

GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!

**Starring Democrats In Craven, Cumberland, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nash, Forsyth
Henderson, Onslow, Guilford, Alamance, Sampson, Robeson, Cleveland, Iredell**



A School Has Already Been Named For Her!

GUILFORD DEMOCRATS CELEBRATE **DOT KEARNS 90TH BIRTHDAY!**

During the last two weeks of June, Guilford County citizens held several events honoring one of North Carolina's most outstanding Democrats, Dot Kearns.

Here are some of Dot's achievements:

- Member of the High Point Board of Education, 1972-1982**
- Guilford County Board of Commissioner, 1982-1990, Chair 1985-1988**
- Guilford County Board of Education, 1992-2008**
- Guilford County Board of Elections, 2010-2016**
- North Carolina's "DEMOCRATIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR"- 2017**
- NCDP State Executive Committee, 1990-2007**
- Delegate to Democratic National Convention, 1996**
- 98 More Boards, Committees, and Awards!**



On June 21st the City Council of High Point saluted Dot Kearns during their meeting. Mayor Jay Wagner read a resolution making June 27th Dot Kearns Day in High Point. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall presented Dot with a citation recognizing her work of more than 50 years. City Council Member Monica Peters read letters from Congresswoman Alma Adams and Congresswoman Kathy Manning thanking Dot for her service. Congresswoman Manning advised that a United States flag would be flown over the US Capitol in Dot's honor on her birthday, June 27. She will receive that flag at a later date.

Following the City Council session, Dorothy Darr hosted Dot for a dinner at Pandora's Manor Restaurant. From the left the guests included Commissioner Kay Cashion, Commissioner Carlvena Foster, Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, Dot, Tommy Bunn, High Point City Council Members Monica Peters, Tyrone Johnson, Michael Holmes.



Left - At the June 17th meeting of the Guilford County Commissioners, a resolution was adopted naming June 27th Dot Kearns Day. She received a framed copy of the resolution and a beautiful bouquet.

Senator Michael Garrett presented a written commendation from Governor Cooper and a NC flag which had been flown over the State Capitol during June.



Among many treasured pictures from Dot Kearns' remarkable life is this picture with State Representative Rachel Hunt, Governor Jim Hunt, and Guilford Democratic activist Carolyn Bunker. Carolyn and Willie Taylor organized many of the events honoring Dot on her 90th Birthday.



Dot speaking at an Education Rally



Dot on back row at Congresswoman Alma Adams' Madhatters Party



NCEA President Mark Jewell, Margaret Arbuckle, Dot, and Senator Garrett



**Martha Shafer and Beverly Bard
with Dot**



**Guilford County Register of Deeds
Jeff Thigpen with Dot at the
site of a County Democratic Convention**

**Right: A Kearns Academy student
with Dot**





CONGRATULATIONS TO DON VAUGHAN!

On June 17th Don Vaughan of Guilford County was one of only seven attorneys across the state who was named to the NC Bar Association's HALL OF FAME!



The engraving on the award says:

**NC BAR ASSOCIATION
LEGAL PRACTICE
HALL OF FAME
CLASS OF 2021
DON VAUGHAN**

Over the years Don has hosted dozens of major fund raising events for the Democratic Party and for many individual Democratic candidates. He has also rendered outstanding service as a State Senator.



**A BABY FOR CHARLOTTE
CITYCOUNCILWOMAN
DIMPLE AJMERA!**

**Charlotte City
Councilwoman Dimple
Ajmera and her husband,
Dr. Vaibhav Bajaj, were
blessed by the arrival of
their first child, Charlotte
Bajaj Ajmera, on June 26.
They were proud to name
her after the city which
has twice elected her
mother.**

**The family's spokesman,
Dan McCorkle, said:
“Mother, father, and
daughter are doing well
and are surrounded by
their loving extended
family.**

**Dimple is the second
City Councilwoman to
give birth. The first one
was 33 years ago.**





Dimple made many friends all over the state when she ran a strong race for State Treasurer in the Democratic Primary in 2020.

In 2017 her husband, Dr. Vaibhav Bajaj, graduated from Boston University with a Doctorate of Medicine in Dentistry. He has a successful dental practice in Charlotte.

