

**EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING!**

**GOOD NEWS ABOUT DEMOCRATS!**

**YOUTH FEATURES: JUSTIN MATTHEWS & GREEAR WEBB!**



**KICKING OFF OUR FALL CAMPAIGN!**

**This picture of many of our NCDP Staff Members and Officers was made at the Primary Night Watch Party on March 5<sup>th</sup>. These folks will be leading us (and helping us) throughout the General Election campaign.**

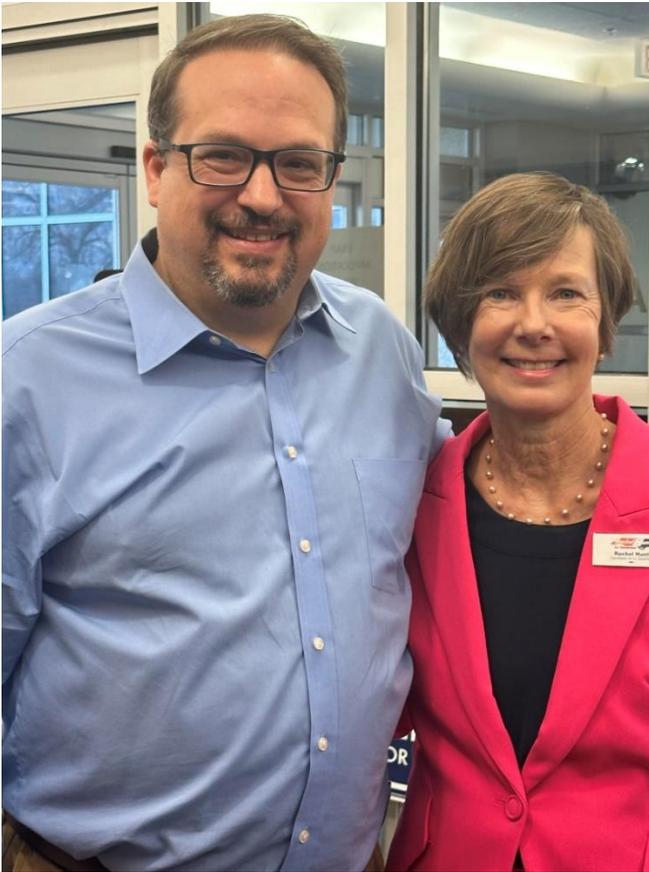
**From the left they are: NC College Dems President Nathan Linville, NCDP Organizing Director Sarah O'Brien, Party Affairs Organizing Director Ni Lavien, Piedmont Regional Organizing Director Daniel Franch, Research Assistant Dom Patafie, NCDP Third Vice Chair Elijah King, Data Director Brian Jones, NCDP Executive Director Kian Sadjadi, NCDP Second Vice Chair Kimberly Hardy, NCDP Treasurer Deniese Chaney and Finance Director Chloe Capetanos.**

**LIKE DEMOCRATS STATEWIDE  
THESE FOLKS ARE WORKING FOR VICTORIES!**

## **RACHEL HUNT**

**Rachel Hunt, our candidate for Lt. Governor, was a busy Democrat on March 16<sup>th</sup> as she spoke at three different County Conventions. After receiving 70% of the votes for Lt. Governor in the Primary, she has continued to crisscross the state.**

**Left: Rachel was welcomed to the Gaston County Convention in Gastonia by Gaston County Chair David Brown. Below: Rachel spoke to the Mecklenburg County Convention at Little Rock AME Zion Church in Charlotte.**



**Rachel with Tasha White & Gaston County Commissioner candidate Dr. Sharlene Mullins**





**Rachel also addressed the Robeson County Democratic Convention in Lumberton. She was welcomed by Robeson County Party Chair Cara Pearson**



## **READY TO VOTE!**

**Former Stanly County Party Chair  
Judy Hammil (standing)  
with former Stanly Democratic  
Women's Secretary  
Theresa Lanning and her  
husband, Frank Lanning,  
as they get ready  
to vote.**

## Craven County Democrats Hold Annual Convention



The Craven County Democratic Party held its 2024 convention March 16 at the courthouse in downtown New Bern.

