

# **GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS! SPECIAL FEATURE – ISABEL CUTLER! YOUTH FEATURE–WAKE TEEN DEMOCRATS!**



## **HENDERSON COUNTY DEMS GREET JONAH!**

**After trying a court case in Elizabeth City during the week, NCDP First Vice Chair Jonah Garson drove all the way to Hendersonville on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> for a Meet and Greet with the Democrats of Henderson County. The happy event drew a full house at the County Party Headquarters.**



**Left: County Chair Michelle Antalac was present even though she had knee replacement surgery 4 days before.**

**Preston Blakeley, Mayor of the Town of Fletcher also spoke to the crowd.**





**Unique: Henderson Democrats provided a stump upon which Jonah spoke. Henderson is one of those red counties where Democrats work hard to get as many Democratic votes as possible. In 2020 Henderson produced 29,144 votes for Governor Roy Cooper.**



**After Jonah spoke, Bob Houde (right above) told the crowd how impressed he was with Jonah's enthusiasm and his outlook for the Party.**

**SPECIAL FEATURE**  
**ISABEL CUTLER**  
**HENDERSON**  
**COUNTY!**

**If this publication were to give an award for the NC Democrat who has sent the most pictures and information about their county party activities over the past 12 years, it would go to ISABEL CUTLER of HENDERSON COUNTY.**



**During these years Isabel has sent hundreds of pictures of her fellow Henderson County Democrats as they were marching in parades, riding on vehicles in parades, gathering for sign-waving campaigns at prominent locations, rallying for many different Democratic causes, holding fundraising dinners, and staging their famous First Saturday Breakfasts.**

**Let's look into the life of Isabel Cutler and see what events and decisions have brought her to her current point of Democratic enthusiasm.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Isabel was born in Brooklyn in 1940 and her earliest memories are of pulling down the black shades during wartimes. Her father was an air raid warden.**

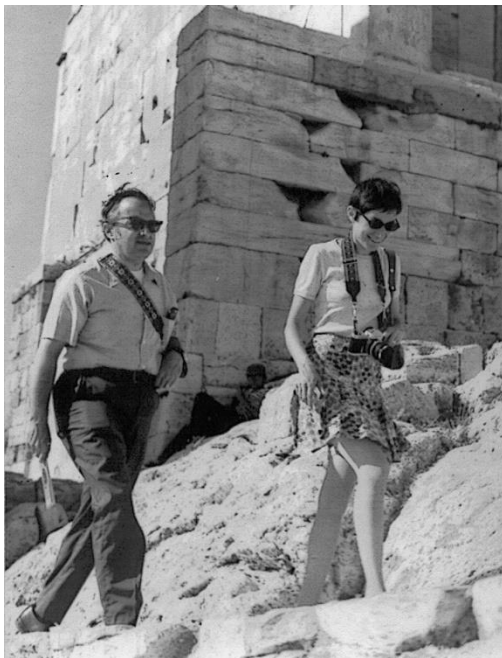
**She developed an interest in photography in her early teens and that interest has continued to grow all her life. That's why she enjoys making so many pictures of Henderson County Democrats.**

**She says: "School was not where I wanted to be but having graduated from high school when I was almost 16, I HAD to go to college and wound up at Hunter College where I majored in Sociology and minored in Music. I've loved cameras since childhood and was fortunate to have an uncle who mentored me and taught me darkroom skills. I put those skills to work while working for the Hunter College Arrow as a photographer.**



**Isabel continues: “I finished my last two years of college at night and worked as a secretary during the day, having graduated from the Speedwriting School. When I learned that teachers were desperately needed and the salary was higher than I was getting as a secretary, I took some “emergency” courses and, eureka, I was a teacher.**

**“I taught elementary school in Harlem for six years and then another year on Long Island before I ‘retired’ and switched to teaching piano. I had been studying piano since the age of six and was blessed with perfect pitch, so the music studies were easy at first, until they weren’t.”**



**Isabel married Bill Cutler in 1967. In 1975 Bill’s work with Grumman Aerospace took them to Germany for a year. The picture to the left shows them visiting Greece during their stay in Europe.**



