GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!

April 14, 2021

COUNTY CONVENTION EDITION!

YOUTH FEATURES: MICHAEL EVOLA, DYLAN HENSON, TIA MEREDITH



TIA MEREDITH – A DEMOCRATIC HOMECOMING QUEEN IN RANDOLPH COUNTY!

Tia Meredith with Questin Overman who has been a friend since before kindergarten.

This picture was taken on April 9, 2021.

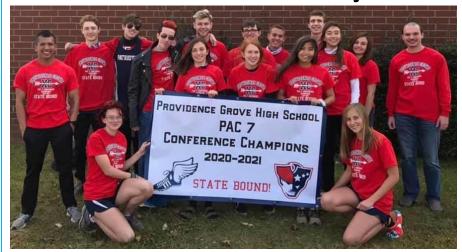




This publication has been following Tia Meredith since she was eight years old. She is now eighteen years old and on last Friday night, April 9th, Tia was crowned Homecoming Queen at Providence Grove High School in Randolph County. The votes for Homecoming Queen were cast by her fellow students. So she is a popular Democrat in a GOP county.

In the picture on the left above she is with her brother, Wilson Meredith. In the picture on the right she is with Homecoming King Jacob Allen.

Because COVID-19 changed the schedule of the football season, Tia had the chance to run on the school's cross country team this school year.



Her girls cross country team and the school's boys team won the PAC-7 Conference Championship. They were successful at the regional level and qualified to run in the state championship meet.

Tia says: "Words can not describe how much happiness this team and this sport has brought me!"



In this picture Tia is with her father, Jim Meredith, in 2019 when she was a Princess in the Homecoming Court.

Jim and his wife, Beverly, went to China and adopted Tia when she was two years old. Tia celebrates her adoption anniversary every year.

Throughout her school years she has made excellent grades. She has been accepted at several major universities. She has not yet made a decision about whether she will attend NC State or UNC-Chapel Hill.

Jim was Chair of the Randolph County
Democratic Party for several years and he
was Chair of the Sixth Congressional District
Democratic Party for two years. Jim also ran
a strong race for the General Assembly in
2018.

Tia's mother, Beverly, owns and operates two accounting firms in Randolph County.



In February of this year, Tia went to Grandfather Mountain where she enjoyed the thrill of walking across the famous Swinging Bridge. That is really "Social Distancing," isn't it?

Another highlight of Tia's Senior Year in school: She got her hair cut for the first time in eight years!

ROBESON COUNTY ELECTED THESE NEW PARTY OFFICERS!



KAREN NANCE CHAIR Born and raised in Lumberton by a textile worker and a WWII veteran, Karen Nance graduated with her BS in Psychology and earned her Master's in Service Agency Counseling also from UNCP; all the while working in the mental health field and raising her son.

If there is one characteristic that she possess that stands above others, it is her determination and perseverance to conquer. She doesn't comprehend the word CAN'T, and firmly believes that this resiliency has aided her in facing her physical disability with courage and finesse. She hopes to provide this Democratic Party the leadership and organization it needs to reflect the greatness that we have in this Community.

She has been outspoken about women's issues since a young girl. The political party that supports her opinions is the Democratic Party. Her dad fought in WWII, was a POW in a German concentration camp for 6 months before it was liberated by the French. He came back to a civil servant job with the United States Post Office. Many years later, the benefits supported by her democratic party allowed him to take an early retirement so that he could take care of her-as she was in a terrible automobile accident. The healthcare that everyone should have the right to, that was provided through his government job and supported by her democratic party assisted her in relearning to walk, talk, write...

The GI bill that the Great Democrat Franklin Roosevelt created sent her to College, and Social Supports, such as AFDC, Work First and Food Stamps helped her to finally finish graduate school while working and supporting her son. The disability services programs and the Americans with Disabilities Act assisted her with establishing note takers in college and grad school. DEMOCRATIC PROGRAMS.

She met my current husband, Jim Nance in 1996, and although they didn't get married until 2003, he is another foundation of her life. His mother was Doris Nance, a woman who established her own business before it was common for women to own a business.