Dan McCorkle reports that Dimple had to make a difficult decision about whether to take COVID-19 shots when she was pregnant. She consulted with her doctors to weigh risks and benefits. She says: "I did my research and I arrived at a decision: The best way to protect me and my baby was to take this vaccine. This vaccine has given me and my family so much comfort, hope and freedom from anxiety and fear."

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MONDAY, JULY 12, 2021 AT 5 PM EDT

Town Hall with Democratic Senate Candidates

Free · Womble Park

**Click Here To See The Full Information
About**

**This Event In Holly Springs in Wake County
(More US Senate candidates were invited but did not accept.)**

https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mobilize.us%2Findivisibletriangledailycalltoaction%2Fevent%2F394165%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2SiDr-dgVVQdC1V1YTzKzIG1-K7sM7cWqNwPkcaKTomzPP4xTOdXWxpUw&h=AT3g4-DvEcxxmkVAuLw_CW7DreBTd0KCILbQFnkJpuqTjCaWtEo-kRZx2xQsXSbinnE2rrmW2rnETrvw6y47Zo6RX5xTkS0RQ5UdKK_g3meNIUHrmQz7ZwRX5Qr3DUDBJzJ0Hb1ri2TurJdEGA

No candidates which are featured in the NCDP'S GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS are endorsed by the North Carolina Democratic Party.

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MEET ELLIOTT LYNCH, ALAMANCE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHAIR!

A friendly voice, a cheerful smile, a love for telling Democratic stories, and an enthusiasm for the cause of good government - these are some of the qualities of Elliott Lynch who was elected Chair of the Alamance County Democratic Party in April, 2021. No wonder people elected him, he's a terrific Democrat!

After growing up in Halifax County, Elliott enrolled at UNC-Chapel Hill where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism. He then lived in Charlotte for several years where he was active in many civic and political activities.

Since 1992 he has owned and operated ValuSystems Computers in Burlington.

Elliott has been a Democrat all his life and he has carried the Democratic election banner as he has campaigned for these public offices:

- Democratic candidate for Alamance County Commissioner – 1998 & 2000**
- Democratic candidate for State Representative in District 64 – 2018**

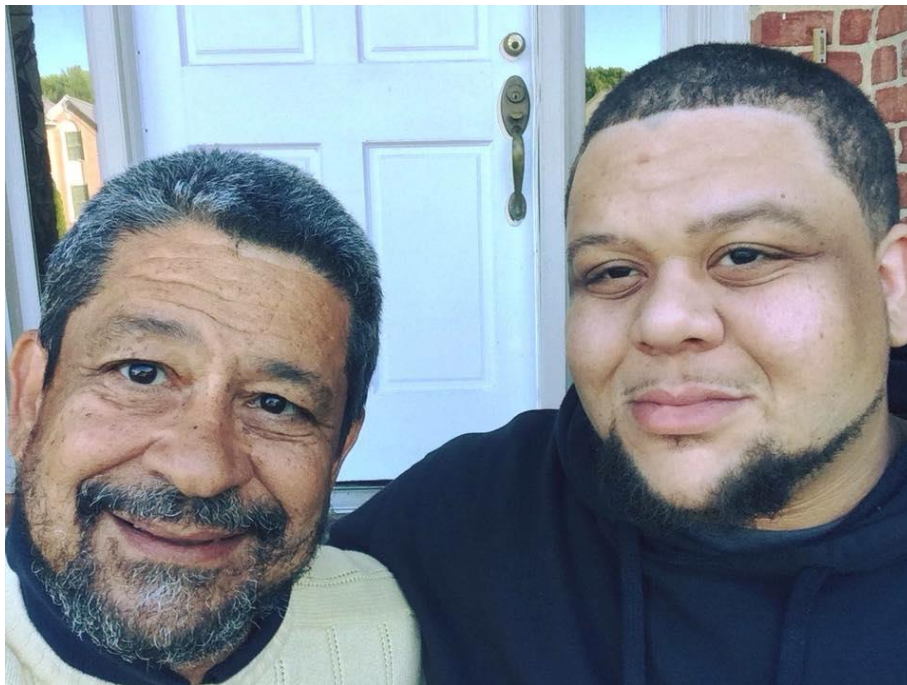
He has also served as Chief Judge for the Alamance County Board of Elections and Secretary of the Alamance County Democratic Party

One of his most enjoyable and beneficial experiences was attending the Institute of Political Leadership (IOPL) in 2000.

