

CAAB's newsletter is designed to ensure that our IDA/MDA Savers are fully informed about relevant money management topics, effective savings strategies, financial education opportunities in the DC area, and upcoming CAAB events. Every month, we will feature a different article focusing on strategies or products that can help you plan for and achieve your savings goals.

Supporting Your Candidate without Emptying Your Wallet

By Alisha Howell

The seemingly never-ending political campaign rolls on this summer and chatter about the contenders for local seats and the highest office in the land continues to occur in the nation's capital. No matter what your political affiliation, donating money to either a local or national campaign is something each candidate encourages from its supporters, but this is not the only way you can show your support. Instead of giving money that you may not have, here are some simple, no-cost and low-cost ways you can help your candidate get elected.

Volunteer with a campaign

What better time to canvass outdoors than the summertime? Canvassing allows supporters to walk around in the warm, sunny weather to various communities and speak to people about the candidate of their choice and why the residents should vote for him or her. Interested community members can simply visit their candidate's website or call his or her office for specific information in the DC area.

Political parties also have volunteer sign-up forms on their websites and other ways to volunteer include making phone calls, registering voters, or recruiting more volunteers. Check out the following sites for more information: Democratic Party, www.democrats.org/volunteer.html; Green Party, www.gp.org/volunteer.php; Republican Party, www.gop.com/secure/?Type=S2.

Some DC City Councilmembers up for re-election, as well as their opponents, also have online forms through their websites to sign up to volunteer for the campaign. The DC Board of Elections and Ethics is a good resource to see who is running for local office. A list of all candidates on the ballot for the September 9, 2008, DC primary can be found at: www.dcboee.org



and click on "List of Candidates for the September 9, 2008 Primary Election."

Attend or host an event

Summer months are full of free campaign events to attend. Presidential candidates have events almost daily and you can find a list of programs in your area on the website of your favorite candidate. Local DC City Councilmember candidates hold events as well in their respective Wards. Being a rally attendee shows your dedication to the campaign and if you are one of many, it shows other voters, perhaps undecided, just how big a following your candidate has amassed.

Hosting an event might seem expensive but actually it can be a low-cost way to show support. Campaign rallies at parks or

homes congregate supporters in one area to brainstorm ways to help the campaign. It can be as low-cost (punch and cookies) or high-end (catered dinner) as you like, and asking everyone to bring a dish to share will cut down on costs, too.

Show and Tell

Signs in the window or yard, wearing a campaign button, a bumper sticker, or passing out flyers are all ways you can show your support this campaign season. Some news shows even feature segments for viewers to call-in or email the show and express their political opinions. You can also use the internet to create a fan site supporting your candidate or link a candidate's site to your own existing page. Just make sure you create your own content and do not copy text from another site and place it on yours...that is illegal!

It is easy to get caught up in the excitement of a political campaign, especially the ones we are currently observing. These no and low-cost, fun, simple, and creative options provide the avid supporter with a more personal way to get involved and make a difference.

DON'T FORGET!

Regardless of whether you decide to engage in these or other political activities, the most important event of all is Election Day, which is always free. So get registered and go to the polls on September 9 and November 4 to make sure you are heard at the ballot box this year.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following savers made asset purchases in the month of July:

Home

Myron Ford
Maria Lopez

Education

Kirk Adair
Brittany Beatty
Charles Blake
Diane Carter
Suhey Dominguez
Nebiat Fekade
Lateika Jones
Eric Jones Jr.
Kenneth Marshall
Cynthia Quispe
Nashae Raynor
Borjana Sako
Cynthia Simon
Tiffany Simpson
Addis Woldeamayot

Small Business

Viviana Oxla

August 11 is the last day to register to vote in the DC Primary elections on September 9, 2008.

October 6 is the last day to register to vote in the General election on November 4, 2008.

