# **GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!**

#### **YOUTH FEATURE – TIA MEREDITH!**



#### **FORMER YOUNG DEMOCRATS REUNITE!**

More than 40 former Young Democrats from the late 1970s, 1980s, and early 1990s gathered at the Players Retreat in Raleigh for a Reunion on September 21<sup>st</sup>. While most were from Wake County, a number of NC counties were represented. The Keynote Speaker, Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, a former YD National Committeewoman, was introduced by former College Young Democrats President and Insurance Commissioner Wayne Goodwin.

Several former State YD Presidents were in attendance as well as five former Wake County YD Presidents from that era.





Wayne Goodwin, Kathy Wilson, Don Vaughn, Brenda Pollard, Lynda Tuberville and Samuel Gaskins



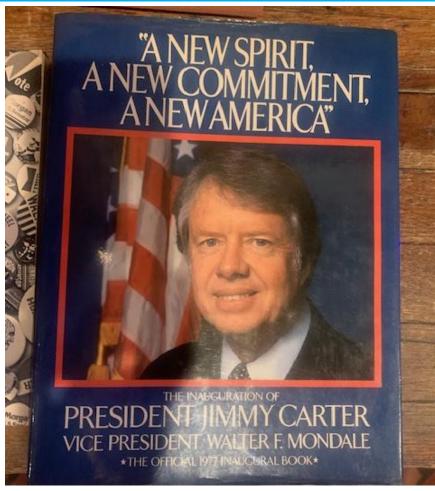
Mike Wilson, Warren Hepler, Helen Johnson, and Kathy Wilson





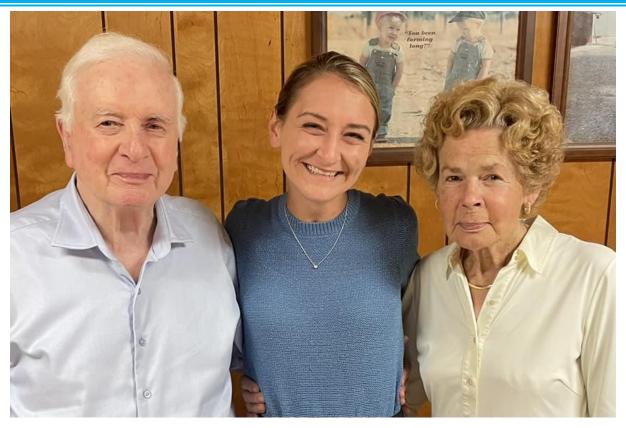


(L) Brenda Pollard and Ronnie Condrey holding a picture of the Officers elected at the 1979 State YD Convention. (2) Elaine Marshall (3) Tricia Parish



A thoughtful former Young Democrat brought this treasured poster from the 1977 inauguration of President Jimmy Carter and VP Walter Mondale. During the event a phone call was placed to Peggy Stamey, age 92, the first female County Chair from Wake County who served in the late 1970's. Later she served in the State House of Representatives.





# ANDERSON CLAYTON MEETS WITH GOVERNOR AND MRS. JIM HUNT!

Historic moment: NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton met with Governor and Mrs. Jim Hunt for lunch at Parker's Barbeque in Wilson on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Anderson relates that Governor Hunt is one of her heroes. They discussed strategy for the 2024 election. Also present were former Supreme Court Justice Phil Carlton, Gary Pearce of Carolina Spin, and longtime Democratic leader Dewey Sheffield. Anderson treasured the dozen yellow roses Dewey sent to her after her election as State Chair.



After this luncheon in Wilson Anderson drove all the way to Gastonia for a Democratic event that night.



### **JEFF BLUM COMES TO NORTH CAROLINA!**

For several years New York Democratic activist Jeff Blum has been giving strong support and advice to Orange County's County-To-County organization and to other NC Democratic groups.

On September 26<sup>th</sup> Jeff came to Chapel Hill and met with the leaders of C2C. He imparted a lot of wise advice and also listened very closely to information C2C leaders shared with him.

Three NCDP State Party Officers were present: First Vice Chair Jonah Garson, State Treasurer Deniese Chaney, and Secretary Melvin Williams.

The outstanding Democrats in the picture above include:

Front row – Becca Zerkin, Margaret Levin, and Melvin Williams

Second row – Susan Blount, Laura Baxley, Ann Henley, hostess Cay Stratton, Judith Tsin, Diana McDuffee, Jeff Blum, Deniese Chaney, Nan Nixon, Jane Preyer, Sarah O'Brien, and Bill Morrisett

Jeff Blum is especially interested in helping NC Democrats develop ways to increase voter turnout and win more elections in 2024.



