

# Northwest Democrats News



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Northwest Democrats, P.O. Box 681911, San Antonio, TX 78268; nwdemocrats@gmail.com

## Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> Program: District 8 City Council Candidates

Don't forget to attend our February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting when the candidates for City Council District 8 will be there to answer questions. Because of the large number of candidates for this particular race, we are having this council district by itself, in order to give the candidates enough time for questions and answers

Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 a.m. at Luby's, 6200 Bandera Rd.

### **2006-2008**

#### **OFFICERS**

##### **Chair**

Joyce Dorrycott  
387-3931

##### **Vice-Chair**

Jacob Middleton  
867-6338

##### **Secretary**

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##### **Treasurer**

Roger Herr

##### **Program Director**

Barbara Moschner

##### **Membership**

Charlie Riley

##### **Special Projects**

Gene Marck, 273-9201

##### **Communications**

Ruth Stewart

##### **Publicity**

Jacob Middleton

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## Special Projects

by Gene Marck

### **Eckhert Rd Clean-Up Rescheduled to February 17**

Attention volunteers and new participants! The Eckhert Road clean-up will take place after the February meeting due to the inclement weather we experienced last month. We had gone about two years with nary a problem before that! Let's start our lucky streak again! Please bring any equipment you may have taken home.

Questions? Call Gene Marck, Special Projects Chair. Office: 614-7400; Cell 273-9201

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## THANK YOU

Just wanted to say Thank You to everyone who made the Superbowl fundraiser a success. The people who organized the event, helped prepare for the event, made donations, bought tickets, etc. Thank you to any and everyone who in some small way contributed to making this event so great.

**Authorized & Paid for by the Northwest Democrats**

To submit an article or other info, email Jacob Middleton at:

TXDemocrat@satx.rr.com

## A Few 'Joyce' Words

by Joyce Dorrycott

The 2007 Super Bowl event was our best ever. Whether you are looking at our party socially or economically – it was a great success. Those of you who missed it lost an opportunity to share great fun, food and fellowship. Our people worked very hard, our sponsors were generous and our auction sales were very successful. The Herr home was a perfect site for this event. It was as if Roger had designed the home just for us. In fact, Roger and Tessa, you may see us again. Thanks ever so much for your hospitality

And, how do you say “thank you” to the many people who gave so much of themselves to make this event such a tremendous success. I hope I don't forget anyone as I try to mention some of those who contributed so much. Here goes (alphabetically!!) – Tommy Adkisson, Mario Bravo, Kathy Day, Gloria Diaz, Anna Dorrycott, Don Green, Jackie, Maddie, Roger and Tessa Herr, Jacob Middleton, Barbara Moschner, Esmeralda Rodriguez, Ruth Stewart, and Sue Wilson. If I missed anyone, please remind me. I am still mentally and physically tired.

Now, once we receive a few pledged amounts to add to that already received, we will put it in the bank and move on to our next endeavor.

For the past month we have had a By-Laws Committee, chaired by Ray Baray who was joined by Adam Cavazos, Sarah Harvey, Marguerite Holmes, and Bert Middleton. They have met several times and have completed their report. It goes to the Executive Committee this week, then to the membership who will have 30 days to consider it before there is a vote. Hopefully, this will resolve some of the difficulties we have experienced over time.

Currently, I am putting together a Precinct Chair Committee to identify people who are willing to represent their precincts on the Democratic Executive Committee. If you would like to serve on this committee or to be a precinct chair for your precinct, please let me know.

One other effort we need to undertake is to look up phone numbers for the registered voters in our northwest precincts. Adam Cavazos has gotten us phone books, and I will furnish the voter lists. If you are willing to look up numbers at home or in a group, please let me know. I am looking forward to our working together now preparing to make our work easier in 2008.

Thanks so much for letting me be a part of such a great organization.

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## Making a Difference

by Joyce Dorrycott

Recently Gene Marck and I agreed to give the Kerry-Edwards T-shirts away. As Gene reported to me there was little, if any, market left for these shirts. So, one of our members, Lisa Lanett, agreed to take them to the homeless under the bridge downtown.

What she found there was very disturbing. After giving out the shirts, socks and men's shorts that we had previously gathered, Lisa was troubled by the need for more help for these homeless citizens.

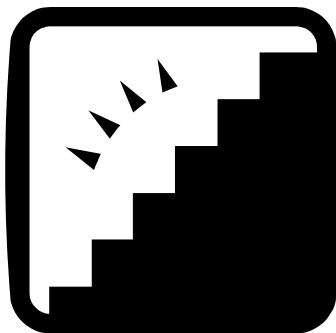
One of the more critical needs she discovered was the need for a noon meal. It seems that a woman who had been feeding over 200 people a day downtown had been closed down. Now the homeless worry as to where they will find a replacement for this loss.

So, she has asked that we help where we can – by gathering items particularly needed by those who are diabetic – for distribution to each one of this group of homeless. Among items she asked that we consider donating were: socks for men, women and children (particularly needed by diabetics; food items that do not need cooking and come in individual size packages; even cans of dog food for their pets – yes, some of them do have pets. White socks and underwear are particularly needed.

If you want to help, just bring whatever you can contribute to the meeting, and Lisa will see to their distribution. I am sure she would be happy to have help if any of you wish to participate. By the way, the socks could be used provided they are clean and in good condition.

## We've Fallen and We Can't Get Up

by Jacob Middleton



*Texas on the Brink.*

That's the title of State Sen. Eliot Shapleigh's handy guide about Texas and where it stands in comparison to the other 50 states. To give you an idea of where Texas currently is, the subtitle could be *Texas Turns a Corner...And Falls Down a Flight of Stairs.*

If anything, this book just makes you angry; especially when you consider that Perry was re-elected and that Craddick is still the Speaker. Angry as well that Texas continues to rank first on the worst lists and last on the best lists.

Here's a sampling of where Texas is number 1: **first** in the

percentage of uninsured children; **first** in the percentage of the population without health insurance; **first** in the percentage of young people without health insurance; **first** in air pollution emissions; **first** in pollution released by manufacturing plants; **first** in the amount of greenhouse gases released; **first** in the amount of toxic chemicals released into the water; **first** in the amount of recognized cancer-causing carcinogens released into the air; **first** in the number of clean water permit violations; **first** in the number of environmental complaints; **first** in the amount of hazardous waste generate; **first** in the amount of carbon dioxide emissions; **first** in the number of job discrimination lawsuits; **first** in the number of executions; and **first** in the number of deaths

attributed to floods (pre-Katrina).

So where does Texas rank last: percentage of the population over 25 with a high school diploma; percentage of non-elderly women with health insurance; open space protection; homeowner's insurance affordability; residential electric bill affordability. And if we're not last in a category like education or healthcare we're always somewhere at the bottom.

I think it's time to stop chanting Go Team Go and instead switch to Whoa Team Whoa. As a famous philosopher once said, once you're in a hole, the best solution is to stop digging.

Last November was a first step. Now comes the second part where we continue to hold their feet to the fire.

You can download a free copy of Sen. Shapleigh's book at the Northwest Democrats official blog website.

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### In Anticipation & Check This Out

**Saturday, Mar. 17, 2007—Northwest Democrats Meeting.**

**Be sure to check out the Northwest Democrats Official Blog.**

**<http://northwestdemocrats.blogspot.com>**

**And also check out our website.**

**[www.northwestdemocrats.org](http://www.northwestdemocrats.org)**

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