GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!

DECEMBER 18, 2019

LEE COUNTY DEMOCRATS WIN TRIP TO MEET PRESIDENT OBAMA!

Lee County Democratic Party Secretary Crissy Miller made a donation in a Democratic National Committee contest for a chance to meet President Obama personally. She won!

On November 21st the DNC flew Crissy and her husband, Matt, to California for a personal meeting and conversation with President Obama, the most admired man in America according to the Gallup Poll.

Lee County Democrats agree that Crissy was deserving of her good fortune. She has been an enthusiastic and hardworking Democrat for many years.

Democrats can send congratulations to Crissy at: Crissy.Miller@gmail.com
More happiness: Crissy and Matt also met and had a discussion with Democratic National Committee Chair Tom Perez.

Susan and Erv Portman were gracious hosts to many of their neighbors and friends on December 14th at their elegant Cary home. Their annual event is famous for the Sing-a-long during which the entire house is filled vocal and instrumental music.
CONGRESSMAN BOB ETHERIDGE ORGANIZES DRIVE TO SAVE SWEET POTATOES!

Last week Congressman Bob Etheridge's son told him that he was going to have to destroy 1.5 acres of sweet potatoes because there were no farm laborers available to harvest them. Bob urged him to postpone destroying the potatoes long enough to let him do some creative thinking and action.

Congressman Etheridge called the Harnett Food Pantry in Lillington where he learned from Director Carolyn Cox that the Pantry would be glad to receive and distribute the sweet potatoes if people could be enlisted to harvest them.

Congressman and Mrs. Etheridge invited lots of Harnett County individuals and groups to join the campaign to save the potatoes. Harnett County's 4-H Agent, Jackie Helton, happily recruited dozens of 4-H Members to join in the potato harvesting.

At the appointed time about 70 youth and several adults showed up and had a good time digging the potatoes! Congressman Etheridge is shown dumping a basket of potatoes into the trailer in the picture above.

Harnett County's 4-H Club Agent Jackie Helton recruited dozens of 4-H members to join in the sweet potato drive.
They dug more than 13,000 pounds of sweet potatoes!

Many Harnett County families will be blessed by this potato rescue campaign!
A big crowd of Alamance County voters gathered to celebrate the kickoff of Ricky Hurtado’s campaign for State Representative. District 63 came within 277 votes of going Democratic in 2018 and there is tremendous enthusiasm about turning it blue in 2020!

Left: NCDP Native American Caucus President Crystal Cavalier and her husband, Jason Campos-Keck happily posed with Ricky. Right: Newly elected Elon Alderman Quinn Ray with Ricky.

Endorsement Alert: CAPTAIN AMERICA!

And he’ll be joining us on the campaign trail (at events occurring prior to bedtime).

CAPTAIN AMERICA ENDORSES SENATOR JEFF JACKSON!

State Senator Jeff Jackson and his staff have released this statement:

“This is stunning. No one expected him to make a decision so soon. Needless to say, our whole campaign team is honored and delighted.

“And the fact that he’s already committed to doing appearances at multiple campaign events is, well, it’s just more that we ever could have hoped for.

“I know he doesn’t like it when we call him a hero, but in my book that’s exactly what he is.

“And I’m proud of him every single day!

“Best,

Senator Jeff Jackson

“PS: To be honest, I’ve found that when it comes to endorsements having a pre-existing relationship always helps.

“And the truth is, Cap and I have known each other a long time!”
Recently Jeff electrified the General Assembly and good citizens across the nation with his anti-corruption speech against the GOP’s refusal to call for the vote on the budget.

The video of Jeff’s speech went viral. Viewers have watched this video more than 1,500,000 times so far!

Click here to see it for yourself:

https://act.myngp.com/el/KoxAh9CWwhkAjYmODHwbTJDqSQA6DUwcLt5BwFjRAk=k/qiC0wPShVEs4FgyXQrlut253y9sDc6Zy6qNxUsHRw0=/?v=95VfG1ZuNV4
The entire Jackson family enjoyed Jeff’s official filing for re-election. From the left they are: Owen, Senator Jeff, Haden, Marissa, and Avery.

His Mecklenburg County district was changed significantly by redistricting. Now it has a higher percentage of GOP voters.

Today Moira and I went down to the State Board of Elections and I filed to be on the ballot in 2020 to keep my seat on the North Carolina Court of Appeals.

JUDGE
CHRISTOPHER
BROOK FILES
FOR A FULL
EIGHT-YEAR TERM!

To say the last several months since my appointment by Governor Roy Cooper have been a whirlwind would be an understatement.

In just a few short weeks, I went from being appointed and sworn in to sitting for my first oral argument to announcing my candidacy. I will have voted on over 100 cases and motions and written more than 30 opinions by the end of the year, all while campaigning across the state.
REPRESENTING NC DEMOCRATS AT NATIONAL MEETING!