Anderson Clayton (in eagle outfit), Jesse Ross, Michael Carreccia, Katherine Jeans, Brenden Hipps, and Braxton Winston

# DEMOCRATS MARCH IN DRAMATIC CANTON LABOR DAY PARADE!

By Jesse B. Ross, President of Haywood County Young Democrats, Chair of the Young Democrats of NC Labor Caucus "The Canton Labor Day Festival and Parade has been happening for 115 years as of September 4<sup>th</sup>. The YD Labor Caucus started planning on attending back in July. Over the next couple of months Katherine Jeans, Michael Carreccia, Mackenzie Reedybacon and Mason Chamblee put together a plan to get folks to Canton on the day of and have the needed materials there. The YDNC Labor Caucus printed a banner ( in these pictures) while the YDs of NC printed ample Voter ID information cards to hand out at a booth.

"The YDNC Labor Caucus partnered with the YDs of Haywood County and the Haywood Democratic Party who walked as well. They welcomed NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton, Commissioner of Labor candidate Braxton Winston, and many local YDs in celebrating all the things the union movement has done for the people of Canton in its long history of being a labor dependent town."



Jesse Ross continues: "We received a rather warm reception. Chair Clayton wore her eagle outfit which the children along the parade found exciting.



Jesse: "All our Democratic marchers were cheerfully waving and being waved to.

(I even received a few unexpected hugs from folks in the crowd.)"

This was dramatic after the town's largest employer closed this year."





During the parade some very good folks were handing out info on Voter ID laws and registering people to vote. This group included Joey LaPuma, Jane Harrison, Connie Nicolson, and State YD President Dorian Palmer. "Daniel Franch of Johnston County deserves much praise for keeping up our energies as the day became hotter and he maintained positive contact with everyone who passed by."





### **DARE DEMS FUNDRAISER!**

Dare Democrats packed into Waveriders at Nags Head on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Lt. Governor candidate Rachel Hunt was the featured speaker.

In the picture above are Susan Harmon Scott, Third Congressional District Chair Dr. Wesley Boykin of Duplin County and Tommy Fulcher.





**Marion Midgett and Laura Allendorf** 

Senator Rachel Hunt with Charles Evans



These happy Dare Democrats canvassed in Manteo on September 16<sup>th</sup> to encourage people to vote in the upcoming municipal elections and to be sure to have Voter ID. From the left they are: Marion Midgett, Jeanine Emery, Ron Gordon Kathy Mitchell, Laura Allendorf, Donna Dickeriede and Martha Brown.

# MORE DARE DEMOCRATS!

These Dare Democrats represented the Party at the September 9<sup>th</sup> OBX Pridefest. They are former Chief Judge of the NC Court of Appeals Linda McGee, Mary Kelley, Marion Midgett and Laura Allendorf.

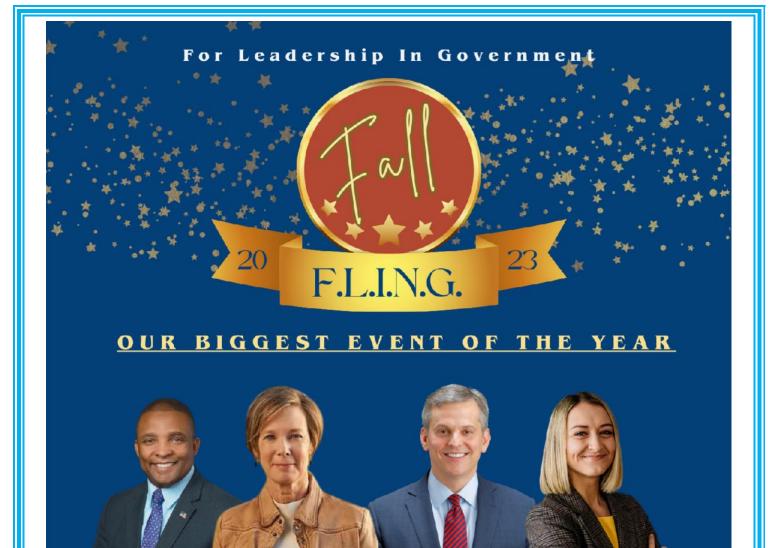


#### **GARRETT WHIPKEY JOINS LEGISLATURE!**

Multi-talented Garrett Whipkey of Sampson County recently became Legislative Assistant for Rep. Garland Pierce in the NC House of Representatives. Rep. Pierce represents Scotland and Hoke counties.

Garrett earned a Bachelors Degree in Music with concentration in saxophone at Western Carolina University. He minored in political science. Garrett was President of the College Democrats at WCU and President of the Student Body. He has also served a Vice Chair of the Sampson County Democratic Party.

