# C'VILLE DEMS

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**News and Updates from the Cville Dems (2/15/2024)** 

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- Follow us on Facebook, X/Twitter, Instagram, and Mastodon, and like some of our posts!
- 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!**

**ALL of February**–Vote early in the Presidential Primary Election

**2/16**–Miller Center lecture on Nuclear Deterrence, 8:30am, millercenter.org

**2/19**–President's Day

**2/21**–Miller Center lecture on Preserving Presidential Records, 11 am, millercenter.org

**2/26–6:30 pm**, Cville Dems February 2024 Full Committee meeting at the Jefferson School

3/2-Reparations Run/Walk at Jefferson School

3/5–Presidential Primary election day



### News from the Executive Committee Meeting

The first Executive Committee Meeting of the year was a success. Much to do in this coming year!

Young people 22 and under – 76% vote Democratic. This has sparked some new ideas from our members,

ranging from election stickers on scooters to using voter registration proof for entry to events. Two events suggested for free admission with a voter registration card were a women's basketball tournament at Tonsler Park and/or possibly a play entitled *It Can't Happen Here* (yes, the decades old Sinclair Lewis political play, updated with today's urgency) if it were to be produced here.

Here's a talking point for those who may lean for Republican Bob Good:

"Did you know that he hasn't gotten a single bill out of committee?

He's not being effective at working for his constituents."

Here is an election calendar, shared during the meeting. Mark your calendar!

### 2024 Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) Calendar of Events

- Early Voting for Presidential Primary Jan. 19-Mar. 2
- Presidential Primary Mar. 5
- Early Voting for U.S. Senate and Congressional Primary May 6-Jun. 15
- 5th District Convention May 18 from 10am-2pm in Fluvanna
- U.S. Senate and Congressional Primary Jun. 18
- DPVA Convention Jun. 22 in Richmond
- Democratic Party National Convention Aug.19-23 in Chicago
- General Election Nov. 5

### Information on the Caucus in Charlottesville



There will also be a caucus in Charlottesville on either Apr. 20 or Apr. 22 – more information to follow once the date has been settled!

Why do we have a caucus when there are already primaries? Glad you asked! We need to elect 14 delegates plus five alternates to represent Charlottesville at both the Fifth District convention in Fluvanna on May 18 and the DPVA (state) convention in Richmond on June 22. At both of these conventions, the Cville delegates will be voting on National Convention Delegates to represent Virginia in Chicago. The Fifth District convention is also responsible for electing the Democratic Electoral College member who will cast a vote for President Biden and Vice-President Harris after they win Virginia this November! The DPVA convention will also elect two Democratic Electoral College members, and elect five Virginia members of the Democratic National Committee.

Come to the Full Committee meeting on Feb. 26 for more information about the caucus/convention procedures, and what it means to be a "delegate" to the Fifth District/DPVA conventions here in Virginia versus being a "national delegate" to the Democratic National

Convention in Chicago. (If you can't come to the Full Committee meeting, there are online information sessions with DPVA staff on Feb. 20 and Feb. 22.)

### Presidential Primary Early Voting has Begun!

Early voting for the Presidential Primary is open. Vote here:

120 7th Street NE City Hall Annex, Room 142 Charlottesville, VA 22902



#### Hours:

Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm Saturdays - 2/24, 3/2, 8:30am - 5:00pm Not open Monday, March 4.

#### Information:

https://www.charlottesville.gov/431/Early-Voting



### **February Full Committee Meeting**

Please mark your calendars. Every Cville Dem is welcome at 6:30pm, Monday, Feb. 26.

Location for this one meeting: Jefferson School African American Heritage Center 233 4th St NW Charlottesville, VA 22903-4593



We're excited about this election year! If you're new to Cville Dems, welcome and bring a friend.

### We Need Office Space – Know of Any?

The Cville Dems are searching for a fulltime office location for 2024-25. With the most important election of our lives this



year, and an important governor's race next year, Cville Dems are hoping for a space to serve as a gathering spot for phone banking, canvass launches, training, and much more.

If you know of an affordable location with parking, please contact Nancy & Josh at cvilledemschair@gmail.com.



### Reparations Run/Walk Jefferson School — Mar. 2

The Jefferson School African American Heritage Center (JSAAHC) is ramping up for the next Reparations Run/Walk on Mar. 2 at 7am to celebrate Liberation and Freedom Day.

As in previous years, they are raising money for 101.3 JAMZ, African American Teaching Fellows, Albemarle-Charlottesville NAACP's Youth Council, JSAAHC, Prolyfyck Run Crew, Tonsler League, and Vinegar Hill Magazine's Black Business advertising fund. These organizations all have Black leadership and support the community directly. The near-8-mile run and 4-mile walk allow you to engage with some of the city's important sites of African American history, while passing some of the African American businesses along the way.

In the past, Cville Dems have participated with their own team in this fun run/walk event. Please <u>contact communications@cvilledems.org</u> if you'd like to organize Dems for a team walk on Mar. 2.

