

**SPECIAL FEATURE:
VIOLA RYALS FIGUEROA
WAYNE COUNTY!**

**GOOD NEWS
ABOUT DEMOCRATS!**



**INCLUDING DEMOCRATS FROM:
GUILFORD – HENDERSON – GRANVILLE
NASH – PITT – MECKLENBURG
WAKE – BUNCOMBE - DURHAM**



THREE BUNCOMBE DEMS INSTALLED!

Despite cold rain, a large crowd gathered at Pack Square Park in Asheville to watch Buncombe County Register of Deeds Drew Reisinger conduct the ceremonial investiture of three Democratic State Representatives:

Representative Eric Ager – District 114

Representative Lindsey Prather – District 115

Representative Caleb Rudow – District 116



NCDP Chair Forum 2023



**ANDERSON
CLAYTON**



**SCOTT
HUFFMAN**



**DR. BOBBIE
RICHARDSON**



**ERIC
TERASHIMA**

Saturday, January 21, 2023

11:30am - Lunch \$21 Buffet

12:30pm - Start time

Occasions Southern Cuisine

286 East Front St.

Burlington, NC 27215

LIVESTREAM ON



@NCDPForum23

**RSVP to former State Chair David Parker your attendance or
email any questions**

NCDPForum23@gmail.com



THE PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS PRESENTS: NCDP CHAIR CANDIDATES FORUM

Please join the Progressive Caucus of the NCDP
as we host the NCDP Chair Candidates Forum.



January 29, 2023 at 7PM

Zoom Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/3d69f2cb>



SCAN ME TO REGISTER



MARY WILLS BODE INAUGURATED!

On January 7th, an overflowing crowd gathered at the Granville County Court House in Oxford for the ceremonial inauguration of State Senator Mary Wills Bode. The district includes all of Granville County and a section of Wake County. State Senator Mike Woodard introduced Secretary of State Elaine Marshall. Secretary Marshall then conducted the Investiture of Senator Bode.



The Senator's parents proudly held the Bible as their daughter received the Oath of Office.



FIRST TWO ASIAN AMERICAN STATE REPRESENTATIVES SWORN IN!

On January 6th history was made when Representative Ya Liu and Representative Maria Cervania received their ceremonial Oaths of Office at the Cary Town Hall.

All elected officials who attended this occasion were photographed as a group. From the left they are:

Cary Town Council Member Carissa Kohn-Johnson

Wake Board of Education Member Tyler Swanson

Wake County Commissioner Don Mial

State Representative Maria Cervania

Wake County Commissioner Sheryl Stallings

State Senator Gale Adcock

Wake County Commissioner Matt Calabria – Emcee

Secretary of State Elaine Marshall

State Representative Ya Liu

Morrisville Town Council Member Steve Rao

Raleigh City Council Member Stormie Forte

Apex Town Council Member Terry Mahaffey

Cary Mayor Harold Weinbrecht

Morrisville Mayor TJ Cawley

Cary Town Council Member Jack Smith



Representative Ya Liu received flowers after being sworn in by Secretary of State Elaine Marshall.



State Senator Gale Adcock administered the Oath of Office to State Representative Maria Cervania.



FIRST NURSE TO BECOME STATE SENATOR!

Congratulations to Gale Adcock for being sworn in as North Carolina's first nurse to become a State Senator. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall was happy to be there to enjoy the celebration.

The ceremonial Investiture was held at the North Carolina Nursing Association office. Cary Mayor Harold Winebrecht did the honors.

Gayle is a nurse practitioner and she was Chief Health Officer at SAS Institute in Cary for 26 years.

She served as a State Representative from 2015 until 2023. She was a Member of the Cary Town Council from 2017 until 2014.



OUR 2023 STATE SENATORS!

Elected or re-elected in 2023, this group of Democratic State Senators have a wide variety of lifetime experiences which have prepared them to provide wisdom to writing legislation and energy to get it enacted.



OUR 2023 STATE REPRESENTATIVES!

Our heroes and heroines! Our Representatives are filled with courage. They are ready to stand up and fight for righteous legislation. We can be proud of each of them!



DEMOCRATIC JIGSAW PUZZLES WILL DECORATE HENDERSON COUNTY HEADQUARTERS!

This jigsaw puzzle is entitled "VOTES FOR WOMEN." Each section contains the picture of a person who played a major role in winning women's suffrage.

This puzzle and the puzzle on the next page are going to be displayed on the walls of the Henderson County Party Headquarters in Hendersonville.