When he is not at the GA, Garrett is often performing professionally or giving private music lessons. Every Sunday he sings professionally at Christ Episcopal Church on Capital Square. Twice a month he sings in the Evensong Choir at Duke Chapel.



with Congressman **Don Davis**, Senator **Rachel Hunt**, NCDP Chair **Anderson Clayton**, & Keynote Speaker Attorney General **Josh Stein** 

> Casita Brewing Company 217 S South Street, Wilson, NC 27893

# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

Reception at 6PM | Dinner begins at 7 PM Live music from Soul, Rhythm, and Groove Band & Hannah Slaughter.

Admission: \$50.00 per person | Sponsorships: \$250, \$500, \$750, \$1000, \$1500, \$2000

Make checks out to: WCDP, PO BOX 7034 Wilson, NC 27893

Purchase tickets online at www.wilsonncdems.com

Scan barcode with your smart phone camera.



For more info. call (252)290-1848

Paid for by Wilson County Democratic Party



## **ALAMANCE DEMS TURN OUT STRONG!**

The Democrats of Alamance County filled the Lake MacIntosh Clubhouse in Burlington on September 23<sup>rd</sup> for the "B. Holt Barbeque & Auction." B. Holt was a highly respected lady who represented Alamance in the legislature for several years. County Chair Ron Osborne is speaking in the picture above.





Lt. Governor candidate Ben Clark and Labor Commissioner candidate Braxton Winston happily brought their campaigns to this big dinner.



**State Treasurer candidate Wesley Harris** 



**Emcee Daniel Osborne,** 





Left: Jay Kennett promoting his wife Beth's campaign for Burlington Mayor. Right: County Chair Ron Osborne and his wide, Elizabeth Osborne



The dinner spotlighted many local candidates. Left – Dejuana Bigelow for Burlington City Council Right – Brandy Whittaker running for Burlington City Council



Robin Wintringham, candidate for Burlington City Council



Quinn Ray is running for re-election to the Town Board of Elon.



Some County Party Officers: Treasurer Diane Haith, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Kristen Powers, Second Vice Chair Shamika White, and Third Vice Chair Seneca Rogers





## **DEMOCRATIC STARS IN SAMPSON COUNTY!**

County Chair Ed Gillim turned the regular monthly meeting of the Sampson County Democratic Party into a star-studded event on September 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting in Clinton featured the outstanding Democrats above.

From the left they are Third Congressional District Democratic Party Chair Dr. Wesley Boykin, NCDP Third Vice Chair Elijah King, former State Rep. Raymond Smith who is a candidate for Mayor of Goldsboro, Lt. Governor candidate Ben Clark, County Chair Ed Gillim, AAC Vice Chair Haywood, gubernatorial candidate Mike Morgan, Young Democratic leader Garrett Whipkey, NCDP Second Vice Chair Dr. Kimberly Hardy, County First Vice Chair Dr. Ruby Bell, and County Second Vice Chair Apostle Wendy Becton.



County Chair Ed Gilliam stands behind Sean Ford and Kenly Stewart



# NASH COUNTY PUMPKIN SPICE & POLITICS BANQUET!

More than 240 Democrats packed into the banquet hall of Nash Community College in Rocky Mount on September 18<sup>th</sup> for their annual fall banquet which was entitled "Pumpkin Spice & Politics Banquet."

County Chair Dr. Cassandra Conover presided over the happy event.

County Commissioner Gwen Wilkins extended the welcome and State Party Chair Anderson Clayton spoke.





The Vote Owl app was presented by Ken Lewis, Gary Zuckerman, and Ken Rowley. Vote Owl is an app which informs voters of candidates, elections, their polling places with directions, and much more. Nash Democrats were able to load the app on their phone as they viewed a demonstration! A video from Congressman Don Davis was presented.



The candidates which spoke to the crowd included Dante Pittman for State Representative in House District 24 (above left,) Mike Morgan for Governor (above right,), Mayoral candidates, Council candidates, Rep. Wesley Harris for Treasurer, Judge Tim Wilson, Supreme Court Justice Allison Riggs, and Lt. Governor candidate Ben Clark,



# YOUTH FEATURE - TIA MEREDITH!

Several times during her amazing life, this publication has featured Tia Meredith of Randolph County. Now it is time to catch up with her activities over the last four years. When she was two years old, her

parents, Jim and Beverly Meredith, flew all the way to China to adopt her from an orphanage. She still celebrates her Adoption Day annually.