**Isabel and Bill took their dachshunds to Germany with them. In this picture Sweet Pea is wearing a scarf because it was very cold in their apartment during the oil crisis. Friedrich Von Freeload (Freddie) is by her side.**



**After having by choice not had children for their first eleven years of marriage, Isabel suggested that they adopt when they returned from Germany.**

**They were gifted with Peter and Sunny from Korea who were five and two at the time of their arrival. Here they are shown at their naturalization ceremony.**



**When Bill was temporarily assigned to work in California, Isabel took machine knitting lessons. Here she was modeling an outfit she knitted at a machine knitting seminar.**



**For several years Isabel spent a good deal of time raising dachshunds, the first of whom came to her two weeks after she and Bill were married. She enjoyed allowing a friend to show one of her dachshunds. Here she is proudly looking on as he accepts an award.**





**Isabel and Bill Cutler at a Democratic function. Their hats say “Make America Think Again.” They moved to Henderson County in 1997. Bill served as Chair of the Rugby Precinct for ten years.**



**Left: Several years ago Peter and Sunny went back to Korea to visit their birth mother.**



**Right: Peter and his son, Aiden, are fascinated by photography as is Isabel. Peter is growing his hair long for Locks of Love.**





## **144 DAVIDSON DEMS ATTEND BOLD AND GOLD DINNER!**

**The Democratic Women of Davidson County sponsored the second Bold and Gold tented dinner at the Finch House in Thomasville in early May. NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton and State Senator Rachel Hunt were the Keynote Speakers.**



**Craig Weeke & DW President Victoria Weeke – Mr. & Mrs. Garrett Holloway**





**Jane Hill, Sharon Lynch, & Cathy Browder**

**Kristie Miller and Belinda Black**



**County Party Chair Jeanne Doom,  
Jan Cullinan, and AnneMarie Clark**



**Tonya Martin of Red Wine & Blue,  
Beth Swann, and Pam Byrd**





**Pam McAfee with NCDP Chair  
Anderson Clayton**



**Marvine and Mark Myers**



**AnnMarie Clark & Connie McMillan**



**Sally Davis and Prentice Weldon**





## **FORSYTH COUNTY CONVENTION!**

**State Party Chair Anderson Clayton was the Keynote Speaker at the May 6<sup>th</sup> Forsyth County Convention which was held at Parkland High School. Reports said that she “fired up” the crowd.**



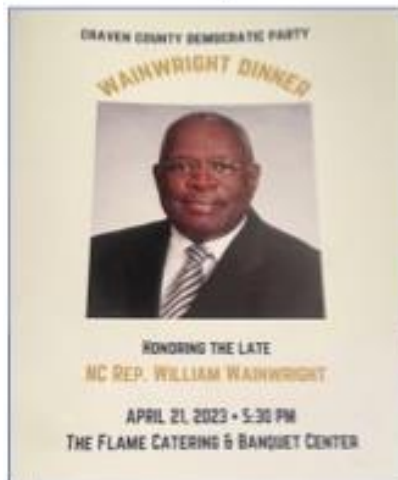
**Congratulations to these Forsyth Democrats who were elected as Officers. From the left they are: County Chair Jenny Marshall, First Vice Chair Elijah Bowers, Second Vice Chair Francis Pimentel, Third Vice Chair Mackenzie Cates-Allen, and Secretary Pat Eisenach**



## Craven County Democrats Host Annual Wainwright Dinner

Anderson Clayton, Chair of the North Carolina Democratic Party, was the keynote speaker at the Craven County Democratic Party's annual William L. Wainwright Dinner April 21. She spoke to a capacity crowd at The Flame in New Bern.

Clayton was joined by her officer team who share a vision of a stronger, more inclusive Democratic Party.





## Craven County Democrats Present Annual Wainwright Awards

At its annual fundraising dinner, the Craven County Democratic Party presented William L. Wainwright Awards to several outstanding community leaders: Charles Dudley and Helen and John Robinson. The William L. Wainwright dinner and awards are sponsored by the Craven County Democratic Party and named in honor of the late representative who served as the N.C. House of Representative's first African American Speaker Pro Tempore since Reconstruction.

