

C'VILLE DEMS

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Newsletter



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News and Updates from the Cville Dems (3/14/2024)

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.
- Take a look at the item on the new Biden campaign ad below, with talking points, and forward the link.
- 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!

3/16–Meetings of Opposites Program, 1-3pm at Gordon Ave. Library

3/23–Va. Sen. Danica Roem at Virginia Book Festival (see below)

4/7–Democracy on Tap, 3:30-5pm at Kardinal Hall, with speaker Sterling Howell, Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society

4/22–Full Committee Meeting, Apr. 22, 6:30pm. in the Swanson Room of the Central Library

5/18–5th Congressional District (5th CD) Convention in Fluvanna County

6/7–Cville Dems Summer Bash, Jefferson School on the lawn, next day if raining

6/18–Senate & Congressional Primary

6/22–Democratic Party of Virginia Convention in Richmond

Talking Points for Democrats About President Biden

Watch the new ad for President Biden's campaign. He quickly lists his areas of focus and accomplishment, with his humor close by, and it's good to keep them in mind:



https://twitter.com/search?q=Biden%20ad&src=typed_query

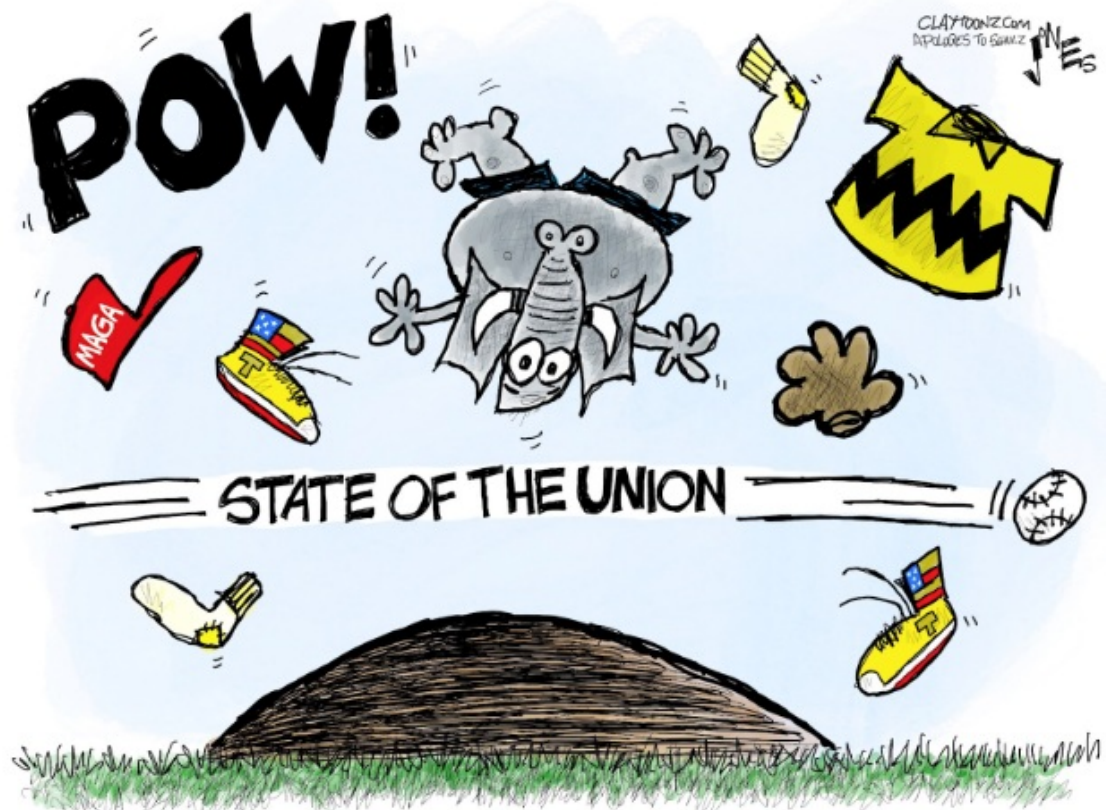
For more in depth discussions, especially on particular topics as Democrats see them, this synopsis from the recent State of the Union may help. Click [here](#).

2024 Election Calendar

Mark your calendar and vote for a healthy US Democracy!!

2024 Democratic Party of Virginia (DPVA) Calendar of Events

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



**Full Committee Meeting on
Apr. 22, 6:30 pm**



There will be a Full Committee meeting, and all Cville Dems are welcome Monday, Apr. 22, 6:30 pm in the Swanson Room of the Central Library downtown. Doors will open at 6 pm.

Would You Like to be a Delegate?

We are looking for Cville Dems who wish to be delegates. We need to elect 14 delegates plus five alternates – yes, we need 19 people to volunteer for this important Democratic representation of Charlottesville at both the Fifth District convention in Fluvanna on May 18 and the DPVA (state) convention in Richmond on June 22. It is satisfying and enjoyable to be part of this political process, which goes all the way to determining the next President and Vice President.

At both conventions, the Cville delegates will vote on National Convention Delegates to represent Virginia in Chicago. The Fifth District convention will also elect 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 five Virginia members of the Democratic National Committee.

