

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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Website

News and Updates from the Cville Dems (3/31/2023)

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!

- **3/31** (today!) Deadline for public comments to keep Virginia in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) (see below)
- **4/19** VEA forum for House of Delegates candidates
- **4/24** 6:30-8:30pm University Democrats 2023 [Hoos Vote Blue fundraiser](#)
- **4/25** 9am (rescheduled) Rally at Charlottesville Circuit Court, 315 E. High Street to support Swords into Plowshares, court support afterwards
- **4/25** 6:00-7:30pm Central Virginia Community Justice (formerly Charlottesville Albemarle Restorative Justice) [introductory party](#)
- **4/26** 7:00-8:30pm Cville/Albemarle Dems forum for all House of Delegates primary candidates at the Jefferson School (see below)
- **4/26** VEA forum for State Senate primary candidates focusing on educational issues (evening, location and time TBA)
- **5/05 - 6/17** Primary Election Early Voting (see registration info below)

- **5/07** 6-8pm Rep. Jennifer McClellan headlines [Albemarle Dems annual fundraiser](#) at The Greencroft Club
 - **6/02** Cville Dems 2023 Summer Bash fundraiser (see below)
 - **6/20** June Primary election (see registration info below)
 - **9/30** 5th District Dems *Extravaganza* — details coming soon
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Spring is here!!

We hope the sunny weather and blooming flowers are starting to lift your spirits as much as they're lifting ours!



Meet the June Candidates (6/20 Primaries)

We're tracking the local primary electoral races on our [website](#), but here's what we knew about the candidates in 2023 Charlottesville primary election races as this newsletter went out:

State Senate District 11

- Delegate Sally Hudson (sallyforvirginia.com) — overview info pending from candidate
- Sen. Creigh Deeds (senatordeeds.com) — [overview info](#)

House of Delegates District 54 (Sally's current seat):

- Bellamy Brown (<https://www.bellamybrownfordelegate.com>) — overview info pending from candidate
- Katrina Callsen (<https://www.katrinacallsen.com>) — [overview info](#)
- Dave Norris (<https://votefordave.org>) — [overview info](#)

[David Brown left the race on Feb. 22, Dashad Cooper left on March 14 to enter City Council race]

Charlottesville City Council (3 seats)

- Bob Fenwick — overview info pending from candidate (entered race 3/20)
- Michael Payne (michaelpayneforcville@gmail.com) — [overview info](#)
- Lloyd Snook (<https://www.lloydsnookforcouncil.com>) — overview info pending from candidate

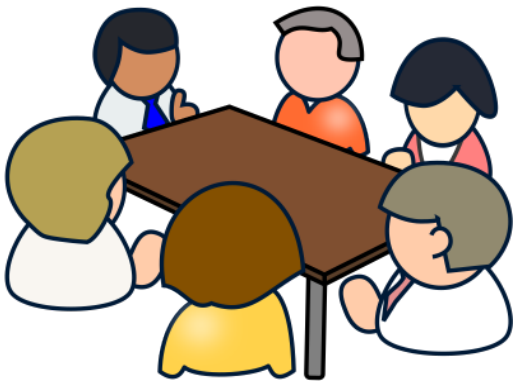
- Dashad Cooper — overview info pending from candidate
- Natalie Oschrin (<https://www.nat4cville.com>) — overview info pending from candidate (entered race 3/31)

In addition to what's on the web and in our social media, we're giving each candidate some space near the bottom of each newsletter to communicate with you.

Note: as a matter of policy, the Cville Dems don't take sides in primaries, but we'll continue to share information about these races through June in an even-handed way.

A Word about "The Former Guy"

It's a sad day for America when an ex-President is indicted... but we've had plenty of sad days given all the illegal, unethical, and immoral actions perpetrated by ex-Pres. Trump (and somehow he's still the leading Republican candidate for 2024!!????). So for many of us, yesterday's sadness was long long overdue.



Report: Full Committee Meeting (3/27)

1. Ashley Cinalli-Mathews from Central Virginia Community Justice gave us an overview of the renamed and expanding restorative justice organization and invited us to attend its free introductory party on April 25 (6:00-7:30pm at Visible Records, 1740 Broadway Street).
2. Plans continue to advance for our June 2 annual fundraiser (see below for more details). In the near future, we'll need some volunteers to go through our phone list to recruit sponsors for the event. Please contact Nancy Damon (nancycdamon@gmail.com) if you might be able to help.
3. Here's our game plan for holding forums for primary candidates, with additional event details to be announced as soon as they're set (details of the first event were not known as of the meeting date, we've filled those in):

- **House of Delegates** — We'll have one forum at the Jefferson

School African American Heritage Center on 4/26, 7:00-8:30pm, for all the primary candidates for both our District 54 (Charlottesville and parts of Albemarle) and also our neighboring District 55 (which includes the rest of Albemarle). This is co-sponsored by the Albemarle Dems.

