

GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!

December 18, 2023

YOUTH FEATURE: KENNEDY WELLS!



RUTHERFORD DEMOCRATS MARCH!

These happy Democrats promoted the cause of good government in the Forest City Parade! Front row: County Chair Esther Lusk, Carole Rheaume
2nd row: Patricia Glassen, Karyn Gloden, Michael Gloden,
1st VC Rick Glassen, Susan McGowan & pet



MITCHELL DEMS!

Starring in the Spruce Pine Kiawanis Holiday Parade were Jan Hamilton & Jonathan Campos. Paul Bozard & Gloria Schulman rode inside the truck greeting the crowd.



DUPLIN DEMOCRATS ON PARADE!

Duplin Dems who marched and rode in the Kenansville Holiday Parade from the left were: John Williams, Daylin Blacknell, Secretary Thomasina Williams, State House candidate Vernon Moore, Third Vice Chair Langston Pollock, County Chair Doug Walter, First Vice Chair Maureen Lynch, & party parade organizer Barbara Grady
Barbara Grady organized the Democratic parade unit and made all the signs.





YOUTH FEATURE: KENNEDY WELLS!

Kennedy Wells is the 13 year-old granddaughter of North Carolina's "2023 DEMOCRATIC WOMAN OF THE YEAR," Betsy Wells of Cleveland County. This newsletter has reported on Kennedy from the time she was born.

She is now in the 8th grade in Loudoun County, Virginia where she is the "First Seat" guitarist in her class.

In the picture on the left Kennedy is with her father Hart Wells who teaches guitar at their public school in Leesburg, Virginia. Yes, Kennedy was named in honor of the 35th President of the United States!

WILSON COUNTY CHAIR GETS MARRIED!



Wilson County Democratic Chair Dante Pittman married Lucy Russell at Southeast Raleigh Table on November 11th. From this picture it is easy to tell that everyone at the ceremony was happy!



NCDP'S NEWEST STAR LORELEI TAYLOR!

Since 8:19PM on November 21st Democrats all over the state have been celebrating the birth of Lorelei Taylor in Raleigh. She is the daughter of Interim Executive Director Lillian Taylor and her husband, Shawn Taylor.

They are raising her right: In the picture above Lorelei is proudly wearing a "Baby Democrat" shirt.

Lillian will be coming back to the State Headquarters in the Spring to continue her excellent service to the party as Assistant Executive Director.

Before becoming Interim E. D., Lillian had been working at the Goodwin House for about six years as Digital Director.

CRAVEN COUNTY DEMOCRATS!



Candidates came out to listen to their constituents and to solicit support. (Left to right): Havelock Commissioner Tyrone Cantey, N.C. Insurance Commissioner candidate David Wheeler, N.C. House 13 candidate Melvin Cooper, Gubernatorial candidate Mike Morgan, Craven County Register of Deeds Michelle Toth, and N.C. Treasurer candidate Wesley Harris. (Not shown: Lieutenant Governor candidate Ben Clark.)

Craven County Democrats Host Fish Fry, Candidate Meet-and-Greet

The Craven County Democratic Party hosted a Fish Fry and Candidate Meet-and-Greet November 16 at New Beginnings Ministry of Faith in Havelock.

The event – which also served as a fundraiser for the CCDP – kicked off the primary season and is one of several gatherings planned through 2024.



The crowd enjoyed great food while asking tough questions of the candidates.



(Left to right): Craven Democrats First Vice Chair Dennis Settles and Immediate Past Chair Linda Moore welcomed guests while Democrat Women of N.C. Second Vice Chair Vickie Zangwill looked on. Zangwill was representing N.C. House 13 candidate Katie Tomberlin.

Craven Democrats: Fish, Fun, and Fellowship . . . With a Side of Politics!



Fried fish, baked beans, homemade hushpuppies, and succulent slaw: Craven County Democrats know how to throw a Party!

Thank you to everyone who attended the November 16 Fish Fry and Candidate Meet-and-Greet.

