

# THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

November 1, 2013

## [DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz Announces New DNC CEO Amy Dacey](#)

On Thursday, Democratic National Committee Chair, Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz named Amy Dacey, a longtime political veteran and top Democratic strategist, as the Party's new Chief Executive Officer, beginning in January 2014.

Dacey comes to the DNC from EMILY's List where she has served as Executive Director since early 2010. Under her tenure at EMILY's List, the organization increased its membership by 500 percent, raised more money per cycle than any time in the organization's history, expanded its recruitment and training program, and helped elect an historic number of women to Congress.

Wasserman Schultz released the following statement announcing the appointment:

"I am thrilled to welcome Amy to the Democratic National Committee. Amy brings a wealth of knowledge, experience, and strategic insight that will be instrumental in helping the DNC continue to grow, build on the electoral gains we made in 2012, advocate on behalf of the President's agenda and prepare a robust campaign operation for 2014 and 2016. Amy's experience working on campaigns, in the labor movement, on committees and for other progressive causes will make her an invaluable asset to Democrats in every corner of the country."

Dacey will take over from Acting Executive Director Laura Santucci who has served in top leadership roles at the DNC since 2011.

"Laura Santucci has long-been an asset to the President on his campaign, at the White House and at the DNC," said Wasserman Schultz. "She is a rising star in our party and has done a phenomenal job leading the DNC as Acting Executive Director during the transition."



## President Clinton Hits the Trail with Terry McAuliffe for Governor Campaign

President Bill Clinton spent the week traveling across Virginia to help elect Terry McAuliffe, as the next governor of Virginia. The pair talked about the importance of voting in this election.

McAuliffe and Clinton made nine public stops, and while in Hampton, Clinton said that while his friendship played a role in coming out for Terry, that the election is about the options Virginians had in front of them:

“You have two generally interesting candidates who are wildly different. And it’s really important that you understand what that means for your life. . . . The problem with being an ideologue is that the facts no longer matter to you. . . And this could have enormous consequences for you.”

Clinton’s appearances were part of the Democratic community’s push to help the Terry McAuliffe campaign reach victory. President Obama will attend a campaign event on Sunday, followed by an event with the Vice President on Monday. First Lady Michelle Obama also recorded a radio ad telling voters to get out the vote and elect McAuliffe.



## In the States

- On Monday, the Nevada State Democratic Party released a statement after Nevada Republican Assemblyman Jim Wheeler said he would vote for slavery if his constituents wanted it: “Jim Wheeler’s comment would be deeply disturbing in and of itself even without the context of this coming only weeks after the Assembly Republican Leader cheered at the prospect of minorities and young people not voting. Jim Wheeler’s comments were disgusting and embarrassing to the state of Nevada. For all the talk of the Republican Party needing an ‘image change’ after the last election, these comments and the recent Republican shutdown of the federal government make clear that the Republican Party is still as extreme and irresponsible as ever.” Read the release on the party’s website [here](#).
- On Tuesday, the Arizona Secretary of State [certified that there are enough valid signatures](#) to put the Protect Your Right to Vote Committee’s referendum of House Bill 2305 on the 2014 ballot. If approved it would get rid of unnecessary voting roadblocks that the bill is trying to force on the citizens of Arizona.
- On Saturday, the Iowa Democratic Party will host its 2013 Jefferson Jackson Dinner with keynote speaker Sen. Chuck Schumer. Click [here](#) to read up on the program for the event.

## [Ten Ways You Can Make Election Day a Success](#)

Ahead of the Governor's races in Virginia and New Jersey as well as other local elections next week, DNC National Deputy Political Director Steve Walker, [published the following blog post](#) to give supporters ten ways to prepare:

### **Take these steps to prepare for Election Day:**

1. Make a plan to vote now: Figure out when will you vote, how will you get there and who you'll go with.
2. Look up your polling place: [If you live in NJ, find yours here](#). [If you live in VA, find yours here](#).
3. Be in line to vote before polls close: Polls are open in NJ 6:00 am until 8:00 pm and in VA 6:00am to 7:00pm. If you are in line when the polls close, STAY IN LINE. You will be allowed to vote if you are in line when the polls close.
4. Do you need an ID to vote? [If you live in VA, you do. Find out what you need here](#). New Jersey voters do not need an ID to vote, but bring a form of ID to be safe. [Click here to find out more](#).
5. Get involved to make sure others vote: [Volunteer for Buono](#) and [Volunteer for McAuliffe](#)
6. Text 5 friends to remind them to vote on Election Day.
7. Post about the election to remind your friends to vote on social media. [Buono Facebook](#) or [Buono Twitter](#). [McAuliffe Facebook](#) or [McAuliffe Twitter](#).
8. Campaigns need a lot of resources to finish strong on Election Day. Chip in to help [Buono](#) or [McAuliffe](#) win.
9. Leave all political items at home when you go to vote including buttons, lapels, t-shirts, signs, etc.
10. Organize a carpool to your polling place. Voting is more fun with friends.

