

# **GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!**

**FEBRUARY 6, 2018**



## **JUSTICE MORGAN & SENATOR JACKSON**

### **DELIVERED HIGHLY MOTIVATIONAL SPEECHES TO 7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT DEMOCRATS!**

**NC Supreme Court Justice Mike Morgan and State Senator Jeff Jackson headlined the Seventh Congressional District Democratic Party's LEADERSHIP BANQUET in the spectacular ballroom of the River Landing Country Club in Wallace on February 3<sup>rd</sup>!**

**Almost 200 Democrats cheered both speakers throughout their presentations!**

**Seventh District Chair Francisco Rivas-Diaz said "Both speakers brought down the house.**

**They inspired and fired us up! Just the right jolt of energy we needed to flip the Seventh Congressional District in 2018!"**

**Popular NC Court of Appeals Candidate Allegra Collins is with Senator Jackson in the picture above.**



*Francisco Rivas-Diaz*  
**Outstanding 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Chair Francisco Rivas-Diaz and State DW Secretary Brenda Rivas-Diaz**



**Warsaw Town Councilwoman Valerie Nelson with Brunswick County Party First Vice Chair Chris Stevenson. These two Democrats made most of the pictures in this article.**



**Kerry Kreisler, Carolyn Crenshaw, Patti Wilson, and Pat LeGrand of Johnston County**



**Becky and Marshall Adame**



**Duplin County Commissioners Jesse Dowe & Jessie Ladson with Valerie Nelson**



**Brenda Rivas-Diaz with Maria Shaver**



**New Hanover legislative candidate Leslie Cohen and Jeff Cohen with Valerie Nelson**



**7<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS**

**Four Seventh District Democrats were saluted at the banquet as recipients of OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARDS. They were:**

**DEANNA ANTONIO – BRUNSWICK COUNTY**

**THOMASINA WILLIAMS – DUPLIN COUNTY**



**MARY MCKERNAN – NEW HANOVER COUNTY**



**JOHNSTON COUNTY CHAIR SHARON CASTLEBERRY ACCEPTED THE AWARD FOR DORIS WALLACE**

**You will note that all four winners are Democratic women!**

**DISTRICT MILESTONE AWARDS**

**At the 7<sup>th</sup> District banquet, District Chair Francisco Rivas-Diaz presented three DISTRICT MILESTONE AWARDS. These awards went to:**



**TOM SIMMONS – BRUNSWICK COUNTY**



**LEE BYNAM – SAMPSON COUNTY**



**MELVIN WILLIAMS  
DUPLIN COUNTY  
with NC Court of Appeals Candidate  
Allegra Collins**



**HILLARIOUS! On Facebook Senator Jeff Jackson wrote this caption about this picture:  
“Thought I was talking about early childhood education with 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Democrats  
- - appears I was actually telling them I once caught a fish thiiiiiii big!”**



### **SEC MEETING IN SANFORD!**

**An overflow crowd of Democrats from all over the state packed the Dennis Wicker Civic Center for the State Executive Committee meeting on January 27, 2018.**



**Longtime Lt. Governor Dennis Wicker gave an exceptionally vigorous speech to the SEC. Shelia Huggins joined Dennis in this picture. State Chair Wayne Goodwin conducted the meeting in a cheerful, fast paced manner.**



**Morrisville Town Councilman Steve Rao, Sanford Mayor Chet Mann, Dennis Wicker, and State Representative Robert Reives at the SEC meeting.**



**NCDP Trustee Kennis Wilkins of Martin County with Mary Perkins-Williams of Pitt County**



**State Teen Dems VP Matt Alexander with Union County Party Chair Nancy Rorie**



**6th District Congressional candidate Ryan Watts with 5th District Congressional candidate DD Adams**



**8th District Congressional candidate Scott Huffman with the 2nd District's Linda Coleman**



**Civil rights attorney Anita Earls is winning support for her Supreme Court campaign everywhere she goes.**



**Senator Floyd McKissick, former Senator Jane Smith, with Senator Don Davis**



**College Democrats at the SEC: Drew Kromer, Demetrius Deloatch, Roger Cooper, Trent Turk, John Easterling, Brandon Combs, Sheree Simon, and Elijah Mears. All are UNC-Greensboro students except Drew who attends Davidson.**