And most especially, thank you to Charles Dudley, Senior Pastor of New Beginnings Ministry of Faith whose community space was much appreciated, and to our talented cooks who kept the food coming!



CRAVEN DEMOCRATS GATHER TO CELEBRATE!



Craven County Democrats Gather to Celebrate

Craven County Democrats joined together December 11 to celebrate each other and the accomplishments of the Party.

Plans were made for the busy upcoming election year over fellowship and sweet treats with discussions of potential local candidates, the latest national news, and the dishonorable practice of gerrymandering.

Second Vice Chair Dave Super (right) offered encouragement to the partygoers.





JEFF'S TREE!

Guilford County Democrat Jeff Piegari decorated this glistening silver and white tree for the holidays. Everyone in Whitsett who sees Jeff's tree finds their spirits are lifted!

Jeff invites Democrats to write to him at:

JeffMan89@hotmail.com

ANOTHER JEFF!

Congressman Jeff Jackson of Mecklenburg County and his wife, Marisa, reveled in the trees and other decorations at the White House as guests of President and Mrs. Biden!





WAKE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY SALUTES 2023 VOLUNTEERS!

For several years the Wake County Democratic Party has established a tradition of holding VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION events to give high recognition to the many volunteers who helped in the campaigns and activities of the year.

Because Wake is such a large county – geographically and by population – they hold two events on the same day.

The picture above was made at the event at the Mellow Mushroom in Wake Forest.

Wesley Knott, the county party's Executive Director, was speaking while this picture was taken.

(The other volunteer celebration is on the next page.)



**At the same time the event in Wake Forest was being held,
the other VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION event
was held at Crowder Regional Park
outside of Holly Springs.**

**From the left the four Democrats who are kneeling are:
State Representative Maria Cervania, Apex City Councilman Terry Mahaffey,
Morrisville Mayor TJ Cawley, and County Commissioner Cheryl Stallings**

**Wake County Democratic Party Chair Kevyn Creech
is the Democrat in the pink shirt on the far right.
It's great to see so many Democrats celebrating victories!**



HENDERSON COUNTY DEMS ON PARADE!

Democrats were stars in the “Light Up The Night Parade” in Hendersonville.





TRANSYLVANIA DEMOCRATS FILED A FULL SLATE OF CANDIDATES!

On December 13th thirty Transylvania County Democrats gathered at the Board of Elections office in Brevard to cheer seven Democrats who filed to fill all seven positions which are up for election in 2024!

All seven candidates joined their joyous supporters on the sunny lawn of the Elections Building: three for the Transylvania County School Board, three for the Board of County Commissioners and one for State House of Representatives.