One of Elliott's first actions as Chair was to lead Alamance County's precincts to join together in seven precinct clusters. They aim to have an activity in each of these seven clusters. A subsequent article reports on the first of those activities which was held in the Southern Alamance precinct cluster.



Elliott's greatest joys are his two children, Jessica and Jeff. Jessica attended the North Carolina School of Science and Math. She was then named a Morehead – Cain Scholar at UNC-Chapel Hill from which she earned her Bachelors degree in Economics and Public Policy. Then she earned a Masters Degree in Public Policy at Carnegie Mellon University.



Jeff was an All-State football player at Williams High School in Burlington. He made the Duke football team as a walk on defensive tackle. Jeff was a Benjamin N. Duke Scholar. He earned a Bachelors degree in Public Policy and Executive Management.



SOUTHERN ALAMANCE DEMS HOST SUCCESSFUL SNOW CONE SOCIAL!



Hot and humid weather did not deter approximately 60 adults and children from attending the Snow Cone Social in Southern Alamance County on June 26th. State Representative Ricky Hurtado was the featured speaker.

This happy event drew Democrats from the following precincts: North Newlin, South Thompson, North Thompson, South Newlin, Albright, Coble and Paterson.

Folks enjoyed meeting their Democratic neighbors. Similar events are being planned for July and September.



ALAMANCE DEMS CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH!

Party Chair Elliott Lynch and lots of Alamance Democrats joined the Green Level community in celebrating Juneteenth on June 19th. The Green Level area is a 70% minority area.

In the picture on the left above are: Kris Lay, County 1st Vice Chair Maryanne Shanahan, Chair Elliott Lynch, and NCDP Native American Caucus Chair Chrystal Cavalier-Keck.

In the picture on the right above are super volunteers Anthony and Karen Lawson.



**Dr. Dorothy Yarborough with
DW President Kathy Landes**



**Democratic Judge Larry Brown, Jr.
read the Juneteenth proclamation
to the crowd.**



Kendrick Cunningham Fights to Bring Housing for All in Charlotte

Kendrick Cunningham is running for Charlotte City Council District Three. A dynamic Democrat focused on upward mobility and system transformation, he has tirelessly worked to register youth and increase his generation's capacity to impact change in North Carolina for over half a decade. As a United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Youth Ambassador, he knows that the UN anticipates Charlotte to be the fastest growing area in America through 2030. Kendrick is currently organizing to revolutionize housing for Charlotte residents and remove barriers working family communities experience accessing to housing at affordable prices in Charlotte's market. He envisions a day where all Charlotteans can affordably eat, work, and play where they sleep.



A contributor of the Biden Housing Plan, Kendrick has worked to advance housing for all in Charlotte since 2017. Ending source of income discrimination is one of the reasons he decided to continue his career in organizing beyond building youth power in NC. Kendrick believes that this is the viable pathway forward to eliminating De Facto Segregation in America which would remove a lot of barriers for an extremely diverse group of Americans across all income levels. To learn more about how Kendrick and why he fights for housing for all, go to www.kendrickcunningham.com/housingforall.

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MIKE MCINTYRE HONORED BY UNC-CHAPEL HILL!

<https://www.robesonian.com/news/146654/mike-mcintyre-inducted-into-uncs-order-of-the-golden-fleece>



MEETING ZACHARY SMITH!

Zachary Smith of Nash County starred in the YOUTH FEATURE of the March 7, 2021 edition of this publication.

NCDP Secretary Melvin Williams had the opportunity to meet Zachary in person at Varees Thai Café in Wilson on July 1st.

As you will remember, Zachary attended Harvard University in person during his Senior year in high school and came back home to graduate with his class at Southern Nash High School.

Zachary's next adventure: He will be at home for the rest of the summer and he will fly to California in September where he will matriculate at Stanford University. He is planning to major in Public Policy.



MAGGIE RICHARDS RECEIVES THE RBG HERO AWARD!

When Maggie Richards retired and moved from Washington, DC to the beautiful mountains of Madison County five years ago she quickly joined the county's Democratic activities and its Indivisible activities. She has especially helped Madison Democrats get enrolled in a wide variety of training programs which the Party offers. Plus her positive spirit uplifts everyone with whom she talks.