- **City Council** — Now that we need to hold a primary (currently 4 candidates for 3 seats) we'll arrange a forum.
- **State Senate** — We'll will try to set up something with the candidates as soon as possible after candidate registrations for the primary end on April 6. The Senior Statesman club is arranging a forum close to the June primary date, but we want to give our members an earlier look.

4. We discussed whether to hold an informational forum about the City's Draft Zoning Plan (see below for much more on this!).

[In each issue we're flagging an Action Item for our members to do something concrete; show up, contact people, make a donation, whatever feels right to you. Let us know your ideas for future items!]

Action Item (Deadline TODAY): Save Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) from Gov. Youngkin!

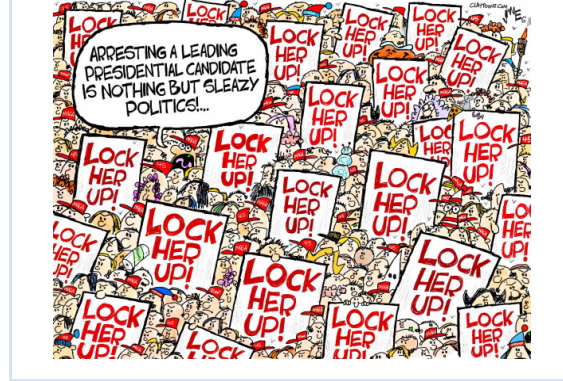
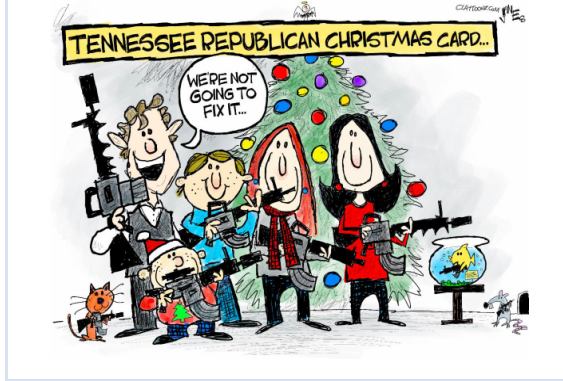
Gov. Youngkin continues to work on taking Virginia out of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a crucial and highly popular multi-state cooperative effort to rein in greenhouse gases. He couldn't get the General Assembly to change the law that brought Virginia into RGGI, so now he's trying to use changes to administrative regulations to get what he wants.

We need to stand up for RGGI! **By the end of today**, please post a comment opposing Youngkin's efforts on the State's [feedback portal](#).

Some background information: "...RGGI is one of Virginia's top global warming solutions and is currently under attack. We need you to show your support for RGGI and protect this critical program." [Environment Virginia, 3/15/23](#)



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A more graphic (disturbing but powerful) Clay Jones cartoon about the Nashville Shooting is [here](#).

Community Forums Long-Range Planning

Interested in an Informational Forum on the City's Zoning Plan?

At the 3/27 meeting, we continued discussing whether to sponsor an informational forum about the City's upcoming Draft Zoning Plan (Modules 1 and 2 of 3 are [now available](#)) on which our local party hasn't taken a position.

So far most of the informational events have either been the City presenting the plan or presentations from local activist group Livable Cville; there's not been an event where people can hear perspectives from multiple stakeholders.

We're thinking that, in addition to being useful in and of itself, such an event can be part of our agenda of increasing outreach to the community. Working class and minority families are increasingly being priced out of the local housing market, and they need to know that we hear and share their concerns.

We did a straw poll at the meeting and a significant majority liked the idea, but we're checking again with you (there was an email address typo in the last newsletter issue, sorry about that!) to see:

1. Would you like to see this kind of multiple stakeholder panel/forum on the Draft Zoning Plan?

2. If so, What groups/people would you be most interested in hearing from?

3. Any other thoughts about this that you'd like to share with us?

Please send your thoughts to cvilledemschair@gmail.com .

More broadly on the topic of community outreach: we're always looking for ideas and projects to increase our involvement in our community, and we would love to hear from you about what we can do in that regard (e.g. each newsletter issue now identifies a possible action item that's relatively quick and easy for people to engage with).

We'd love to hear your ideas and suggestions for action items and anything else related to community engagement:

cvilledemschair@gmail.com . Thank you!

