

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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News and Updates from the Cville Dems

3 easy ways you can support Cville Dems today:

- We're sending personalized postcards to introduce Josh Throneburg to new audiences; you can write postcards with us (see Thursdays at IX below) or donate to defray the cost of stamps and postcards. Contact Nancy Damon: nancycdamon@gmail.com.
- Forward this to friends who aren't politically engaged but might want to know what the Cville Dems do and stand for
- Like/Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#)

Mark Your Calendars!

- now - 9/16 Eze Amos "Witnessing Resistance" photography exhibit at 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!

Every Saturday until Election Day we're canvassing in Charlottesville. Check out

<https://www.mobilize.us/joshforvirginia>
to sign up!

If you'd like to help Josh's campaign but are looking for something other than door knocking or postcard writing, there's a group that's writing Letters to the Editor! If you might be interested in that, contact Kelsey at press@joshforvirginia.com

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 trent@joshforvirginia.com or by texting 434-825-5487.

If you'd like a yard sign, contact Dudley Doane: jlbd1013@gmail.com

And... here's a handy graphic showing the contrast on some key issues: education, procuring investment dollars, gun safety, women's rights/abortion rights, and corporate price gouging (an important factor in the current inflation):

JOSH vs. BOB



JOSH
THIBODEAUX
VS
U.S. CONGRESS
COMPASSION & COMMON SENSE



Josh wants to make a historic investment in our public schools.



Bob wants to eliminate the Department of Education and defund public schools.

Josh will fight for local economic investments in manufacturing, renewable energy, and agriculture.



Bob has brought \$0 in federal money to the Fifth.

Josh supports sensible gun safety measures which will allow our families to feel safe out in public places.



Bob opposes any limits on guns, including sales to domestic abusers, convicted criminals, and minors.

Josh is committed to protecting abortion access and women's rights.



Bob wants to ban ALL abortions and restrict access to contraceptives.

Josh will fight price gouging and help re-establish effective supply chains.



Bob voted to allow price gouging and against fixing the baby formula shortage.

Paid for by Josh for Virginia

August 2017 5-year Anniversary: How Should We Best Commemorate It?

We've heard a number of opinions about what approach the Dems might want to take, including:

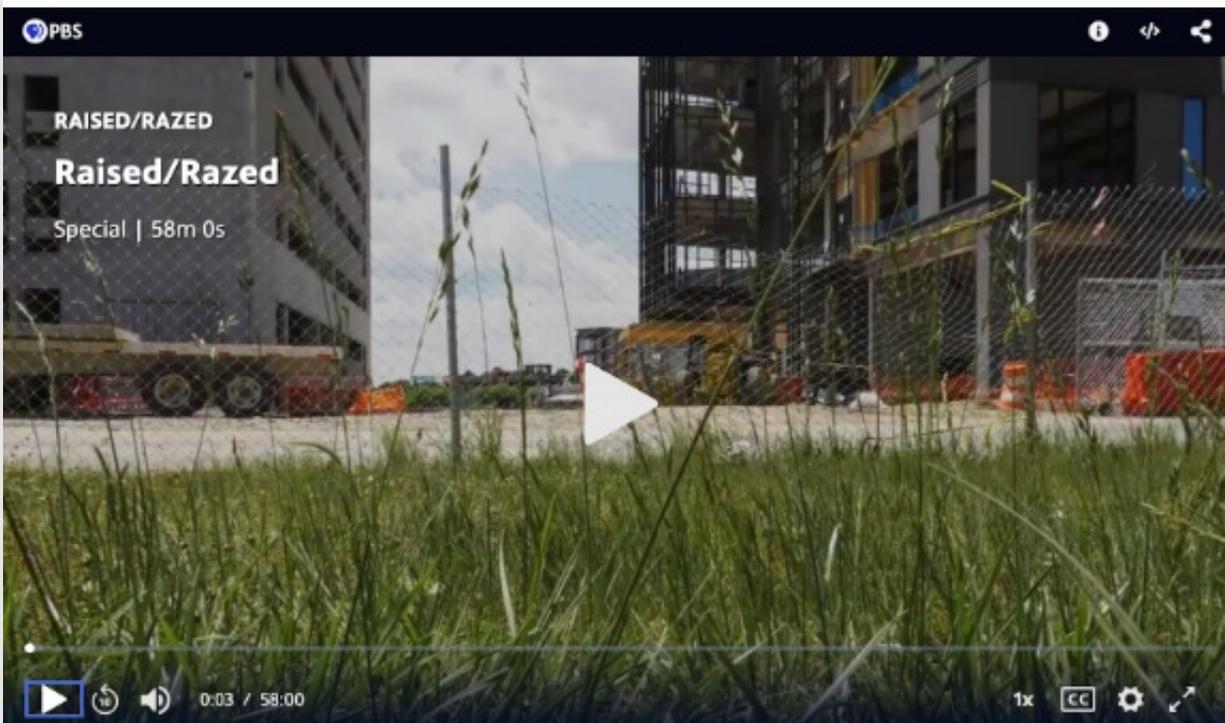
- arrange for some of the people who were involved in those events to speak;
- have a low-key get-together as Dems and share stories about how we were involved, how it impacted us, how it's changed the way we see the world;

