

HARWINTON

Democratic Town Committee

NOVEMBER

2019

p1 Election Night

p2-3 EVENTS
Information

The Harwinton Democrats advocate for an inclusive and transparent town government that values fiscal sustainability, positive change, and collaborative leadership. We are committed to strong educational opportunities, smart business growth, and preservation of open space. We champion our democratic ideals of community, compassion, and the common good.

Election Night

On November 5, 2019, Election night, the last vote of the night was cast, and the Assembly Hall room filled with political activists eagerly awaiting the results of another municipal election. At the end of the night, we congratulated the winners, consoled those who didn't quite make it, and hoped that those who didn't win their elections didn't walk off into the sunset, away from town activism forever. Some do, some don't. A lot of words about "inclusion" went around that night, how we all should put our political differences aside and work together.

This was a success in one sense: both parties came together and were able to get the word out on a bipartisan election day food drive for the Harwinton Food Pantry. The mounds of goods being brought in throughout the day were very heartwarming, something we should all be proud of! However, it still felt like us and them.

We didn't run a first selectman candidate. We picked and chose where we were running people since we had so few candidates to work with. The voter registration in Harwinton is skewed to favor the opposing party, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't try: it's a marathon not a 5k. Without running a full slate of candidates, we truly do a disservice to not only our party but also the voters. We have a responsibility to not only hold our elected officials accountable, but also to provide another voice and another option to the voters of Harwinton. When I've been asked why we didn't have a first selectman candidate or even a full slate, I told the truth. We looked, and people were not interested.

There are many members of our committee who help out in a plethora of ways. They are dedicated volunteers who throw their hearts fully into whatever their task. I thank you all for doing this. It is not easy work.

For every candidate who runs for office, there is a machine that supports them and all of us, and that machine consists of our volunteers and members. So yes, running for office is difficult, and yes, the outcome isn't always what we want, but if we want to not only be taken seriously as a party in our community but also have a direct impact on the neighborhoods we all live in, we have to put our fears aside, step out of our comfort zone and run for local office, or volunteer.

As the DTC Town Chair, I love the people I've worked with over the past few years. We have accomplished a lot that I'm very proud of and you all should be, too. We have many new faces who are eager and anxious to cut their teeth on the next campaign or put their various skills to use. These people have been our backbone and I hope we can recruit many more like them, because they are also our future. Our DTC has been sought after and recognized by towns around the state for our fundraising ingenuity and our public service outreach. We are the first DTC candidates have come to when running for regional and statewide office, and we have some of the freshest ideas for outreach.

During this year's municipal election we had around a 36% voter turnout; that's just over 1400 voters. There are almost 900 registered Democrats in our town, and when we received an average of 500 votes. I can say that some Democrats didn't vote, but at the end of the day, someone needs to give voters a reason to show up.

This is the last election I will be involved with as Chair, and it has been bittersweet. We should be proud of the work we have done, but there is so much more to do. The holidays are upon us and with the election in our rear-view mirror, it's a time to move on, to reflect and, come January, to get back to work.

Facebook

www.facebook.com/harwintondems/

Website

<http://harwintondems.com>

Email

harwintondems@gmail.com

Election Night continued...

We will be having membership elections followed by elections to our executive board (Chair, Vice-chair, Treasurer and Secretary). I challenge everyone to carve out some time to be involved, to be active and to help Democrats win in Harwinton. If you don't have the time, then maybe being a member of the committee isn't for you, but this is your opportunity to shape the DTC into what you want and to start planning for elections to come.

Truly though, thank you to everyone who has taken part in this year's race, for the donations and for the help on the committee, and congratulations to both Democrats, Independents, and Republicans who won a spot to serve on the various boards and commissions.

It's been an honor to work with you all, and even though our Democrats weren't in a position to win this year, we can work hard, be visible, and regain the confidence of the voters of our town.

~Peter Brazaitis
Harwinton DTC Chair



Meetings & Gatherings

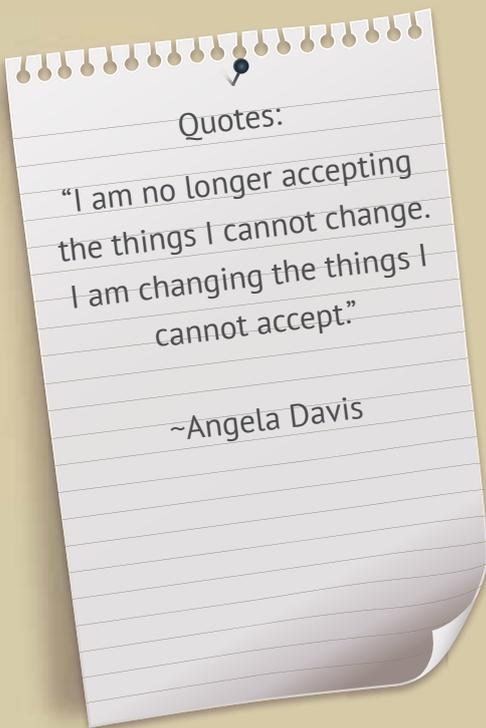
11

Region 10 Board of Ed Meeting
The Learning Center
7:00 p.m.

18

Happy Hour Fundraiser with
Governor Lamont and Chair Wyman.
Salute, 100 Trumbull Street, Hartford
6:30 p.m.

[RSVP and Donate HERE](#)



6th Presidential Democratic Debate

Connecticut had a super successful Election Day: We flipped 12 seats!!!

Here are some successes-- which would not have been possible without you-- our amazing Democratic team.

- We won legislative majorities in Republican towns like Norwich and Derby.
- We won super majorities in five Connecticut towns.
- We swept the boards in Westport.
- We won by double-digits in Litchfield — which was once Trump territory!
- We won the BOE in Plainville!
- We won 2 alder seats in Ansonia!

Are you a fan of podcasts or just looking to listen to something new?

Try Donkey Talk with CT Dems Chair, Nancy Wyman. The podcasts feature discussions that cover state and national issues. Each episode, ranging in length from 20-30 minutes, features a guest and some lively exchanges about a particular topic.

Recent episodes include conversations about getting involved, the 2020 Census, the legacy of Ella Grasso, secure and convenient voting, resources for Democratic women to get elected, and some entertaining stories from Sam Gejdenson about his time in Congress.

The most recent guest, Democratic National Committee Chair Tom Perez, discussed impeachment, the upcoming 2020 election, and Trump's negative effect on both the local and state Republican Party.



More Meetings and News

Harwinton Dems Town Meeting

Thomaston Savings Bank

6:30 p.m.

6th Presidential Democratic

Debate

8:00 p.m.

November
20th
2019

On Election Day at Town Hall, Wendy, Peter and I helped to load donations for the food pantry into vehicles. We were part of the bipartisan poll standers who were still at Town Hall at the end of the night. The amount of food was heartening!

As we start another term of Republican governance, let's resolve to continue to stay active by attending meetings, writing letters to the editor, making our voices heard, and supporting our town residents in need.

Let's show them what we represent—our Democratic ideals of community, compassion, and the common good.

~Rosemary Simko