Her contributions have been so valuable to the Party that she was named the Recipient of the Eleventh Congressional District's 2021 RBG HERO AWARD!

Maggie is Chair of the Ebbs Chapel Precinct in Madison County. She has been responsible for recruiting, training, and organizing folks to join her in a massive letter writing campaign. She and her volunteers have sent over 15,000 postcards for local, state, and national Democratic campaigns.

Congratulations on receiving this award, Maggie!

**DID YOU KNOW THAT
CRAVEN COUNTY DEMOCRATS
ARE DOING
PROJECTS THAT ARE
MAKING A DIFFERENCE?**

**LOOK AT THEIR WORK
ON THE NEXT FIVE PAGES!**

WOW!



Democratic Women of Craven County Award Annual Underhill Scholarship

Poe Tha Dah is the recipient of the Alice G. Underhill Scholarship, which is awarded annually by the Democratic Women of Craven County.

Ms. Dah recently graduated with honors from Craven Early College while also earning an Associate in Arts from Craven Community College. She was active in the Student Union, the National Honors Society, Phi Theta Kappa, and Junior Civitan and served as a student ambassador. She will enter the University of North Carolina-Charlotte in the fall.

Said Ms. Dah, "Education has always been a priority in my life. My mom was born in a refugee camp in Thailand, and she did not have the opportunity to pursue education like I did. While others were in school, her priorities were putting food on the table and providing shelter for us. When I came to America, my life was changed forever. I was lucky enough to have caring public school teachers, subsidized lunches, and transportation that will take me to places."

The scholarship awards \$1,000 each spring to a graduating female Craven County high school senior whose application essay best answers a given prompt. Ms. Dah's winning narrative expressed how she can educate her peers about the obstacles women face in America 100 years after receiving the vote.

The award honors Craven County Democrat Alice Graham Underhill, who served in the N.C. House of Representatives and who is the daughter of former NC Commissioner of Agriculture Jim Graham.

Pictured above (left to right) are Debbie Hunter, chair of the Underhill Scholarship Committee; Barbara Sampson, treasurer of Democratic Women of Craven County; Poe Tha Dah, recipient of the scholarship; and Erin Blalock, counselor and advisor for 5th-year seniors, Craven Early College.



JUNETEENTH

DWCC hosted an informational booth at the Juneteenth celebration.

Thank you to **Beth Gosnell** for providing the butterfly craft and to our members **Talina Massey, Jameesha Harris, Sharon Bryant** who helped to make this year's celebration one to remember!

Congratulations to **Rev. Ethel Sampson** (below left) for being the Grand Marshal of the parade. She

was escorted by Tryon Palace's **Sharon Bryant**.

And finally, thank you to **Bernard George** (far right), who chaired the New Bern Signs of History Committee.





Democrats in Craven County are Making a Difference

Over 40 Craven County Democrats participated in the May 8 Pembroke Community Clean-Up in New Bern. And after a day of hard work in the beautiful sunshine, volunteers picnicked with residents of the Duffyfield and Pembroke communities.



The Democratic Women of Craven County are grateful to community organizer Carol Williams, Habitat for Humanity's Antoinette Boskey-Chadwick, and Project Restore for inviting them to participate in this event, which will help bring positive changes to this historic community.

Volunteers included Jane Arliss, Kate Blakefield, George Evans, Baker Hudson, Nell Randall Hudson, Cory Hunter, Susan Long, Brenda McGee, Veronica Nobles, Barbara Sampson, James Smith, Barbara Stone, Jerry Ryan, Susan Ryan, June Teeter, Janet Trice, Diane Tyndall, Dorothea White, and several young members of the community.

At the left are Trent Woods Precinct member Linda Belliard and chair Kate Blakefield.

Two Democratic Women of Craven County Foremothers Are Honored with Garden Makeovers

Kate Blakefield, Pat Chylko,
Baker Hudson, Nell Hudson,
Cory Hunter, Susan Long,
Brenda McGee, Meghan



Millea, Jerry
Ryan, Susan
Ryan, and June
Teeter worked
over several
weeks to
beautify the
yards of two

special Democrats.

The late Craven County
Commissioner Johnnie
Sampson had always made

certain that the garden of his wife, Rev. Ethel Sampson, (left and in pink, above) remained beautiful, so Democratic Women of Craven County's Outreach Committee volunteered to help her this year. Fellow Democrats – including her daughter, DWCC Treasurer Barbara Sampson (center) – donated their plants, their time, and their talents to beautify Rev. Sampson's Duffyfield yard.

