

C'VILLE DEMS

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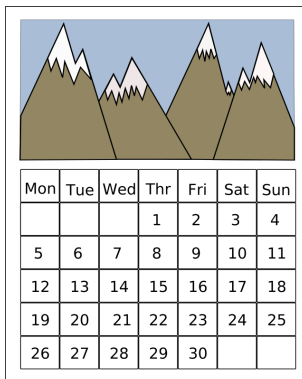


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Website

News and Updates from the Cville Dems (4/14/2023)

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!

- **4/14-4/30** [Earth Day Every Day](#) (many April events!)
- **4/15** 10am-12:30pm Cville Plans Together [Open House](#)
- **4/18** Federal Taxes Due
- **4/19** VEA House of Delegates Online Forum
Squire/Laufer 5:30-6:30pm, then Callsen/Brown/Norris
7-8pm. Participate via [Zoom](#) or watch the [livestream](#)
- **4/19 6:30pm** webinar Livable Cville "[Missing Middle](#)" [Housing](#): Racial Equity and Opportunity
- **4/24 6:30-8:30pm** University Democrats 2023 [Hoos Vote Blue](#) fundraiser
- **4/25 9:30am** (rescheduled) Court support for Swords into Plowshares at Charlottesville Circuit Court, 315 E. High Street
- **4/25 6:00-7:30pm** Central Virginia Community Justice (formerly

Charlottesville Albemarle Restorative Justice) [introductory party](#)

- **4/26 7:00-8:30pm** Charlottesville and Albemarle Dems forum for all House of Delegates primary candidates (Districts 54 and 55) at the Jefferson School (see below)
- **4/26** VEA State Senate Online Forum Hudson/Deeds. Details 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)

Executive Committee Meeting Monday 4/24 6:30pm

We're trying to find an outdoor location that will hold 20+ people with some social distance, we'll email everyone Sunday or Monday with a Zoom link and a physical location if found.



Agenda highlights:

1. Meet the officers of Rally PVCC (see below), a new PVCC student organization aiming to mobilize students to become more engaged in the civic life of the greater Charlottesville community
2. Final list of candidates (and thanks to all who helped, see below)
3. Discuss logistics for various Candidate Forums (see below)
4. Decide whether to hold an informational forum about the Draft Zoning Plan revisions (see below)
5. Update on our June 2 Summer Bash fundraiser (see below).



Meet the June Candidates (6/20 Primaries!)

Here are the names as they will appear on the ballot (in ballot order):

House of Delegates District 54

- **Katrina Elizabeth Callsen** (katrinacallsen.com) — [overview info](#)
- **David M. Norris** (votefordave.org) — [overview info](#)
- **Bellamy Warren Brown** (bellamybrownfordelegate.com) — [overview info \(partial\)](#)

Charlottesville City Council (3 seats)

- **Robert F. Fenwick Jr.** — [overview info pending from candidate](#)
- **John Lloyd Snook Jr.** (lloydsnookforcouncil.com) — [overview info pending from candidate](#)
- **Michael Keith Payne** (michaelpayneforville@gmail.com) — [overview info](#)
- **Natalie Oschrin** (nat4cville.com) — [overview info](#)
- **Dashad Lorenzo Cooper** (dashadcooper.com) — [overview info](#)

State Senate District 11

(ballot order will be determined later by drawing straws)

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

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.

We're tracking these races on our [website](#) and giving candidates some access to our social media... and we're offering each candidate some space towards the bottom of each newsletter for campaign information/graphics.

2nd Annual Summer Bash Fundraiser!

The 2023 Bash will be an outdoor event, with a guest speaker to be announced later, that's taking the place of the traditional spring pasta supper. Last year we had a great time!!

Date: Friday, June 2

Time: 6pm-??

Cost (includes dinner!): \$25 per person
(only \$15 if this is your very first Bash!)

Location: on the Jefferson School

African American Heritage Center (JSAAHC) lawn, 233 4th St. NW



Food: fried chicken or vegetarian dinner options.