Dennis Settles, 1st Vice Chair of CCDP; Diane Tyndall, President of Democratic



Women of Craven County; and Linda G. Moore, CCDP Secretary and NC House District 3 candidate, presided. Charles Dudley, who is a candidate for NC Senate District 3, was also in attendance.

Craven County will send the second largest delegation to North Carolina's 3rd Congressional District convention.



The following local Democrats were unanimously elected:

### **Prosecutorial District**

#### **Executive Committee**

George Evans & Richard Friend

### **State Senatorial District**

#### **Executive Committee**

Mende Amos & Connie Sithens

### **State House of Representatives**

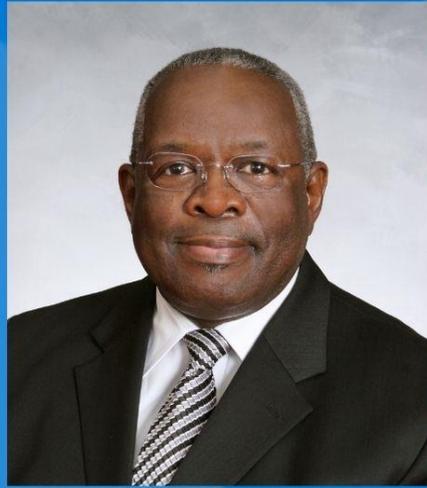
#### **District Executive Committee**

Kate Blakefield & Cory Hunter



**CRAVEN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**WAINWRIGHT DINNER**



**HONORING THE LATE NC REP. WILLIAM WAINWRIGHT**

**APRIL 19, 2024 • 5:30 PM**  
**TICKETS \$65**

**THE FLAME CATERING & BANQUET**  
**2301 NEUSE BOULEVARD, NEW BERN**



**FEATURED SPEAKERS**  
**JUSTICE ALLISON RIGGS &**  
**JUDGE CAROLYN THOMPSON**

# DEMOCRATIC WOMEN OF NC REGION 10 ANNUAL CONVENTION

GUEST SPEAKER

SUSAN HARMAN-SCOTT

CANDIDATE, NC STATE SENATE  
DISTRICT 1

## AGENDA

- ELECT OFFICERS
- APPOINT COMMITTEE POSITIONS
- RECEIVE CHAPTER REPORTS

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS



PLEASE RSVP



APRIL 6, 2024 • 4:30 PM

CRAVEN DEMOCRATIC PARTY HEADQUARTERS  
1232 S. GLENBURNIE ROAD • NEW BERN



# 7th Annual Golf Tournament

**WHEN  
WHERE**

Sunday, May 19, 8:30 a.m. shotgun start  
Carolina National Golf Club, Bolivia  
Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

**ENTRY  
FEE**

\$100 per golfer, includes:  
golf, cart, range balls,  
closest-to-the-pin, longest  
drive, awards lunch with  
beer, and loads of prizes!

Pay via ActBlue:  
[ActBlueEntry](#)



**FORMAT**

Format: Scramble|Captain's Choice  
Awards luncheon MC: Frank Herzog, Voice of  
the (formerly) Washington Redskins!

**50/50  
RAFFLE**

Tickets: \$20 ea.  
1st prize 25%  
2nd prize 15%  
3rd prize 10%

Order via  
ActBlue:  
[ActBlueRaffle](#)



Or, visit [brunswickdem.org](http://brunswickdem.org) to register and pay.

## BRUNSWICK COUNTY DEMOCRATS!



## **HEARTWARMING DUPLIN STORY!**

**In February phone bankers discovered Mr. John Johnson who had moved to the town of Magnolia since the last election. The phone bankers reported that Mr. Johnson wanted to vote but he had no way to get registered because he had no transportation.**

**Several Duplin Democrats were asked about taking Mr. Johnson to the Board of Elections Office in Kenansville which was nine miles away. They declined because they were afraid of liability issues.**

**Then Langston Pollock, Third Vice Chair of the Duplin County Democratic Party, heard about the situation. Langston eagerly volunteered to take Mr. Johnson.**

**When they arrived at the Elections Office, it was discovered that Mr. Johnson did not have a picture ID with him. Langston took him back to Magnolia to get his picture, then back to Kenansville to get registered. Then he took Mr. Johnson back to his Magnolia home for a total of 36 miles.**