Mrs. Alberta Jones – who recently turned 100 – also needed a little help sprucing up her yard, so the DWCC crew trimmed bushes and tended her garden.

Mrs. Jones (right) worked until she was 90, mostly in the cafeterias of J. T. Barber School and New Bern High School, where her friendly smile and kind words were appreciated by tens of thousands of school children throughout the years.



In retirement, she volunteered as a foster grandmother at the Charles Taylor Child Development Center until it closed. Mrs. Jones also mentored parents who needed encouragement and guidance.

Left, DWCC members Nell Hudson and Susan Long have fun as they work in Mrs. Jones' garden.





More Pictures From the Craven Gardening Project



Susan Long unloading her truck.





ONSLOW COUNTY WELCOMES JEFF JACKSON

More than one hundred voters turned out to welcome State Senator Jeff Jackson to Onslow County recently. They gathered at a riverside park in Jacksonville.

In the picture on the left above Marshall Adame, former President of the NCDP Hispanic Democrats Caucus is talking with Jeff.



CLEVELAND COUNTY WELCOMES SEN. JACKSON ALSO!

On June 22nd a large group of Democrats greeted Jeff Jackson in Shelby. Democratic Party Officer Betsy Wells is with Jeff in the picture on the left. Cleveland County Party Chair Kent Blevins greets Jeff in the picture on the right.



Katie Champion enjoyed talking with Sen. Jackson in Shelby



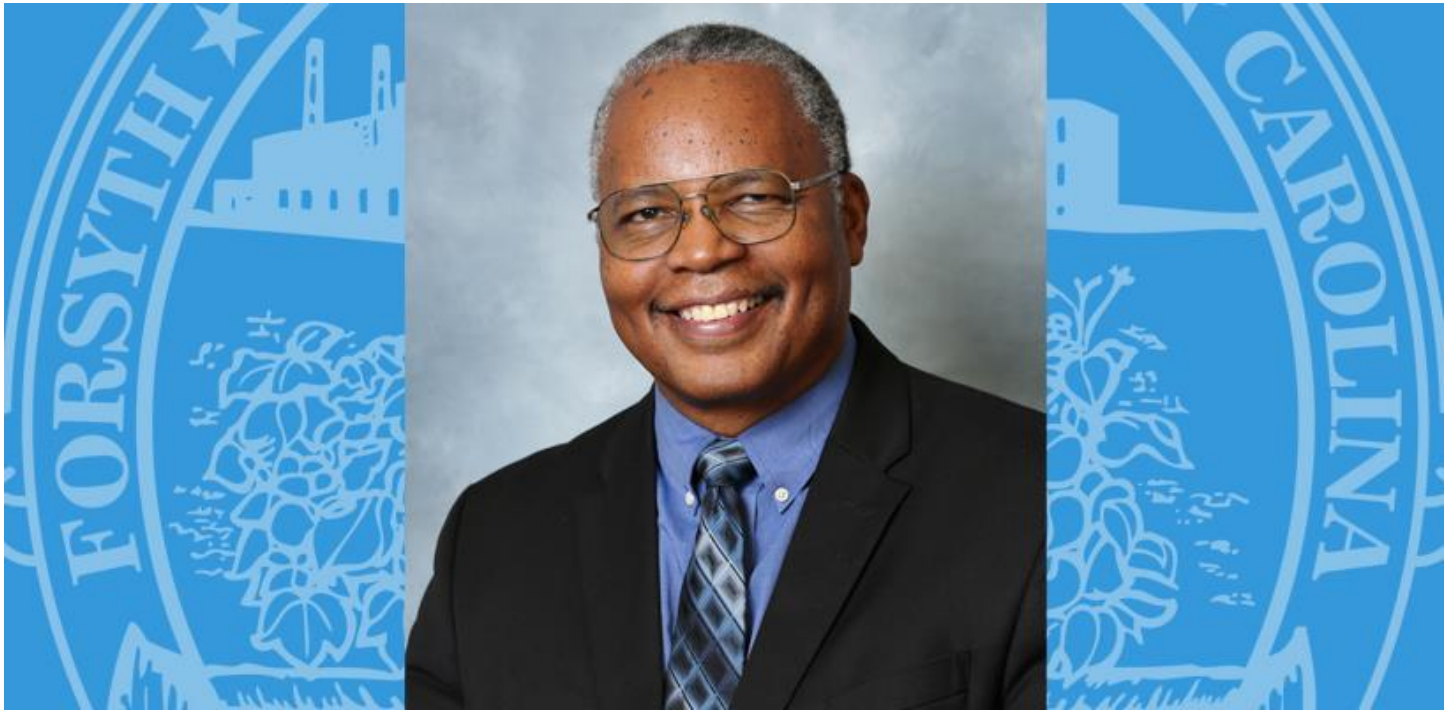
Jeanie Gaither and Kellene Bock visited with Jeff in Iredell County