Signup: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/2023summerbash>



Having the event right before the June 20 primary also gives you the perfect chance to chat with our City Council, House of Delegates, and State Senate candidates.

Cville Dems members signing up to be event sponsors are our main source of funding for everything we do the entire year: supporting campaigns, writing to newly registered voters, providing scholarships, and generally encouraging people to exercise their rights as citizens.

Sponsorship levels:

- \$100 or \$250 (both include 2 dinner tickets)
- \$500 (includes 4 dinner tickets)

You can also buy two tickets and bring a friend.... or bring your whole precinct! If you'll be away, you can donate your tickets so some newcomers can come.

We've started "dialing for dollars" to invite those of you who can afford to become sponsors. (If you'd like to help call people, please contact Nancy Damon: nancycdamon@gmail.com or 434-295-6774 or 434-953-6890).



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.
- Same-day registration when you early vote 5/31-6/17 at your Registrar's Office.

- 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.

Related notes:

City Council approved some changes to precinct boundaries and polling locations that took effect on April 7, in time for the June primaries. Around the end of the month, the Registrar's Office will start sending letters to around 40% of Charlottesville voters whose polling locations were changed.

Whenever you cast your ballot, bring an ID that meets Virginia's criteria (see lists of acceptable IDs in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Korean](#), and [Vietnamese](#)). If you don't have an ID, or forget to bring one, you can sign a form affirming your identity and you'll still be able to vote a regular ballot.

For more information, call the City of Charlottesville Registrar at 434-970-3250 (Albemarle readers should call the County Registrar at 434-972-4173).

Voter Registration Time = VR Team Time!

Q: Why does our wonderful voter registration team, led by Suzanne Michels and Barbara Shenefield, table at events at least once every weekend (often more) during the spring, summer, and fall?

A: Because Cville has one of the highest Dem percentages and turnout rates in the state! When we register a voter here, the chances are very high that they'll vote Democratic (and yeah, giving everyone a voice *is* the right thing to do!).

At our event tents we register new voters, including those who've recently moved to (or within!) our area, answer questions about the upcoming primary, and help voters figure out where they vote, either early (hint...at their Registrar's Office!) or on Election Day (40% of city



residents have had changes made to their precinct locations, so that will require some thought!). We will also help folks who need to have their right to vote restored file the paperwork to start that process.

They're starting this coming Saturday, April 15, 9am-12pm at Ix Market, and they'll also be tabling at the One Stop Shop on Friday, April 21, an event for formerly-incarcerated people looking for support.

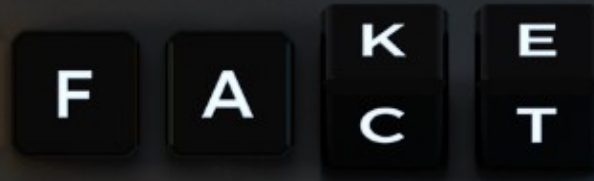
There are few things more satisfying than signing up a new voter! Please check out this [online signup form](#) to see what dates we need people; we'd love to have more folks pitch in (and if you're even a little bit of an extrovert, you'll enjoy it!). Or email suzemichels@gmail.com if you might be interested.



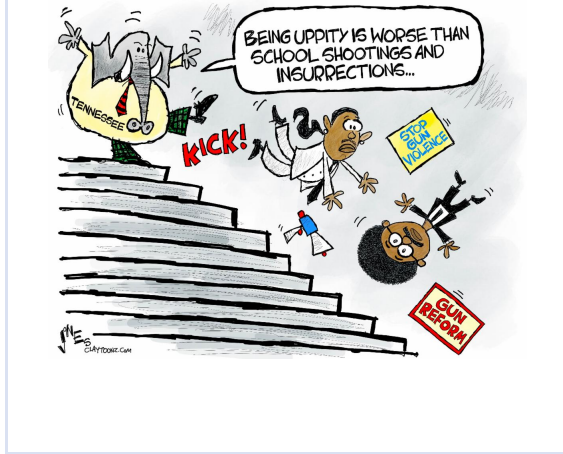
Forums for June Primary candidates

Here's where these stand:

- **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** — We've started exploring logistics for this.
- **State Senate** — At our Executive Committee meeting we'll see if there's interest in us hosting a forum for this race (there was a forum this past Monday and at least two other local ones are already scheduled).



