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Thank You, Election Campaign Volunteers! A Party for You on Jan. 25

With gratitude, Cville Dems are holding a Volunteer Party on Saturday, Jan. 25, 1-3pm at Carver Recreation Center. There will be lots of time for socializing, a lot of good food (think lunch), some fun games, and a chance to sign petitions to get our candidates, local and statewide, onto the ballot!

Everyone who volunteered during the last election campaign is welcome!

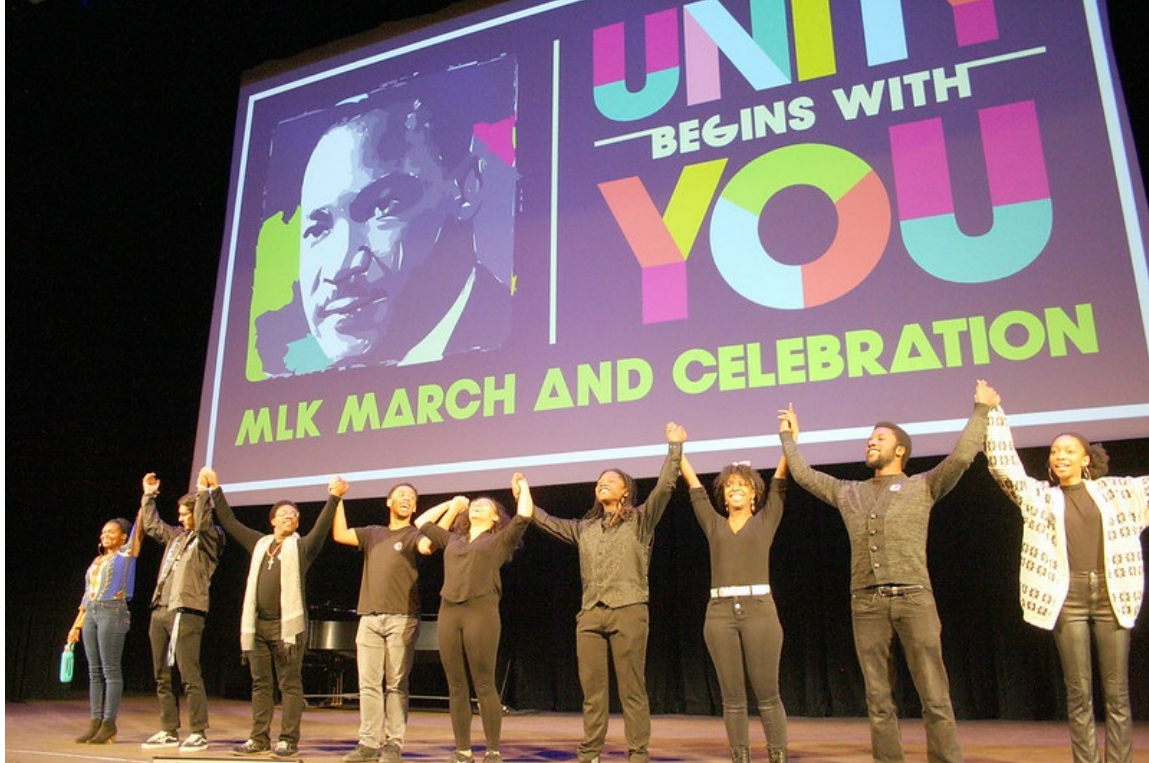


Dems Keep VA Senate Control with Special Election Wins

Democrats preserved our majorities in both the VA Senate (thanks to January special election wins) and the House of Delegates, although Gov. Youngkin still presides as a Republican governor. The gubernatorial race will be held later this year, much more on that later!

Three special elections were held on Jan. 7, and Democrats won the two Virginia Senate races. In Loudon County, Democrat Kannan Srinivasan defeated Republican Tumay Harding in the race to succeed Suhas Subramanyam, a Democrat elected to the U.S. House in November, the Associated Press noted. Likewise "in an overlapping House of Delegates district, Democrat JJ Singh bested Republican Ram Venkatachalam in an election to replace Srinivasan, who vacated his House of Delegates seat after becoming a nominee for the special Senate election."

Unfortunately Democrat Jack Trammell lost to Republican Luther Cifers in the VA-10 race to fill the Senate seat vacated by John McGuire (who defeated Bob Good in November for our VA-05 House of Representatives seat).



January Community Events Honoring Martin Luther King Jr. This Month

Alex-Zan's Dr. M.L. King Community Celebration "Continuing His Dream & Works"

Monday, Jan. 20, 1-3pm, Carver Recreation Center

The 12th Annual celebration is coordinated by author, award winner and education trailblazer Mr. Alex-Zan (aka Charles Alexander). Highlights will include the presentation of the 10th Annual Alicia B. Lugo Award – Apostle Sarah Kelly; Guest Speaker – Brother Eddie Howard of Abundant Life Ministries. Vocalists Jamori Harris and Precious A. Bland, and Spoken Word/Psalmist Nikya Green will present. Alex-Zan's Lifesavers will be there: Janet Martin, George Rivera, Tristan Kabesa, Martize Tolbert, and others. Mistress of Ceremonies will be Amaya Mitchell of NBC- 29.

