

GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS! YOUTH FEATURE – COLBY DAGENHART!



BEAUTIFUL DEMOCRATIC TREES ACROSS NORTH CAROLINA!

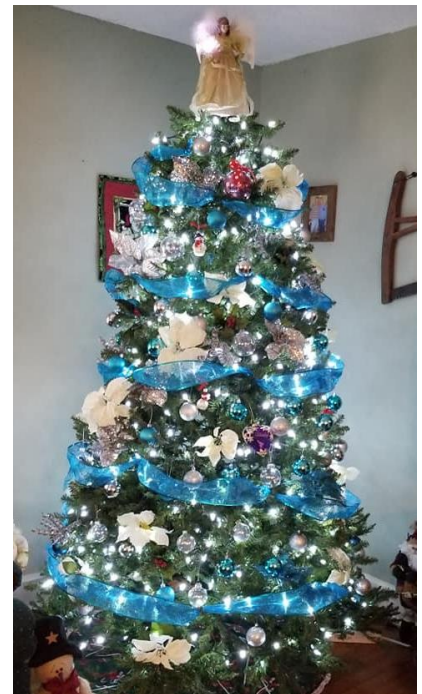
Decorated by

Top row: Ruby Robinson & Donna Marie Woodson of Mecklenburg, Dr. June Atkinson of Wake

**Second row: Tina Willis Rodriquez of Carteret, Jim & Nancy Hawley of Wilson
and Cydania Waymer of Mecklenburg**



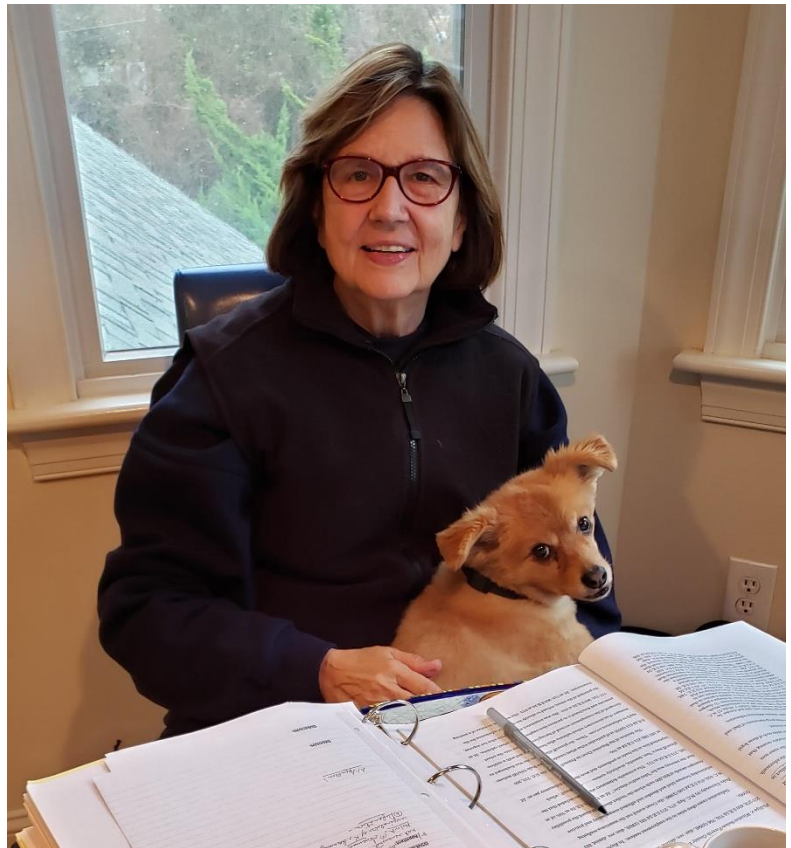
The tree on the left is from the home of Haywood County Party Chair Myrna Campbell. The artwork featuring our President-Elect & Vice President-Elect & the tree on the right were created by Haywood County First Vice Chair Arch Ramos & his wife, Doreen Carroll.



**Left – Lisa Ellsworth of Mecklenburg County, Middle – Gwen Wilkins of Nash County
Right – Cecilia Swinson of Duplin County**



**NC Democrats
honor
all faiths
during this
holiday season.**



SALUTING JUDGE LINDA MCGEE

THE LONGEST SERVING COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE – EVER!

When Governor Jim Hunt appointed attorney Linda McGee to the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 1995, he had no way of knowing she would make history for serving on the court longer than any other Judge in the court's history – 26 amazing years!

