

SUBSCRIBE TO **DailyTribune** 

DailyTribune

SEARCH Go

Classifieds   

SITE MENU:

HOME 

Other News Links 

[HOME](#) > [Local News](#) > [Woing south Oakland](#)

Local News

 
Email Print

PUBLISHED: Tuesday, January 8, 2008

Woing south Oakland

Kucinich, McCain schedule stops in Clawson, Troy ahead of Mich. Primary

By Catherine Kavanaugh
Daily Tribune Staff Writer

The campaign trail to the White House will bring two candidates to south Oakland County stumping for votes before the Michigan primary election a week from today.

U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio) and U.S. Sen. John McCain (R-Arizona) are giving members of both major parties a taste of presidential politics.

Advertisement

Kucinich will be the featured guest speaker at the Troy Democratic Club from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the Troy Community Center, 3179 Livernois. The event is free and the public is welcome.

McCain's advance team went through Clawson High School on Monday in preparation for his town hall meeting and rally, scheduled for 3:45 p.m. Saturday. Preliminary plans are to hold the free forum in Trojan Hall, which can seat 350 people. However, if McCain wins the New Hampshire primary today a larger site, such as the gymnasium, will be considered.

"If he wins New Hampshire he could have 150 media people with him," said Mike Bosnic, a McCain supporter who is helping plan the visit to Clawson.

The city of 13,000 hasn't had a chance to see a presidential candidate in their hometown since 1972.

"That's when George McGovern drove through town - without stopping - on the way to an



TOP JOBS

AUTO BODY TECH State license/ I-CAR. Frame exp./ own tools. Benefits available. 248-745-75...

Urethane Dunnage Manufacturer located in Warren, Mi needs Foreman, Machine Operators, & Qu...

AUTO SALES NEW Large award winning Pontiac Buick GMC Dealership is looking for motivated, ...

MAINTENANCE Full-time for Auburn Hills Apts. Must have HVAC, own tools, reliable transport...

[View all Top Jobs](#)

TOP AUTOS

Classic Cars Wanted! 866-822-2216 or 989-891-0900

[View all Top Autos](#)

TOP HOMES

Homes For Sale Starting at \$5000.00 These are a must see! Great Deals! All Appl. with A/C ...

[View all Top Homes](#)

event in Royal Oak," Bosnic said. "We're very grateful John McCain will make his Oakland County stop here."

Mike Whitty, a Birmingham resident and professor at the University of Detroit-Mercy, had a role in arranging the campaign stop for Kucinich.

He joins Hillary Clinton and U.S. Sen. Mike Gravel as the only active Democrats on the Michigan ballot after Christopher Dodd dropped out last week.

"I'm championing what I call a Democrat's Democrat," Whitty said. "Kucinich is a solid, issues-oriented candidate. He focuses on the bread-and-butter issues of jobs, the economy and trade laws that won't cost Michigan jobs."

Whitty applauds Kucinich for co-sponsoring a bill for a universal health care system often compared to "Medicaid for everyone."

"The Big 3 - Hillary, Edwards and Obama - are still saying we have to work with the insurance industry for more coverage," Whitty said. "Kucinich breaks from the mold with a new approach."

Kucinich also is considered the most consistent opponent of the war in Iraq. He introduced a bill to create a Department of Peace and has voted against not only authorizing the war along with its continued funding.

Kucinich will make a stop in Clawson, too. He is scheduled for an after-service forum at 11 a.m. Sunday at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 340 N. Main St., Clawson. The Rev. Harry Cooke will host the free event and political columnist Jack Lessenberry will moderate a question-and-answer session.

Even though Kucinich is running toward the back of the pack, all voters would benefit from listening to his stances on peace, human rights and economics, Whitty stated.

"I see this as a great educational feast of the issues," he said. "Even if you're doubtful about his presidential prospect, that's no reason not to pay attention to the issues."

Meanwhile, McCain is enjoying a surge in New Hampshire, where his tour bus says "The Mac is Back."

"I remember when it was the Straight-Forward Express," Bosnic said. "McCain had a rough summer but he stayed true to his message."

Bosnic, who is school board president, said he became a McCain supporter shortly after the senator declared his candidacy for the second time. He said the former prisoner of war will be the best advocate of national security.

"We are a country at war," Bosnic said. "I put my faith in his ability to know when it is appropriate to send our kids into combat. He takes that very seriously."

Local Republicans will be wooed by McCain and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney this week. Romney will be the keynote speaker at the 60th anniversary gala of the Oakland County Republican Party. Tickets for the 6:30 p.m. dinner at the Shenandoah Country Club, West Bloomfield, are \$65 each.

Romney also plans a stop at Laurel Manor, Livonia, at noon Saturday. That could be a big day for the Michigan GOP.

"We will have the focus of the political world with the Republican front runners here," Bosnic said. "I heard CNN might do live cutaways. The Democrats don't seem to be playing anywhere until South Carolina."

Clinton has no scheduled stops in Michigan and local Democrats can't even vote for Barack Obama or John Edwards except to cast a ballot as "uncommitted."

TOP RENTALS

Auburn Hills/Pontiac
TURTLE CREEK
APARTMENTS 2 Bedroom
Apts. \$649 Special Incl.
washer/dry...

PONTIAC 1 & 2 bdrm.
\$390-\$490 + util. 248-225-
4660

****AUBURN HILLS 1 bdrm.**
\$150/wk w/util ** 248-276-
0060 **

West Bloomfield Available
Jan. 23rd 3665 Valley View 5
bdrm. 3.5 bath. Family room
w/frpl...

[View all Top Rentals](#)

TOP MERCHANDISE

[View all Top Merchandise](#)

Obama and Edwards withdrew from the Michigan primary ballot when state Democrats moved up the election date to January. They can't be write-in candidates because they didn't submit statements to the Michigan Secretary of State declaring themselves as write-ins by the Jan. 4 deadline.

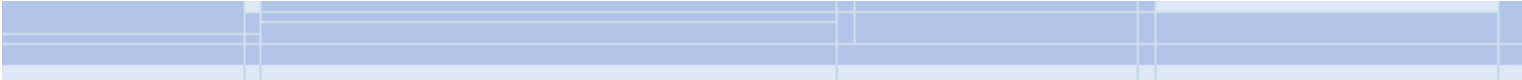
"There's a quirk in the Michigan law," said Sandy Burgess, chair of the Troy Democratic Club.

However, if at least 15 percent of Democratic primary voters are uncommitted, delegates will be allocated proportionally to those candidates at the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Colo., in August.

Burgess said she understands why the state's Democratic leadership went ahead with the election date change.

"The biggest problem is Iowa and New Hampshire have had disproportionate clout in selecting nominees," Burgess said. "A number of states with more delegates, like Michigan, California and Florida, want to bring greater democracy to the process. This is a painful step in an effort to reform the party."

Contact Catherine Kavanaugh at cathy.kavanaugh@dailytribune.com or (248) 591-2504.



[About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Subscribe](#) | © 2007 The Daily Tribune
[Interested in a career at Journal Register Company, click here](#)