Race, Gender, and the 2024 Electorate

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 11:00am-12:15pm, The Miller Center (also online)

In this post-election analysis, panelists will discuss the complex interplay of race, gender, and age demographics as they affected the election outcome. Participants will also consider obstacles to achieving a level playing field for everyone's voting rights. Speakers: Andra Gillespie, Bertrall Ross, Kevin K. Gaines (moderator). For more info and registration click [here](#).

MLK Jr. Day Community Celebration

Sunday, Jan. 26, 5pm, Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church

All are welcome to attend the 40th Anniversary of the MLK Jr. Day Community Celebration! Former Richmond Mayor (2016-2024) Levar Stoney will be the keynote speaker and highlight the theme "Legacy:

Honoring the Past and Trailblazing the Future!" This celebration will reflect on past MLK Charlottesville Community Award recipients as well as highlight young community trailblazers. Enjoy the rousing singing of the community choir, as well as the addition of a new children's choir. The gathering will begin at 4pm with a "prelude" of musical offerings from community members, followed by the main program at 5pm. [Download and share this flyer](#) if you'd like to help promote this event.

2025 Community MLK Celebration Keynote Address

Thursday, Jan. 30, 6pm, Paramount Theater

Michele Norris, award-winning journalist, *New York Times* bestselling author, and one of the most recognized voices in radio, will deliver the 2025 Community MLK Celebration keynote address, followed by an on-stage discussion with Melody Barnes, Executive Director of UVA's Karsh Institute of Democracy. The event is presented by the UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, in partnership with UVA's School of Data Science and Karsh Institute of Democracy. Michele Norris will engage the audience in candid discussion about current events, social issues, and bridging the divide in America.

This event is free and open to the public. More info and tickets are available via the [Paramount Theater website](#).



Indivisible Charlottesville is Forming Working Groups

Around Thanksgiving time, progressive groups all over the country held reorganization/revitalization "Worth Fighting For" meetings to start preparing for Trump's return to power. In Charlottesville, the meeting organized by Indivisible Charlottesville drew 150 attendees (!),

including a good number of local Dems. [Here's](#) the list of organizations, including ours, that were flagged as important to support.

Five issue action workgroups are now organizing and starting to meet in late January/February:

- Abortion Access/Reproductive Rights Protection
- Building Alternatives (organizing locally to transform power--climate, housing, gun safety, etc.)
- Climate Change/Protecting the Environment
- Defending Civic Institutions (safeguarding democratic institutions--elections, gov. agencies, etc.)
- LGBTQ+ Rights/Protection

You can get on the mailing list of one or more of these groups here:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEKRjgEJPm32nEm53Yx57BrnzxfnLq1MbeatOvtOQERJcTmw/viewform>

Every little bit of organizing we do makes a difference... momentum builds on momentum... by getting out there and taking action to help your community, you'll see how much power is actually in your hands!

Community Event

Beloved Community Cville "We Won't Go Back" Social Justice Workshop



On Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 7:00-8:30pm, Beloved Community Cville is hosting a free, 90-minute Zoom workshop to connect and support the community as we mobilize for collective action for social justice. The workshop is *not* issue specific and is appropriate for all those carrying concern about our community's future.

The goals of the workshop include:

1. Preparing ourselves emotionally for the new political landscape.
2. Girding ourselves and our people for the long fights ahead by seeing that we are part of a large resistance community.
3. Orienting towards next steps.

The workshop format was designed by Daniel Hunter, who wrote "[10 ways to be prepared and grounded now that Trump has won.](#)"

Click [here](#) to RSVP. Presented by Michael Cheuk, Assistant Director of Beloved Community Cville.

Reminders of Upcoming Events

- **1/20** - Alex-Zan's Dr. M.L. King Community Celebration "Continuing His Dream & Works," 1-3pm, Carver Rec Center (see above)
 - **1/21** - "Race, Gender, and the 2024 Electorate," 11:00am-12:15pm, The Miller Center and online (see above)
 - **1/22** - Beloved Community Cville "We Won't Go Back" social justice workshop, online 7:00-8:30pm (see above)
 - **1/25** - Election Campaign Volunteers Thank You Party, 1-3pm, Carver Rec Center (see above)
 - **1/26** - MLK Jr. Day Community Celebration, 5pm, Mt. Zion First African Baptist Church (see above)
 - **1/27** - CANCELLED regular 4th Monday monthly meeting
 - **1/30** - Michele Norris keynote at MLK Jr. Community Celebration, 6pm, Paramount Theater (see above)
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Partner Organizations

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

Charlottesville Democratic Party ("Cville Dems")

<https://cvilledems.org>

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Add me to the [mailing list](#)

Thank you for your support!

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