She was elected to full eight-year terms in 1996, 2004, and 2012. In 2012 she received a strong 61.2% of the votes in the General Election. She will retire on December 31, 2020.

When asked what message she would like to send to the people of North Carolina, she replied: “It has been an honor have the opportunity to be involved with so many Judges over the years. I am pleased to have been able to serve the people of North Carolina for these 26 years.”

When asked what her future plans are, she replied: “I am going to work with several voluntary organizations including the Democratic Party.”

Judge McGee and her husband, Gary McGee, live in beautiful Corolla in Currituck County where he has been very active in the Democratic Party. Gary has served as First Vice Chair of the Currituck County Democratic Party and he is currently Chair of the Currituck County Board of Elections.

Editors note: Judge McGee has been one of the state's strongest promoters of GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS since its inception in 2011. Many people have stated that she recommended they start reading this publication.



DURHAM INSTALLS OUR STATE'S FIRST ALL-FEMALE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS!

It has never happened before! The voters of Durham County elected the first All-Female Board of Commissioners. All of them are Democrats.

From the left the Commissioners are Board Chair Brenda Howerton, Wendy Jacobs, NCDP Third Vice Chair Nida Allam, Nimasheena Burns, and Heidi Carter.



NCDP Third Vice Chair Nida Allam is the first Muslim female ever elected to a public office in the state of North Carolina.

Her family supported her throughout her campaign and they were happy to attend her Oath of Office ceremony. Supreme Court Justice Anita Earls administered the Oaths of Office to each County Commissioner in five completely separate ceremonies.

Credit for the picture at the top of this page goes to the newsletter of Rep. Zack Hawkins

Recognizing Claire



Claire Wygand has given years of service to the Mitchell County Democratic Party!

Thank you so much for all you do!



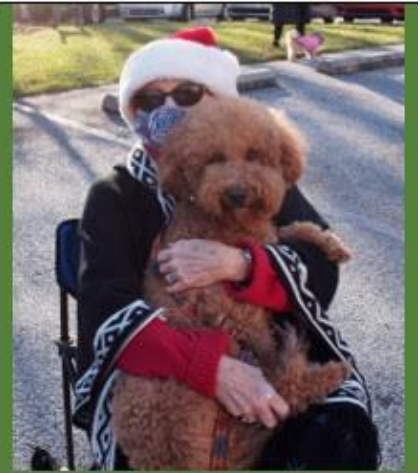
CLAIRE WYGAND HONORED!

County Chair Howard Larsen has announced that dynamic Clair Wygand has been named Mitchell County's recipient of the 2020 Liston J. Ramsey Award! Every county in the 11th Congressional District names only one person for this award each year.

Claire has been Third Vice Chair of the Mitchell County Democratic Party for two terms. She is very involved in community outreach efforts such as the Party's Adopt A Highway Program.

She plays a key role in managing the highly successful annual fundraising event for the county party and is always eager to participate in the Party's Get Out The Vote efforts. As Third Vice Chair she is constantly communicating with the community and with the local party on issues that affect everyone.

It takes a lot of courage to speak up and promote the Democratic Party in Mitchell County which is one of the most Republican counties in the entire state. Clair Wygand has that courage!



A RARITY:

HENDERSON COUNTY DEMS STAGE A LIVE HOLLY PARTY!

They wore masks. They practiced social distancing – and it was a happy time when Henderson County Democrats had an outdoor party in the parking lot in front of their County Headquarters in Hendersonville. The s'mores were delicious!

Please look at the pictures in the middle and right pictures on the second row above> They show the county's First Vice Chair Cindy Ellis receiving the county's 2020 Liston B. Ramsey Award from County Party Chair Kathleen Gould. Cindy was the county's stellar GOTV leader and she served on Sam Edney's campaign for State Representative. Kathleen says: "She is phenomenal!"





More Henderson County Awards!

Picture on left: Peri David (in hat) was honored as co-recipient of the Democrat of the Year Award. Peri promoted a “Democracy Drive-Thru” at the County Party Headquarters during the shutdown at which candidate signs were given away. Contributions in excess of \$6,000.00 were received during that event. The award was presented by Henderson County Party Chair Kathleen (in the green and navy striped poncho.)

Middle Picture: Betty Wallace received the other Democrat of the Year Award. Betty headed up the county’s Voter Protection Team, recruiting members, training them, and generally overseeing the whole operation. She is also a Precinct Chair.

