, serving as the Chief of the Solon Police Department for over a decade. In addition to his extensive background in police work, Sheriff Viland is also a licensed attorney, graduating from the Cleveland Marshall School of Law. He will be an excellent addition to the Cuyahoga County team and I am proud to work with him.

## **SCAM ALERT**



Never underestimate the ways that deplorable people will attempt to take prey on us, even in times of crisis. The COVID era is no exception. Numerous scams have recently cropped up involving fraudulent Unemployment Insurance claims. If you have not filed for unemployment benefits and you receive separation letters or claim approval notices from the Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, or any other unusual or suspicious communications from that Department, contact their “Report Identity Theft” at:

- Unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov (internet)
- Call the toll-free line at 833-658-0394

You may also wish to obtain an updated Credit Report to verify no fraudulent charges were made and keep close tabs on your banking accounts.

As always, I thank you for the opportunity to serve as your County Council representative. If you, or any of your friends, relatives, neighbors, or constituents have any questions regarding COVID assistance or any other County matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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## HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge releases \$5 billion to fight homelessness



Updated Apr 08, 2021; Posted Apr 08, 2021

<https://www.cleveland.com/open/2021/04/hud-secretary-marcia-fudge-releases-5-billion-to-fight-homelessness.html>

*Thank you to Cleveland.com*

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



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Euclid Democratic Club  
*ZOOM Agenda*  
*Thursday, April 15, 2021- 7 p.m.*

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Certification of a Quorum
4. Speaker(s)- Tariq Shabazz and Bryan Flannery have been contacted about speaking at designated times during the meeting. Both are running for congress in OH-11.
5. Certification of Minutes from the March 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
13. Open Forum
14. Announcements
15. Adjournment

Next meeting scheduled for 7:00 p.m., May 20, 2021, via Zoom

## EUCLID DEMOCRATIC CLUB Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2021

### Zoom Meeting

#### Attendees:

David Bielek Jr., Lana Caviness, Councilwoman Stephana Caviness, Schuyler Cook, Phil DiBianca, Miguel Duran, Chris Ericksen, Jake Ericksen, Maria Ericksen, Judge Lisa Forbes, Mayor Kirsten Gail, Carrie Hilif, William Hilif, George Howard, Kandace Jones, Betsey Kamm, Joy Kennedy, Laura Lewis, Richard Montgomery, Lynn Radcliffe, Retanio Rucker, Elizabeth Slogar, James Slogar, Janenell Smith, State Representative Kent Smith, Larry Williams

Guest: John Barnes Jr., Robin Bauer, Charles E. Bibb Sr, Judge Maureen Clancy, Mayor Trevor Elkins, Judge Steven Gall, Sarahita Lee, Linnie Powell, Mike Seals, Judge Deborah Turner, Nina Turner, Judge William Vodrey

**I. Call to Order:** 7:00pm by President Chris Ericksen

**II. Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited

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

**IV. Approval of Minutes:** Motion to accept the February 2021 meeting minutes by Kirsten Gail seconded by Larry Williams. Motion passed. February 2021 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. Warnock campaign still have not cashed the Club check donation to their campaign. Received a thank you card from the Osshoff campaign. Received a thank you note from Fair Fight campaign. Schuyler made a motion to accept Treasure report. Motion seconded. Motion approved.

**VI. Correspondence** – Betsey - None

#### **VII. Committee:**

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

b. Fundraiser Committee - President Chris is asking for volunteers to be on the Fundraiser committee. The following have volunteered – Kent Smith, Maria Ericksen, Janenell Smith, Jake Ericksen, Betsey Kamm, Chris Ericksen

c. **Presidents Report** – Chris Ericksen – with the roll out of vaccines we talked about getting to a hybrid meeting option (some in person, some virtually). We will look at making that a reality in the future. Chris asked for volunteers to help putting together and coordinating to make this happen. Let him know if interested. Feel free to spread the word about the Club and Newsletter. If you don't have a club of your own, you are welcome to join us.

d. **1st Vice President Report** – Joy Kennedy – Welcome to all. She expressed we are looking to increase club membership. We have several new members with the last month. Joy has been working on the By-Laws Committee.

**VIII. Guest Speakers:** 2 of the candidates running for 11th 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. Two of the candidates are joining us tonight.

a. Nina Turner – Former State Senator

b. John Barnes Jr. - Former State Senator

c. At our April club meeting we will have candidates Bryan Flannery and Tariq Shabazz as guest speakers

**IX. Old business** – None

**X. New business** –

a. We need to have a discussion regarding members who have not paid Club dues for 2021. A notice will be sent to those members as a reminder.

**XI. Open Forum** –

a. Kent Smith – He shared activities going on in Columbus. HB6 scandal still lingering. Encourage everyone to get the vaccine. Election dates for 11th Congressional District will be August 3rd for primary and November 2nd for general election. Mayor Gail expressed a concern regarding infrastructure needs and having a voice without a Congressional representative. Kent said the Congressional office staff are still functioning for constituent work. Kent said he will follow up to find out the process, but he said Rep. Joyce Beatty – Columbus representative may be involved. Kent will get back with Mayor Gail on what he finds out. Lisa Forbes asked question – current legislative proposal to require party affiliation on the ballot for Supreme Court and Court of Appeals candidates. She asked how he feels this will effect election, what is the likelihood it will pass, how is it being discussed. Kent said it is still in committee at this point. Need to be creative on how to push back to maintain non-bias judicial positions. More information to come.

b. Mayor Kirsten Gail – Thank you to President Biden, Former Congresswoman Fudge, Senator Sherrod Brown, and US Congress for passing the American Rescue Plan. Has direct support for cities. She expressed she is working with her administration is putting together a plan for the funds. Council passed budget. New police officers and firefighters sworn in. She also shared information regarding recreation

department and Planning & Development. Councilwoman Caviness & Pam Mason are working to bring COVID vaccination pop-up to Euclid area residents.

c. Councilwoman Caviness – working with Pam Mason and 14 other municipalities in Cuyahoga County to bring pop-up sites in our area. Euclid will partner with Richmond Heights.

d. Judge Deborah Turner – expressed thank you for inviting her to contribute to the Newsletter.

e. Judge Maureen Clancy – appreciates the Newsletter

f. Judge Steven Gall - Thank you to the Club involvement

g. Judge Lisa Forbes – Thank you to the Club. Appeals Court has been using virtual proceedings.

h. Judge William Vodrey – Thank you for EDC support. All are welcomed to visit his courtroom (18A)

**XII. Announcements** – President Chris mentioned there will be the 2 remaining candidates for the 11th Congressional District will be guest speakers at our April 15th meeting – Bryan Flannery and Tariq Shabazz. He also expressed for members to keep an eye on their email regarding club notices. We don't normally meet in July & August but information may be sent out.

Raffle: N/A

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

Next meeting: Thursday April 15, 2021 –using Zoom.

Rec. Sec. Kandace Jones

*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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Euclid, OH 44132

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

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@EuclidDemClub on Twitter