Liberation and Freedom Day is a municipal holiday in Charlottesville, celebrated on March 3, to commemorate the day in 1865 when Union

Major General Phillip Sheridan and his troops arrived in Charlottesville, liberating more than 14,000 enslaved people.

## State Senator (and now Author) Danica Roem at Book Festival

Danica Roem, a Democratic State Senator from Manassas, has published a memoir and will appear at the Virginia Festival of the



Book on Saturday, Mar. 23 at 10:30am at the Paramount Theater.

Burn the Page author Roem is a former newspaper reporter and lifelong Virginia resident who completed her third and final term serving the 13th District of the Virginia House of Delegates after the 2023 election. In 2017, she became the first out-and-seated transgender state legislator in American history. On January 10 this year, Roem was sworn in to represent the 30th District of the Virginia State Senate.

Tickets are needed for this event and can be purchased at the link just below (scroll down to see Roem event tickets). Not sure about same-day ticketing, but you can call 434.979.1333 for more information.

https://www.theparamount.net/event/burn-the-page/

#### 5th District Candidates State Their Intentions

Here are our 5th District congressional candidates in action at the fun and informative Potter's Craft Cider event on Feb. 3.

May the best candidate go on to beat Bob Good! Vote and turn the 5th District blue!









### Join our Fundraising Group

We still need help with fundraising. If you'd like more information or



have a question about a role or volunteer opportunity, please contact Nancy or Josh as soon as possible at <a href="mailto:cvilledemschair@gmail.com">cvilledemschair@gmail.com</a>, and they'll be happy to explain everything.



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

Let's look at the bright side. Republicans are breaking ranks to pass national security funding alongside Democrats. The former president lost his forever-immune argument at the Appeals Court when all three judges on the panel agreed that arguments about presidential immunity extending to a former president were not valid (and now he is dragging his immunity argument to the Supreme Court). Things aren't all bleak in midwinter. There is even an extra day in February 2024 to work for the sake of democracy and justice for all.

"Twenty-two Senate Republicans [including Mitch McConnell] bucked a majority of their party and former President Donald J. Trump in joining Democrats to approve military assistance, highlighting a widening foreign policy divide in the



contemporary Republican Party. The 22 senators, mainly national security hawks who include several military veterans, provided the votes needed to overcome multiple filibusters backed by a majority of their colleagues, clearing the way for Senate approval early Tuesday morning of \$95 billion in aid to Ukraine, Israel and allies in the Pacific region. 'The thread that binds that group together is national security,'

said Senator Jerry Moran, Republican of Kansas, who is one of the 22. 'America's national security, the belief that what happens in Ukraine matters to the United States, the belief that what happens in Israel matters and the belief that what happens in the South Pacific matters.'" NY Times, 2/12/24

"Former President Donald Trump is asking the U.S. Supreme Court to hit pause on his federal criminal prosecution for allegedly conspiring to obstruct the electoral certification three years ago. Lawyers for Trump made the request Monday, writing the justices that they are preparing a petition for certiorari, or a full application for the high court to take the



case. They said they want the court to indefinitely delay the trial at a federal courthouse in Washington D.C. At issue is a dispute over whether Trump should enjoy absolute immunity from criminal charges over acts he allegedly committed while in the White House. Last week, three judges on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit flatly rejected Trump's bid for blanket immunity. 'Former President Trump has become citizen Trump, with all of the defenses of any other criminal defendant,' the ideologically diverse judges wrote in an unsigned, unanimous opinion." NPR, 2/12/24

"Yesterday, Special Counsel Robert Hur, appointed by Attorney General Merrick Garland in January 2023 to investigate President Joe Biden's handling of classified documents before he was president, released his report. But in Biden's case, what



followed the announcement that he had not broken a law was more than 300 pages of commentary, including assertions that Biden was old, infirm, and losing his marbles.... As television host and former Republican representative from Florida Joe Scarborough put it: 'He couldn't indict Biden legally so he tried to indict Biden politically.' [In response, the White House presidential and vice presidential teams] pointed out that 'there is ample evidence from your interview that the President did well in answering your questions about years-old events over the course of five hours. This is especially true under the circumstances, which you do not mention in your report, that his interview began the day after the October 7 attacks on Israel. In the lead up to the interview, the President was conducting calls with

heads of state, Cabinet members, members of Congress, and meeting repeatedly with his national security team.' .... Biden provided 'often detailed recollections across a wide range of questions, from staff management of paper flow in the West Wing to the events surrounding the creation of the 2009 memorandum on the Afghanistan surge." Letters From an American, 2/9/24

#### **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!

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

https://cvilledems.org
PO Box 916, Charlottesville, VA 22902

Contact us: cvilledemschair@gmail.com
Add me to the mailing list

Thank you for your support!

Co-chairs: Nancy Damon and Josh Throneburg
Newsletter Editor: Mary Jane Gore
Newsletter Production: Bo Sacks

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