Primary Time = Voter Registration Time

Suzanne Michels and Jim Nix have identified all the ways you can register to vote and some important information about registering/voting this year:



- Now through 5/30 at your Registrar's Office, or online, or at a registration drive.
- When you early vote at your Registrar's Office, 5/31-6/17 (same-day registration).
- On Election Day 6/20 at your local precinct (when you use same-day registration at *your* precinct, you vote with a provisional ballot, which will be counted unless there's some other problem).

And as for actually voting:

- Early voting for the Primary is 5/5-6/17 at the Registrar's Office (Monday-Fridays, *and* there will be Saturday voting on 6/10 and 6/17.
- On (Primary) Election Day, 6/20, go to your local precinct polling place any time from 6am-7pm.

Important:

- City Council approved some changes to precinct boundaries and changed a few polling places. Once these changes take effect on April 7, the Registrar will start sending letters to the 40% of Charlottesville voters who will have new voting locations starting with the June 20 primary.
- Whenever you cast your ballot, bring an ID that meets Virginia's

criteria (see lists in English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese)!
• For more information, call the City of Charlottesville Registrar at 434-970-3250 (unless you're one of our Albemarle friends, in which case call the County Registrar at 434-972-4173).



Voter Registration Time = VR TeamTime!

What's that bright spotlight beaming up into the nighttime sky... is it the Bat Signal? I don't think so (get real, this is Charlottesville!).

No, it's our call to our mighty Voter Registration Team, alerting them that the team will be starting up again around mid-April!

- **Existing team members:** look for a Signup Genius email soon!
- **Extroverts not yet on the team:** it's fun to be out talking to people in the spring, and there are few things more satisfying than signing up a new voter! If you might be interested, email Suzanne: suzemichels@gmail.com

Cville Dems Summer 2023 Bash (Annual Fundraiser)

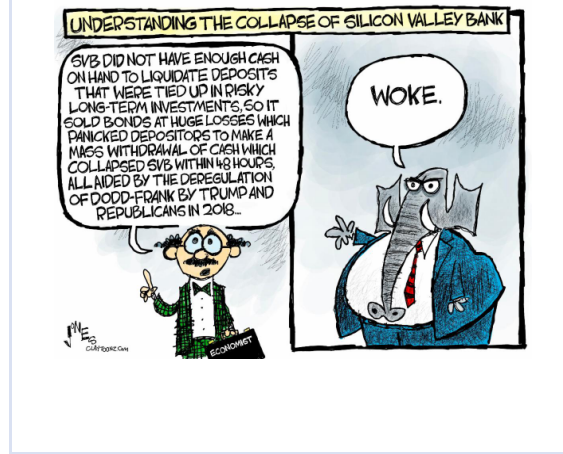


We've tentatively set Friday, June 2, for our annual dinner/fundraiser.

The plan is to once again have it outside on the lawn of the Jefferson School City Center, this year with chicken and vegetarian dinner options.



We'll share further details as they fall into place. It's not too early to sign up as a sponsor, and it's not too early to be an early bird from your precinct! So sign up today using [ActBlue!!](#)



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 at cvilledemschair@gmail.com.



Messages from the June Primary Candidates

We're giving each candidate $\frac{1}{3}$ of a page in each issue for campaign information updates, with the candidate sequence rotating each time to be fair. So without further ado...

KatrinaCALLSEN DELEGATE

Deputy City Attorney and Albemarle County School Board Chair, [Katrina Callsen](#) is hosting a series of events to meet with voters throughout the 54th District.

Library Meet and Greets: Join Katrina for breakfast at a Library near you as we discuss why guns are becoming more accessible than books and what we can do about it!

April 1, 10:30 AM [Northside Library](#); stay for optional canvassing with Katrina

April 8, 9:30AM [Central Library](#); stay for optional canvassing with Katrina

April 15, 10:30 AM [Gordon Ave Library](#); stay for optional canvassing with Katrina

Neighborhood Meet and Greets: Visit our website and [sign up for a house party](#)

Volunteer: Our team is knocking doors and making calls on weekday evenings and every weekend. Get in on the action: [sign up to volunteer](#) and [request a yard sign](#).

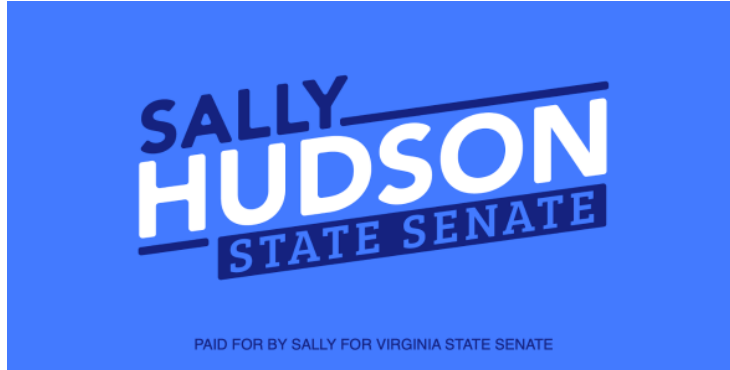
Paid for by Katrina Callsen for Delegate



A proven leader
with a bold vision
for positive,
progressive change.

www.VoteforDave.org

Paid for by Norris for Delegate



DEEDS
STATE SENATE



Paid for by Deeds for State Senate

NAT 4 CVILLE
CITY COUNCIL

Paid for by Natalie Oschrin for City Council





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 Charlottesville Democratic Committee, 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!).