This puzzle was created from a picture of Henderson County Democrats as they marched in a parade. (Henderson County Democrats march in every parade that is held anywhere in their county.)

These two puzzles were assembled by an enthusiastic Democrat named Isabel Cutler.

Over the past 12 years Isabel Cutler has sent more pictures and information to GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS than any other Democrat in the entire state!

CONGRATULATIONS, ISABEL!



MECKLENBURG DW CELEBRATING!

On Thursday, December 8th, the Democratic Women of Mecklenburg County hosted their Annual Holiday Party. The event, held at the Palmer Building in Charlotte, marked the first time since 2019 that the party was held in person and a good time was had by all.





Mecklenburg County Democrats in attendance included members of the DWMC Executive Board, DWMC members and friends, as well as current and former Mecklenburg elected officials.





More Mecklenburg Democratic Women





INVESTITURE OF JUDGE MATT NEWTON!

On January 13th Judge C. Renee Little administered the Oath of Office to new Mecklenburg County District Court Judge Matt Newton. In the picture above, Judge Newton's wife, attorney Tiffany Arroyo Newton, is applauding him after he received the Oath.

Matt was a dynamic Chair of the Mecklenburg County Democratic Party from 2015 through 2017. He was elected to serve the Charlotte City Council from 2017 through 2023.



Mecklenburg County Democratic activist Maytee Sands was one of the friends who celebrated with Judge Newton on his happy investiture day.



SPECIAL FEATURE

VIOLA RYALS FIGUEROA!

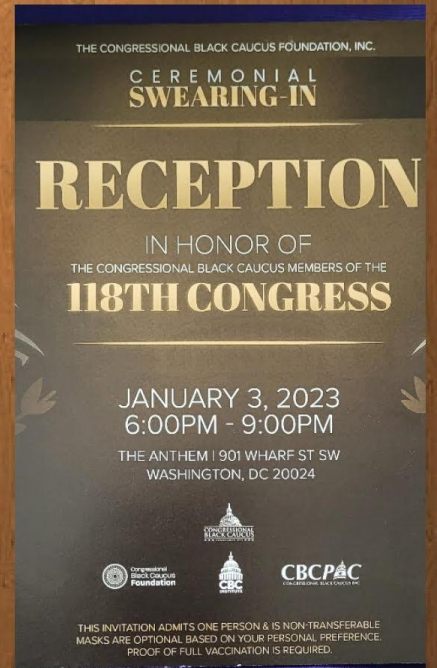
Viola Ryals Figueroa of Goldsboro has worked for the cause of good government through the Democratic Party at many levels.

She has been a Convention Official or a Convention Delegate to four Democratic National Conventions.

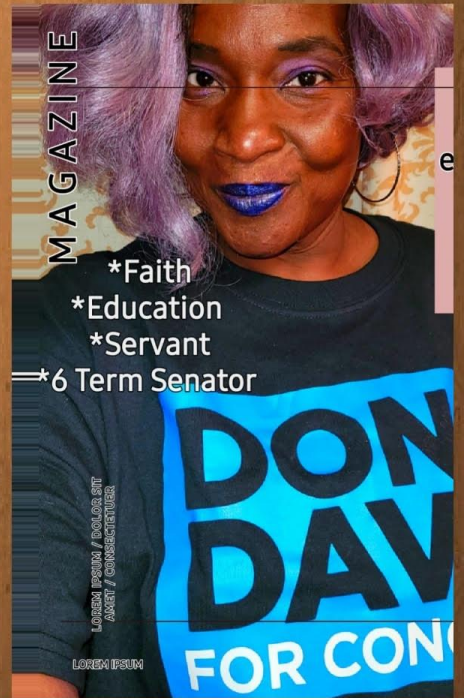
She was a volunteer official with the Security Division at the 2008 National Convention in Denver and at the 2012 National Convention in Charlotte.

She was head of the ADA Division at the 2016 Convention in Philadelphia. (She had been a heart patient for several days. Then she left the hospital and drove to Philadelphia the next day.)

She was an Official Delegate to the 2020 National Convention which was turned into a virtual event because of COVID.



Viola was one of the First Congressional District Democrats who went to Washington for the Investiture of Congressman-Elect Don Davis on January 10th. She was able to attend (and enjoy) Don's ceremonial installation which was held in conjunction with other Congressional Black Caucus Members of Congress.



These Washington pictures were made as Viola talked with Congressman Don Davis, Congresswoman Maxine Waters, and Senator Rapheal Warnock.



Viola Figueroa has spent many years of her life working for the Democratic Party at the state, county, and local level.