**Matt Alexander, Gwen Wilkins & Brenda Pollard**



**NCDP First Vice Chair Aisha Dew with NCDP Field Coordinator Michael Barnhill**



**Buncombe Democrats at the SEC with County Chair Jeff Rose on the right**



**Durham SEC Members: Danielle Adams, DeDrena Freeman, and Dov Rosenberg.**



**Mecklenburg Legislative candidate Jay Holman with 2<sup>nd</sup> District Congressional candidate Ken Romley**



**Eva F. Lee, Linda Gunter, Dewey Sheffield, Brenda Pollard, Dov Rosenberg and Danielle Adams**



Denise D. Adams,  
*from Farm to U.S. House*

— ★ ★ ★ ★ —  
**DD ADAMS**  
— *for CONGRESS* —



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A Strong Voice *for* Economy. Education. Equality.  
Environment & Healthcare



DD was born & raised in North Carolina's 5th District and spent summers on her grandparents' farm.

DD worked in NC manufacturing for 37 years. She understands being downsized and finding a way to start over when the economy leaves you behind.

DD has served on the Winston-Salem City Council since 2009, and will work across party lines for what folks here need: better jobs, better education, better healthcare & better opportunities for ALL.



@DDAdamsforCongress

[www.DDAdamsforCongress.com](http://www.DDAdamsforCongress.com)

DD Adams for Congress - PO Box 17373, Winston-Salem, NC 27116



"I've always been impressed by DD's dedication, her hard work ethic and her demanding, quality work, but when you get down below that, she's got a big heart and is just concerned about people."

*Allen Joines, Mayor  
Winston-Salem*

"DD is the answer. She has been serving this community well for years and understands a big range of the people in the 5th District. She has experience in elected office and is more prepared to serve. Jenny is running a good race, but DD is better prepared both to run in the general election and to serve successfully."

*Elisabeth Motsinger*



# SERVING PEOPLE OF THE 5TH DISTRICT

- Raised wages for police, firefighters & city workers
- Secured new, better jobs through innovative partnerships
- Championed infrastructure investment
- Advocated for equality & access to healthcare for ALL
- Spearheaded a clean energy hydroponic/aquaponic facility project
- Worked to have EBT SNAP cards accepted at farmers market and brought fresh food to urban “food deserts”