To register, simply fill out the form on the DC Board of Elections website (http://www.dcboee.org/voterreg/ovr_step1.asp) and mail-in supporting registration materials to:

DC Board of Elections and Ethics
Attn: e-Government Division
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 250 N
Washington, DC 20001

**See the CAAB
Corner section on
the back to find
out how you can
win \$100!**

UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Weeknight Money Management Classes at CAAB

at 1801 K St NW, Suite M100 (Farragut West & Farragut North metro stops)

New round of weeknight Money Management classes starts next month. (Free) Complete your financial education requirements for the IDA or MDA program and meet other people saving towards their life goals just like you. **Call 202-419-1440** to register. *Meets on Tuesdays and one Wednesday, September 9 through October 14, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Light meal will be provided.*

September 9 (Tues.) Creating wealth, setting financial goals, and tracking expenses

September 16 (Tues.) Budgeting

September 24 (Wed.) Understanding Credit

September 30 (Tues.) Knowing Your Rights

October 14 (Tues.) Financial Institutions and Products

2008 City Council Candidates Forums

The Fair Budget Coalition is sponsoring a series of forums for city council candidates. Come out to hear what candidates are saying about issues you care about and pose your questions to them.

At-Large Wednesday, August 20, 6:00-8:00 p.m., True Reformer Building, 1200 U Street NW, Marsh Conference room

Ward 7 and 8 Tuesday, August 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Matthews Memorial Baptist Church, 2616 Martin Luther King Avenue SE

Ward 4 Thursday, August 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Takoma Park Library, 416 Cedar Street NW

IN THE BLACK



SAVE
THE
DATE

10.07.08

CAAB's Annual Benefit, Silent Auction and Reception with Live Music. 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Did you know.....

**Dating?
Engaged?
Married?**



Attend Free Relationship Enrichment Classes hosted by LifeSTARTS

FREE dinner, transportation, and childcare! Call **202-610-5211** to register and for more information. Classes begin early September.

You pay a service charge every time you make a cash deposit in your Citibank account? The charge starts at 10 cents and goes up another 10 cents with every \$100 in cash you deposit. Save money by using direct deposit or depositing checks in your account instead of cash.

File for the Economic Stimulus Payment before October 15!



In DC alone 15,000 eligible filers have not claimed the Economic Stimulus Payment (ESP). Nationally, 5 million low-income seniors, disabled veterans and other low-income workers are at risk of missing out on their \$300 payments (\$600 for married couples). ESP is available to individuals who received more than \$3,000 in 2007 in Social Security benefits, Veterans' benefits, or wages.

Not sure if you qualify? Need help filing?

There are a variety of sources of assistance!

1. Call Community Tax Aid at 202-547-7773 to make an appointment for assistance.
2. Go to www.irs.gov to learn more about the stimulus payment.
3. Call the IRS at 1-866-234-2942 or 1-800-829-1040.
4. Receive assistance at the DC IRS Taxpayer Assistance Center at 500 N. Capitol Street NW from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.

New CAAB Savers Business Directory



A new directory has been launched on CAAB's website which lists CAAB Savers who now run their own small businesses. From Pet Grooming to Real Estate, IDAs have helped create a wide variety of businesses and this is a great opportunity to support a fellow saver and find a great service or product.

Go to: caab.org/programs/Savers-Business-Directory.php

Have a business that is not yet on our list? Let us know so we can add your business to the directory.

CAAB CORNER

Want to put your creative side to test? Enter CAAB's "Name Our Newsletter" Contest and win \$100 for your IDA or MDA savings! CAAB will launch a quarterly newsletter for our supporters and savers in September. We're looking for a name that helps us spread the word about CAAB's good work and you could be the big winner! Send us your ideas for a CAAB newsletter name (our first newsletter in 1999 was also named by an IDA Saver and called "Smart Money Moves"). The winner will receive a prize of \$100 (available as a deposit directly to the winner's IDA/MDA account or as a savings bond). Entries can be submitted via email to news@caab.org. Please put "Newsletter Contest" in the subject line and include your name and phone number, too, so we may contact you should you win the prize. Entries must be received by September 30, 2008. All entries shall be property of CAAB. CAAB is not responsible for lost, delayed, or misdirected entries and is not obligated to adopt the winning newsletter name.

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