

# C'VILLE DEMS

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News and Updates from the Cville Dems (1/08/26)

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## **IMPORTANT: Volunteer Appreciation and Biennial Reorganization Meeting**

Please come out and show your support for Charlottesville Democrats by attending the Volunteer Appreciation and Biennial Reorganization Meeting on Saturday Jan. 10, from 5:00-7:30pm at the Carver Rec Center. We hope to add new members and choose new officers, activity directors, and precinct leaders. After the reorganization meeting (also referred to as a “Caucus”), the first meeting of the 2026-2027 Cville Dems will take place.

1. If you wish to be a member of the Cville Dems but cannot attend the Reorganization gathering, please fill out an absentee form; contact **[chair@cville Dems.org](mailto:chair@cville Dems.org)** for a copy of the form, which is due back to the same email address by 12pm Saturday, January 10.
2. If you're interested in running for an elected position in the Cville Dems and have questions or want to express interest, please reach out. We have individuals who have indicated they are running for each available position, but all nominations come from the floor and all members are welcome to run.

Here's the program schedule:

- **4:30pm:** Doors open.
- **5:00-6:30pm:** Pizza served. There will be some remarks from several VA-05 candidates, we think also from some US Senate candidates, and some Volunteer Appreciation remarks.
- **6:00pm (Firm Deadline):** Anyone participating in the Caucus must sign in by this time!

- **6:30-7:30pm:** Caucus to discuss and select members for the 2026-2027 Committee, immediately followed by first committee meeting to elect Charlottesville Dems leaders.
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## More Fifth District Candidates

Three more people have thrown their hat in the ring for the Fifth District congressional seat in recent weeks: Suzanne Krzyzanowski, Rob Tracinski and Tom Perriello—in chronological order. Mike Pruitt, a fourth candidate, was featured in our August newsletter. Other candidates besides these four have ended their campaigns.

### **Suzanne Krzyzanowski**

Suzanne Krzyzanowski is a family physician in Lynchburg concerned about health care costs and services. Her website says that her job "has been not only to keep people healthy, but to be a practical problem solver." She believes we can achieve an effective universal health care system.

Her site also outlines her plans and concerns on issues including economy, environment, abortion, gun control, foreign policy, and other issues of concern; please visit <https://drkforcongress.com/#!/issues>.

### **Tom Perriello**

Tom Perriello is the most recent Democrat to represent the 5th Congressional District, and served a term from 2009 until 2011. More recently, he served as United States Special Envoy for Sudan under former President Joe Biden. Perriello says that he's running because it's an "all hands on deck" moment and is taking action [note: website temporarily inaccessible].

As he did previously for the Fifth District, he is planning to work to improve health care. He is also targeting economic reforms that give hard-working people a fair shot at the American dream and will work to protect voting rights, civil liberties, and reproductive freedom.

### **Rob Tracinski**

Rob Tracinski is running because of the chaos that has been sown by the Trump administration, and his disappointment that Congress will

not standup for citizens. He is targeting changing tariffs, trade wars, and policies that make life less affordable. Today's conditions keep farmers unable to effectively sell food to the world. He is also tracking and planning to combat "rampant corruption in Washington, DC, where billionaires get special favors and white-collar criminals get pardons—while ordinary people get a breakdown in basic services and masked goons asking them for their papers."

For more information, please visit

<https://tracinskiforcongress.substack.com>. His campaign reaffirms the idea that all people are created equal, and will work to reclaim freedom, dignity, and prosperity for constituents in Virginia and elsewhere.

### **Cville Dems' Policy on Publicity for Candidates**

To provide fairness among the campaigns, here is our policy for publicizing candidate news and events in our publications, website, or social media:

- The candidate must have officially announced their candidacy, not just be exploring the possibility.
- Events must be in Charlottesville or Albemarle. The only way we will promote an event outside those areas is if the event is targeting the entire 5th District (i.e., someone is having an event in Lynchburg but it is specifically targeting the entire District).
- Notice of the candidate's desire for Cville Dems to include information in our communications must be submitted to [cville Dems chair@gmail.com](mailto:cville Dems chair@gmail.com) **by the Wednesday before the week the event is taking place**. For example, if there's an event on Sun., Dec. 7, we need notice of that event by Wed., Nov. 26. We require lead time because we typically send our weekly communications on Monday, so we need information in advance..
- Any scenarios that fall outside the conditions above will be decided by the Cville Dems chair(s).