## Other Dem Candidates DD Has Served

Jim Hunt

Terry Sanford

Barack Obama

Elaine Marshall

Bev Perdue

Deborah Ross

## DD's Political Service

2016 – 2020 NC Representative – DNC

2017 - President, Forsyth County Dem Women

2014 - 2016 Treasurer – 12th Congressional District

2014 – 2016 SEC

2017-2019 Forsyth County Democratic Women

2014-2016 Forsyth County 12th District Rep

2011 Obama Campaign, contributor/volunteer

2009-2011 Secretary 12th District

2010 Forsyth County DEM Fundraising Committee

2009 Elected to City Council Winston Salem, NC

2008 DNC Delegate • Obama • Denver

2008 Precinct Organizer Forsyth County

2008 Perdue for Governor, Volunteer

2006 GOTV Precinct 204

2004 GOTV Precinct 204, Delta Days at the Capital

2000 GOTV North Ward

1998 Libba Evans for Congress, Volunteer

1997 Martha Wood for Mayor, Campaign Comm.

1996 DNC Alternate Delegate • Clinton • Chicago

1995 Nelson Malloy for Alderman Campaign Mgr

1992 DNC Delegate • Clinton • New York

1992 Mel Watt for Congress Campaign Volunteer

1991 1st Vice Chair, 5th Congressional District

1990 Candidate for State House District 67, Run-off

1990 Harvey Gantt for Senate Campaign - WS Office Co-Mgr

1990 Precinct Chair, Brown –Douglas for 10 Years

1989 Earline Parmon - County Comm. Campaign Mgr

Forsyth County Democratic Party **2018 Gala**  
SATURDAY **APRIL 7**

*from*  
**PROTEST**  
*to Progress*

Benton Convention Center • 301 W. 5th Street • Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
protesttoprogress@gmail.com • \$60/ticket

Special Guest Speaker **Jason Kander**

**Jason Kander**, a former Army Captain who served in Afghanistan and was Missouri's 39th Secretary of State, is the president of Let America Vote. The first millennial in the country to be elected to statewide office, Jason started **Let America Vote** in February 2017 to fight back against proposals across the country that make it harder for eligible voters to exercise their constitutional right to cast a ballot.

[www.jasonkander.com](http://www.jasonkander.com)



**FORSYTH COUNTY DEMOCRATS!**



### **RANDY VOLLER HONORED!**

**Randy Voller, former Mayor of Pittsboro, was awarded the Goodman Award for Community Service from Triangle Leadership at the organization's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala.**

**Voller was a Goodman Fellow who participated in the program in 2011. He was accompanied to the event with friends, family, and some of the alumni of Leadership Triangle from Chatham County.**

**His award was based on his service to Chatham County and the Triangle Region as well as work on two major regional projects: the Jordan Lake Partnership and the sanitary sewer connection between the Town of Pittsboro and the Town of Sanford.**

**Voller's leadership and work with former Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy, former Carrboro Mayor Mark Chilton, current Orange County Commissioner Barry Jacobs and Hillsborough Mayor Tom Stevens as well as former Chatham County Commissioners George Lucier, Carl Thompson, and Tom Vanderbeck led to the creation of the Jordan Lake Partnership, which will eventually provide clean drinking water for hundreds of thousands of Triangle residents from a new regional water treatment plant located at Jordan Lake.**

**In addition, Voller's vision and advocacy for the major regional sanitary sewer line project that will connect Pittsboro to Sanford involved a number of board members and staff over the years - - especially former Sanford Mayor Cornelia Olive, current Sanford Mayor Chet Mann, Mayor Pro-Tem Sam Gaskins and current Pittsboro Mayor Cindy Perry, town board member Michael Fiocco and Town Manager Bryan Gruesbeck.**



**Voller accepted the award from Jes Averhart, the Executive Director of Leadership Triangle and Jim Goodman, who has been the CEO and President of the Capital Broadcasting Company for more than four decades.**



**At the Goodman Award Ceremony**  
**Front row: Viktoria Voller, Meredith Voller, Randy Voller, and Lesley Landis**  
**Second row: Bill Russell, Beth Turner, Kevin Russell, James Crawford**

**Voller was supported at the event by longtime friend and former Chair of the Chatham County Commissioners, Dr. James Crawford, who said “Leadership Triangle brings together people who are interested in our region and committees. I value the time that I spend at their events. It was an honor to see my good friend and community advocate, Randy Voller, be recognized for his work in public affairs.”**



**LINDA COLEMAN GIVES BACK!**

**In what she described as a “magical event” Second Congressional District candidate Linda Coleman attended the “Winter Wonderland Gala” of the Methodist Home For Children.**

**In the picture on the left Linda is with Bruce Stanley and Juanita Bryant. She is with Joe Mann in the picture on the right.**



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### **DR. KYLE HORTON HOLDS THREE TOWN HALLS IN ONE WEEK!**



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**Large numbers of citizens turned out for three Town Hall meetings featuring strong Seventh Congressional District Candidate Dr. Kyle Horton during the last week of January.**