### Charles Dudley

Bishop of the New Beginnings Ministry of Faith, husband, father, and retired Marine Corps Gunnery Sergeant: Charles Dudley is a man of faith and action. He and his wife, Marion, founded the New Beginnings Ministry of Faith 22 years ago; and his work in the community reflects his commitment to the Greater Good. He epitomizes the term "servant leader."

After a run for NC House, he was elected First Vice Chair of the Craven County Democratic Party, serving two full terms. Charles sits on the Sheriff's Advisory Board, the Habitat for Humanity Board, and the Coastal Community Action Board. An active member of his local volunteer fire department, he finds ways to assist the people of Craven County even during his "time off" - from cutting grass at a local cemetery to mentoring local candidates.



### Helen and John Robinson

The dynamic team of Helen and John Robinson enriches the Craven County community by their unfaltering commitment to making the world a better place.

Helen has served on the Craven County Democratic Party Board for over six years, including as second vice chair, and is instrumental in keeping the precincts organized and active. She is a trainer par excellence. She is passionate about local environmental sustainability efforts and



volunteers with Faith Connection, a partnership of local congregations working together for the betterment of our community.

John's knowledge, experience and hard work helped to create, start, and sustain the Craven County Disaster Recovery Alliance (CCDRA). This organization works with non-profit and faith-based organizations, providing repairs and rebuilds for survivors of disasters. CCDRA is active in case management and the coordination of volunteers and rebuild/repair sites.



## Democratic Women of Craven County Present

### Annual Kathleen Stallings Orringer Pioneers in Democracy Awards

At the Craven County Democratic Party's fundraising dinner held April 21, Democratic Women of Craven County presented its annual Kathleen Stallings Orringer Pioneers in Democracy Awards. These eponymous awards honor New Bern's first female alderman and Craven County's first elections supervisor, a lifelong Democrat who paved the way for local women in politics. Her daughter, Joan Orringer Shaffer, co-presented – with DWCC President Diane Lupton Tyndall – the "20<sup>th</sup> Century" award, which honors female trailblazers in Craven County, and the "21<sup>st</sup> Century" award, which recognizes current and future leaders.



#### 20<sup>th</sup> Century Award: Beatrice Smith

Craven County Commissioner Beatrice "Bea" Smith brings to the job passion, loyalty, and hard work, qualities that have already seen her through a lifetime of service.

Smith began her career as a teacher in Craven County, advancing to become director of federal programs for the schools and retiring in 1997 as principal of Graham A. Barden Elementary School in Havelock. Five years later, she was sworn in as a member of the Craven County Board of Education, a seat she would hold until selected as a commissioner 19 years later by her fellow

commissioners. She is the first African American woman to serve on the board, filling the seat vacated by the death of long-serving Commissioner Johnnie Sampson.

In addition, Smith serves on the East Carolina Workforce Development Board, Juvenile Crime Prevention Board, and Coastal Community Action Head Start Board to "help and enhance the lives of citizens."

#### 21<sup>st</sup> Century Award: Jameesha Harris

Jameesha Harris, the youngest African American woman elected to the New Bern Board of Aldermen, is the co-founder of Young Urban Professionals, an organization whose mission is to stimulate economic development among marginalized business owners and entrepreneurs.

Jameesha fights passionately for safe, affordable housing and speaks out against injustice wherever she sees it, often crediting her New York upbringing for her fighting spirit.

She also works hard to make sure children have access to parks, recreation, and after-school activities and was instrumental in the creation of the City of New Bern's Annual Juneteenth Celebration.

She currently serves as the Vice President of Democratic Women of Craven County and joins Rev. Dr. Ethel Sampson as one of only two people who have won both Wainwright and Orringer Awards.





## Young Writers Recognized at Craven County's Wainwright Dinner

At the Craven County Democratic Party's fundraising dinner April 21, two young writers were recognized as winners of the Democratic Women of Craven County's Black History Month Essay Contest.

This year's theme was "Civil Rights: Exploring Your Roots Through Conversations with Community



Elders." The contest was open to Craven County students in grades 3 through 12 and was divided into three age groups.

King Irwin (top left), a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student at J.T. Barber Elementary School in New Bern, won for his essay about his grandmother, Rev. Dr. Ethel Belle Sampson.