As the father of three young children, Jeff talks with as many children as possible as he carries on his 100-county campaign tour.

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FLEMING EL-AMIN APPOINTED TO HEALTH BOARD!

Forsyth County Commissioner Fleming El-Amin has been appointed to the NC Local Health Department Accreditation Board. This Board is the official entity that assigns accreditation status to local health departments.

The Board is composed of 17 members. It has four positions for county commissioners who are recommended by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Board members serve four-year terms and may serve up to three terms.

Fleming has served in many positions of public trust including:

- Four years as a Forsyth County Commissioner**
- Four years as Chair of the Forsyth County Democratic Party**
- Four years on the Forsyth County Board of Elections**
- Two years on the Ethics and Qualifications Board**

**SAMPSON COUNTY DEMOCRATS
TO CLEAN UP
SLAVE CEMETERY
9:00AM – 11:00AM
SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, 2021
(Details On Next Page)**



This marble marker was placed at the Ivanhoe Slave Cemetery in August of 1989.

This picture resulted from a 50-mile round trip by Barbara Faison, Second Vice President of The National Federation of Democratic Women.

The marker says:

**IN
REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SLAVES
1619 - 1868**

SAMPSONCOUNTY



DEMOCRATS

IVANHOE CEMETERY CLEANUP & RESTORATION

Saturday, July 17th, 2021
9am - 11am

3970 Ivanhoe Road, Ivanhoe, NC 28447

RSVP/inquiries: Ed Gillim (chair, Sampson Dems),
vonte754@yahoo.com

Garrett Whipkey (3rd vice chair, Sampson Dems),
gswhipkey1@gmail.com

Following the great work of the Harnett and Johnston Dems, join the Sampson Democrats as we continue the important work of restoring historical African American cemeteries. Sampson County's Ivanhoe cemetery holds significance as a historic slave burial site. Join us in honoring the legacy of our local African American communities.

What to bring: work clothes, work shoes, shovel and/or rake; sunscreen; water bottle

HENDERSON COUNTY DEMOCRATS MARCH IN JULY 3RD PARADE!



7.3.21 Independence Day Parade !
Thank you, Democrats, for:
Social Security, work on clean air and water, Medicare, Veterans Affairs, Civil Rights, Women's Suffrage, Affordable Care Act, Minimum Wage, Unemployment Compensation, Covid Vaccine efforts, Peace Corp, Voting rights protections.
AND: truth, respecting science & rule of law, fight for infrastructure, voting rights, humanity and more.





**BEFORE THEY MARCHED,
HENDERSON DEMS HELD A
FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST
AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS!
BIG TURNOUT!**



**Mary Ellen Kuster, Candidate for
Board of Education**



**Congressional candidate Bo Hess
with Kathleen Elliott**



**Congressional candidate Eric
Gash (on left)**



**Congressional candidate
Katie Dean**



Randy Neall of Bat Cove

**Congratulations to the Democrats of Henderson County
for carrying out fundraising projects every month of the year!**



PRECINCT 29 HOLDS FOOD DRIVE!

Cumberland County's Precinct 29 in Fayetteville held a successful Food Drive and Voter Registration Drive from 10:00AM until 4:00PM.

They collected 400 pounds of food for the Southeastern Food Bank.

From the left the Democrats in the picture above are Precinct 29 Vice Chair Pat Randall, Carol Stubbs, Sheila Rider, Paul Taylor, Devon Newton, and Precinct 29 Chair Lester Busy.



Send Your GOOD NEWS to:

melvin535@gmail.com

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