June 2023 Guidance for Potential Candidates in Primary Elections

Not relevant to most of us, but if you're thinking of or planning to run in a Democratic primary for a local or state elected office, we've compiled a [cheat sheet for some of what you need to know](#). The filing period is between March 20 and April 6, so it's decision time for you very soon if not now!

Lamont Bagby wins VA 9th Senate Seat

Congratulations to Lamont Bagby for winning the special election to replace Jennifer McClellan in the Virginia State Senate.

Dems are doing very well in special elections,



Preaching **BEYOND** the Choir (Why electing Dems matters!)



"In a normal country, stopping this would be all we talked about.... But we don't live in a normal country. We live in a blood-soaked murder factory. We live in a country where there are more legal restrictions on where a person can bare their breasts than brandish their guns. We live in a society where people are more interested in

banning books than guns. We live with state governments that will force people to give birth against their will, but shrug when actual children are killed at school. We live like this because of the Republican Party." [The Nation, 3/29/23](#)

"An already vigorous assault by Republicans on LGBTQ+ rights around the US is certain to gather pace in the wake of the Nashville school shooting, advocacy groups are warning. Hard-right figures wasted little time in seizing on the reported transgender identity of the Covenant school killer to advance tenets of a "hateful" agenda that has become an obsession of Republican-controlled statehouses from Florida to Tennessee." [The Guardian, 3/30/23](#)



"A federal judge in Texas said Thursday that some Affordable Care Act mandates cannot be enforced nationwide, including those that require insurers to cover a wide array of preventive care services at no cost to the patient, including some cancer, heart and STD screenings, and smoking cessation programs." [CNN, 3/20/23](#) This ruling is by "A Texas-based judge who has become notorious for his rulings against the Affordable Care Act ... an appointee of President George W. Bush" [CNN, 1/28/23](#)

LEARN HOW
**HEALTH REFORM
BENEFITS AMERICANS**

FREE PREVENTIVE CARE
Check-ups, vaccines and screenings like mammograms and colonoscopies are covered by insurance at no cost.

A NEW WAY TO GET INSURANCE, BY STATE
Compare options based on price and benefits, enroll in a plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace, opening October 1.

COVERAGE FOR YOUNG ADULTS UNDER 26
6.6 million young adults can stay on their parents' plan until turning age 26.

COVERAGE FOR PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS
Starting in 2014, insurance companies can't charge you more or deny insurance because you've been sick, or charge women more.

NO CANCELLATIONS OR LIFETIME LIMITS ON CARE
Insurance companies can't cancel coverage or limit what they'll spend when you get sick.

REBATES FROM INSURANCE COMPANIES
If your insurer spends too much on overhead and not enough on your health care, you get a rebate.

LOWER COST COVERAGE
Through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower monthly premiums depending on your income and family size.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG SAVINGS FOR SENIORS
Nearly 3.5 million people with Medicare saved an average of more than \$706 each on their prescriptions in 2012.

WH.GOV/HEALTHREFORM

"Ruby Bridges,' a film about a Black first grader who integrated an all-White elementary school in the South, is under review in a Florida school district after a parent objected to the movie's use of slurs and argued it could teach students that "White people hate Black people" [CNN, 3/29/23](#)



"Virginia Secretary of the Commonwealth Kay Coles James (R) [sent](#) a letter to state lawmakers outlining the administration's plan to pause automatic voting rights restoration for people with felony convictions. In requiring restoration on a case-by-case basis, Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) is repealing the policy of his predecessors and effectively reverting Virginia to a 1902-era lifetime ban on voting for all individuals convicted of felonies."

[Democracy Docket, 3/28/23](#)

"Alarmed over young people increasingly proving to be a force for Democrats at the ballot box, Republican lawmakers in a number of states have been trying to enact new obstacles to voting for college students...But so far this year, the new Idaho law is one of few successes for Republicans targeting young voters. Attempts to cordon off out-of-state students from voting in their campus towns or to roll back preregistration for teenagers have failed in New Hampshire

and Virginia." [NY Times, 3/29/2023](#)



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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Add me to the [mailing list](#)

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