The Virginia Department of Elections has a helpful [Mythbusters](#) page where you can see some common misperceptions and misinformation (and get the real facts!).



Organization Profile: "Rally PVCC"

A new student political organization is forming at PVCC!

Though the club will be welcoming to all, the three founding officers all personally fall on

the progressive end of the political spectrum:

Mara Cox – Mara, now 33, was working in the food service industry before illness and pandemic boredom led her to start reading about evolution, which led to a passion for geology that brought her to college (at age 31) to study geology and hopefully go on to teach geology at the community college level. She started the Geology Club at PVCC, which is now the most popular student club on campus (!). On one of the Zoom webinars the club holds with leading geologists all over the world, **Timefullness** author Marcia Bjornerud emphasized that addressing climate change and other challenges requires scientists to get involved in politics and politicians willing to learn and value science. Inspired by that, Mara decided to plunge into political work herself, hence Rally PVCC.

Justin Roberts — Justin is a member of Charlottesville DSA who's done anti-eviction work with its Housing Justice Committee (canvassing tenants facing eviction, court watch, etc.). That work, particularly talking 1:1 with the housing insecure, has galvanized his desire to build working power in Cville. He'll be attending VCU in the fall.

Emily Moss — Emily was born and raised on California's Central Coast, where she was active in local politics. She previously attended design school and worked in product design and brand/media consulting, but her passions for climate justice, human rights

advocacy, and politics in general have led her to "switch gears"; she's attending PVCC to earn general credits to transfer to UVA and then plans to attend law school!

The group is now chartered by PVCC, with Prof. Tomas as faculty advisor. They're planning to hold an event in late April or early May (maybe even a City Council candidate forum!?), while school is still in session, to build some momentum for a big launch soon after Fall semester begins.

How Rally PVCC Came to Be

Mara took a "Women in American History" course from Prof. Jennifer Tomas in Fall 2022 and, in a class discussion, was really surprised how many of her classmates didn't realize there was an election coming up that year (didn't follow current events much at all). Though political decisions impact almost every aspect of students' lives, from housing costs and food insecurity to health care and transportation, and understanding of the world, most of her classmates were intimidated by politics and political discussion.

Mara posted fliers about starting a political club on campus, which Justin responded to right away. Soon after that, while tabling at PVCC's Club Day event, Mara met Emily. Emily reached out to Mara with some ideas afterwards (excited and inspired by others' interest in encouraging fellow students' engagement in politics on campus), and it was soon agreed that she and Mara would collaborate as co-presidents.

Their focus over the past 5 months has been soliciting opinions from other students about the mission and structure of the organization. That process is still ongoing, but a general concept has started to gel; a club without partisan labels, litmus tests, or any set agendas that would help educate students about political issues and encourage students to become more civically engaged in their communities (Charlottesville) and in the political process. To do this, the club would be a safe space where any student who was interested in learning more about issues could come and engage with other students (and potentially outside community members) in a safe space.

Please reach out to Rally PVCC at rallypvcc@gmail.com if:

- you or a friend/family member might be interested in keeping informed about their events and programs
- if you'd be willing to act as a community resource for them (e.g. as a potential speaker, or advisor to students in an area you're knowledgeable about, etc.)

The Cville Dems are looking forward to working with these very sharp and energetic founders to help build a vibrant student organization at PVCC. We're confident that, as its members learn more the serious

issues we're all confronting, they'll find themselves largely aligned with Democratic Party values and policy prescriptions.

Note— shoutout to PVCC student Torrance Malone for connecting us with this group!



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...

**NATALIE
OSCHRIN
CITY COUNCIL**

DEMOCRAT

NAT4CVILLE.COM

PAID FOR BY NATALIE OSCHRIN FOR CITY COUNCIL

I support affordable housing, walkable/bikeable communities with safe sidewalks, and putting resources towards underlying causes of housing, food, and job insecurity. Please visit my website, www.Nat4Cville.com, to learn more or get in touch. I look forward to meeting and working for you!

