

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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Website

Looking Ahead:

2/19: "Political Fun" meeting (see below)

2/29: CAUCUS CANCELED (see below)

2/27: UDems: 4pm History of African Americans at UVA Tour

2/28: Cville Dems Monthly Meeting (see below)

2/28-3/6: Jefferson School Liberation and Freedom Day (see below)



Feb. 28th 6:30pm Executive Committee Monthly Meeting

Everyone is welcome, all precinct co-chairs are expected to attend! Joshua Throneberg and Andy Parker, candidates for the 5th District seat, will be introducing themselves at 6:30, followed by discussion of the draft "strategic plan", community engagement, recruitment, and other business. Executive Committee meets the 4th Monday of every month.

2022 Cville Dems Priorities

Co-chairs Dashad Cooper and John McLaren have identified their Year One priorities:

1. Expand our membership and connections with area voters

We'll continue and expand on initiatives introduced under Sharon and Bekah's leadership:

- **Creative voter registration drives** (including mailing postcards to newly-registered voters).
- **Expanding community engagement** with local nonprofits. Our four collection drives last year, most recently for Piedmont Housing Alliance, could be a model for further projects like a Rivanna River cleanup, organized assistance to local nonprofits like The Haven and local food banks, etc. All of these can be well-publicized events that send the message that Cville Dems are an integral part of the community, not strangers who only ask for votes at election time.
- **Increased cooperation** with the UVA Dems and Albemarle Dems, perhaps also exploring with Rural GroundGame ways our labor- and human-capital-rich urban party could help build the party in outlying areas.

2. Get our fundraising back on track

- **We need to raise modest sums** to fund our modest expenses (e.g. contribute to local candidate campaigns, pay a handful of summer interns, honorary scholarships to two worthy CHS students). We probably won't see another pasta supper for a while (thanks Covid!), so we need creative ideas for another EVENT or other ways to fund our modest activities (e.g. someone suggested encouraging people to make small monthly donations rather than just annual ones).

Updates from The Charlottesville Democratic Committee



Liberation and Freedom Day Community Initiative

The Jefferson School African American Heritage Center is celebrating [Liberation and Freedom Day](#) with several events. One, a "Reparations Fun Run/Walk", will raise money for six community organizations; Cville Dems enthusiastically supports this and will act as a [Fundraiser](#) (details to follow).

**Why must we all
come together to
mobilize voters?
Because of the
unbelievably
extreme Republican
s**t we're dealing**

with!



Open Positions

We still have important [appointed positions](#) and [committee positions](#) that need your talents; they're great ways to get involved and contribute to turn Virginia blue again:

- **Campaign Liaison** — a fun and interesting role; you get to be on the front lines of multiple campaigns, learning who's running and what they stand for.
- **Albemarle County Dems Liaison** — attend the monthly Albemarle Dems meeting to keep them posted about our activities and also report back to us about their activities.
- **Breakfast/Events Chair** — work with the co-chairs to plan and schedule monthly programs.
- **Voter Registration Committee** — A great team of volunteers has been doing in-person voter registration and phone/email follow-up and it's working: they've signed up over 730 new local voters who went on to cast ballots!
- **Voter Protection Committee** — If you care about protecting American democracy and aren't intimidated by the technical details and legalese, this committee needs your talents!
- **Fundraising Committee** — Nancy Damon is reactivating it and needs group input on brainstorming some ideas.
- **Communications Committee** — We need help keeping our social media feeds (especially Facebook) timely and engaging!

Full details and contact info for people eager to answer any questions are on our [website](#); please pitch in to help us turn things around!

Political Fun in the Spring/Summer Sun

If you're creative and/or an extrovert, our new "Political Fun" group may be for you! Enjoy public outreach activities like tabling with John Lewis or RBG cutouts, being part of a Cville Dem flash mob... all kinds of fun to be had. The core of our group, the intrepid voter registration crew, has been super successful (see photos!) and we want to expand on their good work. Our next (Zoom) meeting, to kick around some ideas, is this Saturday at 1pm; come see what we're up to! RSVP or send any questions to communications@cvilledems.org



Report: Feb. 5th "Coffee Break" with Del. Sally Hudson and Sen. Creigh Deeds

Both legislators noted that although the Dem-controlled Senate has stopped various bits of bad legislation, it won't be able to block all Gov. Youngkin's appointments [Ed.-- as they predicted, the Senate later did block Andrew Wheeler from becoming Secretary of Natural Resources]. For example, the Senate can stop any anti-abortion bill, but Youngkin's appointees can use regulations to choke abortion access. Del. Hudson noted that the school funding bill that Charlottesville and other communities need was killed in committee by Republicans, but given its broad bipartisan support, she thinks there's a chance it could still pass after the Senate bill makes its way to the House.

Speaking of Youngkin, [our Twitter feed](#) asked:



Charlottesville Dems @CvilleDems · Feb 6

...

What image expresses the initial weeks of the Youngkin administration?
Please post here:



6



4



Please point us to other humorous things we might share in upcoming issues:
communications@cville Dems.org

Delegates Chosen to 5th District Convention

Enough Dems signed up to be delegates to the 5th Congressional District Convention on March 5th: thanks to all who signed up or offered to! The previously announced 2/19 Caucus is therefore canceled.

Preaching BEYOND the Choir

(share with others why electing Dems makes a difference!)

VA House Republicans just voted down 10 floor amendments to Governor Youngkin's so-called "anti-CRT" [legislation](#) that would have protected the teaching of major historical events like the Three-Fifths Compromise (which declared that enslaved Americans would only count as three-fifths of a person), the history of Jim Crow, the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges case that legally recognized marriage equality, and School Integration. Video and more on the [VA Dems Twitter feed](#).

Glass Half Full Department

In the face of Youngkin's victory and the obstruction of Build Back Better, it's important not to forget all the good things that Biden and other Democrats have already achieved:

- **Big Picture USA:** We're so much better than we were a year ago!
 - **Got Shots in Arms & Saved Lives:** The President's historic vaccination program has vaccinated more than 200 million Americans. 96% of schools are open. All these steps have and continue to save countless lives.
 - **Got People Back to Work:** President Biden has grown the economy faster than in decades and added 6.4 million jobs - more in one year than ever on record.
 - **Passed Laws to Create Jobs & Rebuild Crumbling Infrastructure:** President Biden's American Rescue Plan and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed, the most impactful legislative agenda for a first year President.
- **Big Picture Virginia:** We're so much better than we were a year ago!
 - Thanks to the American Rescue Plan for Virginia, the state's unemployment rate is down dramatically, only 3.4% in November (with unemployment claims down 73% under Biden).
 - The Infrastructure and Jobs Act gave Virginia \$7 billion for highways and \$537 million for bridge repairs and replacements; even the *Daily Progress* called the bill "a sweeping and promising investment in the future of communities across Virginia and the nation."

Charlottesville Democratic Party

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Thank you for your continued support!

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Paid for and authorized by the Charlottesville Democratic Committee