Picture on the right: The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Joanne Dufilho. She is the Office Manager of the Headquarters. When the office had to be shut down because of Covid, Joanne volunteered to receive calls at home. She was available for calls during all hours which was a sacrifice of privacy. She took messages from volunteers, passed info to appropriate officers, and checked info on VoteBuilder.

In response to requests for signs, Joanne purchased 100 Biden/Harris sign at her own expense so that the party could supply voters who were clamoring for them.

Chair Kathleen Gould said “We had record numbers of volunteers this year. So many people did so much.”

Due all this activity, Henderson County Democrats produced these strong number in the 2020 General Election:

Biden/Harris Ticket – 27,211

Governor Roy Cooper – 29,144



Henderson County Democrats brought this generous amount of clothing, bedding, and pantry staples to their outdoor party. They donated all these products to the Interfaith Alliance Ministries of their county.

In the picture above are County Chair Kathleen Gould and Events Coordinator Laura Bannister.



Da'Quan Love To Head Virginia NAACP!

Da'Quan Love of Duplin County has been hired as the new State Executive Director of the NAACP of Virginia. At age 28, he is the youngest person in the nation to ever become a State Executive Director. Da'Quan was a State Representative candidate in 2018 and he worked with the NCDP House Caucus during the 2020 campaign.



UNION COUNTY DEMOCRATS HONOR BOBBY GRIFFIN!

On December 12th the Democrats of Union County held a joint Biden/Harris Victory Celebration and Tribute to the Late Nancy Rorie.

Attorney Bobby Griffin was surprised when it was announced he was the 2020 Recipient of the annual Charles Hunley Award. He was selected for this award because of his lifetime of strong support for the Democratic Party. Bobby and his wife, Norma, are shown in the picture above.

The following awards were also presented:

BLUE KITE AWARD – LISA WALKER

BLUE GEM AWARD – MICHAEL METELESKI

BLUE GEM AWARD – JENNIFER WEAVER-SPENCER

Heartwarming vocal tributes to the late County Chair Nancy Rorie were given by:

NCDP CHAIR WAYNE GOODWIN

FORMER NCDP CHAIR DAVID PARKER

NCDP SECRETARY MELVIN WILLIAMS

UNIONVILLE COUNCIL MEMBER PATRICIA KINDLEY

FORMER 9TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE DAN MCCREADY

Union County First Vice Chair JOSE SANTIAGO was Emcee for the first part of the inspiring program.

Union County Chair PAMELA DE MARIA presided over the presentation of Awards and drawing for some fascinating prizes.

Scott Deming gave an inspirational address which uplifted everyone.



DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF MECKLENBURG COUNTY!

These screen shots show some of the large number of people who joined in the December 9th “Holiday Cheer Party” of the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg. It was a time of joy and celebration.

Stephanie Collins had arranged for vocalist Milas J. Armour III of Chicago to provide uplifting holiday renditions.



DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF WILSON COUNTY PRODUCE A HEARTWARMING CALENDAR!

It's already a sellout! All 200 copies of the new Wilson Democratic Women 2021 calendar have already been bought at \$20 each. No wonder: It's a professional calendar.

The introductory page announces that the entire calendar is dedicated to Betty McCain, the first female Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party who has spent her entire life working to elect Democrats.

Then each month of the calendar is dedicated to an outstanding Wilson County Democratic woman. The monthly stars are:

January – Bobbie Jones

February – Kristi Jones

March – Beth Punte

April – Mattie Jones

May – Yolanda Davis

June – Bobbie Gregory

July – Jean Farmer-Butterfield

August – Caroline Farris Quinn

September – Linda Cooper-Suggs

October – Tamala Fuller

November – Carolyn Leonard Hunt

December – Fannie Mae Corbett

Special feature: There is a full page article about each month's star which tells the outstanding things she has done.

This is not just a calendar: It is a work of art which will be treasured for many years by everyone who was fortunate enough to get one.