MICHAEL PAYNE

Charlottesville City Council



You can connect with our campaign at:

- twitter.com/MPayneCville
- [Facebook.com/MichaelPayneCville](https://facebook.com/MichaelPayneCville)
- michaelpayneforcville@gmail.com
- donate at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/michaelforcville>

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DEEDS

STATE SENATE



Paid for by Deeds for State Senate

SALLY
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STATE SENATE

PAID FOR BY SALLY FOR VIRGINIA STATE SENATE

VOTE FOR 
DAVE
NORRIS
FOR DELEGATE

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

www.VoteforDave.org



Visit the Bellamy Brown [Campaign Facebook page](#)

paid for by Bellamy Brown for Delegate

KatrinaCALLSEN

DELEGATE

Meet Deputy City Attorney and Albemarle County School Board Chair, [Katrina Callsen](#) at a Neighborhood House Party!

April 16 @ 4:00 PM [Rugby Ave Wine and Cheese](#)

April 21 @ 5:30 PM [Willoughby Neighborhood Lawn Party](#)

April 22 @ 5:00 PM [Meet and Greet on the Downtown Mall](#)

April 23 @ 2:00 PM [Belvedere Neighborhood Wine and Cheese](#)

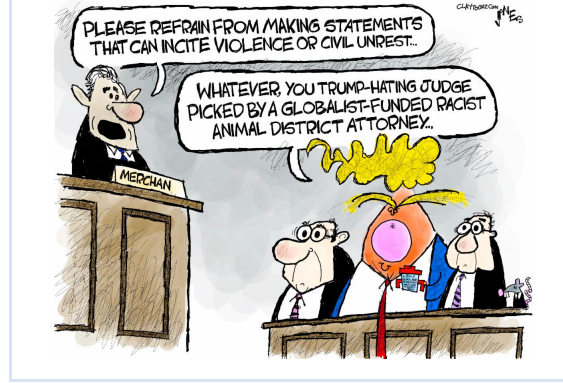
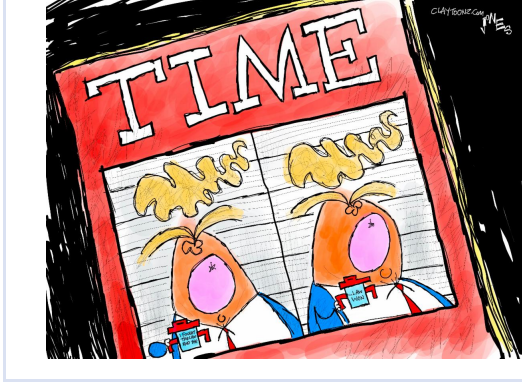
April 25 @ 5:30 PM [Meadowbrook Hills Wine and Cheese](#)

Volunteer! Team Callsen is knocking doors and making calls on weekday evenings and every weekend from now until Election Day.

[Sign up to volunteer](#) and [Order a Yard Sign](#)

Paid for by Katrina Callsen for Delegate





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



At the March 27 Full Committee 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. We did an informal straw poll at the meeting and a significant majority voted to hold a forum.

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.

This will be on the agenda for the 4/24 Executive Committee meeting, so we want to check one more time 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). Please send any ideas or suggestions for anything else related to community engagement: cvilledemschair@gmail.com . Thank you!



Thanks to the Signature Verifying Team!!

The nine-member team checked 1000+ signatures in five hours of meetings over two weekends, ensuring that all of our primary candidates (House of Delegates District and City Council) qualified to be on the ballot under State and DPVA requirements. This work is part of the machinery that keeps our democracy going!

Thanks to Nancy Damon, Alev Erişir, Judy Harmon, Mary Ann Harris, Suzanne Michels, Erin Monaghan, Elayne Phillips, Barbara Shenefield, and Teresa Willis (Albemarle County Dem and also a member of the House District 54 nominating committee).

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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Co-chair: vacant

Newsletter Editor: Dan Doernberg

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