

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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News and Updates from the Cville Dems (5/23/2024)

3 easy ways you can support Cville Dems today:

- Forward this to friends who aren't politically engaged but might want to know what the Cville Dems do and stand for.
- Follow us on Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram, and Mastodon, and like some of our posts!
- [Make a contribution and attend our Summer Bash - see below](#)

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Note: if Gmail isn't displaying all of this newsletter, look near bottom of the

email for a link reading “[Message clipped] View entire message”. Or... read the complete issue on our website once we upload it (usually within an hour of sending this mail).

Upcoming Events!

- 6/5**—Piedmont Group (Sierra Club) Environmental Forum, 6-8pm, with the VA05 candidates at the Nelson Center, 8445 Thomas Nelson Highway
- 6/7**—[Cville Dems Summer Bash](#), 6pm, Jefferson School on the lawn, next day if raining (see below)
- 6/9**—Democracy on Tap at Kardinal Hall, 3:30pm, Latino Community with Avery Chenoweth (see below)
- 6/15**—Juneteenth Celebration (see below)
- 6/18**—Senate & Congressional Primary – early voting is open now!
- 6/22**—Democratic Party of Virginia Convention in Richmond
- 6/24**—Full Committee Meeting, 6:30pm (see below)
- 6/22**—Democratic Party of Virginia Convention in Richmond
- 6/22**—[Blue Commonwealth Gala](#), Richmond, 7pm (Sen. Warnock speaks)
- 6/24**—Full Committee Meeting, 6:30pm, Forest Hills Park, see below
-



Cville Dems Summer Bash is nearly here – Silent Auction, live music, and more!

Our third annual Summer Bash will be Friday, June 7, 6-8pm, on the lawn of the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center at 233 4th Street NW, Charlottesville, VA 22903-4593, (with a rain date of Saturday, June 8, 6:30-8:30pm, inside the Carver Recreation Center (same building as the Jefferson School).

Sponsorships and tickets are still available. Our goal is to raise \$20,000 and we still need \$4,000 more to reach that goal.

Full info is at <https://cvilledems.org/event/2024-cville-dems-summer-bash-june-7-6-8pm/>

Brought back by popular demand, there will be some live music, one or more guest speakers (will be announced when finalized), and a silent auction. Silent auction items include a scone-making workshop with Minhee and Josh Throneburg, computer help with Kendall Dawes, genealogical help from Mike Cameron, movie nights at the home of Fred and Nancy Damon, plus more to come. Many of the auction items will be sign-ups, so a number of people can enjoy each fun event.

The Soul Food Joint will provide a chicken dinner option and Pearl Island Catering will provide a vegetarian option; we'll send out an email to confirm which option you're choosing. We'll need help with set-up; putting tablecloths on already set-up tables, checking in attendees, and hyping to drum up enthusiasm for the silent auction items and events. Please email Nancy Damon at nancycdamon@gmail.com if you can help.

Details, including food options and ticket and sponsorship cost levels and access, are at the link above.

Please support and attend this community-building event. We can have a lot of fun while we do vital work to elect candidates who will work positively towards the future of our democracy. Consider a sponsorship, buying tickets for friends and family, or coming solo and meet like-minded Dems. You may even get inspired to join one of our volunteer teams!

To help with planning purposes, please purchase your tickets and sponsorships as soon as possible! Full details, including food options and ticket and sponsorship cost levels and access, are [here](#).

Focus on Fifth District Candidates: Gloria Witt

(Our newsletters have been featuring the Fifth District Congressional candidates in random order, picked from a hat. The wording is taken directly from their campaign websites.)

Gloria's Priorities (edited for length, some sections continue online):

Uphold Democracy

- Ensure our individual freedoms are protected against all forms of discrimination. It is not the government's business who we love or how we worship.
- Expand access to voting.



Strengthen Families

- Restore reproductive rights - trust women to make decisions about their bodies.
- Expand access to basic quality healthcare.
- Advance affordable childcare – every child should have access to quality day care to establish the foundation for lifelong

learning.

