

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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Website

News and Updates from the Cville Dems (6/8/2023)

3 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!).
- Come have fun at the June 26 Cville/Albemarle Dems Summer Picnic (below).

[See the whole issue as a PDF](#)

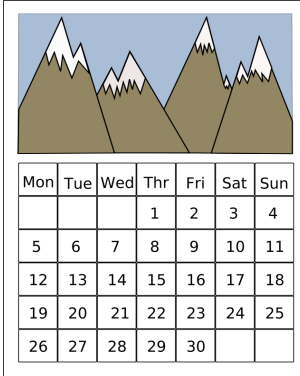
You May *Only* Be Seeing Half of Our Newsletter!

Gmail has a size limit (maybe other email programs do too) and is only showing you part of this newsletter; to see the whole thing, click [here](#) to see the complete issue.

And please let us know if you have any problem reading this on your phone or tablet; we've heard there may be some issues!

Mark Your Calendars!

- **Now through 6/17** — Early Voting in Democratic Primary (see below)



• **Now through 6/30** — Pride events, see <https://allevents.in/charlottesville/lgbt-pride>

• **6/10 11am-4pm** 2nd Annual Descendants Day at Highland

• **6/10 10:30-11:30am** kids, 11:30am-6:00pm adults – “Celebration of Tales” storytelling at The Center at Belvedere. Info: <https://www.celebrationoftales.org/>

- **6/12 7:00-7:45pm** – NAACP forum for State Senate candidates (Zoom only)
- **6/13 6-8pm** Candidates Forum sponsored by the Black Empowerment Coalition at The Bridge (new Downtown Mall location: 306 East Main St.).
- **6/14 4:30-7:30pm** [Cville Plans Together](#) community open house at CitySpace.
- **6/17** Jefferson School African American Heritage Center Juneteenth Celebration — 9am Parade, 11am Libation, Noon Concert, 7:30pm CPG’s presentation of *Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom*
- **6/18 7:30pm** Concert: Rock & Reel: Monticello’s Folk Traditions Sunday, June 18 | 7:30 pm | UVA Rotunda (register for [limited in-person tickets](#) or [stream it live](#))
- **6/19 11am & 4:30pm** historic River View Farm Juneteenth Tours (Ivy Creek Natural Area, 1780 Earlysville Rd.)
- **6/22 6:30pm** Northside Library screening of The Lives Between the Lines documentary (descendants of UVA's Enslaved Communities)
- **6/20 6am-7pm** – June Primary election (see voter registration info below)
- **6/23 6pm** – DPVA's [Blue Commonwealth Gala](#) with speakers Rep. Bennie G. Thompson and Paul Begala
- **6/26 5:30-??pm** – Picnic with Albemarle Dems (see below)
- **6/26** Executive Committee meeting CANCELED
- **6/29 7-9pm** — [Dark Money Is Coming for Our Children: Exposing the Right-Wing Agenda to Destroy Public Education](#) (free webinar sponsored by the Fairfax Dems)
- **7/29** — Chihamba Festival at Washington Park
- **9/30** — 5th District Dems Extravaganza (details coming soon)

Meet the June Candidates (6/20 Primaries!)

Here are the candidates running in all three Democratic Primary races (see a sample ballot [here](#)):



State Senate District 11 (vote for only 1)

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

House of Delegates District 54 (vote for only 1)

- 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, vote for not more than 3)

- Robert F. Fenwick Jr. — [overview info pending from candidate](#)
- Michael Keith Payne (<https://michaelpayneforville.org>) — [overview info](#)
- John Lloyd Snook Jr. (loydsnookforcouncil.com) — [overview info pending from candidate](#)
- Dashad Lorenzo Cooper (dashadcooper.com) — [overview info](#)
- Natalie Oschrin (nat4cville.com) — [overview info](#)

Note: the Cville Dems cannot take sides in primaries, but we'll continue to share information about these races through June 20 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 and graphics.

Action Item:

Join in local celebrations of Juneteenth!

A. Events sponsored by the Jefferson School

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Beyond Juneteenth, the JSAAHC sponsors the Charlottesville Players Guild (CPG), one of our truly essential local cultural institutions, providing a treasury of theater exploring the African-American experience on the stage. To support this institution, and avoid missing out on any of their productions, you can subscribe to the season series [here](#).

B. Other local Juneteenth events

See calendar at top (taken from the [Beloved Community newsletter](#)).



Summer "Fun in the Sun" Picnic with Albemarle Dems

Come meet all our great candidates and help launch their November campaigns!