She has been a SEC Member for eight years as a Member or as a Proxy. She was a Precinct Chair for six years and currently serves as Second Vice Chair of the Wayne County Democratic Party. She also is the Historian of the Democratic Women of Wayne County.

She provides a place for DW Executive Board meetings. Soon she will be able to provide a place for in-person DW meetings.

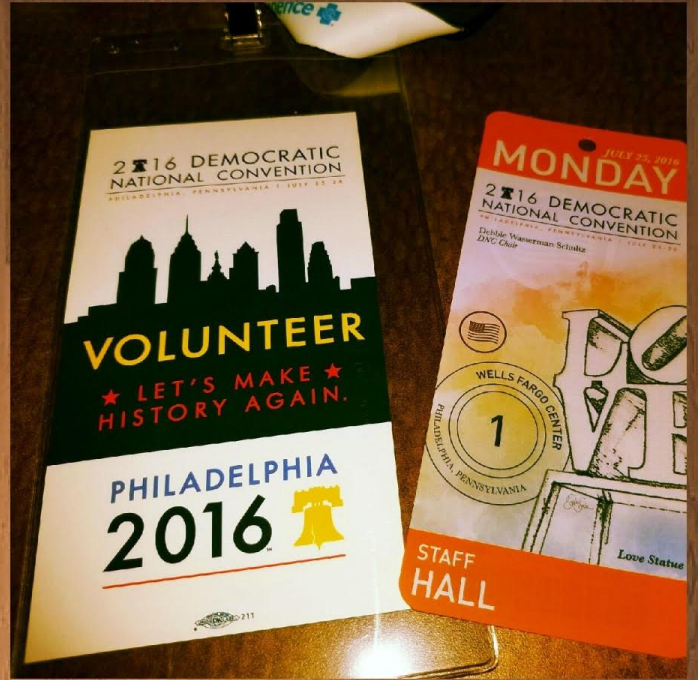
She has done volunteer work for the Party in many roles which don't have a title. She is always glad to pitch in and help!



Viola!



Volunteer 2016



DNC



Viola serves as the Chair/Commander of the Veterans and Military Families Caucus of Wayne County (NCDP.)

GOODHEARTED!

Viola operates a non-profit entitled VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES CENTER which helps veterans and their families through food drives, toy drives, and information about services for veterans.

July 2016



DNC

January 2023



CBC

Viola with Rev. Jesse Jackson

Volunteer Security Details



Obama-Clinton-Biden

Viola has worked on organizing rallies and providing security for many Democratic stars!



Congressman Donald G Davis

JAN
3

Longworth House,
Washington, DC, USA

START
12pm

Mayor, Senator, Congressman

Viola designed this montage as a tribute to Don Davis and his successful 2022 campaign.



DEMOCRATS MAKE TWO TRIPS FOR DON DAVIS INAUGURATIONS!

A group of Nash County Democrats went to Washington for Congressman Don Davis' installation. They went to the Congressional Black Caucus Ceremonial Investiture. It was held at The Atrium on the waterfront in Southwest DC. In the picture above are Dakote Marshall, Don Davis and Nash County Commissioner Gwen Wilkins.



Kevin Jones with Maxine Waters



G. K. Butterfield with Gwen Wilkins



The Nash Democrats then went to Greenville on January 16th for Congressman Davis ceremonial installation at the Pitt County Courthouse. Federal Judge James Wynn administered the Oath as Don's relatives gathered around him.



Congressman Davis's middle son, Justin, with Gwen Wilkins



Former Washington County Commissioner D. Cole Phelps with Kyler & Justin Davis



GUILFORD DEMOCRATS HOLD MLK DAY OF SERVICE EVENT!

Generous amounts of free food and free clothing were given away by the Guilford County Democrats on January 16th as part of their participate in the MLK National Day of Service. They set up at an easily accessible spot in High Point.

The project was headed up by the Democrats above: Judge Brian Tomlin, High Point Vice President of the Guilford County Democratic Party Mitzi Turner, Beverly Bard, Dorothy Collins, Marcy Freed and (not shown) Melissa Zacharias.



**Far left:
Tonya Martin and
Judge Brian Tomlin.
Near left:
This gentleman
even found a pair of
reading glasses.**



This gentleman found several things and was so grateful.



"Sums it all up."



"These guys were so happy to find new shirts and pants. The man with the long hair even modeled joyfully for a moment" said Mitzi Turner.

The Guilford Democrats learned that while socks are the most requested item, there is also a tremendous need for toiletries.

**SEND YOUR
GOOD NEWS**

TO

Melvin535@gmail.com

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