**CONGRATULATIONS, LANGSTON POLLOCK!**



## **DEMS CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR!**

**Elegantly dressed Democrats gathered at the Prestonwood Country Club on February 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the Chinese New Year. They welcomed the Year of the Dragon.**

**Morrisville Mayor TJ Cawley is shown above addressing the crowd.**

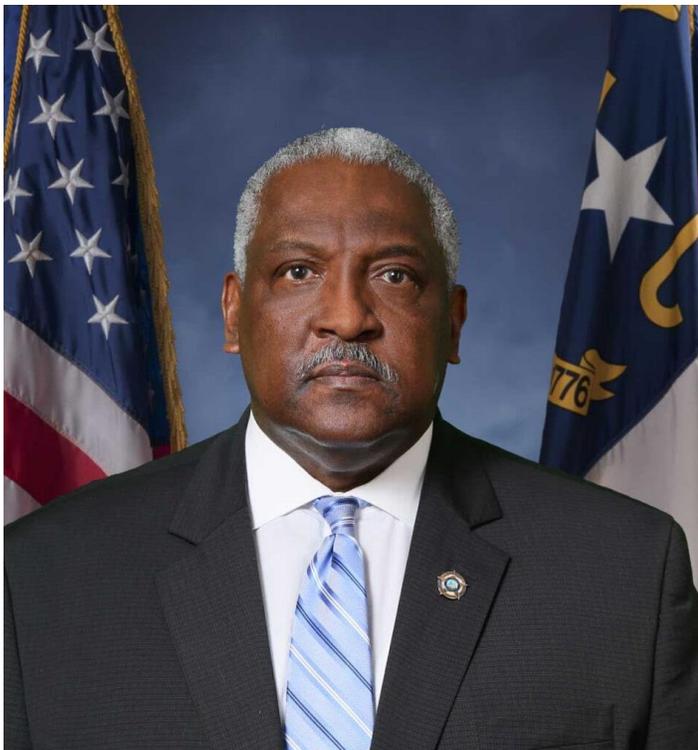


**A young lady joined Rep. Ya Lieu, Durham Mayor Leo Williams, and Mayor Cawley here. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall**



**Happily celebrating the Chinese New Year:  
Morrisville Mayor TJ Cawley with lots of his friends  
at the Prestonwood Country Club in Cary**

\* \* \* \* \*



## **SHERIFF WILLIE ROWE!**

**The Wake County Democratic Forum has selected Wake Sheriff Willie Rowe to be the recipient of their 2024 TRAILBLAZER AWARD. This organization was formerly named the Democratic Men's Club. Sheriff Rowe has been faithful in his attendance and support of this club whether he was – or was not - running for public office.**



## **NASH COUNTY DEMOCRATS!**

**Legislative candidate Lorenza Wilkins, County Chair Cassandra Conover, gubernatorial candidate Josh Stein, and County Commissioner candidate Carnell Taylor were among the stars at the Nash County Convention in Rocky Mount.**



**Justin Davis proudly points to his father, Congressman Don Davis, as they posed with Carnell Taylor.**



**County Commissioner Gwen Wilkins and Precinct Vice Chair Mary Whitaker enjoyed visiting with Josh Stein.**



**Many Democratic leaders joined together for this Nash Convention portrait.**

# **YOUTH FEATURE: JUSTIN MATTHEWS, STATE HOUSE CANDIDATE!**

**JW Matthews is a 24 year-old ardent Democrat who works at a Walmart Distribution Center and is a student at Gardner-Webb University.**

**He is running for the NC House in District 110 which includes Cleveland & Gaston counties.**

**He is also Chair of the Polkville precinct. Justin has elementary proficiency in German and Spanish. He earned two Associate of Science Certificates from Cleveland Community College.**



**On March 16 Justin spoke at both the Gaston County Convention and the Cleveland County Convention. Everyone who looks at the Facebook video from that day will see he is a dynamic and highly effective spokesman!**

**When he was asked about his short and long term goals, Justin replied: “I want to grow Cleveland County Young Democrats and expand the role of Gen Z in Cleveland and Gaston counties.**

**“In the long term I hope to take a role at the state level with a progressive organization or group and continue the good work of Democrats in North Carolina.”**

**“I have given thought to going to grad school in philosophy at UNC. I have political aspirations but I don’t want to be in political activities my whole life. I would love to someday be a college professor.”**