• **Date & Time: Monday, June 26 2023, 5:30pm — ??**

Where: Darden Towe Park Picnic Shelter — enter the Park, turn right at the T intersection, take the road to the end to reach the picnic shelter and Dog Park)

We provide: Hotdogs/Burgers/Vegan food options + games for adults and kids (we're bringing cornhole, balls for soccer/kickball, bocci/petanque, and bubbles for little ones; feel free to bring more of the above or your own favorite picnic games/activities!)

You bring: non-alcoholic beverages, a side dish or dessert, 1 chair/person, family and friends (kid-friendly!), and your Democratic Spirit!

Food, games, meet candidates, and lots of Democrats attending... what's not to like?

Bring family and friends (especially those who aren't as politically engaged!) and help spread the word!!

RSVPs to: karencombs6522@gmail.com



Primary Time = Voter Registration Time

- Early voting for the Democratic Primary (which in Charlottesville more or less determines the winners of the November General Elections!) continues through

June 17 (Mondays-Fridays, and there will be Saturday voting on 6/10 and 6/17).

- Do same-day registration when you early vote now through 6/17 at your Registrar's Office.
- Vote on Election Day 6/20 any time from 6am-7pm 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).

Related Notes

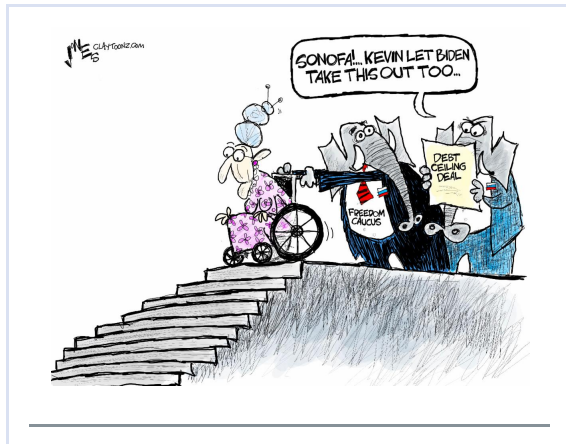
As of Thursday morning, only 2 candidates had turned in paperwork to run for School Board (non-partisan seats)... and no others appear to be in the pipeline per the City Registrar. Anyone who might be interested in running can visit the [State Board of Elections website](http://www.stateboardofelections.com), or call 434-970-3250, or email vote@charlottesville.org.

As of last week, [Charlottesville led the state](#) in early voting!!

City Council approved some changes to precinct boundaries and polling locations that took effect on April 7, in time for the June primaries. Around May 1 the Registrar's Office sent postcards to all registered Charlottesville voters; if you didn't get one, or if have any questions about voting or your voting status, call the City of Charlottesville Registrar at 434-970-3250 (Albemarle readers should call the County Registrar at 434-972-4173).

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.



Voter Registration Time = VR Team Time!

Our wonderful voter registration team, led by Suzanne Michels and Barbara Shenefield, registered voters for the Democratic Primary up to the last minute; now registration moves to the Registrar's Office (see above for times). The VR team will be at the Ix Market the next two Saturdays to educate folks about where to vote and who's on the ballot.



There are few things more satisfying than signing up a new voter! You can visit 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.

On a related front... we're looking for volunteers for the June 20 primary so we can staff a table at each polling location (and the two discontinued ones, Tonsler and Alumni Hall), to thank voters for coming out and hand out information about upcoming events, newsletter, volunteer opportunities, etc.

Bon Voyage Bekah Saxon!

Bekah Saxon has moved from Charlottesville to take a job with the Connecticut Education Association, after many many years of great work here:



- Her "day job" was organizing teachers with the Virginia Education Association, where she earned a major victory in March when the Charlottesville School Board became only the fourth division in Virginia to give its employees collective bargaining rights.
- She served for years as Secretary (a stalwart on the Executive Committee, providing context and history whenever she could), as party co-chair 2020-2021 with Sharon Cannon Webb, and a fierce Voter Protection advocate who helped organize our local efforts in recent years (and our ace logistics

person on Election Days, spearheading the gathering of materials to give to arriving voters and water bottles and other supplies for our volunteers).

We wish her and her very civically engaged wife Charlene Green (leaving later this year) and their amazing son Max the very best in this new phase of their lives... but both will be terribly missed locally!

Anyone who might be willing to help cover Bekah's Voter Protection duties (even very short term!) should contact John McLaren at cvilledemschair@gmail.com .



Don't Myth This!

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

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...