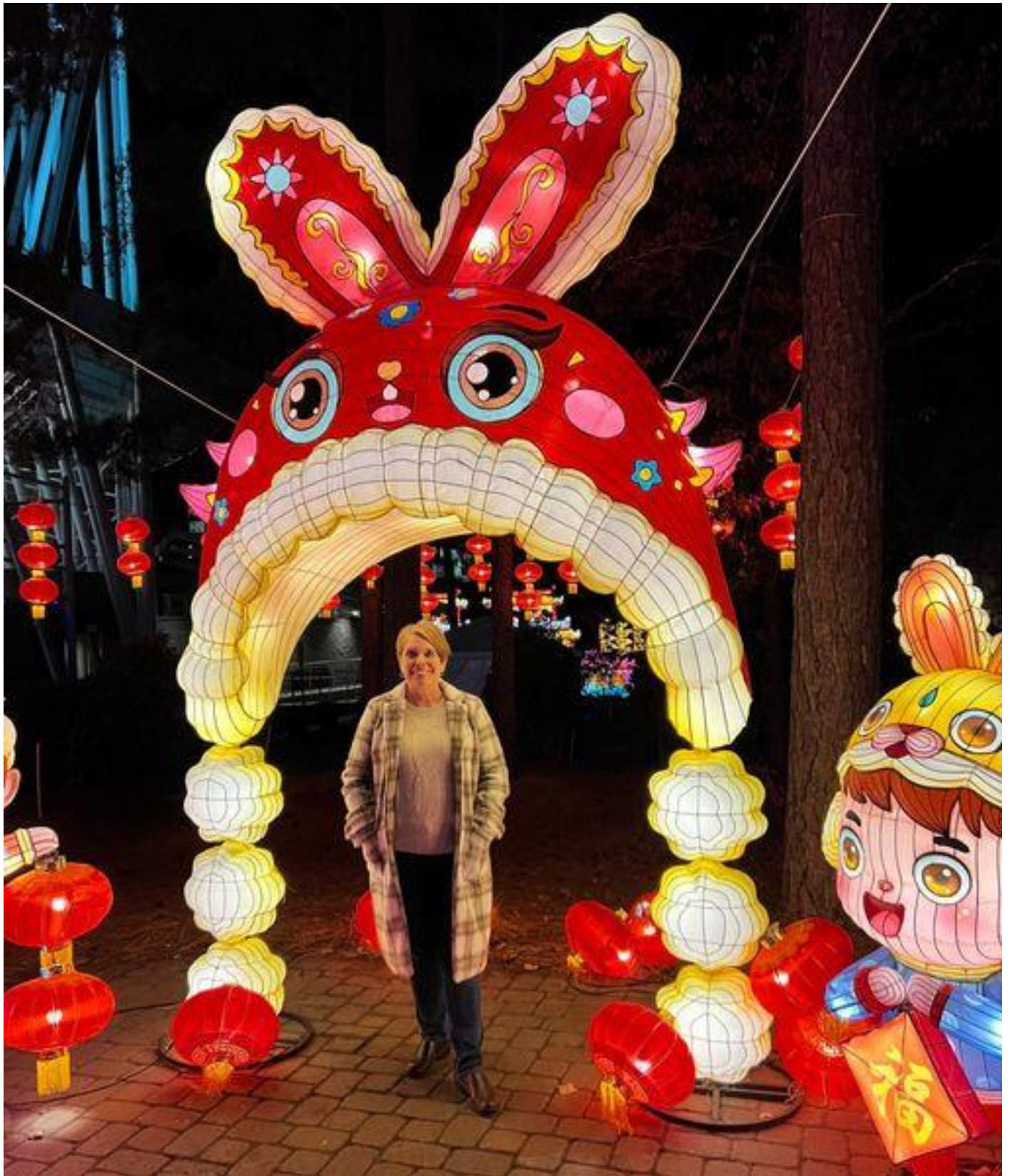
A County Party spokesperson said “Our candidates are going to be fighting for: A thriving community, safe, nurturing, empowering spaces for our children, leaders who listen, work together and take action. No more playing politics, but getting back to work. Restoring transparency and accountability in county government. Providing safe schools, affordable housing, access to childcare and quality preschool education.”

In the picture above the fifth person from the right is County Chair Sam Edney who was named the “Mountain Democrat of the Year” for 2023 by the Eleventh Congressional District Democratic Party.

TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY



Here are the seven Transylvania Democratic candidates from the left:
County Commissioner candidate Bryan O'Neill
School Board candidate Sara Green
State Representative candidate Mark Burrows
School Board candidate Meg Lebeck
County Commissioner candidate Rik Emaus
School Board candidate David Borman
County Commissioner candidate Joe Smith



REPRESENTATIVE JULIE VON HAEFEN!

Wake County Representative Julie von Haefen enjoyed the spectacular Chinese Lantern Festival at Koka Booth Amphitheatre in Cary. It has many new exhibits this year and it will be open through January 14th.

Julie has filed for re-election so she can continue to serve us!



VICE PRESIDENT ENTERTAINS DNC MEMBERS!

