

C'VILLE DEMS

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News and Updates from the Cville Dems (Aug. 26, 2022)

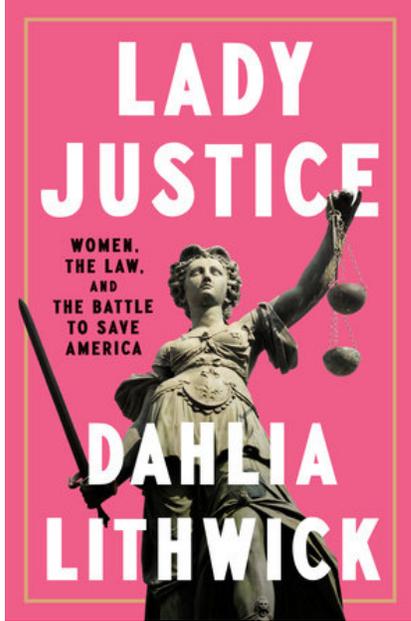
4 easy ways you can support Cville Dems today:

- Participate in “Turn Out the Vote Thursdays” (see below)
- 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](#) (and like some of our posts!)
- Tell all your friends about [Josh Throneburg](#) and encourage them to vote for him.

Mark Your Calendars!

- 09/22 6:45pm Dahlia Lithwick presentation (see below)
- 09/23 Josh Throneburg early voting + social afterwards (see below)
- 10/02 3-6pm Albemarle County Dems BBQ fundraiser at Pen Park Picnic Shelters
- 10/11 Prof. Danielle Citron presentation (details TBA)
- 10/22 International Day of Democracy celebration (student-oriented, details TBA)

Legal Superstar Dahlia Lithwick



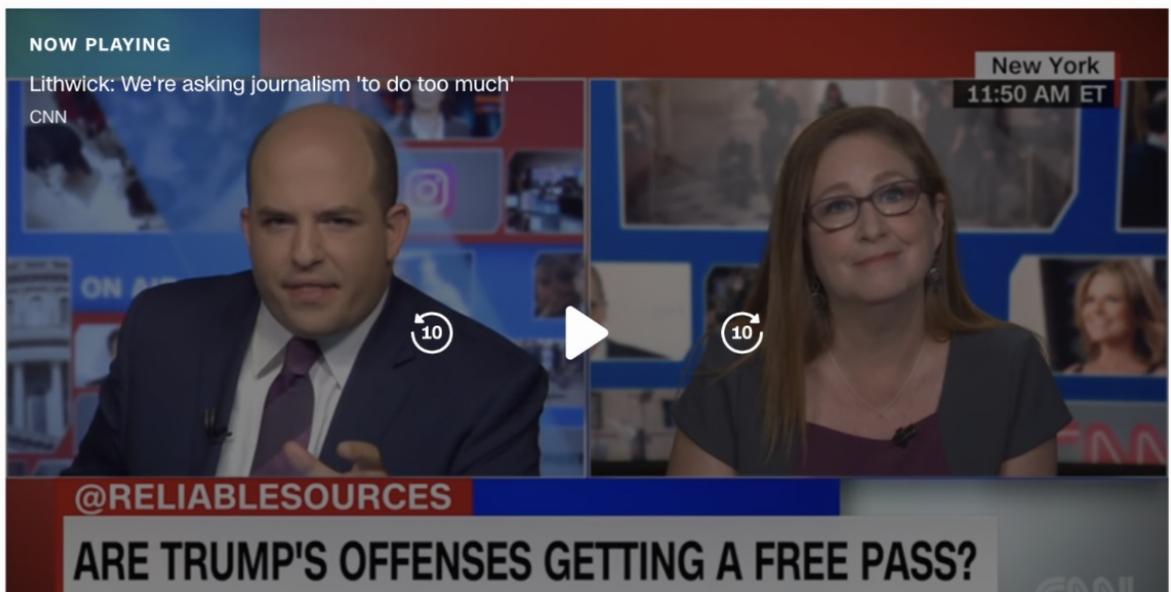
to speak September 22nd at Dems-Hosted Public Event

Superstar legal journalist and podcaster Dahlia Lithwick, one of Charlottesville's very favorite ex-residents, returns "home" Thursday evening September 22 at 6:45pm at PVCC's beautiful Dickinson Auditorium to do a special Cville Dems-organized public event, free and open to all, where she'll talk about her new book **Lady Justice: Women, the Law, and the Battle to Save America**, followed by Q&A.