**This picture was taken at the first meeting of the Young Democrats of Cleveland County. From the left on the front row are: Luke Robb, Anna Robb, Brett Jones, and Dylan Emory. From the left on the second row are: Haley Matthews (Justin's wife), Justin, and Jesse Ross.**



**JUSTIN WITH NCDP CHAIR ANDERSON CLAYTON WHO DROVE SIX HOURS FOR THIS MEETING AT GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY.**



**Justin with Secretary Elaine Marshall and Governor Cooper**



**JUSTIN WITH KATIE CHAMPION & RENEE BUMBAUGH  
AT CLEVELAND COUNTY FAIR!**



**Anderson Clayton Introducing Justin to Congressman Maxwell Frost at the State YD Convention.**



**Haley and Justin at their wedding with the Pastor behind them.**



## **JOSH STEIN IN SAMPSON COUNTY!**

**Josh Stein, our Democratic candidate for Governor, has embarked on a multi-county series of rallies to kickoff his General Election campaign. He drew a strong crowd at the Southern Ambience Event Center in Clinton on March 12<sup>th</sup>.**



**Sampson County Party First Vice Chair Ruby Bell and County Chair Ed Gillim were among the many Sampson leaders who welcomed Josh.**



**More Sampson County Democrats!**



**County Commissioner Rev. Thaddeus Godwin and Josh share a laugh.**

# **SPOTLIGHT ON: LENOIR COUNTY CHAIR JIMMY COCHRAN!**



**Our state has many talented County Chairs. One of our most remarkable is Jimmy Cochran of Kinston.**

**He has been Chair of the Lenoir County Democratic Party since 2011! He was also elected to serve as Eastern Vice President for the State Association of County Chairs for four years.**

**Jimmy is supported in all his Democratic activities by his wife, Jauan, who is an ardent Democrat in her own right.**

**Several times he has offered to retire from the County Chair position but Lenoir County Democrats always have responded by saying: “We don’t have anyone who can do the job as well as Jimmy Cochran!”**



## **LENOIR COUNTY CONVENTION!**

**Jimmy Cochran and the Democrats of Lenoir County held a spirited 2024 County Convention on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Congressman Don Davis was the Keynote Speaker. The Convention was held at St. Augustus AME Zion Church in Kinston.**

**From the left in the picture above are: County Commissioner Roland Best, Register of Deeds Treva Jenkins, State House District 12 candidate Lillie Williams, Congressman Don Davis, Chair Jimmy Cochran, Superior Court Judge Imelda Pate, Board of Education Chair Bruce Hill, and Board of Education Member Elijah Woods.**



**Congressman Don Davis with Register of Deeds Treva Jenkins**



**Don Davis with Lillie Williams who is running for State Senate**



## **SARAH O'BRIEN ADDRESSES DUPLIN DEMS!**

**Our NCDP Organizing Director Sarah O'Brien was the Keynote Speaker at the 2024 Duplin County Democratic Convention at James Sprunt Community College in Kenansville on March 16<sup>th</sup>. She presented methods that can be used to get people to follow the new voting laws and how to effectively canvass.**



**Sarah O'Brien with some Duplin leaders: County Commissioner Wayne Branch, County Treasurer Michael Buro, First Vice Chair Maureen Lynch, Second Vice Chair Lauren Branch, and County Commissioner Jesse Dowe.**



## **BLADEN COUNTY CONVENTION!**

**Bladen County Democratic Party Chair Dwight Sheppard writes: “On March 16<sup>th</sup> the Bladen County Democratic Party held their County Convention at the Powell Melvin building in Elizabethtown.**

**“Our Keynote Speaker was the Honorable Carolyn Thompson who is a North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge. Judge Thompson’s message was very encouraging and uplifting. She focused on the need to unify the Democratic Party to fight against the hate and extremism that threatens to destroy our democracy, and explained the important role the judiciary fills in our counties, state and nation to uphold our Constitution.”**



**Bladen County Chair Sheppard wrote: “During the convention we were all excited to see our honored guests Dr. Delilah B. Blanks, Elder Berline P. Graham and Eddie Nye.**

**“ Dr. Blanks and Mrs. Graham were honored for their lives of service in Bladen county including multiple terms of office on local elected boards.**