Rethink Education

- Re-invent k-12 public school education and replace “No Child Left Behind” policies.
- Support teachers – licensure, pay, and development.
- Strengthen pathways to workforce skill development, i.e., Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs.

Spur Smart Economic Growth

- Address economic inequality with workforce skill training and living wage job creation.
- Support climate friendly economic growth, i.e., carbon-free energy solutions.

Address Gun Violence

- Close background check loopholes at gun shows, private sales, online sales, and pawn shops.
- Mandated waiting periods before every gun purchase.
- Ban assault weapons.

Website: <https://www.gloriawittforcongress.com/>

Know Your Candidates and Vote!

Get to know the three Fifth District US Congressional Democratic candidates for the June 18 Primary Election.

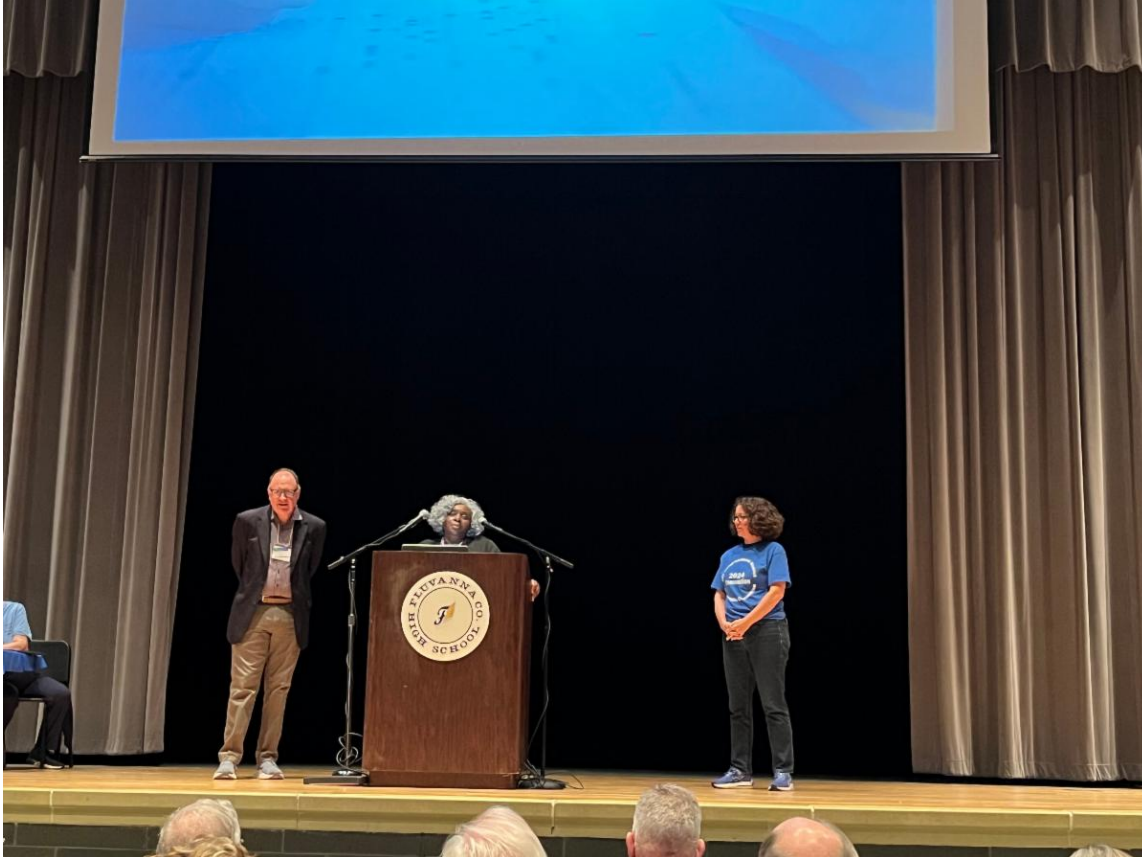
Our VA-05 House of Representatives candidates in alphabetical order are:

Paul Riley: <https://paulrileycongress.com/>
Gary Terry: <https://garyterryforcongress.com/>
Gloria Witt: <https://www.gloriawittforcongress.com/>

The Senate candidate is our incumbent Senator **Tim Kaine**. Go, Tim!