Oskar Mendoza-Lopez (bottom left), a 10th-grade student at West Craven High School in Vanceboro, had interviewed and written about his AFROTC mentor, Lt. Colonel April Wimmer. He led the Pledge of Allegiance at the dinner.

Both young writers received gifts of books from DWCC President Diane Lupton Tyndall and BHM Essay Contest Chair Brenda McGee. The two students will be awarded certificates and \$100 checks at New Bern's Juneteenth Celebration.

### Congratulations to the new officers of the Craven County Democratic Party!

Ryan Ewing, Chair  
Dennis Settles, First Vice Chair  
David Super, Second Vice Chair  
Holly Fox, Third Vice Chair  
Linda Moore, Secretary  
David Moazed, Treasurer



### Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, Rev. Dr. Ethel Belle Sampson!

Democrats in Craven County wish Rev. Dr. Ethel Belle Sampson, who turned 90 on April 24, a happy birthday!

In 1957, she joined the NAACP; and in 1962, Rev. Sampson met Rosa Parks and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. She helped watch over his children at the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom.

A member of Democratic Women of Craven County since its founding, the Rev. Dr. Sampson was the recipient of the DWCC's Kathleen Stallings Orringer Pioneers in Democracy Award in 2020 for her life of public service.

She received the Craven Community College Foundation Community Fabric Award and holds the Governor's Medallion Award for Volunteer Service. She is also a member of North Carolina's Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

Thank you, Rev. Dr. Sampson, for your service, wisdom, and mentorship!



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## CLEVELAND COUNTY DEMOCRATS!

The highways of Cleveland County are brightened by the huge new billboards that have been erected by the Cleveland County Democratic Party. This page features some of the billboards that are promoting the Dems message! Congratulations on the success of this terrific project, Cleveland Dems!

# Billionaires Should Pay Taxes Too



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# SUPPORT COMMON SENSE GUN LAWS!



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## CLEVELAND COUNTY DEMOCRATS!



## Craven County Democrats Join Neighbors at Local Spring Festivals



Volunteers helped spread the Good News about Craven County Democrats at two recent spring fairs. On this page: At the May 6 Vanceboro Strawberry Festival, Democrats (human and canine!) enjoyed meeting their neighbors and making crafts while discussing the positive changes Democrats have brought to the country.

On the next page: The fun and outreach continued May 13 at Duffest where children were given books donated by the Democratic Women of Craven County.





# Craven County Democrats Rock!







## **PITT COUNTY DEMOCRATS!**

**Representative Robert Rieves, House Democratic Leader, was a dynamic Keynote Speaker at the 2023 Pitt County Democratic Convention which was held in the Court House in Greenville.**



