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Finding Aid for the
Dorothie M. Murello, Wilmington Democratic Club Collection,
1957-1971

Collection Overview

Title: Dorothie M. Murello, Wilmington Democratic Club Collection

Dates: 1957-1971

ID: DMC

Primary Creator: Murello, Dorothie Margaret, 1917-192

Extent: 3.42 linear feet

Arrangement: Arranged at the collection level, alphabetically by subject.

Forms of Material: Documents, ephemera, photographic materials, scrapbook

Language of materials: English

Abstract

The Dorothie M. Murello, Wilmington Democratic Club Collection documents her involvement in local, state, and national politics between 1957 and 1971. The collection includes paper records, photographs, and a scrapbook primarily related to campaign work for Democratic Party candidates. The collection is arranged at the collection level.

Biographical History

Dorothie Margaret Heistand Murello was born on January 20, 1917 in Bethel Township, Shelby County, Missouri to parents Charles K. and Naomi B. Heistand (née Ross). She was the eldest of six children, with four brothers and one sister. Dorothie married Eugene U. Herring in Oakwood, Clay County, Missouri on June 7, 1936. Following Herring's death on July 27, 1942, Dorothie returned to her childhood home.

After her mother passed away in May 1944, Dorothie relocated from Missouri to Wilmington, California. She married John Melisco Murello in Orange County, California on January 3, 1945 and the couple settled in Wilmington. Dorothie and John divorced in 1966, remarried, then divorced again in 1974, and remained friends until John's death in 1979.

Dorothee was an active member in several community organizations, including the Los Angeles County Heart Association and Harbor Pathways, a substance abuse treatment center. She was very interested in politics and took leadership roles in the Wilmington Democratic Club and the Mexican-American Democratic Club of Wilmington. Beginning in 1956, she served as the installation officer for the Wilmington Democratic Club, and in 1958 was elected secretary-treasurer.

In 1966, Dorothee was elected correspondence secretary to the 68th Assembly District Democratic Council. That same year, she won a seat on the Los Angeles Democratic County Central Committee. As members of the Mexican American Democratic Club of Wilmington, Dorothee and former husband, John, headed up the Wilmington headquarters for California Governor Edmund G. Brown's presidential campaign in 1976.

Dorothee Margaret Murello passed away on November 27, 1982, and is buried at Green Hills Memorial Park in San Pedro, California.

Scope and Contents

The Dorothee M. Murello, Wilmington Democratic Club Collection documents her involvement in local, state, and national politics between 1957 and 1971. Most significantly, this includes campaign work for Democratic Party candidates Sam Yorty, Edmund G. Brown, and John F. Kennedy. The collection includes event programs and booklets, memorabilia, newspaper clippings, campaign materials and contact lists, notes, publications, photographs, and a scrapbook. The collection is arranged at the collection level.

Subjects/Access Terms

Creator

Personal Name:

Murello, Dorothy, 1917-1982

Organization Name:

Democratic Party (Calif.). State Central Committee

Subject Headings

Topical Terms:

California--Politics and government

Presidents--Election

Women--Political activity

Personal Names:

Brown, Edmund G. (Edmund Gerald), 1905-1996

Kennedy, John F. (John Fitzgerald), 1917-1963

Yorty, Sam, 1909-1998

Geographical Locations:

Los Angeles County (Calif.)

Wilmington (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Documentary Forms:

Documents

Ephemera

Photographic materials

Scrapbook

Administrative Information

Processing Information: Holli Teltoe, 2022

Processing of this collection is made possible by generous donations from Marathon Petroleum Corporation, Wilmington Neighborhood Council, Fast Lane Transportation, I.L.W.U. Credit Union, and Russell and Laura Mohberg.

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Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation: Dorothe M. Murello, Wilmington Democratic Club Collection. Wilmington Historical Society.

Acquisition: The source and date of acquisition is unknown.

Collection Contents

Box 1

Folder 1: 1964 Democratic National Convention Program

Folder 2: Anderson, Congressman, 17th District, Bumper Stickers, ca. 1969

Folder 3: Annual FDR Dinner Souvenir Booklets, 1959, 1961

Folder 4: Brown, Edmund G., 1962

Folder 5: California State and Federal Representatives, Correspondence, 1960-1964

Folder 6: Carnegie Medal for Heroism, Isabel Ramirez, 1962

Folder 7: Contact Lists

Folder 8: *The Democrat* Newsletter, 1961

Folder 9: Democratic State Central Committee, 1962-1965

Folder 10: Kennedy for President Bumper Stickers, ca.1968

Folder 11: MacDonald, Jim, 1971

Folder 12: Notes and Personal Correspondence, 1962

Folder 13: Yorty, Sam, 1965

Box 2

Folder 1: 1964 Democratic National Convention Souvenir Book

Folder 2: A Great Record: Re-Elect Governor Pat Brown poster, *The American Weekly*, Assemblyman Vincent Thomas, 1962 December 16, 1963

Folder 3: *Life* magazine, *Heritage of Liberty*, *Democratic Report*, 1963, 1962

Folder 4: *Look* Magazine, *McCall's* Magazine (cover), 1961 September 26, May 1962, 1963 December 3,

Box 3

Item 1: Scrapbook, 1957-1965

Map Case 8

Flat File 1: City of Los Angeles Council District No. 15 Sample Ballot, *Long Beach Independent*, *Long Beach Press-Telegram*, 1965, 1968 June 5, 1963 November 22, 1968 June 18, 1968 June 28

Flat File 2: *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, *Los Angeles Times*, 1963 November 24, 1965 January 17, 1963 November 25

[end of box list]