**State Chair Anderson Clayton and
DNC Member John Verdejo
showed up brightly at a
Holiday Reception
at the Official Residence of
Vice President Kamala Harris
in Washington.**

**DNC Members
Matt Hughes and
Shelia Huggins
joined John
for this happy picture
at the Vice President's
home.**





John Verdejo looks like an American diplomat in this picture at the Naval Observatory where the Vice President lives.

**More GOOD NEWS about John:
He has been admitted to the Graduate School of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he will work toward a Master of Business Administration degree!**



STOKES COUNTY'S JOHN HICKS AT THE WHITE HOUSE FOR CHRISTMAS!

**John works for Senator Bob Casey of Pennsylvania.
Even though he has been in Washington four years, this was his
first visit to the inside of the White House.**



CUMBERLAND SENIOR DEMS SALUTE VETS!

State Senator Val Applewhite was one of the speakers at the November meeting of the Senior Democrats in Fayetteville.



Senior Dems President Ellison Ellison and Senior Dems Treasurer Charles McKeller recognized members of the Fayetteville chapter of the famed Triple Nickels. The Triple Nickel platoon in the 92nd Infantry Division was formed in 1943.



This display at the meeting had information on the Triple Nickels and other famous black military squads.

More pictures from this event are in the upcoming articles about NCDP Second Vice Chair Dr. Kimberly Hardy.

Dr. Vickie Andrews, State Chair of the NCDP Veterans & Military Family Caucus spoke to the crowd about the benefits of her caucus.



Former Supreme Court Justice Mike Morgan talked with the Senior Dems about his campaign for Governor.

Labor Commissioner candidate Braxton Winston (left) talked with Cumberland County Democratic Party Chair Derrick Montgomery as another Dem joins in.





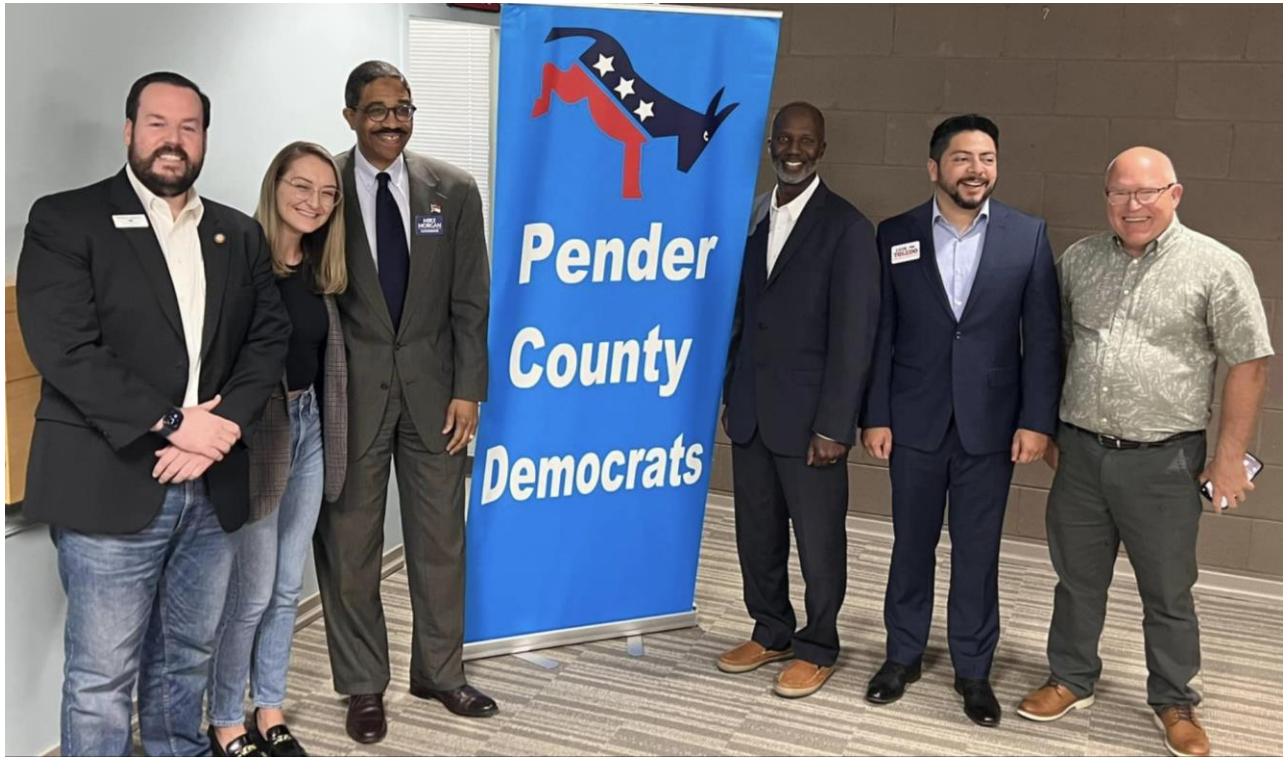
Cumberland State Representative Frances Jackson converses with Gary Mahr.