She has a job description dictated by the Plan of Organization, a contractual obligation to the Democratic Party, and in her life she has taken employment very seriously. In addition to her Day job, she has her own small business and a very strong work ethic that was instilled by both of her parents. Thank you for allowing her to share a few of the passions she has for this platform.

LEADERSHIP • PASSION • CHANGE • INCLUSION



TIM HEATH

1st VICE CHAIR

Born on February 23, 1954 in Winston Salem N.C., he is the oldest of five children by his mother Willie Mae Brown. When he was nine years old his family moved to Fort Bragg N.C. His stepfather Frank J. Brown served in the army and retired after over 30 years of service. He served in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Having been raised as a military brat, he, his brother and sisters were brought up in a very disciplined environment. It was this type of culture that shaped him and trained him to become the adult that he is today.

The values that were taught them has allowed them all to become the teachers, coaches, veterans, mentors, and strong family oriented people.

He graduated from Seventy First High School in 1972 and attended Fayetteville State University on a football

scholarship. After graduating from college in 1976 he entered the teaching and coaching profession. With over 40 years of serving youth and families in schools and in the community, he has had the opportunity to hold leadership positions and impact people from all walks of life.

Being recognized as a strong leader at an early age and holding many different roles in his adult life and contributing to making a positive influence in society, he has received numerous awards and positions of authority. He reached All American status as a college football player after his senior year at FSU. I was inducted into the FSU Athletic Hall of Fame in 2002. He was hired at my college alma mater as the first Director of Intramural Sports and Campus Recreation. He retired from this position in 2016 after serving 17 years. He also was an Adjunct Lecturer in the School of Education. His non profit work allowed him to be the coordinator of the Family Resource Center in his community. He has also done work on the Leandro Case and served on the first commission in the state that started in Robeson County that focused on establishing what a "Sound Basic Education" was in rural communities.

He has served as Chairman of our Recreation Commission here in Red Springs and won several Coach of the Year Awards. He presently serve as Program Director of CIS. (Communities In School), which is an after school program for middle school aged youth. He attends Jones Chapel Missionary Baptist Church where he serves on the Deacon Board, teaches Adult Sunday School, serves on the Usher Board and sing in the Men's Choir.

He is the proud husband of Eva Patterson Heath and together they have 3 daughters, 1 son, 4 grandchildren and 1 great grandchild.



BRIAN BELL 2nd VICE CHAIR

Brian Bell is a life-long resident of Robeson County and he's spent his entire career in public service displaying the Democratic party values of compassion, equality, and efficiency. Brian currently serves in a upper management position for a major non-profit in their NC regional office, where he works alongside the Senior Vice-President and others in implementing various local, state, and federal programs that assist people with disabilities in employment services.

Brian has been a life-long voter and registered member of the NC Democratic party. Brian has volunteered his time working on elections and has experience in phone banking, canvassing, and political marketing. Notably, he worked alongside Hillary Clinton's campaign staffers in Robeson County in the 2016 presidential election and also helped Joe Biden campaign staffers in NC in the

2020 presidential election. Moreover, Brian worked hand and hand with the Robeson County campaign director for Dan McCready, assisting the McCready campaign with the special election held in September 2019 for NC's 9th US congressional race.

Brian is passionate about helping those less fortunate and ensuring we have a democracy that is equitable and fair to the benefit of all people. Brian received his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of North Carolina-Pembroke and his master's degree in public affairs from the Harry Truman School of Public Affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Brian is married to his wife Leslie, who serves as the Budget Director at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke. Leslie currently serves as the chairwoman of the Board of Directors of the Robeson County Partnership for Children. They are the proud parents of a daughter, Adeline.



MARYJANE
RICHARDSON
3rd VICE CHAIR

MaryJane Richardson was born and raised in Lumberton, NC, the daughter of Herbert L. Richardson, Sr. a District Court Judge, and Patricia Richardson, a public school teacher. She attended and graduated from UNC Chapel Hill, NC State, and Campbell University School of Law. After obtaining her law license, she began her legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Hoke County in 2016 and, later, became an Assistant District Attorney in Robeson County in 2017, where she is currently employed.

MaryJane was elected to the Robeson County Democratic Party's Executive Board in 2019 as the Third Vice Chair and is seeking re-election to that position this year. She appreciates the County's support in selecting her for that position and all the encouragement and kind words she has received while serving as Third Vice Chair.

