



Democrats in the Utah State House and Senate are continuing their fight to protect and expand Utah's quality of life. The overt and blatant attempts (with some bizarre successes) by our Republican Legislature to seize any and all semblances of power are getting national and international attention. Utah State Democratic Party Chair Wayne Holland was even mentioned, in a positive way, on a couple of national news programs, concerning the **USDC Chair Wayne Holland Democratic Tour of Warning**. It was not much, but it was more than we have received from our own press corps here at home.

We are watching a few bills closely right now. First is [Senator McCoy's SB212](#), which is making some serious progress, against all expectations. The bill helps fund higher education opportunities for the survivors and dependants of military servicemen and servicewomen.

Also on the watch list is the bizarre and completely befuddling life of [Rep. Cosgrove's HB407](#). This is the Counseling for Families of Veterans bill that will plug a gaping hole in military dependant services and help prepare families for the return of family members serving in combat.

Somehow, this bill has completely flummoxed the Office of Legislative Council who cannot fathom why such a bill would be needed, but seem fully able to wrap their efforts around Origin of Species and repeal of the US Constitution.

So, with that in mind, may I remind you...

2006 Candidate Filing Period:
Tuesday, March 7, 2006 to
Friday, March 17, 2006



Thanksgiving is a time to reaffirm our values; as Americans, and as Utahns. As a nation, we've seen both unimaginable tragedy and the near infinite lengths of American compassion. We offer thanks for all of our many blessings, but we need to remember that giving is much more than an uttered phrase.

As I participate in this annual tradition of formal reflection and giving thanks, I am always reminded of two powerful quotes that reflect my thoughts:

"It has been said that we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, bind up the wounds of the man beaten by thieves, pour oil and wine into them, set him on our own beast and bring him to the inn, because we receive ourselves pleasure from these acts...but how happens it that they give us pleasure? Because nature hath implanted in our breasts a love of others, a sense of duty to them, a moral instinct, in short, which prompts us irresistibly to feel and to succor their distresses..." - Thomas Jefferson.

"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." - I Corinthians XIII,13

As this holiday season begins, and as we gather to ourselves our loved ones and our treasured memories, let us remember those who suffer and those who need.

Throughout Utah, the reality of family poverty is expanding every year. The forecast for the next year is a grim reminder of our duties as Americans and our compassion as Utahns. Remember to purchase a few extra items for donation to the Utah Food Banks as you prepare for Thursday. Remember to purchase a few extra toys for the Marine Corps' Toys For Tots when you brave the holiday madness on Black Friday. As you attend the services at your ward house, synagogue, temple, chapel or mosque, please take a moment to find out how you can assist in your church's community outreach.

From myself, the Executive Committee, and the staff of the Utah State Democratic Party, I wish you a very Happy Thanksgiving.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne Galland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The logo features the text "STATE DEMOCRATIC PARTY" at the top in a serif font. Below it, the word "MESSAGE" is written in a very large, bold, serif font. Underneath "MESSAGE", the words "AND EVENTS" are written in a smaller, bold, serif font. The background of the logo is a blurred image of an American flag.

The 2006 Utah Legislative session is now well underway, and your Democratic representatives are leading the way toward governmental reform. Wednesday morning, in the foyer of the legislative building, several of your Democratic representatives rolled out their message for ethical and transparent government. Rich Piatt did a great report on KSL TV yesterday. [Take a look.](#)

The Democratic response to the State of the State address is posted on the State Party Website. [Please, take a few moments to read it.](#)

The Internet news website, Raw Story (the people who also rolled out the full story of David Safavian and Rep. Cannon more than a week before the mainstream media last September) released a new story about Republican Rep. Cannon and another shady money deal. So, take a moment to read it and, [please, draw your own conclusions.](#)

The 2006 Legislative Gala was a success. The event was filled to capacity, the floor show was thoughtful and inspiring, and the dancing was quite popular. Thanks to everyone who participated and especially those who volunteered. Here's looking forward to the Jefferson – Jackson in May!

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