**Left - State Rep. Gloristene Brown and former State Rep. Brian Farkas welcomed Rep. Rieves to the Convention.**

**Right - The Convention unanimously elected Molly Holleman to serve as County Chair for the 2023 - 2025 term.**





## **MIKE MCINTYRE HONORED BY UNC!**

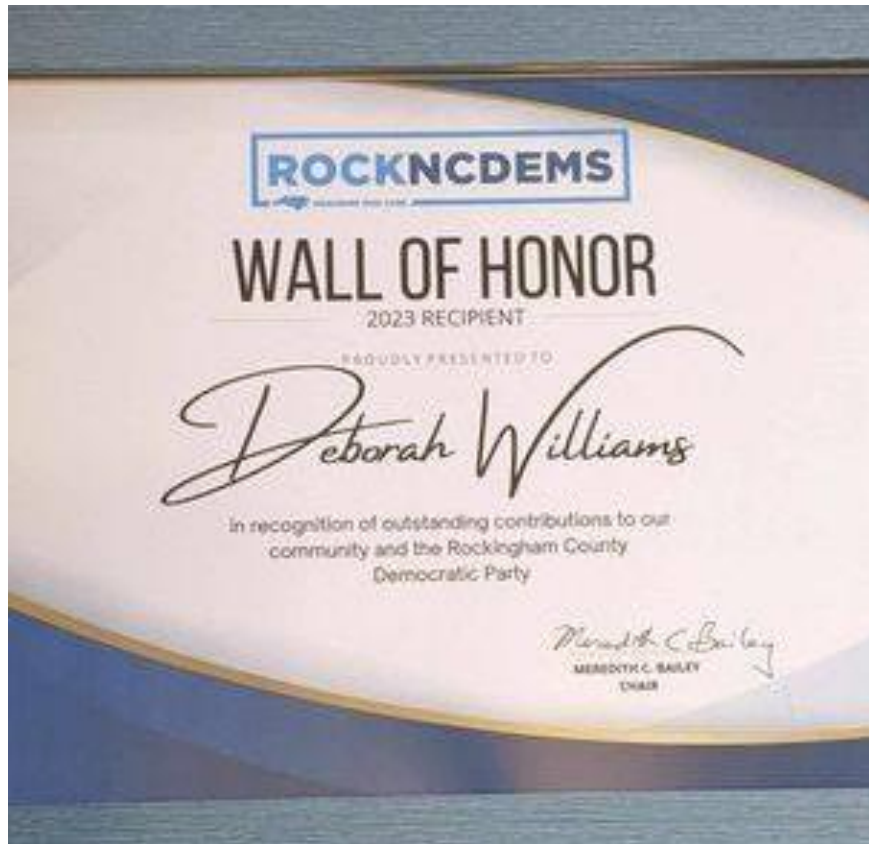
**Former Congressman Mike McIntyre was saluted by his alma mater at the 2023 Graduation Ceremony in Kenan Stadium in Chapel Hill. He received an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree which was presented by the Chancellor and faculty for his exemplary career of public service. His family joined him in the celebratory picture above.**



**This is his third degree from UNC. In 1978 he received a Bachelors Degree in Political Science and he received his Law Degree in 1981.**

**After retiring from Congress, he and his wife, Dee, moved to the Chapel Hill area so they could attend all the Carolina basketball and football games. Chancellor Guskiewicz is with him in the picture on the left.**





## **DEB WILLIAMS NAMED TO WALL OF HONOR!**

**At the 2023 Rockingham County Convention, a special ceremony  
Was held to place the name of Deb Williams on  
the Rockingham Democrats WALL OF HONOR!**



**More information about Deb will be featured in a future edition.**





*Bring a Friend  
Get a Carload  
Round up a Crowd!*

Saturday  
**July 22, 2023**  
5 - 8 PM

Elkin Municipal Park  
399 NC Hwy 268 W, Elkin

- ☆ Special Guest: Anderson Clayton,  
Chair, NC Democratic Party
- ☆ Meet and greet sensible candidates,  
leaders, and officials.

**YOU'RE  
INVITED**

By

Democrats and Independents in Elkin,  
Surry, Yadkin, Wilkes, NC 5<sup>th</sup> District

**Join Friends and Neighbors  
to Celebrate America's  
Freedom and Democracy**

- ✓ Enjoy the Food and Music
- ✓ Build New Friendships
- ✓ Hear Uplifting Speakers
- ✓ Find Hope for NC and USA
- ✓ Get Ready to Help in 2024