- schedule the Swords into Plowshares Community input event then (we've been trying to schedule this for awhile) as a symbolic way to emphasize the community coming together;
- the events are still triggering for many people, we should raise funds and participate as Dems in public commemorations but *not* hold our own event.

We'd like to get your input on these and any other thoughts you may have; what sounds most proper and meaningful to you? Please email us: communications@cville Dems.org. All suggestions received will be shared anonymously with the Executive Committee unless requested otherwise.

We'll also let you know about various community efforts as they're announced (e.g. this [Daily Progress anti-racism public pledge](#)).

***Raised/Razed* Movie Discussion (July 28th)**



Filmmaker Lorenzo Dickerson and writer Jordy Yager, local creators of the very well-received May 2022 movie *Raised/Razed* about the life and destruction of Vinegar Hill, will speak at 6:30pm on July 28th at the Central Library. You can attend this event either in person (Swanson Case Room 125, formerly named the McIntire Room) or via this [Zoom link](#).

Lorenzo and Jordy will share hard truths about the federal Urban Renewal program and its impact on scores of American cities (Durham, NC is also profiled) through a deep dive into the history and demolition of Vinegar Hill, Charlottesville's oldest African American neighborhood. They chart the lives of its residents as they faced

racially discriminatory policies and a city government that saw them as obstacles to “progress”, and they identify some of the most important take-aways from this history.

Many of us watched *Raised/Razed* at its Jefferson School premiere or on PBS; if you haven't seen it yet, it's only an hour long and is available at no charge on the [VPM website <https://vpm.org/raisedrazed>](https://vpm.org/raisedrazed). Please watch (or re-watch!) the film before their talk and come with questions about (1) their journalistic & cinematic storytelling and (2) what they learned in the process of making the film.

Notes

- At the filmmakers' request, this is a Dems-only event; just for this one, please *don't* spread the word, but do attend yourself!
- This will be the first event with an in-person option (as well as Zoom) in our co-sponsored series with Albemarle Dems since Covid began!

"Turn Out the Vote Thursdays"

"Turn Out the Vote Thursdays" (every Thursday from 5-7pm outside of Brazos Tacos at Ix Art Park, to overlap with the sunset market) has been a great success; last Thursday we had 12 people (including several new faces, welcome!). Unfortunately we were rained out yesterday.



In addition to building the party and helping get Josh elected, it's a fun community-building event and a great way to get to know other Dems! The group does things like writing postcards to newly registered City of Charlottesville voters, making phone calls... whatever's important that week to help us win in November.

We'll soon be writing postcards for the Throneburg Campaign. There are lots of ways you can pitch in, contact Nancy Damon at nancycdamon@gmail.com for information.

Come join us to hang out and help elect Dems! Rain cancels, threat of rain does not (we're a hardy bunch!).

Voter Registration (VR) team rolls on!



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

Barbara Shenefield 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!



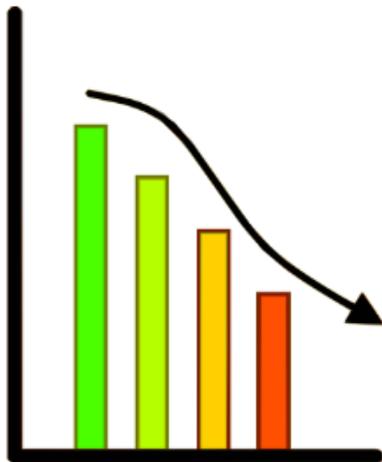
Preaching BEYOND the Choir

(Why electing Dems matters!)

State Level

The Virginia League of Conservation Voters released its scorecard on how our state-level elected officials are addressing Virginia's environmental and

conservation needs, and for the first time they included a gubernatorial accountability ranking... and Youngkin actually managed to get an 'F' (!). Sample headline from the report: "Dems hold the line on Climate action attacks." [VALCV 2022 Conservation Scorecard](#), 7/8/22.