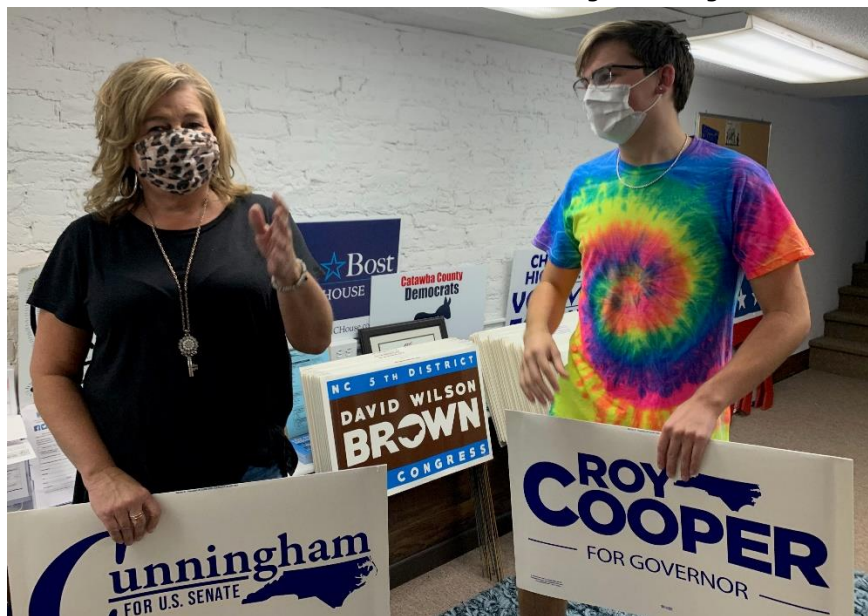
Congratulations to DW President Nancy Hawley and all the Democratic Women of Wilson County for this excellent project!



YOUTH FEATURE – COLBY DAGENHART!

Colby Dagenhart is a 16 year old student at Discovery High School in Newton, North Carolina near Hickory. He “loves” working on political campaigns and has volunteered for eight, including North Carolina State House races and national races.

He is currently volunteering for the Georgia Senate runoffs “to make sure Democrats control the US Senate in 2021 and for many more years to come.”



Colby and his mother, Tracie Dagenhart, enjoyed putting up signs during the 2020 General Election campaign. They also made lots of phone calls for the Democratic ticket. Colby is also working on getting his precinct formally organized.

Colby was a poll greeter in the 2020 election. He says he “enjoyed seeing fellow Democrats appreciate us giving out voting information at the polls.”



\$110,000.00 WINNER!

When Colby sent a humorous video to *America's Funniest Videos*," he had no idea what great things were ahead for him.

After going through several rounds of the contest, COLBY WON THE 2018-2019 SEASON OF THE SHOW! He made three flights to Los Angeles to film various rounds and he won a grand total of \$110,000.00! His prizes included a vacation in Hawaii!

His family joined him on stage for the picture above. His mother is Tracie Dagenhart. His grandmother is Linda Livingston and his sister is Regan Dagenhart.



Colby says: "I have a dog named Bentley. He is my best friend and is always there when I need him."



CAMPAIGNING TO REMOVE CONFEDERATE STATUE!

Colby likes to learn about history in school because “learning about the activism that created change in our society inspires me to do the same.”

That led Colby to join the Catawba County Truth and Reconciliation Committee which advocates removal of a Confederate statue in downtown Newton. He recently spoke about the statue at a Catawba County Board of Commissioners meeting and was featured in *The Hickory Record*.

Click this link to read about the excitement Colby stirred at that meeting:

https://hickoryrecord.com/news/local/16-year-old-asks-county-to-remove-confederate-monument/article_0b8849ce-396a-11eb-90b5-873ecc4f422b.html

Even though several people have spoken about the statue at County Commissioner meetings, Colby was the only person who was able to get the Chair of the Commissioners to speak in reply. It may take a long campaign, but Colby is determined to keep going.

This publication is happy to salute Colby Dagenhart on his activism. He represents the best of American youth!



UNC-CHAPEL HILL YOUNG DEMOCRATS ELECT NEW OFFICERS!