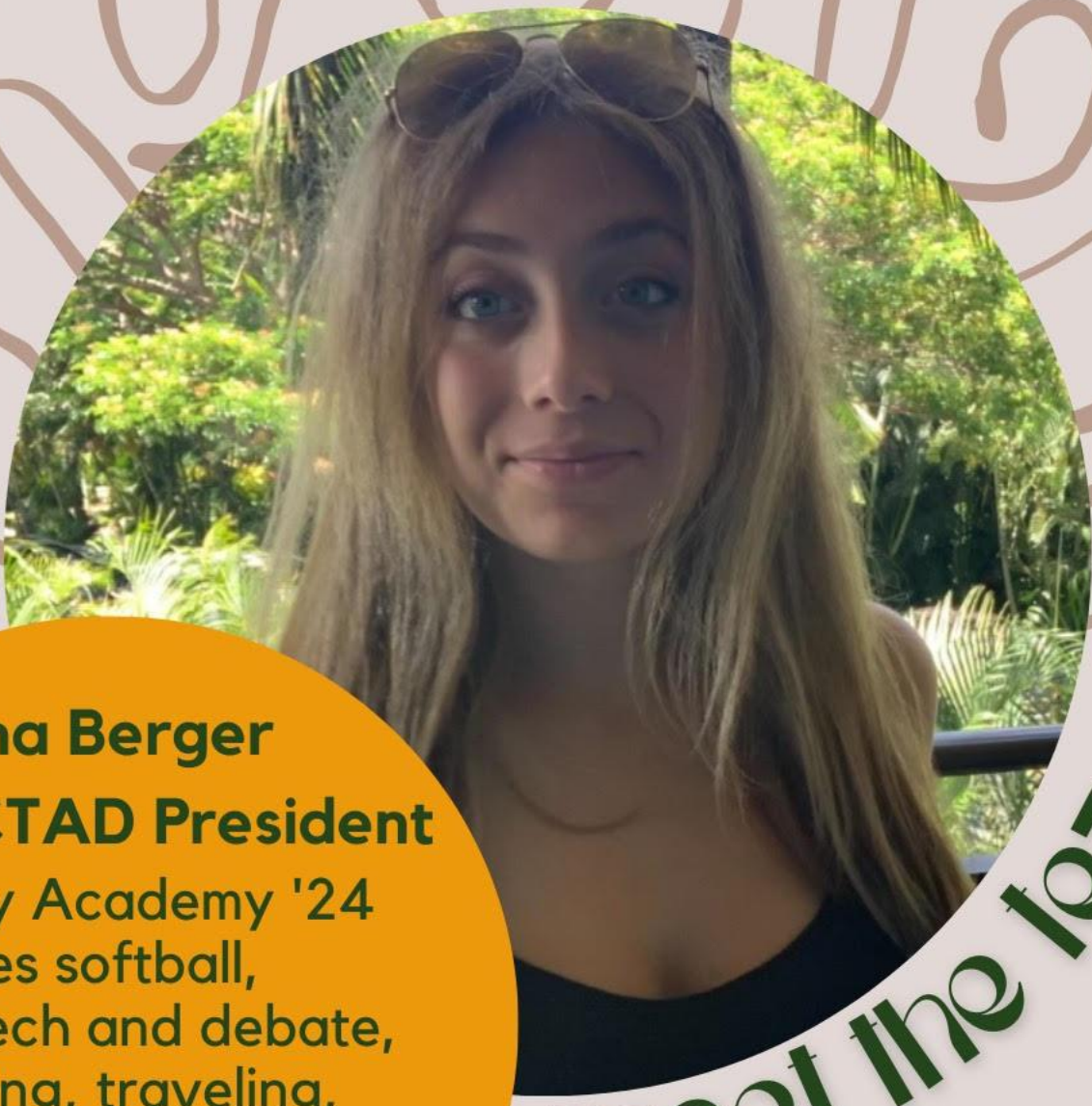
Confirm your attendance today!  
Email: [elkindemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:elkindemocrats@gmail.com)



**ON THE NEXT FIVE PAGES,  
YOU WILL MEET  
FIVE REMARKABLE DEMOCRATS  
WHO HAVE BEEN ELECTED  
OFFICERS OF THE  
WAKE COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
OF TEEN DEMOCRATS!**

**AS YOU READ ABOUT EACH OF THEM,  
YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHY  
NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATS  
HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE!**





**Anna Berger**  
**WCTAD President**  
Cary Academy '24  
Loves softball,  
speech and debate,  
baking, traveling,  
and her friends!

*meet the team*

**ANNA BERGER!**



# meet the team



MADDIE ALVAREZ

Executive Vice President

Cary Academy '24

Loves social justice, piano, music, and spending  
time with family and friends!

**MADDIE ALVAREZ!**





**REHAN MAHMOOD**

**Vice President of Communications**

**Cary Academy '26**

**Loves his friends, backpacking, and music!**

**meet the team**

**REHAN MAHMOOD!**





ATTICUS JOHNSON

## Vice President of Membership

Vice President of Fundraising

Enloe '24

Enjoys Model UN, Speech and Debate, reading, and band

meet the team

**ATTICUS JOHNSON!**

meet the team



Cary Academy '24  
Likes reading and spending time with family!

**Anya Jain**  
Vice President of  
Membership

**ANYA JAIN!**



**Every Democrats Is Invited**

**To Send Your GOOD NEWS**

**To: [melvin535@gmail.com](mailto:melvin535@gmail.com)**

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**Melvin Williams, State Secretary**

**North Carolina Democratic Party**

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