DEEDS

STATE SENATE



Paid for by Deeds for State Senate

SALLY
HUDSON
STATE SENATE

PAID FOR BY SALLY FOR VIRGINIA STATE SENATE



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

paid for by Bellamy Brown for Delegate

KatrinaCALLSEN

DELEGATE



Deputy City Attorney and Albemarle County School Board Chair, [Katrina Callsen](#) is running for the seat being vacated by Delegate Sally Hudson. To learn more: [See her new video!](#) To show your support, please [request a yard sign](#) and volunteer with the campaign.

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

MICHAEL PAYNE
Charlottesville City Council 

You can connect with our campaign at:

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

Paid for by Michael Payne for Cville

DASHAD 
COOPER
  **FOR CITY COUNCIL**

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!

REPORT: Summer Bash Fundraiser (6/2)

Fundraising Committee Chair Nancy Damon and her group gave us this recap of a very fun and successful event (even the weather cooperated!):



We had about 150 people come out to socialize, meet the candidates, and hear our speaker Lynlee Thorne, Rural GroundGame's Political Director.

Big thanks to:

- Our 60+ sponsors, at all levels, whose generosity makes all our work possible!
- Our primary food vendor [Soul Food Joint](#) (for the chicken and sides and all their table and chair hauling/set-up/takedown), and to [Sticks](#) and [Mona Lisa Pasta](#) for some of the vegetarian dishes.
- To Black Bear Composting for... composting!
- To everyone who pitched in to help with the cleanup, which included delivering our excess to The Haven, which they greatly

appreciated.

It worked out very nicely having Lynlee speak; we got lots of compliments about her organization's good and important work, and our arranging the chance for them to learn more about it.

As Lynlee explained in her talk, Rural GroundGame (RGG) is a Political Action Committee that provides in-kind assistance to Democratic candidates running in rural areas across the Commonwealth. Our party has tended to neglect rural voters, and that has hurt us badly, especially in state-wide elections. RGG helps candidates in many ways (e.g. supporting canvassing efforts, media coordination), and it's developing a new online platform and research arm.

For more information about RGG, to make a donation, or to see how you might be able to plug in as a volunteer or collaborator, visit www.ruralgroundgame.org.



