

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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Website

News and Updates from the Cville Dems (2/15/2023)

2 easy ways you can support Cville Dems today:

- 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](#), [Mastodon](#), and [Instagram](#) (and like some of our posts!)

Mark Your Calendars!

- **2/15 Tonight 7pm** NOW Charlottesville Zoom program *This War Will Set Us Free* (see below)
- Now through May 30 - voter registration at Registrar's Office [online](#)
- **2/16 [CANCELLED]** Rally supporting Swords into Plowshares
- **2/27** Executive Committee Meeting (see below)
- **3/3-3/5** celebration of Liberation and Freedom Days (including Reparations Run, see below)
- **5/05** Primary Election Early Voting starts at Registrar's Office (after 5/30, you can still register and submit a provisional ballot)
- **5/30** Voter Registration ends (except for 6/30 same-day at polling place)
- **5/31-6/17** Same Day Voter Registration (no Sundays)
- **6/20** June Primary Election Day (same day Voter Registration at polling place available, thanks to Dems!)

[We're now flagging a concrete
Action Item in each issue.]

Action Item:

Humanitarian Relief



There's no shortage of crises in the world, but there are **two** dire situations that the world is mobilizing around and Cville Dems can play a part through disaster relief donations. Choose your

favorite established/reputable organization (beware of fake/scam charities!), some options listed below for your convenience:

Earthquake that hit Turkey and Syria

(40,000+ dead, hundreds of thousands homeless in frigid cold)

- [International Red Cross / Red Crescent](#)
- [Doctors Without Borders](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)

Ongoing Misery in Ukraine

(Russian invasion/bombardments for an entire year)

- [Ukrainian Government Relief Efforts](#)
- [International Rescue Committee](#)
- [International Red Cross / Red Crescent](#)



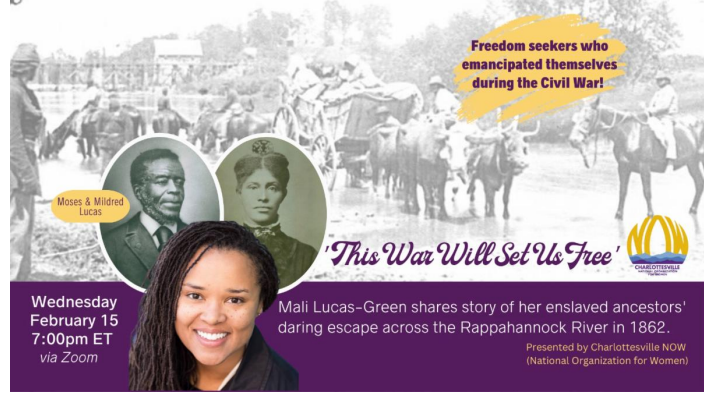
Executive Committee Meeting: Monday 2/27 6:30pm

This will be a Zoom-only meeting (we'll email the link a day or two beforehand). As always, everyone's input and ideas are very much welcome (needed!). Our main agenda items:

- discuss plans for a candidate forum for the primaries
- hear update on plans for our big annual fundraising event in June
- solicit ideas for community outreach activities/events
- meet the leadership team of the Charlottesville Area Young Democrats (CAYD)
- consider whether to host an informational forum on the new (Draft) zoning map
- hear from local activist Kate Vasiloff about the difficult issue of medical aid in dying (and legislative actions to consider)

NOW Wednesday Program 2/15 (Tonight!) 7pm

In *This War Will Set Us Free*, educator/artist Mali Lucas-Green draws on two decades of research into her family history to describe her great great great grandfather's 1862 escape from enslavement to freedom across the Rappahannock River and his journey back into Confederate territory to free his family. Click [here](#) for more information and/or to register.



Freedom seekers who emancipated themselves during the Civil War!