**“Mr. Nye accepted an award of behalf of his father who served in the legislature for 30 years.**

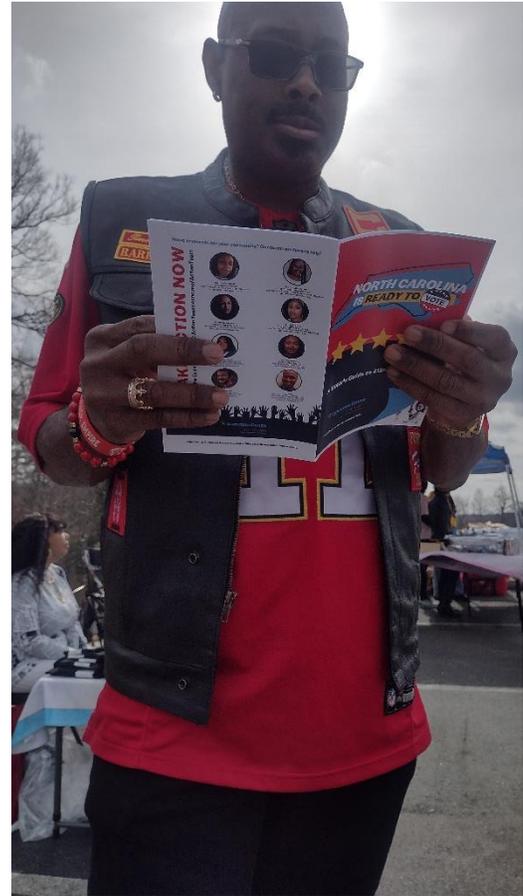
**Althea Weaver reading the award for Dr. Delilah Blanks. Dr. Blanks’ daughter, Rhonda Hall, is with her.**

**Althea Weaver reading the award to Mrs. Graham. Many 7<sup>th</sup> District Conventions have been held in the Berline P. Graham Multipurpose Building at East Arcadia Elementary School which was named after her.**



**Former County Commissioner Greg Taylor gave a moving tribute highlighting Ed Nye’s many accomplishments and activities.**



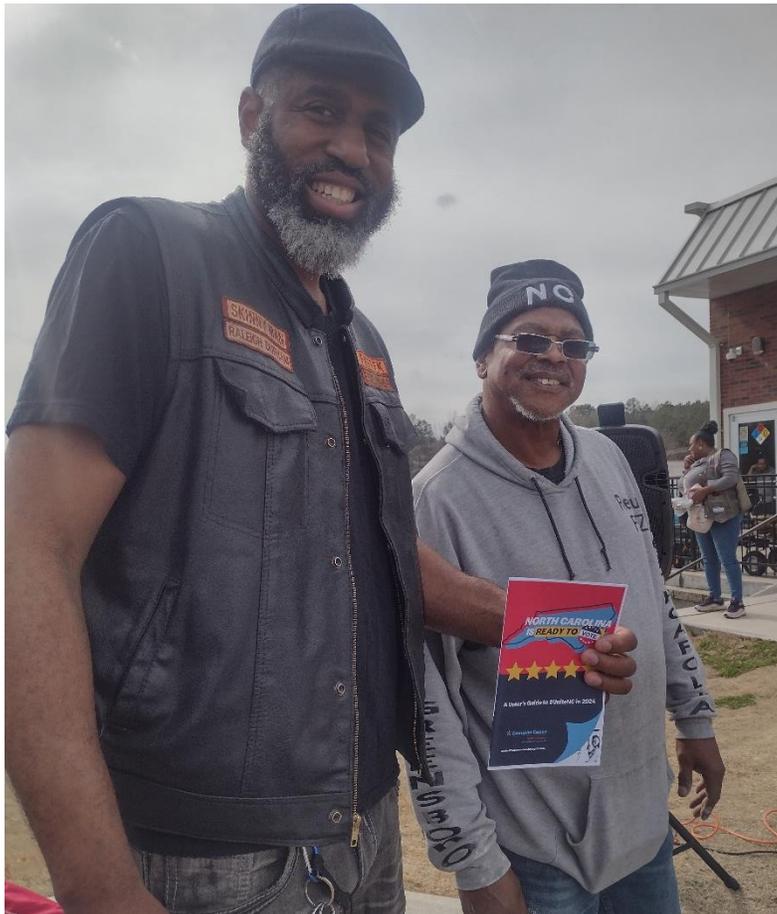


## **GUILFORD COUNTY GOTV TEAM!**

**That dynamic Democrat Mitzi Turner says: “The Guilford County Democratic Party Voter Registration Team was invited to attend the Classy Ladies 4 Sure Social Club’s Appreciation for Our Over The Road Truckers event on February 15<sup>th</sup>. We were already past the voter registration deadline, but we did supply vital “ready to vote” materials.**