And of course, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are running hard against Trump for the White House and American democracy -- not demagoguery -- for all.

Everybody vote! Early voting is open through June 15.



Fifth District Delegates and a Virginia Elector Chosen

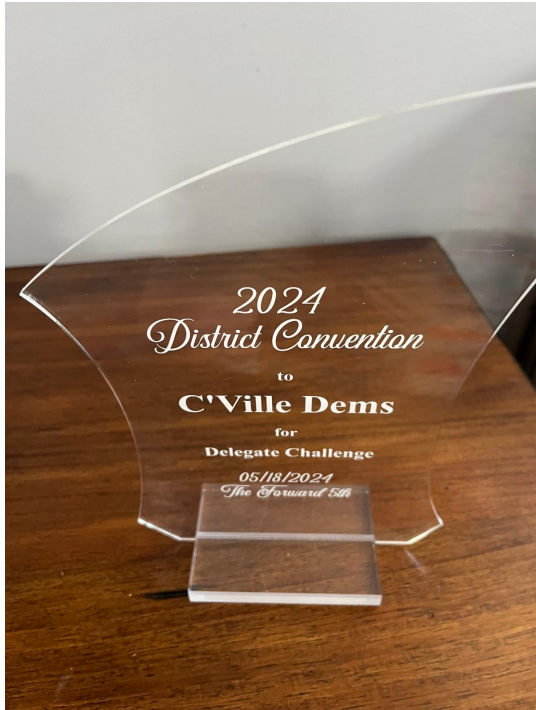
It was a rainy day when delegates convened at Fluvanna High School May 18 to elect delegates, but the auditorium was full of warmth and humor as the various counties and cities in the Fifth District introduced their delegations. "The great and honorable county of X known for its Y is here in full," rang out repeatedly. Then delegates and alternates got down to the business of voting for five District-Level Delegates to the National Convention in Chicago, as well as a District-level Presidential Elector.

The candidates who ran together as a slate for the National Convention Delegate seats won, including our co-chair, Josh Throneburg. The others are Bernard Baker of Danville, Dr. Cameron Webb of Albemarle County, Patricia Harper-Tunley of Lunenburg County, and Tina Winkler of Goochland County.

One elector was chosen: Gary Schatz from Louisa County.

At the State Convention on June 22 in Richmond, Delegates from all the counties and cities in the Commonwealth will elect Virginia's state-wide representatives to the National Convention in Chicago (At-Large Delegates and Alternates to the National Convention, along with Pledged Party Leaders and Elected Officials), two At-Large Presidential Electors, and Virginia's members of the Democratic National Committee for the next four years. Many thanks to our fellow Charlottesville Democrats representing us as our delegates at both the Fifth District Convention and the State Convention!

Additionally, Cville Dems won an award (pictured below) for doing the hard work of filling out its delegation and alternates (with Creigh Deeds sitting in for us at the last minute that day due to cancellations).

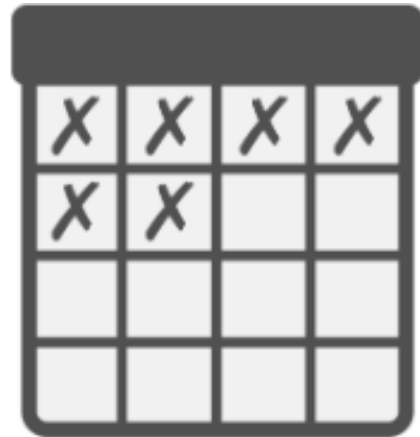


2024 Election Calendar

Mark your calendar and vote for a healthy US Democracy!!

