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News and updates from the Charlottesville Dems

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- Forward this to friends who aren't politically engaged but might want to know what the Cville Dems do and stand for
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Mark Your Calendars!

7/01 Opening reception for Eze Amos "Witnessing Resistance" exhibit at the Jefferson School

7/25 Executive Committee meeting

7/28 Raised/Razed discussion with the filmmakers (see below)

7/30 Chihamba African-American Cultural Arts Festival & Community Health Fair



Time to Start Canvassing for Josh!

- This Saturday July 2nd (tomorrow!) you can help us launch the Crozet campaign!! Starting next Saturday, July 9th, and continuing until Election Day, we'll be canvassing in Charlottesville every Saturday. Check out https://www.mobilize.us/joshforvirginia to sign up!
- If you want to plug into the campaign or have suggestions, reach out to Trent Fisher, the Campaign's new point person for Charlottesville and Albemarle, at <u>trent@joshforvirginia.com</u> or by texting 434-825-5487.
- If you'd like a yard sign, contact jlbd1013@gmail.com

Fish Fry Fundraiser has a Fantastic Finale!



Last Friday's Fish Fry Fundraiser at the Jefferson School was a big success in every way:

- attendance was great —200+ people signed up, 59 of them at the sponsor levels. Thank you all!
- actually, attendance was even greater coincidentally, another 100 people were a block away at the Federal Building protesting the Supreme Court decision to strike down Roe v. Wade, and when they heard Sen Lucas was speaking they came over to hear her... so in the end, we had a crowd of 300!
- Financial success we think this will put us in a good financial position to work hard on all the political issues facing us.

State Senator Louise Lucas was amazing; the crowd greeted her enthusiastically and she really returned the love, pumping up the crowd to "fight like hell" to defend women's right to choose from Republican attacks. Watch these CBS19 and NBC29 clips (we got them to come over from covering the Federal Building protest to interview her about the Supreme Court's Roe decision).

Other guest speakers, all warmly and enthusiastically received, included 5th District Committee Chair Patricia Harper-Tunley, State Senator Creigh Deeds, Delegate Sally Hudson, and Eleanor Roy from the Josh Throneburg 5th District congressional campaign (Josh was scheduled to speak but caught Covid).

Kudos and big thanks to the Fundraising Committee, chaired by Nancy Damon. They were very pleased with how things turned out and were pleased that all the eating materials were compostable, except for the aluminum cans which were recycled!







Sen. Louise Lucas, Sen. Creigh Deeds, 5th District Chair Patricia Harper-Tunley



Sen. Louise Lucas



The Abortion/Reproductive Rights Fight Continues!

The Cville Dems had a very busy week on this front.

Last Thursday night, 6/24, we partnered with Blue Ridge Abortion Fund to present a free webinar about how an overturning of Roe would impact the Charlottesville region. BRAF Development Director Deborah Arenstein and our Bekah Saxon gave welcoming and closing remarks, and the panelists (clearly already tired and frustrated

preparing for the ban) gave a great presentation.

Friday morning 6/25 the overturning of Roe was announced. By Friday afternoon, we had coordinated with NOW and Bans Off Our Bodies for a 5pm rally at the Federal Building, arranged for the media to interview Sen. Lucas for comments at 6pm (see Fish Fry coverage above), and organized a well-attended Cville Dems 11am Saturday 6/26 rally (here's CBS19's coverage, photos below).

As Sen. Lucas said, we are most definitely not giving up the fight (Pres. Biden came out Thursday in favor of a Senate filibuster exception for abortion rights)... but Virginia is on the edge of losing the next and deciding round of this fight. Gov. Youngkin has promised to push for an abortion ban, and if the Republicans gain seats in this November's midterms then Dems won't be able to stop Youngkin and his allies from outlawing abortion in Virginia too.

As we're seeing, elections have very profound consequences.

Help the Dems organize and mobilize for November... join this fight!

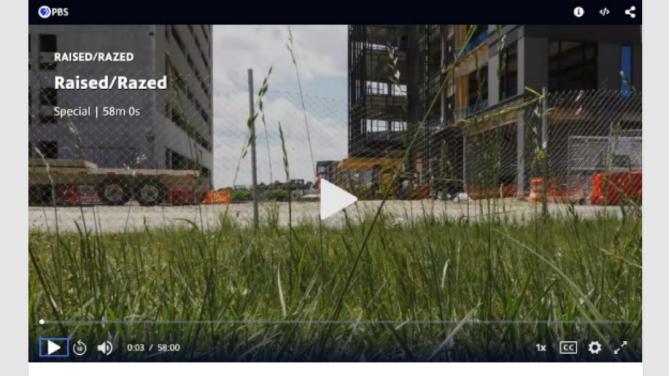








Raised/Razed Movie Discussion (July 28th)



Many of us watched *Raised/Razed*, the very well-received May 2022 documentary about the destruction of the Vinegar Hill neighborhood, at its premiere at the Jefferson School or on PBS, and now we're getting the chance to discuss it with its local creators! Writer Jordy Yager and filmmaker Lorenzo Dickerson will speak at 6:30pm on July 28th; you can attend in person (at the Central Library's Swanson Case Room 125, formerly named the McIntire Room) or via this Zoom link.