**“Both truckers and bikers were present with good challenging questions. We were able to help them get ready to vote. It’s what we do.**

**(Continued On the Next Page)**



**Mitzi Turner continued by saying:**

**“Voter education aka empowerment is as important, if not more so, than voter registration.**

**“On our table we had the Early Voting sites, the Board of Elections voting schedule, voter search tool website, Voter ID pocket card, sample composite ballot, Vote411.org flyer from the League of Women voters, and NC is Ready to Vote booklet.**

**“Vendors, truckers, bikers and the general public greatly benefited from our presence.**

**Truckers and bikers votes matter!”**



## **GUILFORD DEMS CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY!**

**The High Point Peacemakers invited the Guilford County Dems to participate in a Black History Month Celebration in High Point on February 24<sup>th</sup>. The Peacemakers are a community group dedicated to bringing peace and unity to neighborhoods. They also support voter registration and education.**

**On this occasion the Guilford Democratic Party's SERVICE TO OTHERS TEAM and its VOTER REGISTRATION TEAM combined to help serve up good food and knowledge. They provided early voting sites, composite ballots, and voter search tool flyers. They had a busy table!**

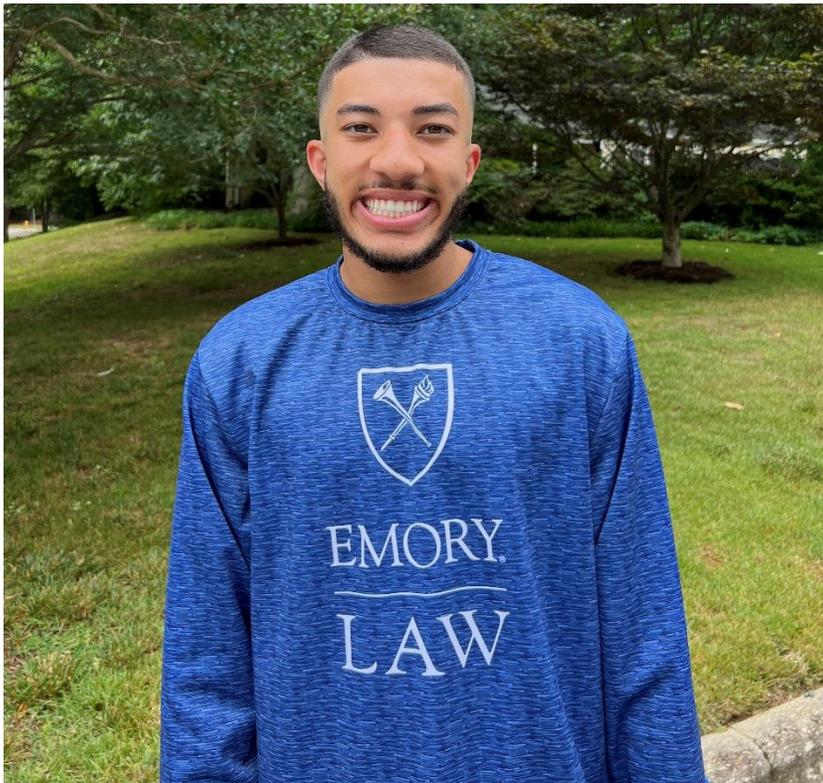
**Team leader Mitzi Turner is shown in the picture above.**





**Guilford Dems provided different soups for all to enjoy. Live music was offered by a local church. They had spoken words, poems by Mia Angelou, and black history moments. Guilford Dems are looking forward to being with this organization again next year.**





## **YOUTH FEATURE: GREEAR WEBB IN ATLANTA!**

**This publication has been reporting on the dramatic life of Raleigh Democrat Greear Webb since he was in the tenth grade. The reports have featured success after success!**