LEADERSHIP • PASSION • CHANGE • INCLUSION



SANDRA LOPEZ FRANCO 4th VICE CHAIR

Sandra is a native from Manizales-Colombia. She graduated with a BA in Modern Languages, Spanish, English, and French. Married at the age of 19 with two wonderful children, Christian and Alejandro. She taught English as a Foreign Language for twelve years in her country and relocated for professional reasons to the USA in 2008 and has been teaching English as a Second Language since then. More recently, she has been appointed as the EL program lead teacher at the Public Schools of Robeson County and has been working with a population of approximately 1,900 multilingual families who are in Robeson County.

She is a culturally oriented teacher and that's why she has joined the Ballet Folkloriko de Mexico because she believes the Arts are a good way to connect with people of all walks of life. She is also passionate about social causes and advocacy for

the rights of immigrant and refugee people in the country. She speaks two languages fluently, English, and Spanish and loves music. She identifies as a Democrat in this country and believes that opportunities are given to all and people can achieve their dreams if provided with enough resources. She believes in family, social values and honesty; hard work and community organizations are her driving forces. Finally, she also believes in the power of volunteering for good causes and is interested in helping her fellow citizens within her capacity.



DALTON HOFFER SECRETARY

Dalton Hoffer was raised in Sneads Ferry, NC but has called Pembroke home for the past 7 years. He graduated from UNC Pembroke with his bachelors in Mass Communications-Public Relations in 2013. He then served as an AmeriCorps VISTA service member in 2013-2014 where he developed a mentoring program at the Pembroke Housing Authority connecting at-risk youth with UNCP college students. Dalton then served as the Assistant Director for Student Engagement in the Office for Community & Civic Engagement at UNC Pembroke where he worked with over 200 community based organizations across the state and developed volunteer programs and initatives for students. In 2016 he worked with students to establish UNCP Votes on campus, a non-partisan democratic engagement coalition to register, education, and mobilize student voters. Under his leadership, UNCP

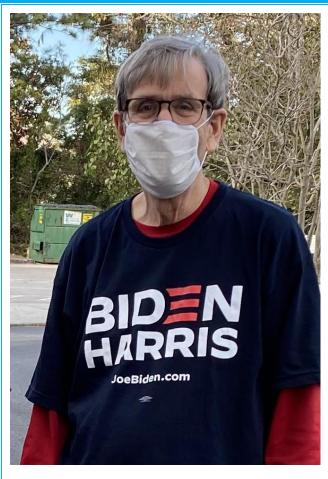
has been designated as a "Voter Friendly Campus" since 2016. Dalton since has graduated with his Masters in Higher Educational Leadership from UNC Wilmington and now serves as the Assistant Director for Transition Programs in the Office for New Student Programs at UNCP. He is truley passionate about creating positive change in our community and strives for inclusive excellence to ensure their is equitable resources and opportunities for growth for all citizens.

CLEMENTINE THOMPSON MCCORMICK TREASURER

Clementine Thompson-McCormick, from McDonald community in the Thompson township of Robeson County. Graduated from High School at Hilly Branch High School, now Robeson County Career Center at Hilly Branch. Graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical University in Greensboro.

Attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke for additional certifications. Retired from teaching school after working 31 years for the school systems in Robeson County. Member of the board of director and administrative director of Lumberton Christain Care Center has worked and volunteered there for more than 20 years. Attends Mount Olive United Methodist Church. Have been the treasurer for the party for two years.





RICHARD POOLE NEW HANOVER COUNTY!

Since 2013 Richard Poole has been one of the most highly successful County Chairs in the state. He has been County Chair for seven of the eight years since 2013.

He led the development of a team that has completely changed the political situation in New Hanover County.

When he started in 2013 the county had been voting for the GOP for decades.

In 2014 New Hanover was the most improved county in the state for Kay Hagan for US Senate.

In 2018 Democrats won majorities on both the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education for the first time in many years.

Amazing: In 2020 Richard and his Democratic team carried the county for a Democratic presidential candidate for the first time since voting for President Jimmy Carter in 1976! That ended 44 years of voting for the GOP presidential candidate.