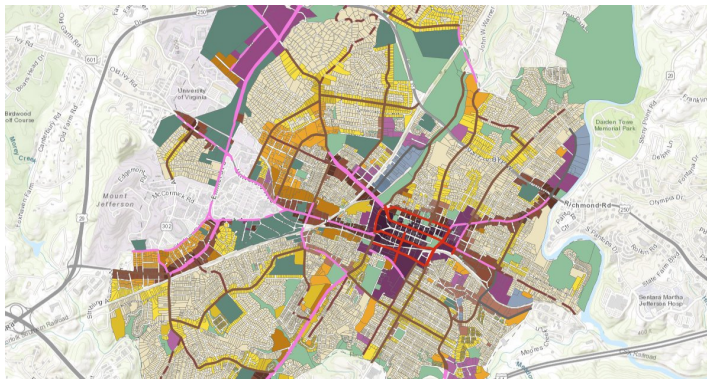
Moses & Mildred Lucas

'This War Will Set Us Free'

Wednesday
February 15
7:00pm ET
via Zoom

Mali Lucas-Green shares story of her enslaved ancestors' daring escape across the Rappahannock River in 1862.

Presented by Charlottesville NOW
(National Organization for Women)



Charlottesville's (DRAFT) Zoning Plan Revision

"It's finally here! Charlottesville has released its draft zoning map. As dry as that sounds, this small

document has the potential to dramatically change the look, feel — and livability — of this city for decades to come."

That quote is from a [Charlottesville Tomorrow](#) overview of where this long process stands (prior background articles [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#)) and notes how to share your input on the draft, either in writing (via this [Google Form](#) or to engage@cvilleplanstogether.com) and/or at these upcoming community open houses:

- **Wed. Feb. 22, 6:00-8:30pm** — Charlottesville High School cafeteria, 1400 Melbourne
- **Thurs. Feb. 23, 6:00-8:30pm** — Buford Middle School cafeteria, 1000 Cherry Ave.
- **Sat. Feb. 25, 11am to 1:30pm** — CitySpace, 100 5th St. NW (Downtown Mall)

Other information sources to check out: [Cville Plans Together](#) (including an [interactive map](#)) and the [City of Charlottesville website](#) and local activist groups like [Charlottesville-Albemarle Affordable Housing Coalition](#) (CHAAHC) and [Charlottesville Low-Income Housing Coalition](#) (CLIHC) which have been working on housing issues for years.



From the Campaign Trail

Here are the candidates we know about in 2023 Charlottesville election races (partisan races only, we won't be disseminating information about the non-partisan but important races for City of Charlottesville School Board and Jefferson District Soil and Water Board):

Virginia Senate District 11

Delegate Sally Hudson (<https://sallyforvirginia.com>)

Sen. Creigh Deeds (<https://www.senatordeeds.com/>)

Virginia House of Delegates District 54

Katrina Callsen (<https://www.katrinacallsen.com>)

Dashad Cooper (cooperfordelegate@gmail.com)

David Brown (dbrowndc@gmail.com)

Bellamy Brown (<https://www.bellamybrownfordelegate.com>)

Dave Norris (<https://votefordave.org>)

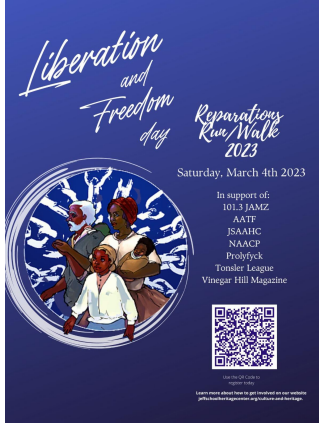
Charlottesville City Council

(3 seats, but we've not seen any candidacies announced yet)

As a matter of policy, the Cville Dems don't take sides in primaries. We'll cover these races through June in an even-handed way in this newsletter, on our website, and on social media.

Jefferson School Annual Reparations Run Fundraiser

The Jefferson School African American Heritage Center is sponsoring its annual 8K [Reparations Run](#) fundraiser to benefit Black-led organizations on Saturday March 4 in celebration of the 2023



Liberation and Freedom Day being commemorated March 3-5.

Last year they allowed local organizations to form teams, and the Cville Dems participated that way (raising a little over \$1000); let us know if you'd like to join a similar effort this year.

Or... to participate in the 8K run as an individual, you can sign up [here](#).

Dues are Due!

Treasurer Jason Vandever reminds us that 2023 dues (kept at the same affordable \$15 rate for many years) can be paid via [Act Blue](#) or by mailing a check payable to Cville Dems to PO Box 916, Cville 22902.