**The last report told of his graduation from UNC-Chapel Hill as a Phi Beta Kappa and Morehead-Cain Scholar in May of 2023. While there he earned two bachelor's degrees – (1) Political Science and (2) African, African American, and Diaspora Studies.**

**On August 24, 2023 Greear began his law school journey as a Robert W. Woodruff Fellow at Emory University School of Law in Atlanta. Mr. Woodruff was President of *The Coca-Cola Company* from 1923 until 1985. Above Greear is wearing an Emory Law School shirt.**

### **MLK DAY IN ATLANTA**

**On January 15<sup>th</sup> Greear attended the 2024 MLK Day Commemorative Service at historic Ebenezer Baptist Church along with Senator Raphael Warnock, Liz Chaney, the President of the National Council of Negro Women and famous actor Ben Stiller (right) whom Greear met after service.**





**On February 18<sup>th</sup> Greear returned to Chapel Hill as the Keynote Speaker for St. Paul AME Church's Annual Black History Month Celebration Service. At the invitation of Rev. Dr. Michael A. Cousin, Sr., Greear spoke to the gathered congregation about the intersection of social justice and faith. His subject was "I've Waited My Turn."**

**National Black Law Students Southern Region Convention in Raleigh  
In February 21-25 Greer participated in this competition in Raleigh. He was a Quarterfinalist in the Thurgood Marshall Moot Court Competition. In the picture on the right Greear is with Emory's contestants in the Moot Court and Mock Trial teams.**



**The Moot Court team advanced to the quarterfinals and the Mock Trial Team advanced to the 2024 National Black Law Students Annual Convention Mock Trial competition to be held in Houston.**

**With his deep faith and his positive spirit, Greear is certain to have many more successful chapters in his life!**



## **MITCHELL COUNTY DEMOCRATS!**



**The Democrats of Mitchell County held their 2024 County Convention in Spruce Pine on March 16<sup>th</sup> with County Chair Eddie Gouge presiding.**

**They elected Delegates to the Fifth District Convention and passed a resolution which was entitled “Resolution on Diabetes Education of Mitchell County Law Enforcement Officers.”**

**After their business session they enjoyed St. Patrick’s Day refreshments and participated in happy Democratic fellowship.**



## **EVELYN DAVIDSON FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 116!**

**Voters in Madison and Haywood counties are cheering the news that Evelyn Davidson will be the Democratic candidate for State Representative in District 118.**

**Evelyn is a 19-year resident of Marshall, NC in Madison County. She is active in the community with several charitable groups.**

**Evelyn loves the role of serving others. That is what led to her career in healthcare for the past 38 years. It is this passion for serving others that has led her to seek this seat in the General Assembly.**

**Evelyn is seeking out the needs of District 118's constituents and will ensure their concerns are heard.**

**In the legislature she plans to focus on: School safety, education, gun safety, helping domestic violence victims, mental health issues, safe communities, equal rights, the environment, and healthcare.**

**Her website is: [Livs2serveNC.wixsite.com/Evelyn-Davidson-fo-1](https://Livs2serveNC.wixsite.com/Evelyn-Davidson-fo-1)**



## **105 DEMS ATTEND POLK CONVENTION!**

**March Gladness: 105 Democrats attended the March 16<sup>th</sup> County Convention at Sunnyvale Event Center in Tryon. This is the largest crowd the county has had in many years. In the picture above 14<sup>th</sup> District Democratic Congressional candidate Pam Genant is addressing the cheerful crowd.**