These figures shows how much the county grew and changed over those 44 years

<u>1976</u>

President Carter – 14,504

President Ford - - -13, 687

President Biden - 66,138

2020

President Trump - 63,331

In 2020 Richard and his Democrats also carried New Hanover for Roy Cooper, Josh Stein, Beth Wood, Elaine Marshall, Cheri Beasley, Lucy Inman and Jessica Holmes.



During the last eight years Richard and the NH Dems have carried out many community service projects. The picture on the left shows him and some of his team at a MLK Day Food Bank event where they collected 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons of food and \$1100.

In addition to all these county successes, Richard has served two years as President of the State Association of County Chairs.

He stepped down as County Chair on April 11th. Next week's edition will feature the county's new Officers.

NEW NASH COUNTY OFFICERS!



COUNTY CHAIR - DR. CASSANDRA CONOVER!

North Carolina has a new Democratic star! Meet Dr. Cassandra Conover who moved to Rocky Mount more than a year ago. She is a retired Commonwealth Attorney having served as an elected District Attorney in Virginia for 27 years. She was also an Adjunct Associate Professor of Constitutional Law and Business for more than 15 years.

Dr. Conover earned her BA in Political Science from the University of Virginia and her Juris Doctorate from NCCU School of Law; her M. B. A. from Regis University and her Doctorate of Education from Concordia Portland University in 2020.

She plans to work closely with the Democratic Party team to strengthen its presence in Nash County. She worked with Young Democrats during her four years at UVA and she has campaigned with several of the present and former elected state officials in Virginia.

Congratulations to Nominating Committee Chair Gwen Wilkins and all the other members of the Nominating Committee for submitting such an outstanding lineup of Officers.

MORE NASH COUNTY OFFICERS!

1st Vice Chair Jim Lee



2nd Vice Chair Morris Roberson



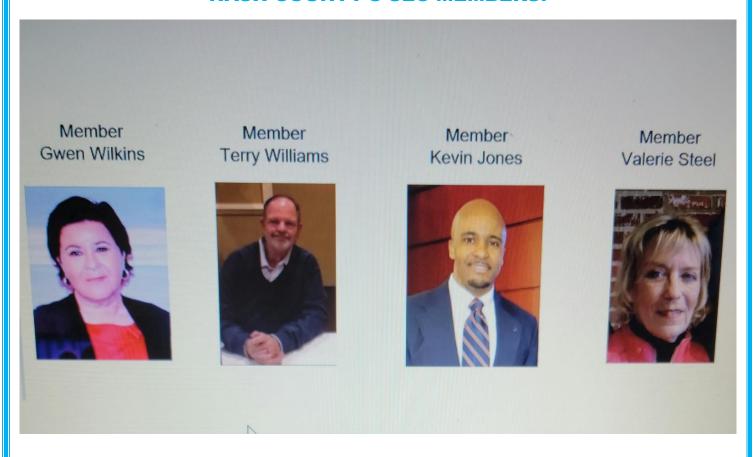
3rd Vice Chair Jassmin Smith



Secretary Amelia Sutton



NASH COUNTY'S SEC MEMBERS!





YOUTH FEATURE MICHAEL EVOLA UNION COUNTY! A REMARKABLE DEMOCRAT!

Many people have potential. Michael Evola already has lots of achievements!

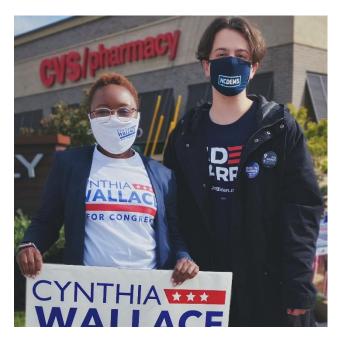
He has already taken the lead in forming an official Disability Issues Caucus and spent a lot of time and energy on going through all the steps necessary to getting it chartered by the North Carolina Democratic Party. When the NCDP State Executive Committee officially voted to establish this new caucus on February 27, 2021, it was a major accomplishment for Michael and the people who worked with him.

(@DisabilityIssuesCaucus on social media.)



Now Michael is campaigning to be elected VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT

at the Convention of the Young
Democrats of North Carolina this
weekend (April 16-18.)
As of the time of publication of
this edition of the GOOD NEWS,
no one else has announced that
they are going to run for this
position.