Draft Zoning Ordinance

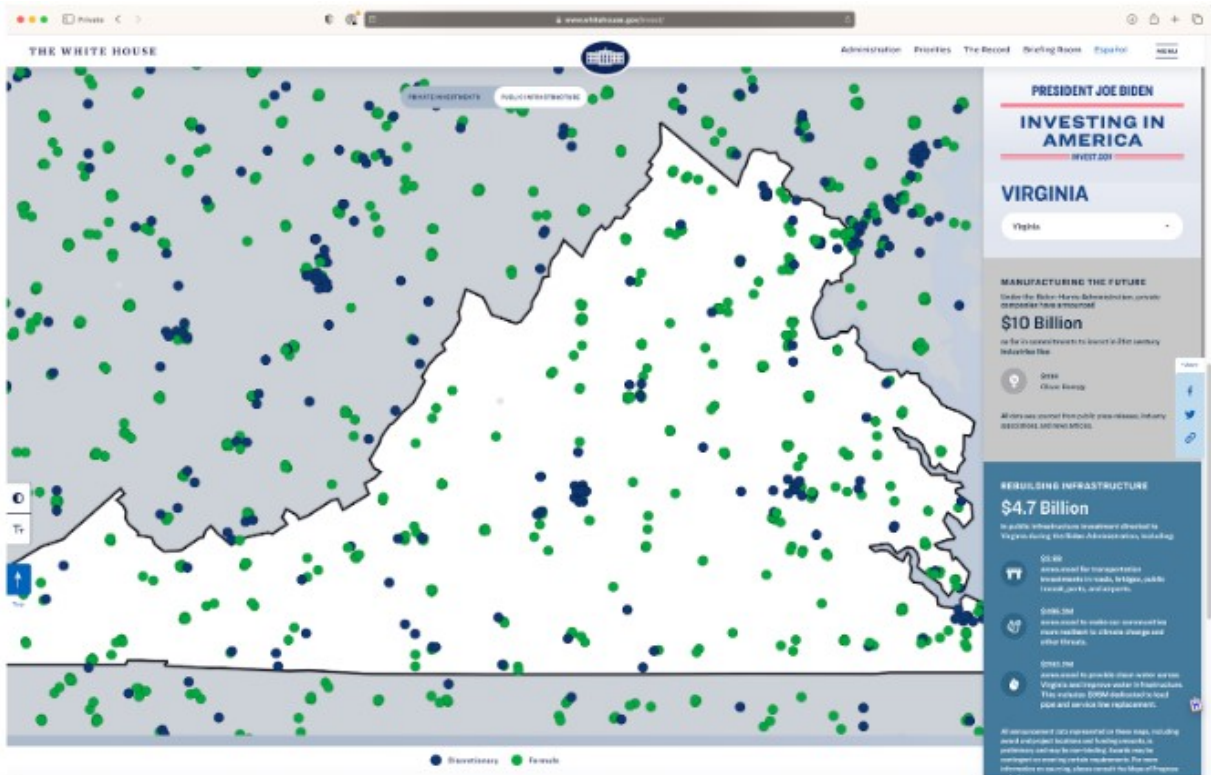
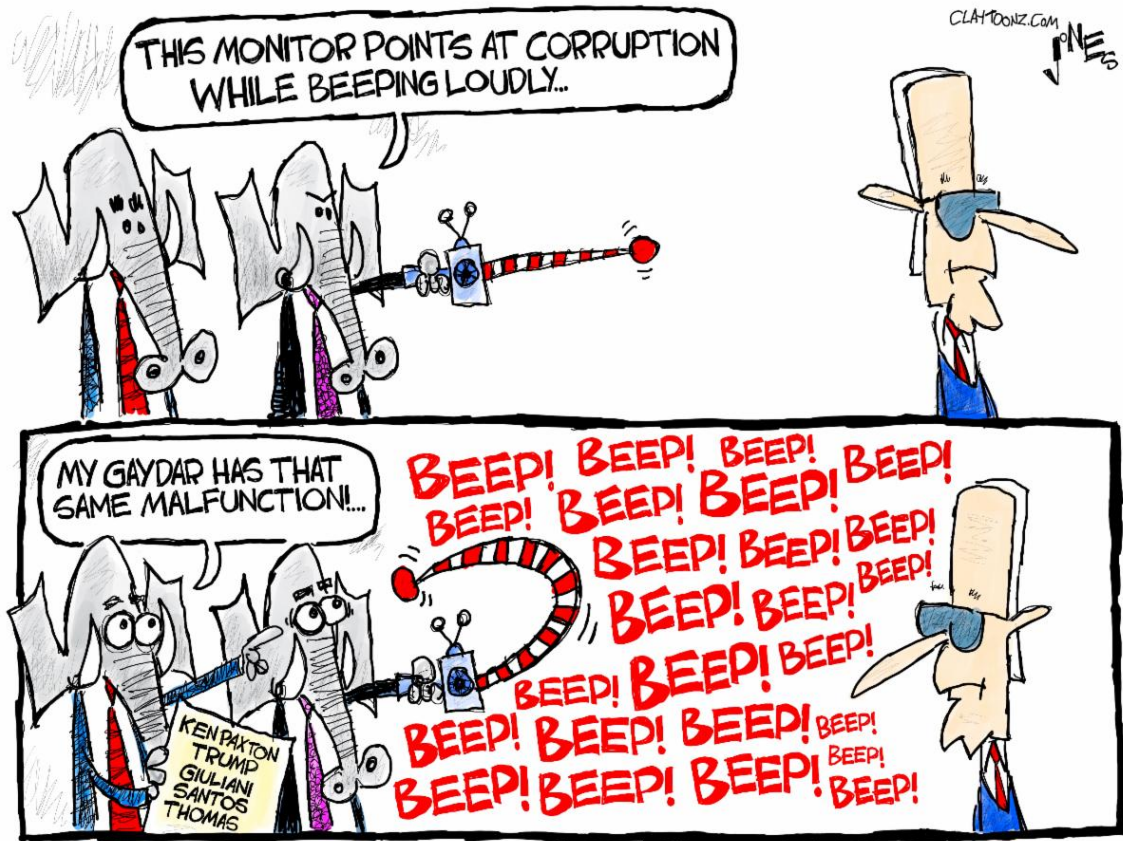
As the City continues to discuss the draft Zoning Ordinance (all three modules are [now available](#)), a Cville Dems

working group continues discussing how our party might contribute to the process by acting as an additional information channel. If you have thoughts on the matter, please reach out to us: communications@cilledems.org.



Note: [Cville Plans Together](#) is holding a Module 3 open house at CitySpace 4:30-7:30pm on Wednesday, June 14. Members of our

working group are planning to attend, please join us!



Biden Administration unveils "Invest in America" website

One reason the economy is doing so well (see below!) is the investment in American infrastructure from the Bipartisan

Infrastructure Law, the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and other initiatives. The White House Tuesday launched an ["Invest in America" website](#) letting everyone see where the money is going. We've included the graphic showing Virginia investments... check it out!

Note: here are the key websites for the Biden/Harris reelection campaign:



- campaign website: <https://joebiden.com>
- donation page: https://secure.actblue.com/donate/web_bfp_launch



Once the June 20 Primary is Past...

