

# GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!



**Levon Barnes**



**Anderson Clayton**



**Eva Lee**

## STATE CHAIR CANDIDATES SHINE AT FORUM!

**About 100 Democrats from across the state went to Occasions Event Center in Burlington on January 21st to listen intently as five candidates for NCDP Chair and two candidates for NCDP First Vice Chair spoke and answered questions about their visions for future Party successes.**

**This event was organized by a group of Democrats headed by former State Chair David Parker. The questions were insightful and the answers were well formulated. With a Chair from this group, the future of the NCDP is bright! Candidates are shown in alphabetical order.**



**Dr. Bobbie Richardson**



**Eric Terashima**

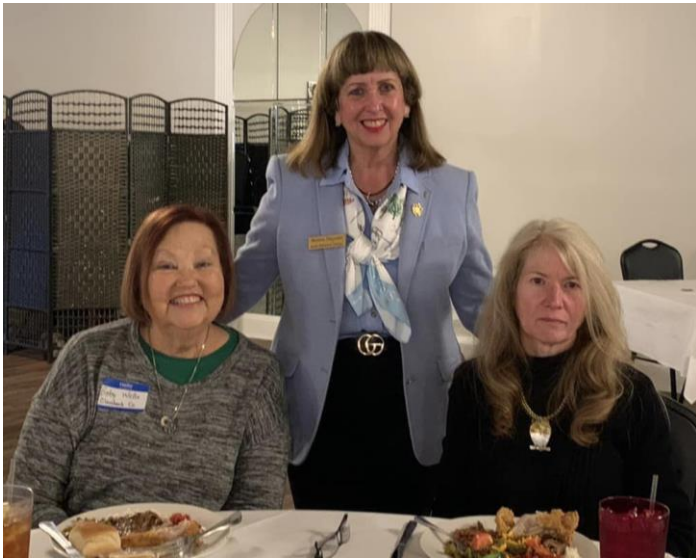


**The first speaker was former Supreme Court Justice Sam J. Ervin IV who shared the wisdom he has gathered during his three statewide campaigns.**



**An unexpected bonus: David Parker allowed the two announced candidates for First Vice Chair to speak. NCDP First Vice Chair Floyd McKissick of Durham (L) and Orange County Chair Jonah Garson (R) promoted their campaigns.**





**Betsy Wells of Cleveland County,  
Brenda Pollard of Durham, and  
Donna Luckey of Lincoln County**



**Progressive Caucus Chair Ryan Jenkins  
with 2<sup>nd</sup> District Chair Clayton Brooks**



**B. J. Gerald-Covington of Guilford  
County with Larry Hall of Durham**



**Brenda Pollard with NCDP Second  
Vice Chair Matt Hughes**





**NCDP Third Vice Chair Candidate Kendrick Cunningham of Mecklenburg, Dr. Bobbie Richardson and SEC Member Jared Blank of Mecklenburg.**

**Pictures for this article were made by SEC Member Nigel Bristow of Richmond County and Brenda Pollard of Durham.**



## **SYDNEY MEEKS!**

**Congratulations to Nash County Democratic Party Vice Chair Sydney Meeks on being selected to participate in a Spring 2023 Fellowship by the NC Institute of Political Leadership. Nash County Party Chair Cassandra Conover reports that Sydney is also President of the Nash County Young Democrats affiliate.**



## CANDIDATE FORUM



Monday, Feb. 6 | 7:00pm | Zoom

## THE FUTURE OF NCDP

Get to know the candidates for Chair and Vice-Chairs.  
Hear their plans for helping Democrats win North Carolina.



**EVERY DEMOCRAT IS INVITED  
INCLUDING NON-SEC MEMBERS!**

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER:**

**[mobilize.us/countytocountync/event/547783/](https://mobilize.us/countytocountync/event/547783/)**

**NCDP CANDIDATES  
FOR  
STATE CHAIR  
&  
FIRST, SECOND, & THIRD VICE CHAIR  
WILL STAR IN THIS EVENT!**





## **MITCHELL COUNTY DEMS GATHER TO PLAN PRECINCTS MEETINGS!**

**It is truly GOOD NEWS when this many Democrats get together in Mitchell County! This group joined County Chair Howard Larsen and his wife, Risa Larsen, at El Rancho restaurant in Spruce Pine.**

**They made plans to organize all nine of their precincts this year. It takes courage to be a Democrat in this mountain county – and these folks have courage!**



## **WILEY NICKEL AND DAUGHTER!**

**13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Congressman Wiley Nickel and his daughter, Adeline, went together to the Cary Debutante Society Ball as an elegant couple. Adeline's mother is a member of the organization but she was with their son at a hockey tournament in South Carolina.**

**The Congressman said: "So incredibly proud of this small human being."**



## **LAKES AREA DEMS HOLD JANUARY GET TOGETHER!**

**Wake County Democrats in the Lakes Area staged a social event on the night of January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Lake Lynn Community Center Early Voting Site.**