If you're already set up in Act Blue for a monthly donation, that recurring donation covers you and you needn't do anything (convenient!).



Help Wanted: Co-Chair

We have an opening for a party co-chair! Good people skills (we always have bridges that need building) and good organizational skills are two very desirable qualities. If you

or someone you know might be a good candidate, please let us know by emailing John McLaren at cville Dems chair@gmail.com.

Report: *Repairing the World* Documentary

Over 170 people came out for the Charlottesville Clergy Collective Saturday screening of the "Repairing the World" documentary about the mass shooting at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, continuing the community dialogue around how we can work together to combat antisemitism, racism, and other forms of hate in our area.



Another VA Special Election: Jennifer McClellan on Feb 21st

If Jennifer wins this election she will become the first Black woman to represent Virginia in Congress (taking the late Rep. Donald McEachin's 4th Congressional District seat). To find out more, and to support her (!), go to her [website](#) and [her Mobilize page](#)

General Assembly is in Session

A lot is happening between now and February 27th! If you want, you can follow things (play along!) from home by watching the House and Senate floor and committee livestreams through the links given on this [General Assembly website page](#). And to understand how the VA legislative system works, check out the Albemarle Dems' wonderful 9-pager "What Do Your Elected Officials Actually Vote For?" (aka [LIS 101](#)).



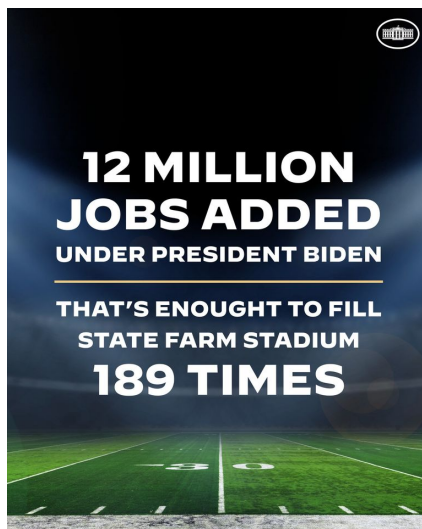
Preaching BEYOND the Choir (Why electing Dems matters!)



"Ford will build \$3.5 billion battery factory in Michigan that Virginia governor rejected The facility will be located at a greenfield site in

the city of Marshall and initially create 2,500 jobs as it ramps toward the start of production in 2026....In January, Virginia governor Gov. Glenn Youngkin said he had removed Virginia from consideration for the LFP factory due to concerns about the Chinese connection" [Fox](#)

"The [Virginia Employment Commission](#) has notified almost 17,000 Virginians that their [appeals](#) will not be heard because they filed them too late, unless they can prove otherwise this week....The VEC mailed the letters on Jan. 26, the same day the General Assembly [shelved legislation](#) Gov. Glenn Youngkin sought that would have cut the time for claimants to appeal decisions on eligibility for unemployment benefits from 30 to 15 days. 'At the same time the commission was asking the General Assembly for 15 days, they knew that for almost 26,000 appeals, 30 days was not enough,' said Flannery O'Rourke, an attorney for the [Virginia Poverty Law Center](#), which had opposed the legislation. 'It's a bit appalling.'" [Richmond Times-Dispatch, 2/14/2023](#)



"These are extraordinary times for America's economy...U.S. employers added 517,000 jobs in January, well above what private forecasters were expecting. The unemployment rate in January was the lowest it's been since 1969....annual inflation has declined seven months in a row. At the same time, we have experienced the fastest jobs recovery from a recession in the last three decades....In January, the unemployment rate was 3.4%, with Black unemployment and unemployment for workers with less

than a high school degree at near record lows. And this has been one of the fastest recoveries of prime-age labor force participation in history, with labor force participation for women ages 25 to 54 almost back to its pre-pandemic level." — *Cecilia Rouse, chair of the White House Council of Economic Advisers, in [CNBC Op-Ed, 2/14/2023](#)*

Partner Organizations

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

Charlottesville Democratic Party ("Cville Dems")

<https://cvilledems.org>

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**Contact us: cvilledemschair@gmail.com
Add me to the [mailing list](#)**

Thank you for your support!

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Paid for and authorized by the Charlottesville Democratic Committee

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