You've seen her on *MSNBC* and *CNN*, listened to her *Amicus* podcast, read her columns in *Slate* and *New York Times*... now come see her in person!

Lady Justice profiles the women lawyers who worked tirelessly to hold the line against the most chaotic and maligned presidency in living memory. There was Roberta Kaplan, the famed commercial litigator, who sued the neo-Nazis for their 2017 "Unite the Right" violence here. And Sally Yates, the acting attorney general of the United States, who refused to sign off on the Muslim travel ban. And Becca Heller, the founder of a refugee assistance program, who brought the fight over the travel ban to the airports. And, of course, Stacey Abrams, whose efforts to protect the voting rights of millions of Georgians may well have been what won the Senate for the Democrats in 2020. We'll have copies of the book available for sale at the event; please buy a copy from us to support Dahlia and our work. It will make a great holiday gift for anyone, but especially for that idealistic daughter, granddaughter, or niece of yours!

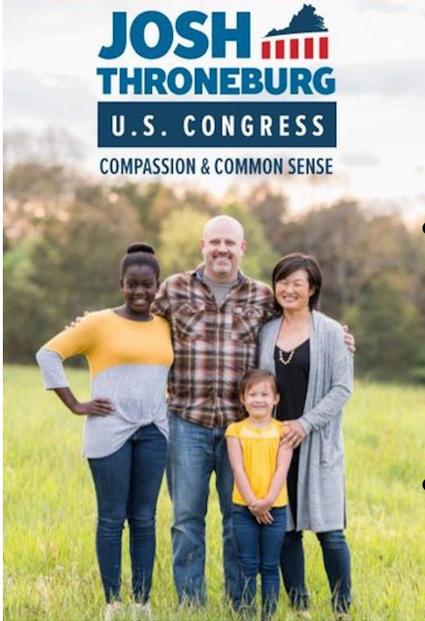
We'll also be giving a shout-out at the event to the local nonprofits who are doing good work locally in some of the areas covered by her book; the list of nonprofits, Dahlia's bio, and more event details are on our [website event announcement](#).



Report: 8/22 Full Committee Meeting



- BIG voter registration news from Jim Nix, who's on the city's Electoral Board – **Virginia is becoming a same-day registration state this October!** After regular voter registration ends on October 17, from October 18 thru November 5 anyone who lives in Charlottesville and is eligible to become a Virginia voter can go to the Registrar's Office to register to vote and cast a provisional ballot. And even on Election Day (11/ 8) itself, any Charlottesville resident who is eligible to register to vote can go to any of the City's nine polling locations, fill out a voter registration application form, and cast a provisional ballot. This is important — please re-read to fully assimilate and then spread the word!
- Update from Josh Throneburg himself (see below)
- Renata Germino (Key Rec Precinct) and Megan Finney (Venable Precinct) were voted in as members of the Full Committee (welcome!).
- Kara Kline reported on the just-formed Charlottesville Area Young Democrats (see below).
- Erin Monaghan answered a few new questions about the proposed bylaw updates, drafted by a committee led by Dave Chapman, before the amendments were voted on and passed almost unanimously. It had been 11 years since we last reviewed the bylaws; some of the key changes include explicitly adding virtual meetings and giving them the same official status as in-person meetings, facilitating flexibility in setting annual dues, trimming down the presumptive *ex officio* membership term for former Cville Dems chairs and former Democratic elected officials to 10 years, and providing for calling an emergency meeting if a proposed resolution on a matter of vital importance must be decided “with dispatch” (that is, there's a clock ticking that will run out before the next regular meeting!).
- A resolution was approved in which we join the Executive Board of the UVA Student Council in calling for the resignation of Youngkin appointee Burt Ellis Jr. from the UVA Board of Visitors. Ellis is an extremely divisive figure who has expressed contempt for the university's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts, and in the past he has promoted a eugenicist speaker and prevented speakers on gay rights. The full statement is on our website and social media (please “like,” retweet, and share).



(70+ Days until Election Day)

Josh spoke at our 8/22 meeting, here are some highlights:

- Early voting starts September 23, and his campaign urges us to vote early on that day; to encourage that, they're planning a daytime gathering outside the Registrar's Office and perhaps an evening gathering to celebrate! Details of both are TBA.
- Their polling shows that though this remains a Republican district, Bob Good is a weak incumbent: only 44% want to keep him, 40% want someone else, and 16% are undecided.
- Top concern among those polled: inflation (particularly gas prices, a major issue in rural areas).
- Though most people don't recognize Josh's name yet, that's not surprising; the campaign will soon be launching ads and increasing canvassing to increase his name recognition.

