

# C'VILLE DEMS

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## News and Updates from the Cville Dems (1/19/24)

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- Forward this to friends who aren't politically engaged but might want to know what the Cville Dems do and stand for.
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- [Make a contribution](#)

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Note: if Gmail isn't displaying all of this newsletter, look near bottom of the email for a link reading "[Message clipped] View entire message". Or...read the complete issue on our website once we upload it (usually within an hour of sending this mail).

## Upcoming Events!

**1/19**—Start of early voting in VA for 3/5 "Super Tuesday" Presidential Primary. In-person voting at City Hall Annex, 120 7th St. NE, Room 142, open weekdays 8:30am-4:30pm until Friday, Mar. 1

**1/27—7pm & 9:30pm** — 24/7 Fundraiser for Jefferson School (7 new plays written in 24 hours)

**1/29—6:30pm**, Cville Dems January Executive Committee Meeting – The location is the Madison Room at the Jefferson Madison Central Library

**2/26—6:30pm**, Cville Dems February Full Committee Meeting, location TBD

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## New Officers and Precinct Leaders

The "changing of the guard" election day for Cville Dems on Jan. 13 was a great social gathering. The good cheer of the registration hour led nicely into the elections of our biannual Reorganization Meeting.

Co-Chairs: Josh Throneburg and Nancy Damon

Vice-Chair: Dashad Cooper

Treasurer: Jason Vandever

Secretary: Ruth Goldeen and Will Evans

Four appointed positions are on the Executive Committee:

Communications: Mary Jane Gore

Voter Registration: Suzanne Michels

Voter Protection: Jeremy Jones

Fundraising: Still seeking candidate(s) — *Please contact [Nancy Damon](#) if you might be interested in helping out (e.g. brainstorming fundraising ideas)*

Some new and familiar faces are taking posts as precinct officers for 2024:

Buford Co-Chair Dashad Cooper

Co-Chair Steven Johnson

Carver Co-Chair Lucy Pola

Co-Chair Leonard Schoppa

CHS Co-Chair Mike Cameron

Co-Chair Ned Michie

Vice Chair Kristine Montamat

Clark Chair Laura Shea

Jackson-Via Co-Chair Noemi Paz  
Co-Chair Carrie Schaffer

Johnson Co-Chair Ivy Hinton  
Co-Chair John Shepherd

Key Rec Co-Chair Cyndy Chapman  
Co-Chair Dave Chapman

Venable Chair Lyle Solla-Yates

Walker Co-Chair Hugh Colvin  
Co-Chair James Quillen  
Vice Chair Erica Goldfarb

Full descriptions of precinct roles (and officer roles) are in our [bylaws](#). If you'd like more information or have a question about a role or volunteer opportunity you might consider, please contact Nancy or Josh as soon as possible at [cville Dems chair@gmail.com](mailto:cville Dems chair@gmail.com), and they'll be happy to explain everything.

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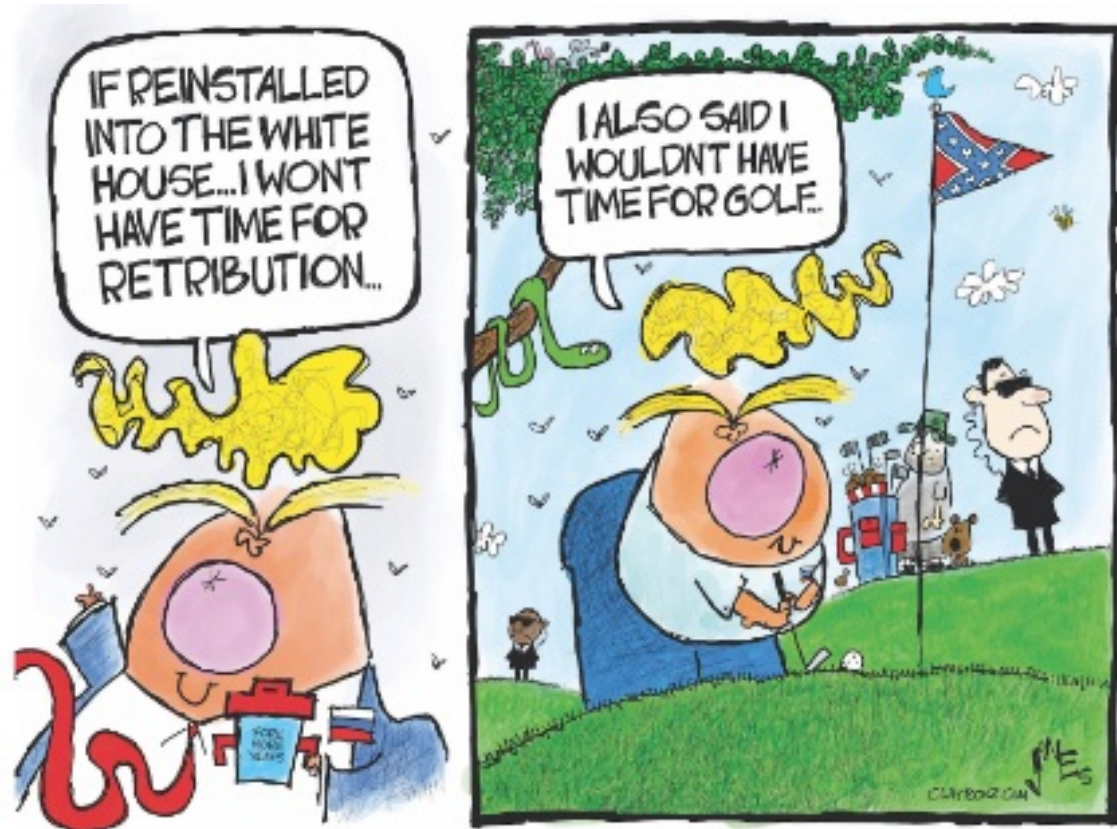