**At her January 22<sup>nd</sup> Town Hall in Burgaw Dr. Horton talked with State House Candidate John Johnson and attorney Rick Biberstein.**



**This picture shows some of the Democratic Women of Pender County who turned out to support Dr. Horton.**



**DR. HORTON'S TOWN HALL IN DUPLIN COUNTY!**

**This picture shows part of the crowd that attended Dr. Horton's Town Hall in Warsaw on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Democrats from Johnston, Wayne, Pender, New Hanover, and Brunswick counties came to this Town Hall.**



**7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Party Chair Francisco Rivas-Diaz enjoyed talking with Dr. Horton.**



**Patricia LeGrand of Johnston County asking a question at the Town Hall**



**Augie Jimenez of Wallace conversed with the candidate.**



**Duplin's excellent County Chair George Francis**





**LARGE CROWD AT DR. HORTON'S LELAND TOWN HALL!**

**An overflow crowd came to Dr. Horton's Brunswick County Town Hall in Leland on January 26<sup>th</sup>. They recognize that Dr. Kyle is an emerging national star on veteran advocacy, public health, and environmental policy.**



**Readers can learn more about  
Dr. Kyle Horton's campaign  
at:**

**<https://www.DrKyleForCongress.com>**



## **RICKY INGRAM KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN FOR MADISON COUNTY COMMISSSTIONER!**

**Strong Democrat Ricky Ingram of Mars Hill has announced his candidacy for Madison County Commissioner.**

**Ricky is on the right in the picture above. His wife, Teresa, his son, Rick, and Rick's girlfriend, Shilpa Hegda, joined Rick in this happy picture.**

**Ricky says: "I am a lifelong Democrat who believes in the American way. I worked at Honeywell until I received a devastating crippling injury.**

**"I have believed all my life that the great country we live in was built from the middle class UP.**

**"I am running for County Commissioner because I feel that all politics are local and my county has had its fair share of economic disappointment. Madison County's two leading employers left for Mexico and I want to lead the charge in the recruitment process to restore prosperity for our citizens as well as expanding the tax base."**

**Democrats across the state are invited to send checks for Ricky's campaign to "Committee To Elect Ricky Ingram," 96 Tar Heel Drive, Mars Hill, NC 28754**



**Ricky and Teresa' son, Rick Ingram, is a recent graduate of UNC-CH Law School. He practices in New York in the Paul Weiss law firm in Manhattan.**

**In 2016 Rick headed up a fundraiser for Roy Cooper in Chapel Hill which raised a substantial amount of money.**

**Ricky and Teresa treasure this picture of Rick with Vice President Joe Biden and Governor Roy Cooper.**



**Jane Pepler, Arnold Bernstein, Linda Edwards, and Ken Presting**

### **GRASSROOTS CANVASSING IN NASH COUNTY!**

**An earlier edition of this publication recounted the success that Jane Pepler is having in working to flip the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. Now Nash County Democrats have invited her to work in their county.**

**Jane reports: “Someone in Nash County saw my postcard project (sending cards to rural voters rallying them to organize their precincts at upcoming cluster meetings) and wrote saying they would like some help.**

**First Jane made a website for them. It is <http://nashdems.org>. Then Jane and Ken Presting drove to Sharpsburg on a Sunday morning to canvass with Nash County Chair Dwight Jordan and two Precinct Chairs, Linda Edwards and Arnold Bernstein.**

**The very first house that Dwight and Jane visited had new occupants – a Puerto Rican couple who had been moved up to Sharpsburg by their children after the hurricane. They were very pleased to register at their new address and they can’t wait to vote blue!**

**Jane and Dwight also knocked on the door of a Democratic wife and her lifelong Republican husband whom they charmed into switching his registration to Democratic right in front of their eyes.**