If you want to help the Josh Throneburg Campaign #FlipThe5th and unseat Bob (No)Good, you've got some great options:

1. Come out to "Turn Out the Vote Thursdays"

Thursday 5-7pm at lx, see details below, for a wee bit of socializing and a good bit of action! We sometimes do phone banking (there'll be a printed phone list for folks to use for calling), sometimes canvassing prep.

If you plan to attend, please sign up using this link:
<https://www.mobilize.us/joshforvirginia/event/475179/>

There will be training on MiniVAN for those who need a refresher or haven't ever used it (don't worry, it's not hard!).

2. Other weekly opportunities

Sign up for at: <https://www.mobilize.us/joshforvirginia/> for:

- Wednesday Nights Virtual Phone Bank / 6:30– 8:30pm
- Thursday Nights Virtual Phone Bank / 6:30-8:30pm
- Sunday Afternoon Virtual Phone Bank / 1–4pm
- Sunday Evenings Virtual Text Bank / 4–6pm
- Saturday Canvassing in Charlottesville / 10am–Noon & 1–

3pm (meet at The Dairy Market)

3, **Sign the petition** demanding that Bob Good agree to some debates:

<https://secure.ngpvan.com/i6WnNFjCskaGmcQR62Lckw2>

Join Us!



&



Thursday's Weekly Night of Action!

"Turn Out the Vote Thursdays" Good Turnouts & Results!

People get together every Thursday from 5-7pm outside of Brazos Tacos at Ix Art Park, to overlap with the sunset market. It continues to be a great success; we're getting around 20 people writing postcards, plowing through call lists, and knocking on doors... in general doing whatever will help us win in November.



So... come hang out! In addition to helping get Josh elected, it's a fun community-building event and a great way to get to know other Dems!

One current project: we're sending personalized postcards to introduce Josh to new audiences; you can write postcards with us or do an in-kind donation of stamps or postcards. Contact Nancy Damon at nancycdamon@gmail.com for information.

Rain cancels, threat of rain does not (we're a hardy bunch!).



The Charlottesville Area Young Democrats (CAYD) are up-and-running!

The newest Virginia Young Democrats chapter will serve Charlottesville and Albemarle, Buckingham, Fluvanna, and Greene Counties. If you're between 13-35 and would like to register voters, canvass, and take campaign actions with other young people, sign up at bit.ly/cvilleyds, or get more info from their [Facebook page](#) (or email cvilleyds@gmail.com).

The group's initial officers are:

- President: Kara Kline (southside_region@vayd.org)
- VP: Trent Fisher
- Treasurer: Dashad Cooper
- Secretary: Hailey Yowell
- Outreach Director: Amanda Snead
- Communications Director: Samantha Litchford

Voter Registration (VR) team rolls on!

In addition to working the outdoor Ix Market every Saturday morning, the VR team does lots and lots of community events (here's Barbara Shenefield on

Wednesday at the Offender Aid and Restoration office; she registered a voter and helped three others apply for voting rights restoration!).

Barbara 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.

And speaking of great voter registration people....



Volunteer Profile: Emma Washington

Emma Washington, a major extrovert who says "she's never met a stranger", moved from Ridgeland, Mississippi, to Gordonsville in 2006 and then to Charlottesville in 2009. The past few years have been brutal for her:

[A12 and gun violence trigger warnings]

- Two of her daughters were injured in the 2017 "Unite the Right" car attack (the elder, Tay, is still suffering considerably from her injuries, as explained in this recent CNN interview and at Tay's GoFundMe)
- her adult son Telvin was murdered in 2019 in a video game dispute with one of his childhood friends
- she got divorced a few months after the murder

Emma had to step away from her 27-year career as a Licensed Practical Nurse and focus inward on her own healing from all that family trauma.

Suzanne Michels knew Emma well as one of Suzanne's late father's dedicated nurses at the Martha Jefferson House, and they stayed in touch after he passed. As a way to help Emma ease back into the world, Suzanne suggested Emma join her in some Cville Dems outreach events. It has turned out to be very good therapy, a way for Emma to continue her late son's efforts to give back to the community.

Emma also runs her own year-round mutual aid effort via the [Telvin Project](#) Facebook page, to provide unhoused people with sleeping bags, toiletries, warm clothing, and other seasonally-appropriate items; you can check that page to see what the current needs are or just donate.