2024 Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) Calendar of Events

- Early Voting for US Senate and Congressional Primary — May 6- June 15
- U.S. Senate and Congressional Primary – **June 18**
- DPVA Convention – **June 22, 10am in Richmond**
- Democratic Party National Convention – **Aug.19-23, in Chicago**
- General Election – **Nov. 5**



Will You Be One of Our Student Interns This Summer and/or Fall? Or Do You Know A Student Who Would Be Good?

We're seeking college and/or high school students who can help us work on the Presidential, Senate, and Congressional campaigns this summer and fall. We're able to offer a small stipend. The students will be doing social media, working to get out younger voters, canvassing,

texting, phone-banking — all the many things that campaigns do to get out the vote.

If you might be interested in one of these positions, or know people who might be, please have them contact Josh Throneburg (joshuathroneburg@gmail.com) or Nancy Damon (nancycdamon@gmail.com).



June "Democracy on Tap" — Charlottesville's Latino Community with Avery Chenoweth

On Sunday, June 9, 3:30pm, our monthly "Democracy on Tap" event will feature author/filmmaker/entrepreneur Avery Chenoweth, who will talk about the Latino community in Charlottesville. He was executive producer for the new bilingual Charlottesville documentary, "Sometime, Somewhere/Algún día, en algún lugar," by local (Argentinian-native) director Richard Preve. Avery is also a Spanish interpreter for Habitat for Humanity International and a volunteer at Sin Barreras.

Videos: Fifth District Candidates Speak and Answer at May "Democracy on Tap"



Chuck Moran recorded and shared with us the Cville Dems/Albemarle Dems co-sponsored May 5 "Democracy on Tap" Candidates Forum that featured all three 5th District primary candidates looking to take on Bob Good in November:

- [Gloria Tinsley Witt recording](#)
- [Paul Riley recording](#)
- [Gary Terry recording](#)
- [Q&A with all candidates](#)

Hear where each candidate stands on key issues and how they answered hard questions from the large audience at Kardinal Hall!

Dems Meetings are Fun! Next is June 24, 6:30 pm

It's a fired-up Election Year, and we can use your help, energy, and ideas. Join us at the next meeting. Location will



be at the shelter at Forest Hills Park, outdoors.

A representative of the Latino/Hispanic advocacy group *Sin Barreras* (Without Barriers) will discuss local concerns at the meeting. *Sin Barreras*' mission is to empower immigrants and their families in Central Virginia, by educating, advocating and supporting their needs. It also sponsors the big Cville Sabroso cultural festival (music, dance, food, artisan crafts) which will be Sept. 21 this year; over 4500 people attended last year! Visit the [Sin Barreras website](#) for more information. And as a **special summer bonus**, we'll have a limited supply of delicious Mexican popsicles from La Flor Michoacana!!

At the last meeting, Cville Dems spent time coming up with fresh ideas and ways forward to help our group be its most productive in an election year and an ally to the entire Cville community. We welcome your ideas, so bring them to the meeting if you like.



Volunteer Efforts to Win in November are Gearing Up!

As soon as we know who the Democratic 5th District candidate will be, Get Out the Vote Thursdays will resume on Thursday, June 27 at IX Park. We'll then meet every Thursday to canvass, phone bank, text bank (new for us), and/or write

postcards. We'll be reaching out to specific potential voters we identify in the City of Cville and the 5th District, and also coordinating with the campaigns to help them reach their targeted individuals. Together we can reach out to thousands of registered voters and turn them into actual Democratic votes this November!

We hope you'll join us!

In the meantime, if your fingers are itching to start writing postcards, there are two groups (unaffiliated with the Cville Dems) with earlier meetup times:

- Mondays from 10-12 at the Dunlora Club House; for more information, contact Mary Farrell at 703-655-3867 or wmekmf118@gmail.com.
- Donna Shaunesey has organized a Postcards and Pastry meeting Friday May 24, 1-3pm; for details contact shaunesey@hotmail.com.

Voter registration efforts are already going strong. If you'd like to participate, please contact Suzanne (suzemichels@gmail.com) if you know of a local event or location ripe for our voter registration and/or rights restoration efforts or if you'd like to join the voter registration team!