**All three of the Democratic candidates for County Commissioner spoke.**



**County Commissioner candidates Ray Gasperson and Karen Pack**



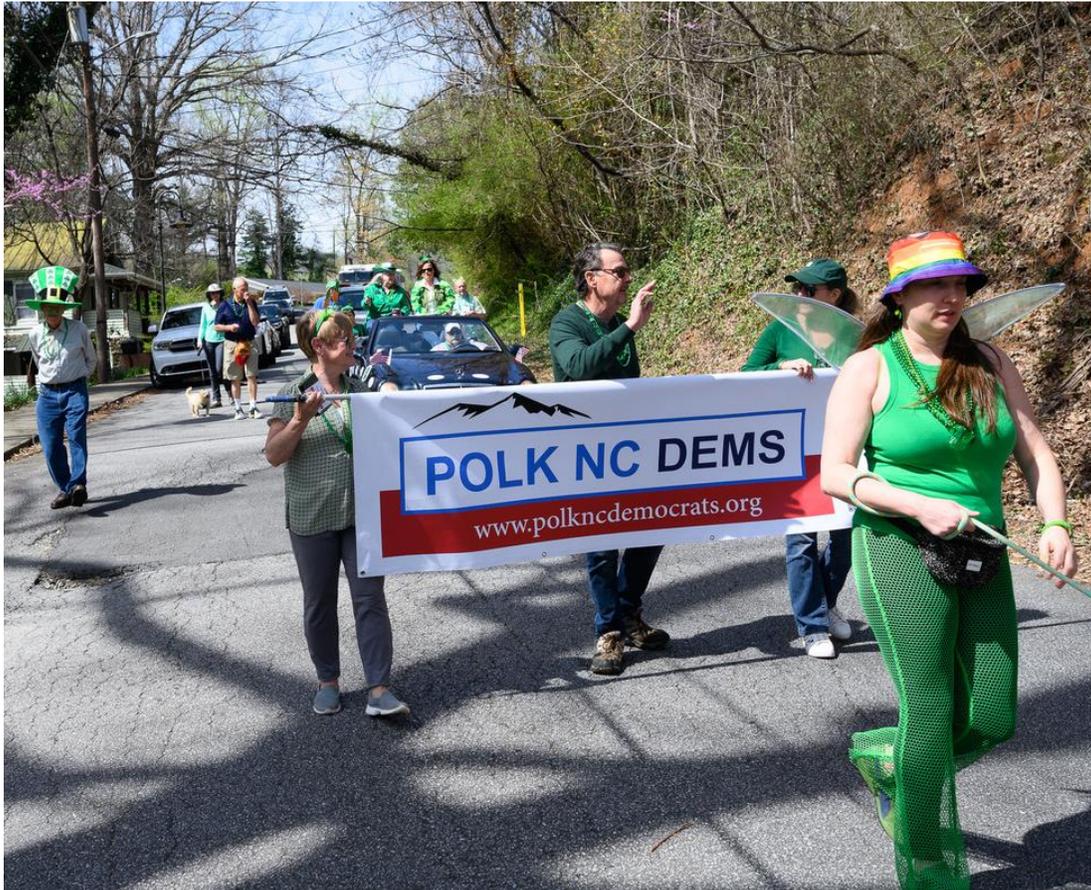
**County Commissioner candidate  
Libby Morris**



**Board of Education candidate  
Rob Parsons**



**This was the SIXTH County Convention at which Congressional District candidate Pam Genant spoke on March 16<sup>th</sup>! Her website is: [www.pamgenant.com](http://www.pamgenant.com)**



## **POLK DEMOCRATS MARCH IN ST. PATRICKS DAY PARADE!**

**On the day after the County Convention, Polk County Democrats starred in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in the county seat of Tryon. In addition to the marchers, the County Commissioner candidates and the Democratic Dogs were in the parade.**





**These three County Commissioner candidates, Ray Gasperson, Libby Morris, and Karen Pack are campaigning vigorously to achieve a Democratic majority on the Board of Commissioners.**

**Foretelling the election,  
the Polk Democrats marched  
ahead of Mark Robinson  
and the Republicans!**



## **JOSH STEIN IN ALAMANCE COUNTY!**

**Josh Stein enjoys meeting and mixing with North Carolinians! Soon after the primary campaign ended, he took off on a trip to reach as many people as possible. One of his first stops was at the Alamance County Democratic Party Headquarters in Burlington.**

**A large crowd turned out to greet him and listen to his campaign proposals. Alamance County Party Chair Ron Osborne provided these pictures.**



**Here is some more GOOD NEWS:**

**This happy publication**

**has been bringing**

**GOOD NEWS**

**to North Carolina Democrats**

**for 13 years!**

**Congratulations to everyone**

**who has helped make**

**this newsletter**

**a cheerful success!**

**Your Democratic Friend,**

**Melvin Williams, State Secretary**

**North Carolina Democratic Party**

**910-590-4542**