She likes to reach out to potential voters of color and shared how many of these conversations start:

Emma: "Are you registered to vote?"

Youngster: "I'm not, but I'm not really interested."

Emma: "Let me tell you why you should be interested! Pres. Biden needs help getting things done to help people. Our Governor and the other Republicans are blocking everything, they're not working to get federal money to help people. We need leaders who want to help people, who care about people. We have to try to vote in new people who *will* care. And if we don't, we can't complain about what's not being done."

Emma, thank you for all you do and have been doing for our community... with the Dems and in all your other work!

REPORT: Ézé Amos A12 Photo Events

Our two A12 events around Ézé Amos' photo exhibition *The Story of Us: Reclaiming the Narrative of #Charlottesville through Portraits of Community Resilience* were very successful.

- **Presentation (8/10)** — 50 people, in-person and online, attended Ézé's overview of the exhibition (partially given "in conversation with" Andrea Douglas, Executive Director of the Jefferson School African American Heritage Center). If you missed it, here's [a recording of Ézé's presentation](#); the first 24 minutes, mostly Ézé and Andrea discussing how Eze's became a photojournalist, why he chose the Downtown Mall and racial justice struggles as his main subject areas, and how he chose the 36 photos for this exhibition. The first 24 minutes are audio-only, but the video kicks in when he starts showing the photos.



- **Walking Tour (8/13)** — What was planned as a one-hour tour lasted two hours as Ézé led us to each installation and explained (much

abridged) what was going on in each photo and a bit about each person featured. 100 or more people joined the tour at various points to listen and ask questions.

Thank you Ézé and Andrea and everyone who turned out for this very meaningful A12 commemoration.

If you've not seen the photos yet on the Downtown Mall, don't wait much longer; the photos will be taken down after September 29th, though you'll be able to visit [Eze's website](#).



Preaching BEYOND the Choir (Why electing Dems matters!)

This week: Against Republican opposition, Pres. Biden delivered on another campaign promise and signed an executive order forgiving some student debt for many low and middle income students.



Two weeks ago: The country scored a huge/historic/momentous (you choose your adjective!) win when the Democrats pushed through the Inflation Reduction Act on a party-line vote; every Senate Democrat voted for it, every Senate Republican voted against it.

Highlights include (per *Washington Post* email newsletter based on [this article](#)):

- Incentivizes businesses to go green
- Incentivizes households to go green
- Lowers drug costs
- Eases ACA Marketplace health insurance premiums

NPR added tax reform to the list, setting a 15% minimum tax for corporations making \$1 billion or more.

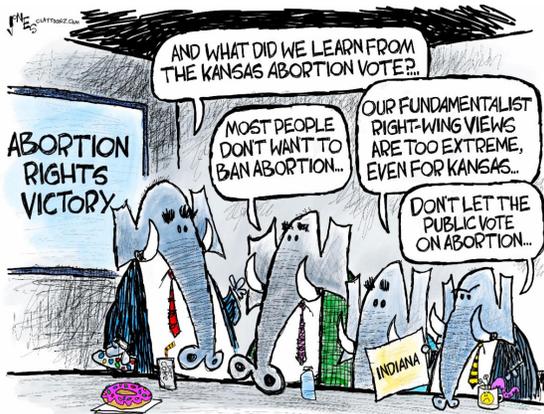
This party line vote is yet another indicator of the staggeringly stark divide between our party and 2022 MAGA Republicans:

Democratic Priorities vs. Republican Priorities

- Abortion/Reproductive rights vs. culture wars
- Fighting climate change vs. ignoring it
- Protecting Democracy vs. worshipping autocrats
- Gun Safety vs. gun proliferation
- Health care vs. ?? not even on their radar
- LGBTQ+ rights vs. back in the closet
- Racial justice/equity vs. voter suppression
- Student Debt relief vs. debt as corporate profit

- Veterans' Health Care action vs. lip service only

If you favor these Democratic priorities over Republican priorities, it's time to come down from the bleachers and get involved! Head over to <https://joshforvirginia.com> to donate or pitch in some other way.



Mailing List "Spring Cleaning" Round 2

Thanks to Nancy O'Brien, Jason Vandever, Erin Monaghan, Nancy Damon, Lewis Combs, and Donna Shaunesey for their big assistance this round helping identify members who've moved away, passed away, etc.

Partner Organizations

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

Co-chair: John McLaren

Co-chair: Dashad Cooper

Newsletter Editor: Dan Doernberg

Newsletter Production: Bo Sacks

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