1. Mary Ann Harris and Nancy Damon and crew hope to start up the Dems' weekly Thursday volunteer evenings; writing postcards and making phone calls to our less blue neighbors to help turn the State House blue in November!
2. After the 6/22 (Primary recap!) issue, our newsletter will come out every 3 weeks until we get closer to the November election.

Preaching BEYOND the Choir (Why electing Dems matters!)

"US employers added a strong 339,000 jobs in May as labor market stays durable" [Daily Progress, 6/2/23](#)
[Labor force participation for ages 25-54 is the highest since January 2007!]

Figure 4. Labor force participation for those age 25 to 54 is the highest since January 2007.

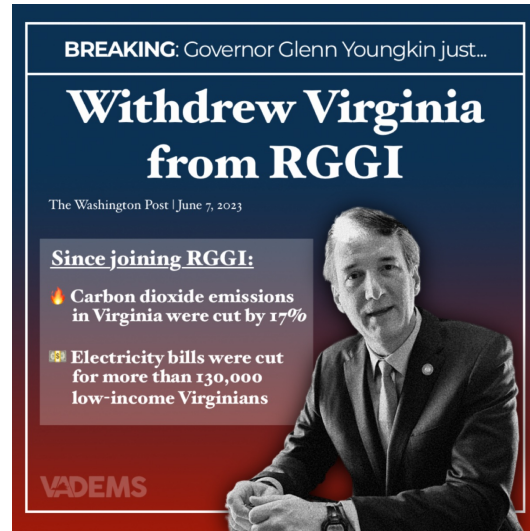


"At a [UVA] Board of Visitors meeting on Friday, Douglas Wetmore, the Senior Vice President for Business Development at Centauri Health Solutions who was appointed to the board by Gov. Glenn Youngkin last year, questioned why the school's Diversity Dashboard does not include an



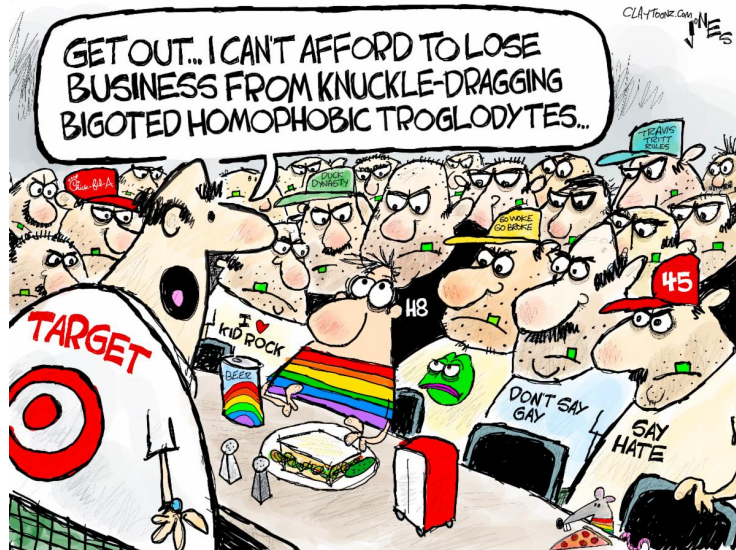
assessment of student or faculty ideologies“How come we don't have dashboards that track, for example, the political ideology of the faculty?”
Daily Progress, 6/3/23

"The State Air Pollution Control Board took its final step to withdraw Virginia from a regional carbon market, sending the action to Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin's office for final action, despite a majority of public commenters continuing to oppose the move ... All Youngkin appointees voted in support of the measure, while all three appointees of former Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam voted against it." *Virginia Mercury, 6/7/23*



'Nikki Haley, the 2024 Republican presidential contender, linked the presence of transgender girls in sports to suicidal ideation among teenage girls in a CNN town hall Sunday night in Iowa....“How are we supposed to get our girls used to the fact that biological boys are in their locker room? And then they wonder why a third of our teenage girls seriously contemplated suicide last year,” Haley said.' *CNN, 6/5/23*

"...Republican state legislatures are passing laws restricting LGBTQ+ rights and conservative media personalities are demonizing trans people. Some companies have faced a rightwing backlash over recent Pride promotions ...the North Face is dealing with conservative calls for a boycott, led by the far-right congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene... As of 1 June, it also featured its “out in nature” campaign prominently



on its website. Still, Fox reported that some items for children appeared to have been removed from the brand's site." [TheGuardian](#), 6/7/23

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](#)

Thank you for your support!

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Co-chair: vacant

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