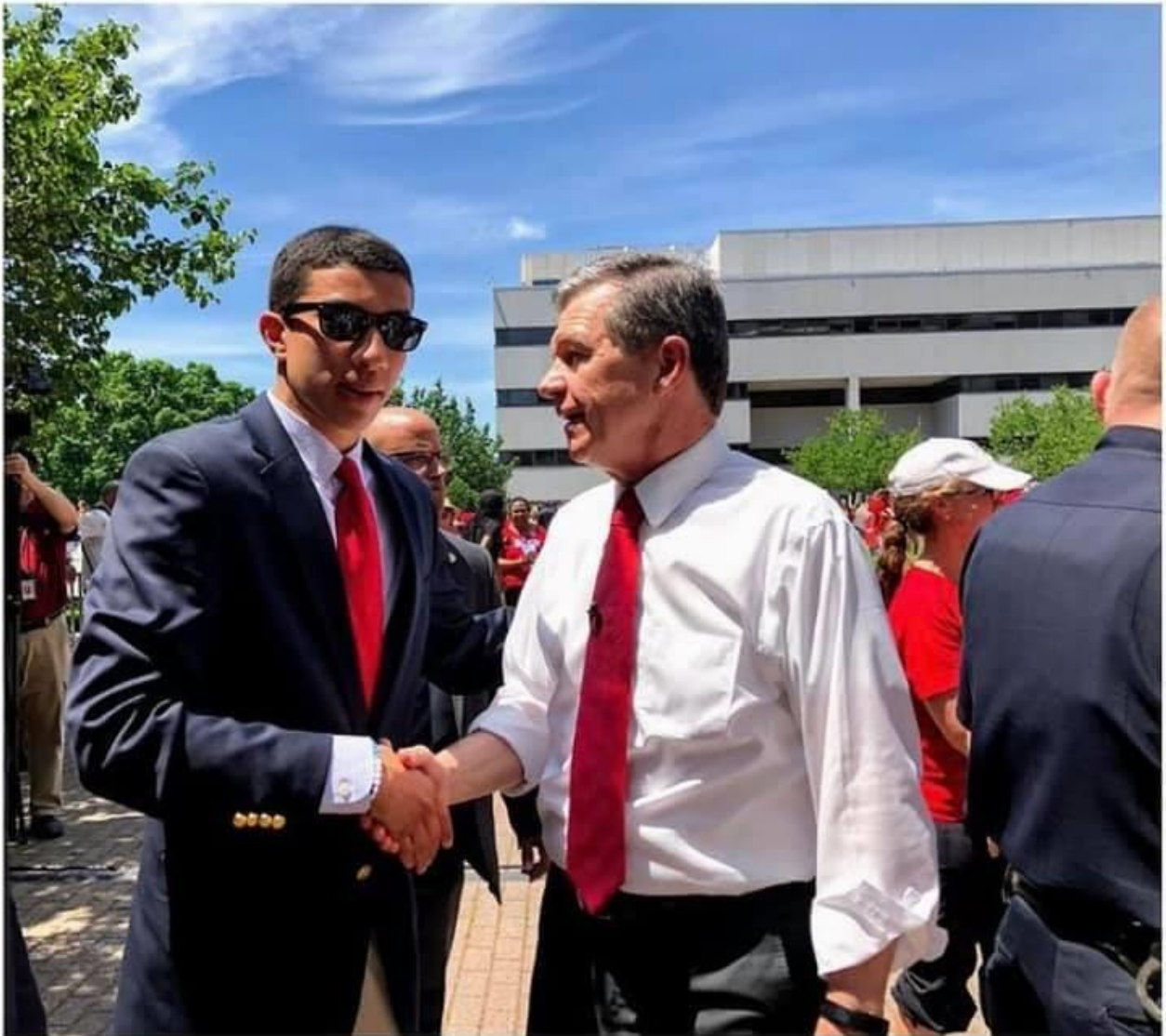
Congratulations to each of them!





News

UNC sophomore Greear Webb appointed to governor's committee on youth justice



Greear Webb meets with Gov. Roy Cooper on May 1, 2019 at the Red 4 Ed NC Education Rally in Raleigh. Photo courtesy of Greear Webb.

Buy Photos

By Hayley Rosewall

December 13, 2020 | 7:13pm EST

GREEAR WEBB GET MAJOR APPOINTMENT!

This page from *The Daily Tar Heel* announces that Governor Cooper has appointed Greear Webb to the Governor's Committee On Youth Justice. Congratulations, Greear!



LITTLE RICK'S FIRST VISIT FROM SANTA!

Rick and Shilpa Ingram send Holiday Greetings to their friends in North Carolina. Because of Little Rick's arrival this year, it is going to be a special holiday.

Rick grew up in Madison County, North Carolina. He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from UNC-Chapel.

Shilpa was one of President Obama's most trusted staff members. She prepared the daily briefing book which he read at the beginning of each day.

This Democratic family lives in Washington now but they keep in touch with their North Carolina friends.

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Send Your GOOD NEWS To:

melvin535@gmail.com

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