Virginia fell from 1st to 3rd place as the best overall state for doing business in [CNBC's annual rankings](#). Gov. Ralph Northam saw that ranking as a source of pride, Glenn Youngkin not so much. In the category of financial stability, VA dropped from 13th to 20th, likely due to Youngkin's unprecedented levels of budget politicking that resulted in the state's budget hanging in limbo for months. [Daily Progress](#), 7/12/22

"Virginia Republicans can't wait to force women to carry unwanted pregnancies to birth. So they're

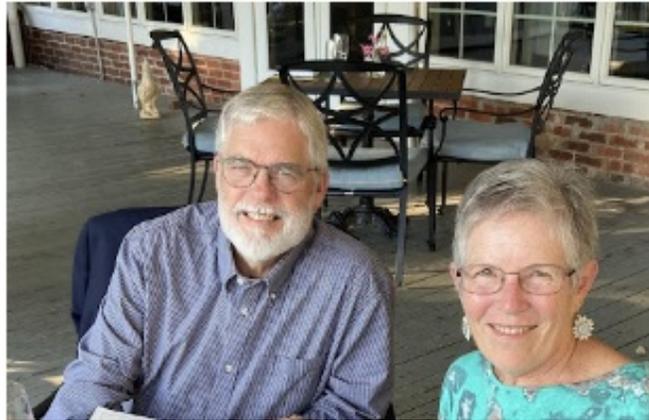


proposing an end run around democracy. The GOP only controls the House of Delegates. Democrats control the State Senate. No total abortion ban is likely to pass the senate.

So the men who want to control women's most personal decisions must look for non-legislative routes to get what they want. Among them is Del. Dave LaRock of Loudon County...[who] suggests that Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin withhold state funds from state medical facilities like the University of Virginia and Virginia Commonwealth University if they provide abortion services." [Daily Progress](#), 7/12/2022

Volunteer Profiles: Dave and Cyndy Chapman

Dave arrived in town in 1971 as a UVA undergrad, following in his father's footsteps and thereby dodging the constitutional law class he would have had to take from his Poli Sci professor father had he attended his hometown Indiana University. He recalls from various family trips to Charlottesville and his early student days here what Vinegar Hill looked like before it was razed and how long it remained vacant and, from a 1972 antiwar demonstration, what East Main St. looked like pre-Downtown Mall.



Cyndy grew up in Charlotte, NC with two sisters. She moved to Charlottesville in 1978 to attend UVA's now-renamed Curry School, earning her MEd. in special education after three years of teaching it in Roanoke. After graduation she became an active Dem, encouraged by her roommate Mary Zoller. She remembers the welcome she received from people like John Conover and John Pezzoli.

After getting her Masters, Cyndy went on to teach English and Special Education at Walker Middle School and Buford Middle School for a total of 42 years. She loves novels, short stories, and essays and is a fan of pretty much everything written by Toni Morrison, James McBride, Louise Erdrich, and Anne Patchett.

Dave's interests in constitutional law and political theory led him to UVA Law School, after which he spent eight years in private practice and then six years in Lindsay Dorrier's Office of Commonwealth's

Attorney in Albemarle County. After six years there, he successfully ran for office in Charlottesville in 1993 and, with Cyndy, has been immersed in local politics ever since.

Shaped by his years as a Commonwealth Attorney who needed to maintain freedom from undue influence, Dave modestly says he's most comfortable these days doing nuts-and-bolts political activities like putting up and taking down chairs for an event... but he's also been doing a fantastic job chairing the bylaws committee! He and Cyndy continue to be active writing postcards, canvassing, distributing campaign materials, and working the polls.

While he can count on one hand the number of Republicans he's voted for during his lifetime, Dave doesn't consider himself to be a rabid partisan; he's always valued public servants who can rise above partisanship to work with others to serve the community with integrity and intellectual honesty.

When Dave began as an Asst. Commonwealth Attorney in Albemarle County during the late 1980s/early 1990s, the City of Charlottesville was a comparative basket case economically; the area was an Albemarle County-centric environment with plenty of derision heaped upon Charlottesville and its government. As a City resident who was a close observer of local government, however, he watched a diverse succession of leading Democrats make crucial decisions (e.g. taking a stake in the Omni Hotel) over a sustained period of time that transformed Charlottesville government into a much-admired institution. He thinks that we are inclined in that direction once again: imperfect, but strongly inclined to work together to accomplish more for everyone, especially those who need it most.

They've now been married for 35 years, living in the Key-Recreation precinct since 1987. Since they both retired in 2018, they've spent time on their favorite outdoor activities: gardening, cycling, hiking, kayaking/paddle boarding, and birding... often combining these passions on lengthy camping trips all over the country. Their son Reuben, a product of the Charlottesville Public Schools, lives and works in Atlanta as a photographer/videographer/creative director for a music producer.

Thank you Dave and Cyndy for all you've done and all you keep doing for us!

Partner Organizations

Our friends the [UVA Dems](#), [Albemarle Dems](#), and [Greene County Dems](#) 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](#)

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