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## **Popcorn, Pellegrino, and Perriello**

Come to a meet-and-greet with Tom Perriello, a Democratic candidate for Congress in Virginia's 5th District. Ask him tough questions.

Sunday, Jan. 11, 4-6pm, 2407 Jefferson Park Avenue

Hosts: Martien and Neal Halvorson-Taylor, Fred and Nancy Damon

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## **Temporary Housing Needed by a Democratic Campaign Worker!**



Charlie Bruce, a woman who's worked in many local Dem campaigns and has been vetted for living for months at a local Dem's home, will again be working on a local campaign. She's looking for housing for herself and her dog (pictured), either as a roommate to someone or housesitting/supporter housing. If you're interested in providing housing, please call her at 434-284-3493. She's hoping to find something within the next week.

## Community Events

### Monday 1/19: MLK Jr. Day

Looking for a way to give back to your community? There are many MLK Jr. Day events in Charlottesville on Monday 1/19:

- Join volunteers at Ivy Creek Nature Center on Jan.19, 9:30am to noon, for our Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service! Activities will include removing invasive plant species and performing trail maintenance at this African American Civil Rights Network site. Sign up:

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ivycreekfoundation/event/11926martinlutherkingjrdayofservice/>

- Give back to our community on the 2026 MLK Day of Service. United Way is partnering with Sentara Martha Jefferson Hospital to host a community kit-building project 10am-Noon at Jackson P. Burley Middle School. They plan to compile about 1,000 kits of warm clothes and hygiene products for people in need. [Register](#) to be a volunteer! Can't make it in person? [Donate](#) to help assemble more kits.
- Come celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. at the Carver Recreation Center 1-3pm (produced by Alex-Zan).

Alex-Zan's Dr. Martin L. King Event

## "Continuing His Dream & Works"

Monday, January 19th, 2026  
1 pm - 3 pm  
Carver Recreation Center

A Family Affair - It's FREE!

### Program Highlights

- 11th Alicia B. Lugo Award - Bernadette Whitsett-Hammond
- Speaker - Rev. Dr. Arthur S. Long Jr. - First Baptist Church
- SouthEast Steppers (Steppin' N Style) & More Guest!
- Musician - Tyleeq M. & Spoken Word - Mahkalyn W.
- Alex-Zan's Lifesavers - Min. Bruce Boling - Carol Webb - Lester Frye - Rosia Parker
- Mistress of Ceremonies - Ms. Jady Howard, CBS 19

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For More Information:  
Contact Mr. Alex-Zan at (434) 202-0773  
Visit Alex-Zan.com



## Thursday January 22

- UVA Community MLK Celebration: Features many talks and events, with Dr. Imani Perry delivering a keynote speech at the Paramount Theater at 6 pm. For all of the UVA events, visit: <https://mlk.virginia.edu/events>
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## Upcoming Events

- **Jan. 10** - Volunteer Appreciation and Biennial Reorganization Meeting, Carver Rec Center, 5:00-7:30pm (see above)
  - **Jan. 11** - Meet and Greet with Tom Periello, 4-6pm, 2407 Jefferson Park Avenue (see above)
  - **Jan. 19** - MLK Day of Service: Volunteer opportunities across the city, including kit assembly for the unhoused (United Way/Sentara Martha Jefferson) and invasive plant removal at Ivy Creek Natural Area (Ivy Creek Foundation). (see above)
  - **Jan. 19** - MLK Day Program, 1-3pm. at Carver Rec Center (see above)
  - **Jan. 22** - UVA Community MLK Celebration/talks and events. Dr. Imani Perry gives a keynote address at The Paramount Theater, 6pm. (see above)
  - **Jan. 25** - Community Service at Mt. Zion Church, 5-7pm, 105 Lankford Ave, Charlottesville, VA 22902
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## Partner Organizations

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

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

<https://cvilledems.org>

PO Box 916, Charlottesville, VA 22902

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

Add me to the [mailing list](#)

Thank you for your support!

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Paid for and authorized by the Charlottesville Democratic Committee

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