Enjoying the open reception at the Association of State Democratic Chairs in Austin Texas this week were: NCDP First Vice Chair Bobbie Richardson, Executive Director Meredith Cuomo, and State Party Chair Wayne Goodwin.

In Austin: NCDP Chair Wayne Goodwin rolled up his sleeves as he worked on best practices for organizing the state party and the county parties for the 2020 elections.
LGBTQ CONVENTION!

Under the wise leadership of President Ginger Walker, the 2019 LGBTQ Democrats State Convention was held in Raleigh. Delegates to the Convention were welcomed by First Lady Kristin Cooper to the Executive Mansion.

President Walker and our First Lady with Mathew Sherka, the event’s Guest Speaker. He is the Co-Founder of Born Perfect and he is a survivor of Conversion Therapy.

Clay Eddleman received a Progress Award because he organized LGBTQ Chapters in Henderson, Buncombe, and Cherokee-Clay counties (the first multi-county chapter.)
From the left: State LGBTQ Vice President Arsidez Leon, Guilford County Democratic Party First Vice Chair Tyler Beall, Stephanie Kiszely of Guilford County, David Hammond who is LGBTQ Chair in the 13th Congressional District, Elijah Mears of Guilford County LGBTQ Chapter, and Tom Forshaw (Stephanie's guest.)

Concetta Caliendo who was President of the Democratic Women of North Carolina from 2014 until 2016, State LGBTQ Secretary Nate Turner, and State LGBTQ Vice President Arsidez Leon

President Ginger Walker presented a gift to Judge John Arrowood of the NC Court of Appeals who was one of the Convention's speakers.
Matt Hughes addressed the Convention to inform them on the details of the DNC Delegate Selection Plan. Behind Matt is State LGBTQ Secretary Gina Cruz. Chad Turner, Vice President LGBTQ Democrats of Mecklenburg County with Melinda Lilly, President of the LGBTQ Democrats of Mecklenburg County.

LGBTQ Delegates at the Convention's daytime session at the Ramada Raleigh.

Delegates pose with one of their State Convention Speakers, Rep. Deborah Butler.
BRIAN CASKEY IS RUNNING FOR STATE SENATE IN DISTRICT 48!

Brian Caskey is working hard to represent the people of Transylvania, Henderson and part of Buncombe in the State Senate.

After working well with the Republicans on the Town Board of Mills River, Brian is ready to take his ideas to the General Assembly.

He is competing with Cristal Figueroa in the Democratic primary.

This is the same district in which former State Democratic Party Chair Patsy Keever announced she would be running, but the GOP legislators redrew the district so it now excludes Patsy's precinct. This paragraph was inserted because many Democrats across the state have not heard that Patsy has been eliminated from this contest.

Last week Brian Caskey spoke to a group named Swannanoa Valley Voters For A Change. Brian also enjoys listening to voters about their concerns and needs.
Brian Caskey recently addressed a group at the Buncombe County Democratic Headquarters.

Everywhere he goes, he emphasizes the issues which he pronounced at his campaign kickoff:

1 – He is tired of economic inequality
2 – We need a cleaner environment
3 – We must improve our public schools
4 – He believes in the value of bipartisan political action

Right: Mary McGregor and Stacey Caskey with Brian at the Henderson County Democratic candidates meeting. Stacey is the Official Campaign Manager of her husband’s Senate campaign.

Brian invites everyone to go to his website: www.BrianCaskey.com

At the Governor’s Western Residence: State House District 117 candidate Josh Remillard. First Lady Kristen Cooper, Governor Cooper, Brian Caskey, Eleventh Congressional District candidate Michael O’Shea and his wife, Jennifer.
NCDP VICE CHAIR MATT HUGHES
INSTALLED FOR FULL FOUR-YEAR TERM ON HILLSBOROUGH COUNCIL!

State Representative Graig Meyer administered the Oath of Office to NCDP Second Vice Chair Matt Hughes for a full four-year term on the Council of his hometown, Hillsborough. Matt had already been serving as a Town Commissioner to fill out the term of a retiring Commissioner.

Kevin Herandez held the Bible while the Oath was being administered.

Newly-elected Mayor Jen Weaver received the Oath of Office from State Senator Valerie Foushee. Jen's children and husband proudly participated in the ceremony.
MATT AND THE GOVERNOR!
Just 30 minutes before he was scheduled to receive his Oath of Office to the Hillsborough Town Council, Matt went to meet with Governor Roy Moore. When this picture was posted on Facebook, many people wrote “FOUR MORE YEARS FOR BOTH!” That is the goal for all North Carolina Democrats!