Michael with Cynthia Wallace and Tricia Purcell

Michael is 23 years old and he is currently studying Accounting & Finance at Central Piedmont Community College. He plans on majoring in Business as he continues to pursue a Bachelors Degree.





These pictures show Michael at work in the 2020 campaign.

Some of his hobbies are painting landscapes and making ceramics (pottery.)





Michael with Attorney General Josh Stein and Cal Cunningham

April of 2021 has already been a happy month for Michael. Earlier this month he was appointed a Member of the Parks, Cultural & Recreation Advisory Board of the Town of Waxhaw where he lives. He will be working with other board members to plan a central park which will be the town's largest.

He has already been functioning as a member of the Parks & Recreational Advisory Committee of Union County.

Michael would like to serve on a state board. He says: "I am steadfast in my goal to serve my community and my state. Maybe one day, I would even run for office."

He can be contacted on social media at @MichaelEvolaNC.

* * * * *

MEET DYLAN HENSON NEW VICE CHAIR RUTHERFORD COUNTY!

Dylan Henson was elected Second Vice Chair at last Saturday's Rutherford County Convention.

He is a fulltime student and he is studying Broadcasting Production Technology at Isothermal Community College. He plans to graduate this May and transfer to Appalachian State University to further his education in electronic media and broadcasting.

Dylan is excited about getting more students involved in the Democratic Party. He says: "I am looking forward to the next few years as I begin my time with the Rutherford County Democratic Party."





NEW OFFICERS GUILFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY!

Kathy Kirkpatrick was elected the new Chair of the Guilford County Democratic Party.

She is a retired public school principal.

Kathy says: "I am excited to help effect change for all North Carolinians!"





Left: Deborah Ford was elected Third Vice Chair of the Guilford Party. Previously she was Vice Chair of Precinct G09 and she is a member of the Guilford County African-American Caucus. Right: Robert J. Haarsgaard has been on the the Guilford CEC since 2020. At the 2021 County Convention he was elected to the SEC and a Delegate to the District 6 Convention. He is a Private Instructor in Music.



Binaya Aryal was elected Guilford County RURAL VICE CHAIR at last Saturday's Convention. That means he is Vice Chair for all the precincts in unincorporated territory across the County. He has been a Precinct Chair from 2019 until the present. Binaya has been an SEC Member since 2019 and he was re-elected to the SEC for the next two years.



Mitzi Turner is a lifelong Democrat who was elected HIGH POINT VICE CHAIR. During the 2020 campaign she worked at the High Point GCDP office along with greeting and observing at the polls. All her life she has been active in the Party volunteering for many candidates, poll observing, greeting, mailing letters and promoting the Democratic agenda. She is active in the Democratic Women and she is a retired Guilford County employee.





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW COUNTY PARTY LEADERS























FORSYTH COUNTY OFFICERS!

County Chair – Kevin Farmer
First Vice Chair – Samantha Smith
Second Vice Chair – Angela Levine
Third Vice Chair – Drew Skilton
Secretary – Alia Wofford
Treasurer – Amaris Carr





Durham Chair David Dixon

First Vice Chair Ebony West

DURHAM RE-ELECTS ALL SIX COUNTY PARTY OFFICERS!

Durham County Democrats expressed their pleasure with their Officers by re-electing their entire slate of six Officers for the 2021-2023 term. Their vote was unanimous.



Second Vice Chair Celeste Toombs



Third Vice Chair Steve Rawson



Secretary Gina Marie Santore



Treasurer Jim Gundersdorff

THESE 24 DURHAM DEMOCRATS WERE ELECTED TO THE SEC!

NIDA ALLAM

LEVON BARNES

WILLIAM BELL

TED BENSON

DAVID DIXON

DEDREANA FREEMAN

KAREN GRAY

DAVID HARRIS

DONALD HUGHES

ELIJAH KING

NIKKI LILES

SHEENA MATHEWS

ITALO MEDELIUS

AHMED MOUSA

SENATOR NATALIE MURDOCK

REBECCA PLANCHARD

BRENDA POLLARD

GINA MARIE SANTORE

SARAH SHAH

SREENATH SHARMA

MONTICA TALMADGE

PATIENCE VANDERBUSH

MAL WATLINGTON

SENATOR MIKE WOODARD

In the SEC list above there was not enough space to write the titles of:

Durham City Councilwoman Dedreana Freeman

Durham County Commissioner Nida Allam



WAKE COUNTY'S RUTH MERKLE RE-ELECTED TO THE SEC!