**These Democrats are proud that their Early Voting Site produced the #1 early voter turnout in the entire state!**

**Many of the attendees were grassroots volunteers who helped cover poll greeting at this Early Voting Site.**

**SEC Member Brian Layh who is WCDP Lakes Area Co-Coordinator and Precinct 02-02 Chair said: “We were thrilled to have State Representative Joe John, newly elected State Senator Mary Wills Bode, and newly elected State Senator Lisa Grafstein join us.”**





**State Representative Joe John (HD40) and Senator Lisa Grafstein (SD13) with Brian Layh who is Lakes Area Co-Coordinator and Precinct 02-02 Chair.**

**In recent years every GOP redistricting plan creates a district in which it is almost impossible for a Democrat to win but Rep. John has pulled through to victory every time!**



**Senator Mary Willis Bode with Brian Layh. Senator Bode's district includes a section of Wake County and all of Granville County.**





## **HAYWOOD COUNTY YOUNG DEMS PACK FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY!**

**During most months in the past year, the Young Democrats of Haywood County have volunteered to pack food for hungry families. Every month they have packed between 200 to 300 boxes of non-perishable food.**

**They do this project at the Haywood Christian Ministries in Waynesville. Young Democrats President Jesse Ross says: "Since 1970 HCM has served Haywood County. With all the turbulent economic happenings, food donations have been low recently, so there's a need to correct that."**

**Jesse continues by saying: "The Young Democrats of Haywood have a team that is ready to serve its community despite rough political waters. This past year we also held moderated community discussions on food insecurity in our region."**



**Salutations  
to the Young  
Democrats of  
Haywood  
County!**



## **DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF GUILFORD COUNTY HOLD FIRST 2023 MEETING!**

**The Democratic Women of Guilford County held their first meeting of the year on January 28<sup>th</sup> at their large County Headquarters in Greensboro. Several members said: “This is our best first meeting of the year – ever!”**

**From the left in the picture above are County Board of Education Member Deborah Napper, County Party Second Vice Chair Celeste Cornelius, County Party First Vice Chair Brandon Gray, County Commissioner Mary Beth Murphy, Amanda Cook, and Superior Court Judge Stephanie Reese.**



**Following routine business, County Commissioner Mary Beth Murphy (District 4) gave the members an update on the progress and spending of county projects. She then answered questions from the audience and indicated that she would look into facilitating a full service directory of county agencies and services with links to their websites.**





**County Party First Vice Chair  
Brandon Gray and the County  
Party's High  
Point Vice Chair  
Mitzi Turner.**

**Immediate Past DW  
President Britany Eiseler-Grove,  
Mimi Smith-DeCoster, and DW  
President Jasmine O'Connell**



**Humorous caption:  
Opal Williams,  
Kathy Wheeler, and  
Lori Brashers were  
discussing  
the strange case  
of a certain GOP  
Congressman from  
Long Island.**





**Amanda Cook, Frances Jalloh,  
GC Board of Education Member  
Deborah Napper, and  
Greensboro Mayor Nancy Vaughn**

**DW Second Vice Chair Sue Guy,  
Board of Education Member  
Khem Irby, and  
DW President Jasmine O'Connell**







## **OUR VP COMES TO RALEIGH!**

**Vice President Kamala Harris came to Raleigh on January 31<sup>st</sup> to promote the Biden Administration's programs for small business success.**



**Honored to see and hear the VP: Dr. Everett Ward, DNC Member John Verdejo, DNC Member Shelia Huggins, SEC Member Brenda Pollard, and Wake County Commissioner Don Mial.**



**Getting ready to go into the Vice President's forum: LT McCrimmon, Brenda Pollard, Nervahna Crew and Stephanie Woolley-Pigues.**

**Repaying a visit: Nervahna and her son, Randall, visited the VP at her official Washington residence in December.**



**All pictures in this article are from Brenda Pollard. She is with:**  
**Left above: NCDP Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson**  
**Right above: Wake SEC Member Ruth Merkle**  
**Left: Greear Webb and Sage Staley**





## **MCDOWELL COUNTY DEMOCRATS!**

**County Chair Michelle Phillips and the Democrats of McDowell County hosted Dr. Chris Cooper at a dinner meeting on January 30 at the Marion Community Building. They enjoyed a catered dinner.**

**Dr. Cooper is Madison Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Public Affairs at Western Carolina University. He discussed “Electoral Dynamics in McDowell County, NC.” Dr. Cooper has been quoted in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and many other media outlets.**



**In this picture Dr. Cooper is with Anderson Clayton, President of the State Association of County Chairs. She spoke to the crowd about her campaign for State Party Chair.**

**McDowell Chair Michelle Price said “Planning for 2023 began last year and continued throughout the winter for local Democrats. The next step is for Democrats to come together to learn about trends, to seek additional input, and to discuss tactics as we finalize our plans to make an impact locally.”**

**All Democrats Are Invited  
To**

**Send Your GOOD NEWS**

**To:**

**[Melvin535@gmail.com](mailto:Melvin535@gmail.com)**

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

**910-590-4542**