Click [here](#) to read the post on the DNC's website.

## [President Obama Speaks on the Affordable Care Act in Boston](#)

On Wednesday, President Obama spoke at Faneuil Hall in Boston, the home of health care reform in Massachusetts. Seven years ago, Republicans and Democrats worked together and passed a law to provide coverage to nearly all citizens of Massachusetts. The Affordable Care Act was then based off of the Massachusetts healthcare system because of its success.

President Obama noted that the Massachusetts law worked, and today, nearly every citizen in Massachusetts has healthcare, despite struggles the law faced during implementation.

During his remarks, the President also reinforced his commitment to get past similar glitches that have been experienced during implementation of the Affordable Care Act and press on to provide affordable health care to millions of Americans.



Click [here](#) to watch the speech.

## Democratic Organizations Release Memo on Ted Cruz's Republican Party

The five Democratic Party Committees put out the following memo ahead of Ted Cruz's keynote speech at the Iowa GOP's Reagan Dinner, last Friday. It is clear that the Ted Cruz faction is the future of the Republican Party, and they are happy to have him:

**From:** DNC, DSCC, DCCC, DGA & DLCC  
**To:** Interested Parties  
**Date:** Friday, October 25, 2013  
**RE:** Ted Cruz's Republican Party

Tonight, Ted Cruz is keynoting the Iowa GOP's Reagan Dinner.

But as a headline in the conservative [Washington Times](#) put it this week, "Forget Ronald Reagan, Republican candidates race to be the next Ted Cruz."

*Make no mistake: Ted Cruz is leading the Republican Party. Candidates want to be him. Incumbents are afraid of him. The Republican Party base is energized by him.*

Cruz comes to Iowa tonight after winning the Values Voters Presidential straw poll and fresh off orchestrating a government shutdown and bringing our nation to the brink of defaulting on our obligations. Cruz's shutdown cost our economy \$24 billion, forced over 800,000 federal workers to be furloughed and risked a default that would have tanked the global economy.

Ted Cruz and the Republican Party's actions hurt the American people, but instead of learning from their mistakes and changing their ways, Republicans are doubling down and standing by Cruz.

That may please the Republican Party at events like tonight's Reagan Dinner in Des Moines, but his brand of conservatism is already a liability for Republicans running for office in 2014 in Iowa.

### **Cruz's Impact on Iowa Congressional Races**

The Iowa Senate race has been an unmitigated disaster for Republicans consisting of a messy primary littered with 2nd and 3rd tier candidates fighting to see who can be the most like Ted Cruz. Case in point is the way that Joni Ernst, Sam Clovis & Matt Whitaker recklessly and irresponsibly supported a continuation of the government shutdown that damaged Iowa's economy and wasted taxpayer dollars for more than two weeks, hurting hard-working families across the state.

Ernst, Clovis & Whitaker's recklessness and irresponsibility forecasts major problems for them in 2014. [New polling](#) shows Bruce Braley up 4 points over a generic Republican but the lead grows to 7 when voters learn he opposed the shutdown. It's clear that, unlike Bruce Braley, Iowa's GOP senate hopefuls would rather stand with Ted Cruz and his reckless and irresponsible political agenda than with Iowa families.

In the House, two vulnerable Republicans have been particularly egregious supporters of the Cruz strategy and shutdown itself: Tom Latham (IA-03) and Steve King (IA-04).

### **Cruz's Impact on the 2014 Iowa Governor's Race and State Legislative Races**

As thousands of Iowans felt the effects of the Ted Cruz-led government shutdown, Governor Branstad [downplayed its impact](#) and [refused to criticize it](#). Hundreds of Iowans have already [asked Gov. Branstad to boycott Cruz's](#) Des Moines appearance in the wake of his government shutdown that left important agriculture loans unprocessed and put early childhood education programs at risk. And still, the headlines this week read, "Branstad ready to welcome Cruz to Iowa."

Much like Senator Cruz, Republicans in the Iowa statehouse would rather attack the health and livelihood of Iowans than support job creating legislation. If Republicans in the Iowa legislature continue to pursue Cruz-like policies it will help ensure that Democrats keep control of the Senate and take back the Iowa House next year.

Up and down the ticket, the reckless and irresponsible political tactics of Ted Cruz are being admired and adopted by Iowa Republicans. How much further will they go to side with Ted Cruz over those whom they were elected to serve?

Click [here](#) to read the full memo on the DNC's website.

## [This Is Obamacare](#)

Click on these clips below to see local coverage of how the Affordable Care Act is providing answers across the country:

### Nevada:



[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJs\\_NGNFqtE&feature=youtu.be](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJs_NGNFqtE&feature=youtu.be)

### Arizona:



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4N9wRjJ0sL0&feature=youtu.be>

### New Mexico:



<http://goo.gl/CYjx8>