**It was freezing all that day so the group met at Hardees to warm up after finding enough volunteers to organize the Sharpsburg precinct. They were fumbling while trying to take a selfie. A huge fellow offered to take the picture. Jane asked if he was registered to vote. He looked embarrassed and said “No, thanks, I’m good.” Dwight Jordan (left) worked his magic on the young man and soon he was registering!**

**His smaller friend was watching and Dwight convinced that young man to register also. Jane says Chair Dwight Jordan has terrific people skills!**





**Nash Precinct Chairs Arnold Bernstein and Linda Edwards with Nash County Chair Dwight Jordan.**

**Jane Pepler had some postcards left over from the earlier projects so they are sending a few hundred postcards into the unorganized precincts of Nash County. She says “It’s too expensive to do that for everyone but I have figured out a reasonable way to send texts to the cell phone numbers available from the Board of Election data.”**

**In response to these cards, several folks have volunteered to help in their unorganized precincts in Nash County.**

**If you want to know how to use this system, email Jane Pepler at [Jane@mappamundi.com](mailto:Jane@mappamundi.com).**



### **HISPANIC DEMOCRATS ORGANIZED IN WILSON COUNTY!**

**On February 4<sup>th</sup> State Hispanic American Democrats President Carolina Fonseca and Vice President David Salazar traveled to Wilson to organize a HAD Caucus there. Sheriff Calvin Woodard, Commissioner Patricia Uzzell, and immigration attorney Tony Ameola attended the meeting.**

**Carolina said “We look forward to working with everyone in the Wilson HAD Caucus in helping the local communities.”**



**OFFICIAL KICKOFF FOR LUIS TOLEDO FOR STATE SENATE!**

Supporters of Luis Toledo kicked off his campaign for State Senate District 16 with a happy party at Carolina Ale House on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Luis is running in a newly-created Senate district which has no incumbent. It covers Northwest Raleigh, Cary, and Morrisville.



**State Rep. Joe John with Luis**



**Durham City Councilwoman Javiera Caballero with Luis**



**Luis with Lindsay McGlennon, Renee Sekel, and Rachel Dempsey**



**IMPORTANT: Luis wants everyone to understand that he is NOT running against Senator Jay Chaudhuri.**



### **WILBUR SHIRLEY SALUTED!**

**Wayne County Democrats honored longtime Democratic leader Wilbur Shirley of Goldsboro by presenting this portrait to him at their January meeting. All Democratic meetings in Wayne County are held at Wilbur's famous BBQ restaurant.**

**From the left are: Wayne Senior Democrats President Evelyn Paul, Democratic Women President Judy Harrison, County Party Chair Barbara Dantonio, Wilbur Shirley, and Democratic Men President Roy White.**



### **NEW WAYNE SENIOR DEMOCRATS OFFICERS INSTALLED!**

**The Senior Democrats of Wayne County installed new Officers at their January meeting. They are: Treasurer Carl Martin, Secretary Bessie Yarborough, President Evelyn Paul, and Vice President Patricia Hockett.**

**On the right is Patricia Burden, Chairwoman of the Wayne County Board of Education who performed the installation.**

**Yes, folks, this is the same Evelyn Paul who has been active in the Craven County Democratic Party for many years. She recently moved to Goldsboro.**



**BRANDON ANDERSON  
ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN  
FOR STATE SENATE  
DISTRICT 93!**

**Rev. Brandon Anderson, Chair of the Wilkes County Democratic Party, has kicked off his campaign for State Senate in District 93. This district is made up of Wilkes, Ashe, Watauga, Alleghany counties and part of Surry County.**

**Brandon is in the center of this picture with State House candidate Ray Russell and County Commissioner Candidate LB Preetve.**

**Brandon lives in the Millers Creek area of Wilkes County. He pastored a church in Wilkes County for ten years. His niece, Mia, joins Brandon in this picture.**



**In good company:  
5<sup>th</sup> District Congressional Candidate  
Denise D. Adams and Krystal Ball with Brandon.  
Krystal was formerly Co-Host of the MSNBC  
afternoon news/talk show "The Cycle."**

**His website is: [AndersonForNCSenate.com](http://AndersonForNCSenate.com)**



**NANCY NEHLS NELSON ANNOUNCES  
FOR  
BUNCOMBE COUNTY COMMISSIONER!**

In 2016 Nancy Nehls (pronounced “kneels”) Nelson came within 317 votes of winning a seat on the Buncombe County Board of Commissioner in 2016. She has happily announced that she is running again in 2018!