Rev. Larry Wright was one of many veterans who attended this valuable meeting.



Labor Commissioner candidate Braxton Winston talks with Cumberland County Democratic Party Chair Derrick Montgomery as another good Democrat joins in.





PENDER DEMOCRATS!

The Democratic Women of Pender County welcomed an all-star lineup of guests to their meeting at 1PM, Sunday, November 19th in the Pender County Library in Burgaw.

From the left above are: State Treasurer candidate Wesley Harris, State Party Chair Anderson Clayton, gubernatorial candidate Mike Morgan, Lt. Governor Candidate Ben Clark, Luis Toledo who has since withdrawn from the race for State Auditor, and Pender County Party Chair Steven Strnisha.



State Chair Anderson Clayton with Armin Jancis of Duplin County. Armin has served on the SEC for more than 30 years – and he is still going strong!



DR. RICHARDSON COUNTS DOWN TO 12-25!

December 25th is a special day for immediate past NCDP Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson. Not only is it Christmas but it is also her Birthday!

In this recently made picture Dr. Richardson is with her fellow NCCU alumnae Onnie Mitchell-Burrell and Dr. Elizabeth Keith.



RACHEL HUNT!

Lt. Governor candidate Rachel Hunt recently took her campaign to Louisburg where she spoke to lots of Franklin County Democrats.

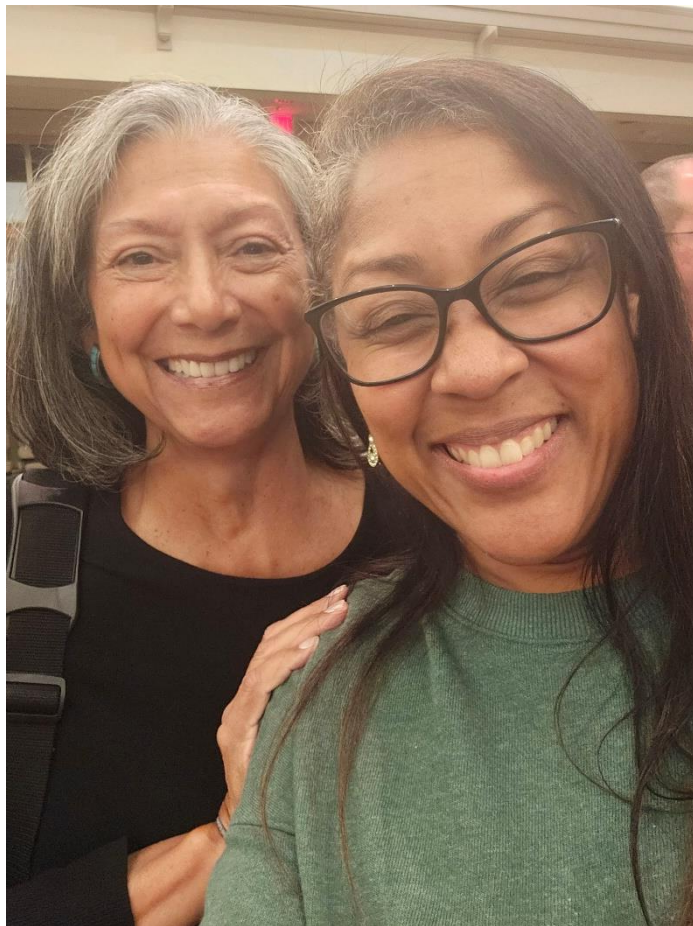


DR. KIMBERLY HARDY'S 30-COUNTY TOUR!