Josh Goes to the White House to Discuss Rural America!

Six weeks ago I received an unexpected invitation to the White House for a 'Rural Communities in Action' event. The Biden Administration wanted to feature its historic investments in rural communities across the country as well as hear from people on the ground about the work they are doing.

After clearing two separate



security stations, I made it 'on Campus', and headed to the event.

About 100 people were invited to attend from all across the U.S. The gentleman in front of me was a county manager in rural Nevada, a young woman from Puerto Rico who was going to college on an Agricultural Scholarship was in the front row, there was a mayor from a small town in Wisconsin, and many more.

The primary speakers at the event were Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack; Michigan Senator Debbie

Stabenow, who is heading up the new Farm Bill; and Secretary of Transportation, Pete Buttigieg.

Secretary Buttigieg talked at length about investments in rural America, especially infrastructure investments that benefit rural communities. Biden's Infrastructure Bill provides for clean water, high-speed internet, new roads and bridges and much, much more. Secretary Buttigieg also noted how his office is working to remove the red tape that can make it difficult and tedious for rural entities to apply for government sponsored loans and grants.

Senator Stabenow focused her remarks on the Farm Bill. This is the third time she has led the charge to pass a farm bill and she talked both about the exciting investments that they are working on for this bill, but also about the incredible frustrations at how dysfunctional Washington is right now. She said that working on this bill has been much, much harder than before.

Finally, Secretary Vilsack masterfully painted the picture of rural decline over the last 50 years. He talked about how we have lost over 500,000 farming families in that time; how there are counties across the country that have been in persistent poverty (20%+ poverty for at least 30 years or more) and how a high majority of those counties are rural. But he not only described the problem, he inspired with the work of the Biden Administration to turn the tide. He noted how in recent years rural populations are finally beginning to grow again and how, during Biden's first term, over 50 counties have been taken off the persistent poverty list. He described, in detail, the work that was being done to revive rural communities, and it was exhilarating.

I walked out of the White house that afternoon with lots of thoughts but one major takeaway — we have to give this Administration four more years to expand on the amazing work it is doing. I know a lot of rural residents are Republicans, and that Republicans claim to care about rural voters... but talk is cheap. It is Democratic policies around climate, infrastructure, jobs, agriculture, and much more that actually benefit rural communities. Let's keep doing the work, and maybe do a bit better job of bragging about it along the way, so that rural voters can see the difference electing Democrats makes!

Office Space Update

Because we weren't able to raise enough funds for an affordable local office, we'll be sharing space with the joint Kaine-Biden office soon. Stay tuned for more on this development. We'll be putting our funds toward student (college and high school) interns instead, see above!



The poster features a central image of a person with arms raised, overlaid with the word 'JUNETEENTH' in large white letters. The background is dark red. The text is arranged in two columns separated by a vertical green and yellow bar.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

JUNETEENTH

15 JUNE 2024
9AM - 3PM
JSAAHC FRONT YARD

ELLIS WILLIAMS BAND
EZRA HAMILTON
JAMES BRYANT
DJ DOUBLE U

9AM PARADE BEGINS @
JACKSON P. BURLEY

11AM WELCOME, LIBATION,
NEGRO NATIONAL ANTHEM

1130AM - 3PM
EMANCIPATION CONCERT

Dues are Due!

Treasurer Jason Vandever reminds us that 2024 dues are due and can be paid via Act Blue or by mailing a check payable to Cville Dems, PO Box 916, Charlottesville, VA 22902. If you are already set up in Act Blue for a monthly donation, that recurring donation covers you, and you don't need to do anything.



Partner Organizations

Our friends the [UVA Dems](#), [Albemarle Dems](#), [Greene County Dems](#), [Nelson County Dems](#), and (the relatively new!) [Charlottesville Area Young Democrats](#) are doing good things too, check them out!

Charlottesville Democratic Party ("Cville Dems")

<https://cvilledems.org>

PO Box 916, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Contact us: cvilledemschair@gmail.com

Add me to the [mailing list](#)

Thank you for your support!

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