This time she will be running for the District Two seat from which Democrat Ellen Frost is retiring. District 2 is located in the eastern part of the county.

Nancy is a retired AT&T Bell Labs Project Manager. “Local government is an extension of community, “ says Nelson. “It needs input from residents, and not just in three minutes at a meeting.

“The frustration of folks who feel their voice is not heard has not changed these past two years. I want to

address that concern and continue to make Buncombe County even better.”

Nancy lives on a Reems Creek valley ridge in Weaverville with her three rescue dogs. Her husband of 41 years, potter Curtis Nelson, and her mother, a retired WWII US Army nurse, **BOTH** passed away during her 2016 campaign. She spent the greater part of 2017 retooling her life after those devastating losses. “My priorities as a County Commissioner remain clear and I’m ready to work for the benefit of our entire community,” she says.

Nancy holds a B. A. from the University of Minnesota and a Masters Certificate from Stevens Institute of Technology. She is committed to serving as a full-time Commissioner, accessible and responsive to all constituents. Her email is: [n3carolina@gmail.com](mailto:n3carolina@gmail.com).



**BUNCOMBE KICKOFF!**

County Chair Jeff Rose welcomed more than 300 Democrats to Buncombe County Democratic Party’s 2018 Kickoff at Asheville-Buncombe Tech on January 27<sup>th</sup>!





**ANITA EARLS KEYNOTES ORANGE COUNTY RECEPTION!**

After speaking at the SEC meeting in Sanford on January 27<sup>th</sup>, State Supreme Court Candidate Anita Earls went to Chapel Hill where she addressed the Orange County Democratic Party's first fundraising reception of the year. Susan Blount, Melissa Kay, and Ronnie Jackson are featured in the picture on the right above.

County Chair Jim Bartow welcomed a large crowd to the reception as Orange Democrats continue to build up their war chest for the 2018 campaign.



**Jessie Kaufman & Senator Valerie Foushee Aidan Hennessy, Rep. Verla Insko & Harriet Solomon**



**Herman Foushee with Carrboro Board of Alderman Member Barbara Foushee**



**Braxton Foushee with Rep. Graig Meyer**



**ROWAN DEMOCRATS HAVE A LIVELY BREAKFAST!**

The friendly Democrats of Rowan County have a breakfast at their County Party Headquarters in Salisbury every month. Some of the Democrats in the picture above at the January breakfast are SEC Member George El-Khoury, Mayor Al Heggins, 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidate Scott Huffman, former NCDP Vice Chair Veleria Levy, and Whitney Boss.



Rowan County Chair Geoffrey Hoy is second from the right next to Scott Huffman



More happy Rowan Democrats!



**Let's close this edition by featuring this happy picture from the big Seventh Congressional District Leadership Banquet in Wallace last Saturday night.**

**Former State Hispanic American Democratic Caucus President Marshall Adame and Seventh District Chair Francisco Rivas-Diaz are with talented David Salazar. David is a Vice President of the State Hispanic American Democratic Caucus. He is dedicated to seeking fair treatment for people of Hispanic heritage. Several times he has organized rallies of more than one thousand people in Raleigh to call attention to Hispanic issues.**

**Send Your GOOD NEWS to me at:**

**[melvin535@gmail.com](mailto:melvin535@gmail.com)**

**Your Democratic Friend,  
Melvin Williams, State Secretary  
North Carolina Democratic Party**