

THE DONKEY

INCLUDE ENGAGE INFORM

Lawn signs can swing an election, study finds

All those political yard signs littering neighborhoods at election time may not be accomplishing that much, a new study [found](#) — though perhaps enough to swing a close election.

Four randomized field experiments in a study by lead author Donald Green of Columbia University and several others found that lawn signs increase voter share by 1.7 percentage points on average, a positive increase, but not a large one. [More....](#)

Behind the Lens: 2015 Year in Photographs

By Pete Souza, Chief Official White House Photographer

One of the best and most challenging aspects of my job is whittling down a year's worth of photographs to the final selections for my annual Year in Photographs. Every year, I attempt to keep it less than 100 photos—and every year I fail in that goal. But I am excited once again to present this gallery for the seventh consecutive year. [More...](#)

John Ewing Appointed Douglas County Presidential Caucus Chair

Omaha, NE — The Douglas County Democratic Party (DCDP) has announced the appointment of County Treasurer John Ewing as Chair for the 2016 Douglas County Democratic Presidential Caucus.

Ewing will provide leadership for the caucuses to be held March 5 in each of the county's 14 State Legislative Districts. John will lead DCDP efforts to promote and prepare the almost 200 volunteers required to hold the caucus as well the thousands of anticipated caucus attendees.

"By holding our caucus in early March, we will have a great opportunity to lend Nebraska's voice in the discussion leading to our party's nominee for President." Ewing said, adding: "I'm honored to be part of this dynamic event."

The County Caucuses will be held at 10:00 am Saturday, March 5, with doors opening at 8:30 am. Volunteers will be attending either of two Thursday evening training sessions January 28th and February 25th. Both training sessions will be held at 7:00 pm at the Communications Workers of America Hall (CWA) located at 1920 S. 44th Street. For complete details, and to find your Caucus location, go to www.douglascountymocrats.com or call (402) 558-5912.

Ewing was first elected Douglas County Treasurer in 2006 and was reelected 2010 and 2014. Prior to that he served in the Omaha Police Department for 24 years, finishing his career as Deputy Police Chief. His appointment to Chair the County Caucus is just one of many honors John has received.

The Douglas County Democratic Party represents over 120,000 registered voters in Douglas County, currently there are 83 Democrats holding office in Douglas County. Additional information about any Douglas County Party activity can be found at www.douglascountymocrats.com or by calling (402) 558-5912. County. Additional information about any Douglas County Party activity can be found at www.douglascountymocrats.com or by calling (402) 558-5912.

Last Chance For The Truman Dinner Tickets [HERE](#)

HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?

Douglas County Democrats is looking for volunteer contributors to our front page. The articles don't have long altho we will also accept series to be published over subsequent weeks. Subject matter can cover a variety of issues or basic information. If you are interested in writing on assignment, given a subject to cover also contact us. All articles will be bylined and archived on an author's page. Send queries and content to webmaster@douglascountymocrats.com



Obamaha Rocks It At The Baxter

To a standing room only crowd estimated at 11,000 President Obama was raucously greeted with cheers, “we love you” and “four more years.” It was clear the past seven years haven’t diminished the real affection Omaha feels for our President.

His message was one of encouragement. He reminded us of the shared dreams that brought him the Blue Dot in 08 and the Presidency. WE are the ones we have been waiting for and it is our involvement that moves the country forward. While we have problems to solve, we can and he is confident we will.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-ILnsAqjJM>

President Obama’s Town Hall Meeting on Gun Control

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HrBR_kXHw

The Worst Political Predictions of 2015

Forecasting political trends is almost an American pastime. So is getting those forecasts woefully wrong. Politico Magazine has published an annual worst political predictions list [twice before](#), but we’ve never had quite the fodder that we did this year. In the 2016 presidential race, [one](#) presumed front-runner after [another](#) fell to the bottom of the polls; a reality TV star [is currently as admired](#) as the pope; and a [socialist](#) and a [retired neurosurgeon](#) gained massive followings. In Washington, a man who [once wanted](#) to give his “undivided attention” to the Ways and Means Committee is now speaker of the House; and a president about to enter his final year and facing a hostile Congress reached deals on [climate change](#), [Iran’s nuclear program](#) and [international trade](#). Of course, we can’t blame political pundits for being wrong in a year so full of surprises; but that won’t stop us from having some fun calling them out. Herewith, the political predictions gone wrong in 2015. [More...](#)

FACT SHEET: New Executive Actions to Reduce Gun Violence and Make Our Communities Safer

Gun violence has taken a heartbreaking toll on too many communities across the country. Over the past decade in America, more than 100,000 people have been killed as a result of gun violence—and millions more have been the victim of assaults, robberies, and other crimes involving a gun. Many of these crimes were committed by people who never should have been able to purchase a gun in the first place. Over the same period, hundreds of thousands of other people in our communities committed suicide with a gun and nearly half a million people suffered other gun injuries. Hundreds of law enforcement officers have been shot to death protecting their communities. And too many children are killed or injured by firearms every year, often by accident. The vast majority of Americans—including the vast majority of gun owners—believe we must take sensible steps to address these horrible tragedies. [More...](#)

Black Votes Matter Pt 3

Preston Love Jr.

[Activist and Author](#)

Black Lives, Black Poverty and Black Votes Matter.

This column began last month with a hopeful call for our community to energize and understand that Black Votes Matter. We have celebrated the 50th anniversary of the important 1965 Voting Rights Act and the one-year anniversary of the tragedy of Ferguson, Mo which includes a total lack of voter recognition that Black Votes Matter in a city with 67% Black population. For 2016, we have reviewed the offices up for election and the voter legislation, education and participation needs.

This week’s column will attempt to educate you on how elections are held in Nebraska every four years while electing a president as well as other federal, state and local races. We will focus on the Caucuses and Primaries. Throughout Nebraska history, most all of the elections have a primary and then a general election. The primary is meant to narrow a field of multiple candidates down to two finalists. Those two finalists then run against each other in the general election to determine the winner. In partisan elections, the two finalists are usually a democratic candidate against a republican candidate. There are some additional factors that come into play if there is a strong independent candidate. There are very few times when this has occurred and I will ignore that issue until that time comes. [More...](#)