Dr. Kimberly Hardy of Cumberland County, Second Vice Chair of the State Democratic Party, has embarked on a 30-county tour. Some pictures from her tour have been displayed in previous editions of the GOOD NEWS. She is focusing on rural counties. She generously invites various statewide Democratic candidates to join her.

The above picture was made when she held her meeting with Democrats in Moore County.

From the left are: State Treasurer candidate Gabe Esparza, Supreme Court Justice Allison Riggs, Dr. Hardy, Moore County Democratic Party Chair Lowell Simon, Lt. Governor candidate Ben Clark, Supreme Court candidate Lora Cabbage, and gubernatorial candidate Mike Morgan.



**During this Moore County meeting,
Dr. Hardy was photographed
with State Democratic Women
President Paula Shelton
of Moore County.**

**Dr. Hardy with another
Moore County star:
Michael Haywood,
newly elected
First Vice President of the
State African American Caucus**





DR. HARDY'S EVENT IN BLADEN COUNTY!

On November 16th Bladen County Party Chair Althea Weaver welcomed Dr. Hardy and many candidates to Elizabethtown.

Top left: Lt. Governor candidate State Senator Rachel Hunt.

Top right: Supreme Court Justice Allison Riggs with Rachel Hunt

Middle left: Judge Carolyn Thompson of the NC Court of Appeals

Middle right: State House candidate Joshua Harrell, Judge Carolyn Thompson, Supreme Court Justice Allison Riggs, Agriculture Commissioner candidate Dr. Sarah Taber, Lt. Governor candidate Rachel Hunt, Lt. Governor candidate

Ben Clark, Dr. Hardy, and County Chair Weaver

Bottom row: Lt. Gov. candidate Ben Clark & Ag Comm. candidate Sarah Taber



DR. HARDY'S COLLAGE – VETERANS DAY!

Dr. Hardy participated in the Cumberland County Democratic Veterans Day event in Fayetteville. Top left picture is Veterans Caucus Chair Dr. Vickie Andrews

Top center: Mike Morgan for Governor.

Top right: Cumberland Party Chair Derrick Montgomery with Luis Toledo

Bottom left: State Rep Dr. Frances Jackson with Dr. Hardy and Dr. Andrews

Bottom right: Dr. Hardy with Luis Toledo and Chair Derrick Montgomery

Then Dr. Hardy drove to Gastonia for the State Convention of NCDP's African American Caucus.



**PICTURES FROM DR. KIMBERLY HARDY
AT THE AAC STATE CONVENTION
IN GASTONIA!**



TYLER BEALL & CHERYL SIMS!

Congratulations to Tyler Beall, President of the LGBTQ Caucus of the NCDP, and to Guilford County Party Second Vice Chair Cheryl Sims who just graduated from the City of Greensboro's Citizens Academy.

The Greensboro Citizens Academy is a program hosted by the different governmental departments with the goal of encouraging citizens to hear how their city operates and how to serve on a local board or commission. The attendees learned about the budgeting and human logistics that go into making sure the city operations run efficiently.

After the course, graduates attended a graduation ceremony during an official city hall meeting.



SAMPSON CHAIR'S FOUNDATION BRINGS CHRISTMAS CHEER!