BRENDA POLLARD WITH THE FIRST LADY!
When Durham Democrat Brenda Pollard stopped at Parkers’ barbeque restaurant in Wilson recently, she was delighted to see Governor and Mrs. Jim Hunt and some of their relatives dining there.

She went over to talk with them and this happy picture was taken. Two great Democrats! North Carolina Democrats love Kristen Cooper, but we will always salute Carolyn Hunt as our First Lady also.
MECKLENBURG COUNTY’S PRECINCT 206 STAGES CHRISTMAS PARTY!

The warm lights of Chartwell Mansion welcomed a large crowd of Precinct 206 Democrats on December 7th. Contrary to appearances, Chartwell is not an old time Southern mansion. It was built in 1990 and is being rented by a Democrat.

December 7th was also the Birthday of Precinct 206 Chair Greg Snyder. Above Greg is welcoming the event’s special guest, State Representative Cristy Clark.

The event was co-planned and co-hosted by the College Democrats of Davidson College whose President Cutler Renard brought a cheerful message to the celebrating Dems.

The crowd presented a Birthday Cake to Chair Greg Snyder.
DURHAM DEMOCRATS ON THE MOVE –
ON THE GROUND AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Durham Democrats have been canvassing all over the county this fall to grow their volunteer base and reach new voters! In partnership with Neighbors On Call and others, Democratic volunteers have met thousands of potential voters and spread a positive Democratic message throughout the community.

The information in this article was provided by Stephen Rawson, Third Vice Chair of the Durham Democratic Party.
Durham County Democratic Party Chair Is Shown In The Video Above!

Durham Democrats have also recently launched a social media initiative, #iamademocratbecause featuring elected officials, party officers, volunteers, and community members discussing why they are Democrats. New videos are released weekly on Facebook and Twitter, but the growing collection can be seen at https://durhamdemocrats.org/i-am-a-democrat-because/. Every Democrat is welcome to submit their own video!

Did you know that you hear Durham County Chair David Dixon's voice on the answering machine every time you call the Goodwin House?

FIFTEEN MECKLENBURG DEMOCRATS FILE!

This happy picture of all 15 of Mecklenburg County's General Assembly members was made as they prepared to file for the 2020 election. 15 Democratic legislators in one county!
For the December 7th Caswell County Holiday Parade, Caswell County Democratic Party Chair Susan Jesserer-Poore came up with a brilliant plan. Instead of building a float or driving a fancy convertible, she went local and got a camouflage quad-runner. Then she packed up a couple of boxes of candy and added one-pagers on how Medicaid expansion would help the people of Caswell County.

As Susan and State Representative Graig Meyer went along the parade route, they passed out the candy and offered the one-pagers to adults. Rep. Meyer said: “It was a great way to get the Democratic message out!”
ALL Democratic Candidates Are Invited
To Send Pictures and Captions
From Time to Time to:
mevin535@gmail.com
For Inclusion in GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS.

If You Do Not See Any Pictures
From Your Favorite Candidates,
It Means Your Candidates Have Not
Sent Anything To
The GOOD NEWS.

Tip: Please send individual pictures
by email.
Please Do Not Send Them In An Album
Like Drop Box.

(SEE MORE PICTURES
ON THE NEXT PAGE)
Cal Cunningham Kicks Off His U. S. Senate Campaign!
Surrounded by supporters and family, Cal announced his US Senate campaign before filing.

Cal addresses a Breakfast meeting of the Rowan County Democratic Party in Salisbury. Below: Cal discusses his ideas and issues with voters in Yadkin County and at Bennett College.
JEN MANGRUM FILING AND CAMPAIGNING!

Jen Mangrum is enjoying carrying her campaign for Superintendent of Public Instruction to voters statewide. Above Left: Jen with Mark Bibbs and Senator Mike Woodard. Above Right: Jen with her strongest supporter, her daughter, Lily.

When Jen officially filed, she was backed up by Jackson Dumas, Lily, Zack Godwin & Aaron Daun.

Holiday Season campaigning: Jen with several supporters including Christine Kushner (on right) who is running for a NC Senate seat in Wake County.
BLACK POLITICAL CAUCUS CELEBRATES 55TH YEAR!

State Superintendent of Public Instruction candidate, Constance Lav Johnson, sent these pictures made at the exciting Christmas Party of the Black Political Caucus of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The organization’s President, Kalif Rhodes, is with Constance in the picture on the left. Constance says she enjoys this annual event because it is always “99% Democratic!”

Lt. Governor candidate, Allen Thomas, is with Constance and another lady in this picture. Allen Thomas is in his second term as a County Commissioner in Hoke County.

Constance Johnson joined Jessica Holmes, candidate for NC Commissioner of Labor, for this picture.
Send Your GOOD NEWS
To
Melvin535@gmail.com

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