Her outstanding Democratic record so far:

SEC Member Since 2011

First and Only Woman Elected President of The Wake Democratic MEN'S Club

Newly Elected First Vice President of the Democratic Women of Wake County

Former Cary Vice Chair of the Wake County Democratic Party, 2008 - 2015

Delegate to Presidential Electoral College in 2012



NEW ONSLOW COUNTY PARTY OFFICERS!















SPECIAL FEATURE VICKIE ZANGWILL CARTERET COUNTY!

Want to meet a TOTALLY involved Democrat? Then enjoy reading about Vickie Zangwill!

Vickie has been involved with the CCDP since the aftermath of the 2016 elections. In 2017 she was elected as Vice Chair of the Pelletier Precinct and she was re-elected in 2021.

She joined the Carteret County
Democratic Women in 2017 and in 2019 she
was elected President. In 2019 she also
became the DWNC Region 10 Director.

In addition she serves on the Membership and Legislative Committees.

She is presently serving on the CCDP Board as President of the DW but she will relinquish that position when her term as President ends in May, 2021.

Vickie is on the County Party's GOTV, Voter outreach, and Planning committees. She chairs the Fundraising and Nomination committees. She also is on the Party's Ad Hoc Resolutions Committee. She was phone banking Coordinator for two election cycles and was District Coordinator of phone banking in 2018.

A BIG EVENT! Vickie is on the County Party's Reverse Drawing Committee where she participated in the planning and implementation of this big fundraising event in 2019 and 2020, and will again in 2021. Carteret Democrats raise huge amounts of money at this happy event.

Even more: Since 2020 Vickie has been the Headquarters Manager.

At last Saturday's County Convention, she was elected County Party Secretary and a SEC Member.

ALL COUNTY PARTY OFFICERS
& SEC MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO
SEND PICTURES AND ARTICLES ABOUT
THEMSELVES TO: melvin535@gmail.com



NEW CABARRUS COUNTY CHAIR MARCUS SINGLETON!

CONGRATULATIONS

Buncombe County Democratic Party Officers
2021-2023



Jeff Rose Chair



Nancy Grindstaff 1st Vice Chair



Beverly Miller 2nd Vice Chair



Barret Phillips 3rd Vice Chair



Megan Varellas Secretary



Rich Lee, Treasurer

WILKES COUNTY PARTY OFFICERS!



Returning Chair Kathryn D. Charles



Returning 1st Vice Chair Brandon Whitaker



Returning 2nd Vice Chair Mandy Marxen



Returning Treasurer Connie Sue Cox



Returning 3rd Vice Chair Richard "Woody" Madison



Returning Party Secretary Judy Miller



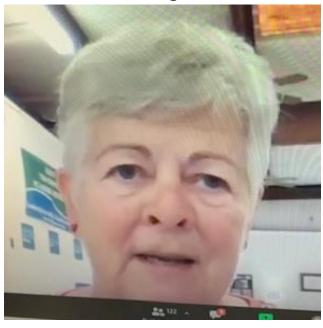
COUNTY CHAIR ERIC TERASHIMA



FIRST VICE CHAIR LISA MOSCA

BRUNSWICK DEMS ELECT NEW OFFICERS!

That ardent Brunswick County Democrat, Neil Gilbert, took these screenshots during the 2021 Brunswick County Vertual Convention.



SECRETARY DENISE MIRANDOLA



TREASURER VICTOR GALLO

THE BRUNSWICK COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

HAS A FINE HEADQUARTERS IN BOLIVIA, NORTH CAROLINA!



NEWLY ELECTED

DAVIDSON COUNTY OFFICERS!

ALL COUNTY PARTY OFFICERS AND

ALL SEC MEMBERS

ARE INVITED TO SEND

YOUR PICTURES & ARTICLES

TO:

Melvin535@gmail.com

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

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