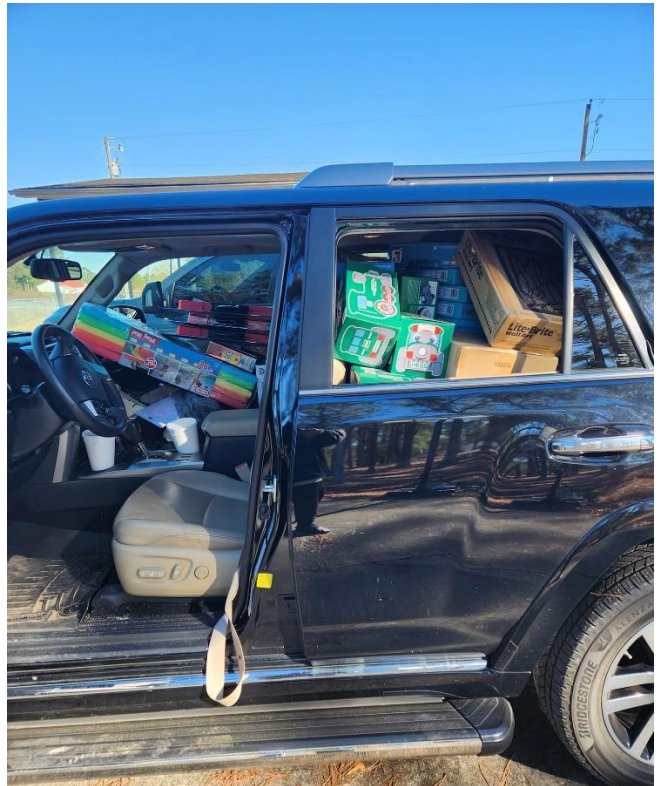
Sampson County Democratic Chair Ed Gillim and his wife, LaTonya, have a foundation which helps people. On December 15th their foundation staged their seventh – and largest - Christmas giveaway yet!

The happy faces of the people in this article show that Ed and LaTonya are doing work which is really meaningful.

Former Sampson County Democratic Party Chair Marcus Bass played the role of Santa.



Ed and LaTonya Gillim





**All the pictures in this article were made in Sampson County.
However, the Gillim Foundation also distributed
toys and other gifts through Barbara Garris' organization
in Pitt County.**



**The North Carolina Democratic Party
Does Not
Endorse Any Candidates
In The Primary.**

**Placement In Articles
In This Publication
Does Not Imply Endorsement.**

**However, NCDP
Can Proudly Endorse
The Following Three Candidates
Who Have No Primary Opposition:**

BRAXTON WINSTON

For Commissioner of Labor

SARAH TABER

For Commissioner of Agriculture

JESSICA HOLMES

For State Auditor



BRAXTON WINSTON
For Commissioner of Labor!

BRAXTON'S WEBSITE:
WWW.VOTEBRAXTON.COM



**DR. SARAH TABER
FOR COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE!**



**SARAH'S WEBSITE:
WWW.SARAHTABER.COM**



**JESSICA HOLMES
FOR STATE AUDITOR!**

(With Shameika Rhinehart)

**Jessica's Website Will Be Announced
In A Future Edition.**



DEANS EATMAN REMEMBERS ROSALYN CARTER

Deans Eatman is currently a very active member of the Wendell City Council and a leader in his church in Wendell.

One day in 2016 he called his grandmother, Janet Jones, and said “Let’s go to Plains, Georgia this weekend to worship with President and Mrs. Carter!” Janet instantly agreed and they took off for Georgia with little preparation.

They went to Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains where they heard President Carter teach the Sunday School lesson from John’s Gospel about Jesus turning water into wine.

Deans been thinking about that visit a lot in recent days.



BARBARA, DOT, & OUIDA WITH THE CARTERS

Barbara Stanley and Dot Worth of Brunswick County visited the Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains where the above picture was taken.



Former Seventh Congressional District Chair Ouida Hewett (far left) joined Barbara and Dot on another trip to visit the Carters in Sunday School in Plains.

**All Democrats Are Invited
To Send Your GOOD NEWS
to:**

Melvin535@gmail.com

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