When she was four years old, Secretary Melvin Williams met Tia at the NCDP Holidazzle Party in Raleigh and they have been friends ever since. That was the night when June Mabry took Tia by the hand and they ran down the hall to catch up with the departing Governor Beverly Perdue so the Governor could meet Tia.

She made "easy A's" throughout school and graduated with honors as Salutatorian from Providence Grove High School in the class of 2021. She was also elected Homecoming Queen during her senior year.

In August, 2021 Tia graduated with honors from the University of Mount Olive with an "Associates Degree in Agricultural Science." While attending high school, Tia also took a number of courses at Randolph Community College where she was Secretary of the honors society, Phi Theta Kappa.

Tia has a Democratic family. Her father, Jim Meredith has served as Randolph County Party Chair, Sixth Congressional District Chair, and as a candidate for State Representative.



As a result of the high school honors courses, RCC courses, and UMO courses taken in pursuit of her associates degree, Tia was able to satisfy a substantial portion of the credit hours required to receive a Food Science degree at NC State. Accordingly, she set for herself the goal of graduating from NC State University in three years instead of the customary four.

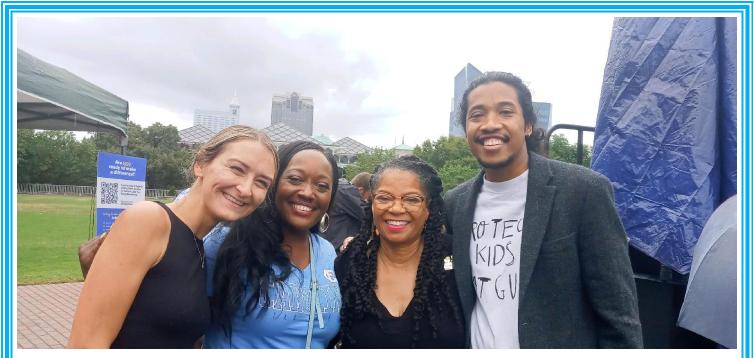
She is on track to achieve that goal and expects to graduate with honors in May of 2024 with a major in Food Science and a minor in Agricultural Business Management.

Tia loves the Food Science program and is an active member of the NC State Food Science Club where she is Co-Chair of both the Activities Committee and the Wine & Cheese Gala committee.

How about this? Tia loves food science so much that she even works part time in the NCSU dairy processing facility helping to make "Howling Cow Ice Cream." She is also in the NC State University Honors Program.

This past summer Tia worked full time as a Food Safety and Quality Assurance Intern at the Sheetz regional manufacturing and distribution center in Burlington. She also took an online summer course each session, worked weekend evenings as a waitress at Sir Pizza in Siler City, and found time on several weekends to continue her volunteer work at the Red Cross blood donation center in Greensboro, where with her friendly smile, she greeted and signed in blood and platelet donors. May Tia continue on the pathway of success on which she is already running!





## **JUSTIN JONES INSPIRES RALLY!**

State Representative Justin Jones of the famous "Tennessee Three" was the star of an anti-violence rally at Halifax Mall in Raleigh on September 17<sup>th</sup>. Above he is welcomed by NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton, Senator Natalie Murdock, and DW leader Sonya Bennetone of Wilmington.



NCDP's youth auxiliaries were major sponsors of this emotional event. The picture above includes NCDP Third Vice Chair Elijah King, UNC Young Democrats President TJ White, and College Dems President Kema Leonard.



Elijah with Senator Rachel Hunt and Rep. Marcia Morey

Daniel Patterson, President of the NC Association of Teen Dems is on the right in this picture with Elijah and Sonya.





Congressman Wiley Nichel expressed his deep concern for school children by attending and promoting the rally.

### JOIN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CAUCUS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY FOR OUR 2023 ANNUAL

AFRICAN AMERICAN CAUCUS

#### 5:00P TO 8:00P

Join us as we reflect on the successes for the year and to elect your next 2024-2026 AAC-NCDP Executive Board

# SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>

#### **Superior Court Justice Lora Cubbage**

will be our keynote speaker bringing enlightenment and awareness around the role of our NC Judicial Branches and the participation implications of the Black vote.

LEGACY MUSIC COMPANY (INSIDE OF EAST RIDGE MALL) 246 N NEW HOPE RD., GASTONIA, NC 28054 (Park in front of Encore Shoe Dept next to Belk and walk through Encore Shoe Dept. Once walked through, keep straight to see Legacy Music Company.)

Purchase Tickets: https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2023annualmeeting

# SEND YOUR GOOD NEWS

# TO: <u>melvin535@gmail.com</u>

# Your Democratic Friend, Melvin Williams, State Secretary North Carolina Democratic Party 910-590-4542