Next Democracy on Tap, Apr. 7 with Local History Expert Sterling Howell

The next "Democracy on Tap" event will be on Sunday, Apr. 7, Kardinal Hall at 3:30 pm. Sterling Howell, Programs Manager of the Albemarle Charlottesville Historical Society, will describe the changing role of the society since its founding in 1940, and discuss the value of local history and why it should be supported in our time when history, books, and other institutions are under attack.

Our First Democracy on Tap was a Success!

Speaking of this event series, we had a great turnout on Mar. 10 for our first "Democracy on Tap" event at Kardinal Hall, our monthly get together of the Cville and Albemarle Democrats (first Sunday of each month, 3:30pm, Kardinal Hall; big shout out to Kardinal for their generosity!).

Miles Coleman from *Sabato's Crystal Ball* provided lots of helpful insights about past and upcoming elections and answered many great questions. The energy in the room was palpable among the roughly 75 people who attended. Photos below!

Before the event, a large group of 25 excited volunteers showed up for the voter registration orientation led by Suzanne Michels. Watch out, Bob Good and Trump, Charlottesville and Albemarle are getting ready for you!

(Below) Many petitions were signed to get Tim Kaine and 5th District candidates on the ballot.

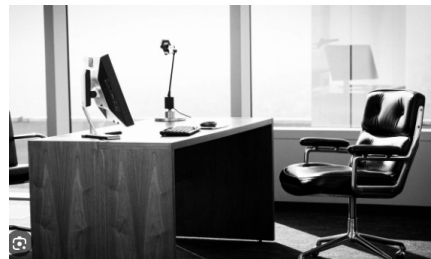




(Above) Miles Coleman addressed a large crowd.

We Need Office Space – Know of Any?

The Cville Dems are searching for a full-time 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 and Josh at cville Dems chair@gmail.com.

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 Cville Dems Co-Chair Nancy Damon at

nancycdamon@gmail.com, and she'll be happy to explain.



Come to the Meetings of Opposites Program, Mar. 16

The Mar. 16 session of the programs from the Meetings of Opposites brings together people with opposing views on politics and other issues. Henry McHenry will lead the program, which is in the meeting room at Gordon Avenue Library, from 1-3pm on Saturday, March 16. The workshop will be timely given today's perception wars:

After a video demonstrating the mechanism of perception which produces optical illusions and prevents accurate assessment of visual information, we notice that the same mechanism seems to be at work in the ways we interact with each other. We are swamped in perception wars, because the assumptions that keep us in our positions, Us-Against-Them, reside in narratives that own us and that we can't see out of. To experience a way of being together different from the one perception enables and enforces, we will engage with each other in physical exercises and activities, some as simple as a handshake.



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 Jan. 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 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/>

Photo credit: Ted Eytan - 2017.07.26 Protest Trans Military Ban, White House, Washington DC USA 7684

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

What a couple of weeks. The main event was the State of the Union (SOTU) address. Our President really did hit a homerun, as most media outlets agreed. Someone who didn't hit one was the GOP choice for rebuttal, a Senator placed in a kitchen, being hypocritical on the border issue— among many other complaints about her performance.



[At the State of the Union address]
“Assistance for Ukraine is being blocked by those who want us to walk away from our leadership in the world,” Biden said. ‘It wasn’t that long ago when a Republican President, Ronald Reagan, thundered, “Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall.” Now, my predecessor, a former Republican

President, tells Putin, ‘Do whatever the hell you want.’ Biden reiterated his pledge to codify *Roe v. Wade* if he’s re-elected with Democratic majorities in both chambers of Congress, ensuring that abortion and reproductive rights remain a centerpiece of his re-election campaign.... Biden’s early emphasis on reproductive rights reflects its growing importance as a pivotal issue in the upcoming election year, particularly as the issue helped mobilize Democratic voters in red states in the 2022 midterms and last year’s elections.”
[TIME, 3/7/2024](#)

"Sen. Britt ran as a strongly antiabortion rights candidate....the portion of her [State

of the Union] response that took up the most word count was her talk on the border [with information later revealed to be fictitious as she slammed President Biden's presidency]. She was one of the US senators who was involved in the bipartisan negotiations to create a border bill, and she helped create the bill, and then voted against it when Donald Trump called on Republicans to pull the plug on the bill that they, themselves, had negotiated." [MSNBC, Mar. 8, 2024](#)



"In the first signals of how he'll act on legislation approved by Virginia's Democratic General Assembly, Gov. Glenn Youngkin signed a largely symbolic bill protecting same-sex marriage but took a more adversarial stance to bills dealing with gun control, reproductive rights and

marijuana....The law enacted by Youngkin states that in Virginia, marriage licenses must be issued to any two people seeking a "lawful marriage" regardless of gender, race or sex. That is already the practice in Virginia due to a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide, but the new law would take on greater weight if the high court reverses itself, since it is currently superseded by Virginia's 2006 constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Democrats are also working to repeal that legally moot ban within the next few years." [Virginia Mercury, 3/9/24](#)

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>

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Contact us: cvilledemschair@gmail.com

Add me to the [mailing list](#)

Thank you for your support!

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