If you haven't seen the film yet, it's only an hour long and can be watched at no charge on the VPM website; it's very worthwhile! For more details, see our website.

Note: this will be the first in-person speaker event in our co-sponsored series with Albemarle Dems since Covid began!

"Turn Out the Vote Thursdays"



We've started doing "Turn Out the Vote Thursdays" every Thursday (taking the place of "Take Action Tuesdays") from 5-7pm outside of Brazos Tacos, to overlap with the sunset market at IX Park.

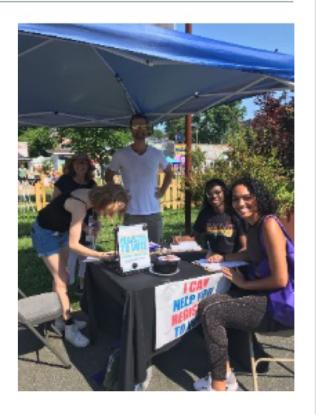
We're writing postcards to newly registered City of Charlottesville voters, making phone calls, and generally doing what's needed to help us win in November. Come join us and hang out while we help elect Dems!

Voter Registration (VR) team rolls on!

In addition to their every Saturday morning work at the outdoor Ix Market, the VR team signed new voters up at multiple abortion rights protests and will soon be working with OAR Jefferson Area Community Corrections.

Barbara Shenefield (see profile below) and Suzanne Michels and their crew are really really good at doing this important work; please contact Suzanne

(suzemichels@gmail.com) if you might like to be part of the team!



Report: 6/27 Executive Committee Meeting



Erin Monaghan presented the recommendations of the Bylaws Committee, which consists of Dave Chapman (chair), Dashad Cooper, Dan Doernberg, Ray Dueser, Mary Ann Harris, and Erin Monaghan. The committee proposed numerous reforms (the bylaws hadn't been looked at for 11 years!), including:

- adding language to promote inclusiveness
- giving the Full Committee flexibility in setting dues
- establishing renewable 10-year terms for ex-officio members (instead of the existing lifetime term)
- codifying that online meetings have the same official status as inperson meetings
- enabling the Executive Committee to call an emergency meeting of the Full Committee to pass a resolution on a subject of pressing importance. Note: There was some disagreement about this issue at the meeting, with some members pressing for the ability of the Executive Committee to issue statements on its own behalf to maximize ability to respond.

Unfortunately, because there was no quorum for an official meeting, no vote could be taken on the bylaws, which meant we also couldn't vote on issuing a statement condemning the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe (or any other matter). Reminder— it's important to come out to the Full Committee meetings whenever possible!



New laws passed by 2022 General Assembly regular session take effect TODAY!

You can see all the new laws here: http://dls.virginia.gov/pubs/idc/idc22.pdf

This document is put together each year by Virginia's Division of Legislative Services (DLS), whose director is Amigo Wade, brother of our own Vice Mayor Juandiego Wade! Hat tip to Erin Monaghan for this info!

State Dems News

Erin also shared that Shyam Raman, who's been the DPVA Political Director since 2017, was promoted on Wednesday to Executive Director. Shyam will be the first AAPI person to serve in this position.



Preaching BEYOND the Choir

(Why electing Dems matters!)

National Level

It's hard to know what to say here given the past seven dismal days, but the contrast between the parties has never been clearer. For those wanting a scorecard:

- Important Issues for Dems: Reproductive Rights, Gun Violence Prevention, Environmental Protection, Democracy
- Important Issues for Republicans: Fetuses and Control over Women's Bodies/Lives, Guns Everywhere, Corporate Profits, Freedom From Accountability

State Level

'A state senator who is working on Gov. Glenn Youngkin's legislative effort to bar most abortions after 15 weeks says enforcement could target the licenses of doctors who violate such a ban. "There could be physicians whose licenses could be at stake," Sen. Steve Newman, R-Lynchburg... "The state licensing process is most likely the best way to go..." *Daily Progress*, 6/28/22

'Gov. Glenn Youngkin is demanding that the board overseeing Virginia's community colleges welcome his administration into the search for a new leader or resign.... Sen. Scott Surovell, D-Fairfax, [said] "This isn't a corporate takeover. The governor doesn't run schools. The boards do." ... Sen. Ghazala Hashmi, D-Chesterfield, a former community college administrator, said it would be an unprecedented decision – never has a Virginia governor forced the hiring of a college president or chancellor.' *Daily Progress*, 6/29/22

Partner Organizations

Our friends the UVA Dems, Albemarle Dems, and Greene County Dems are doing good things too, check them out!

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Thank you for your support!

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