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**Cville Dems January 2024 Executive Committee Meeting, Jan. 29**

We're back to regular meeting schedules, weather willing. The first meeting with new officers and other Executive Committee members will be 6:30pm on Monday, Jan. 29. The location is the Madison Room at the Jefferson Madison Central Library. If you're new to Cville Dems, welcome and have a good time meeting lots of like-minded people.

Also, mark your calendars for a full committee meeting. Every Cville Dem is welcome—at 6:30 pm, Monday, Feb. 26. Location to come.



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

There's no way around it. It's 2024, and general election fever is mounting. There's lots of news about the GOP primaries; we're including some potential bright spots among Democrats this week.

"While polls show Haley faring better in the Granite State — potentially keeping the race competitive there — she faces questions about her viability heading into the other early state contests of South Carolina and Nevada. DeSantis, meanwhile, is facing tough questions after coming in at a distant second in Iowa, where he invested so many of his resources. In an expected nod to Trump, the former president received a last-minute boost from Vivek Ramaswamy, who announced Monday night that he was suspending his campaign and endorsing Trump." [The Hill, 1/16/24](#)

"[At the Virginia General Assembly] The day began with clerks swearing in a dramatically new legislature in which 35 of the 100 delegates and 18 of the 40 state senators are newly elected. African Americans will hold key leadership posts in the House and Senate. Del. Charniele Herring, D-Alexandria returns as House Majority Leader, a post she held from 2020 to 2022. In the state Senate, Lt. Gov. Winsome Earle-Sears, a Republican, continues to preside over the chamber. Sen. Louise Lucas, D-Portsmouth, remains Senate president pro tempore, which means she presides over the chamber if the lieutenant governor is unavailable. Lucas also is the new chair of the powerful Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee, which will play a key role as lawmakers take up a two-year budget for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2026." [Richmond-Times Dispatch, 1/10/24](#)

"Scott's ascension to the top House job was one of several historic firsts as the Virginia General Assembly began its 2024 legislative session, with Democrats holding slim majorities in both chambers and Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin holding the veto pen. Democratic victories in last year's General Assembly elections have given the party a new chance to go on offense, but they'll still have to work with Youngkin in order to push through any major legislation...About a third of the legislature's 140 members were sworn into office for the first time, bringing a new infusion of diversity most evident in the Virginia Senate. The traditionally male-dominated Virginia Senate now includes [a record](#) 15 women among its 40 members, up from 10 in the 2023 session. With 11 women in its ranks, the 21-person Senate Democratic Caucus is now majority female." [Cardinal News, 1/10/24](#)

"An excited [Del. Don] Scott told the Grio that an 'energetic' Biden personally extended his well wishes to him after Democrats won back a majority in the Virginia General Assembly. Their critical victory came as a result of them successfully campaigning on abortion rights, an election trend national Democrats hope will lead to more key wins in this year's general election on Nov. 5, 2024. 'He just liked the way we ran a tight campaign,' said Scott, recalling the five-minute phone conversation with President Biden on Friday. The 58-year-old lawmaker said, 'This was a canary in the coal mine and a bellwether for him, to let him know that he'll be fine in this next election.' The new speaker's rise in Virginia politics was improbable to some after serving seven years in federal prison for drug conspiracy. He finished his law degree when he completed his sentence." [The Grio, 1/14/24](#)

"Democrats nationwide have championed abortion rights and are looking to build on gains among suburban women and other key swing voters since the Supreme Court's overturning of the Roe v. Wade decision in 2022. The party thinks many Texas and Florida voters are with them in believing Republicans have gone too far in restricting reproductive freedom. Dallas mother Kate Cox made

national headlines when she was recently forced to leave Texas to terminate a non-viable pregnancy after Republican officials argued she didn't qualify for an exception to its near total abortion ban. In Florida, activists secured enough signatures to put on November's ballot a referendum cementing access to abortion in the state constitution — following statewide votes defending abortion access in Republican-leaning Ohio and even more solidly red Kansas and Kentucky." [Associated Press, 1/15/24](#)

"There's no doubt that knocking Trump off the ballot would send shock waves through the American body politic, but why would anyone believe that it's inherently less destabilizing if Trump runs? We already know what he does when he loses. For him, counting the votes is only the beginning of the battle. If he loses, he'll challenge the results, conspire to overturn the election and incite political violence. And if he wins? Then you have an insurrectionist in command of the most powerful military in the world, who is hellbent on seeking vengeance on his political enemies. Does anything at all sound stabilizing about that?" [NY Times, 1/15/24](#)

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## Partner Organizations

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

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### Charlottesville Democratic Party ("Cville Dems")

<https://cvilledems.org>

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Contact us: [cvilledemschair@gmail.com](mailto:cvilledemschair@gmail.com)

Add me to the [mailing list](#)

**Thank you for your support!**

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