



NEWSLETTER

APRIL/MAY 2019, Issue No. 2

GREETINGS



Everyone in Randolph County knows spring is well on its way. Daffodils and redbuds have peaked, and the dogwood buds are just beginning to open. It's a welcome sight after winter's rest.

Our party also is beginning to blossom. Last year, we contested every county commissioner and state legislative race in our districts. We have a presence in the heart of downtown Asheboro and regular hours so everyone knows when we're home. And now, we have a wonderful bimonthly newsletter to keep everyone up to date on our events and activities.

Our vision is not only to use the newsletter to pass on information, but also to create a place where we can all share our thoughts on the best democracy has to offer. We invite you to share book and movie reviews, contribute an article, or let us know about relevant events being held by other organizations.

We hope you enjoy this issue and look forward to the many issues to follow. And if you see Martha Crotty or Ruth Held, please thank them for their hard work in bringing this publication to life.

Sincerely,

Susie Scott
2017-2019 Chair,
Randolph County Democratic Party



Calendar

- April 9 Executive Committee meeting, 7 p.m., HQ
- April 11 Lunch & Learn, noon-1 p.m., HQ (see right)
- April 12 Lunch with Lawmakers, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Guil-Rand Fire Department (see right)
- April 20 Democratic Women monthly breakfast, 9:30 a.m., HQ
- April 27 2019 Sixth District Convention, 9 a.m. Horton Middle School, Pittsboro, N.C.
- May 2 Lunch & Learn, noon-1 p.m., HQ
- May 14 Executive Committee meeting, 7 p.m., HQ
- May 15 Newsletter deadline for June/July issue
- May 23 Lunch & Learn, noon-1 p.m., HQ
- May 25 Democratic Women monthly breakfast, 9:30 a.m., HQ

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Phone: (336) 629-9003
- Email: randolphdem@gmail.com
- Website: randolphcountydems.org
- Facebook: facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty/
- Address: Democratic Headquarters, 114 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203 (henceforth referred to as HQ)
- Hours: M,W, F 11 am-2 p.m.; T, 9 a.m.- 12 noon; Th, 11 a.m-1 p.m

Name the Newsletter

Can you think of a name for the newsletter? Please send in your suggestions. Here are suggested names so far: *RanDem News*, *From Leftfield*, *You Bet Your Asheboro News*, *Gnus For Ewes*, *The Randolph County Intel- ligencer*, *The Antidote for 45*, *Blue News*, *Blue Views*.

There will be a chance to vote on your favorite in the next issue. Keep sending book, film, and podcast re- views, up to 50 words long, email or snail mail. Soon, the newsletter will be on the website, where it will include links to articles, expanded reviews, and more. Suggestions, comments, etc., are welcome.

Lunch & Learn

Lunch & Learn returns beginning Thursday, April 11, at Democratic Headquarters from noon until 1 p.m. Ruth Scanlan will show videos and provide bio sheets on each of the Democrats who have announced their candidacy for President in the order they announced. Three candidates will be covered per session.

Archdale Lunch with Lawmakers

Here's your chance to question our local lawmakers in person. This event takes place on Friday, April 12, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Guil-Rand Fire De- partment, 10506 S. Main St. in Archdale. The cost is \$15 for members, \$20 for non-members, and includes lunch. Lawmakers scheduled to attend are Rep. Allen McNeill, Rep. Pat Hurley, and Sen. Jerry Tillman. Representatives of U.S. Senators Richard Burr and Thom Tillis, and U.S. Rep. Mark Walker also will be there. Call 336-434-2073 to reserve your seat. The deadline for reservations is Friday, April 5.

Book Reviews

Barracoon, by Zora Neale Hurston.

In 1927 the author spent many days interviewing Cujo Lewis, aged 86. He was “the last black cargo;” the last person still alive who had been abducted from Africa into slavery. His story is amazing, but so sad. I highly recommend this book, which is available from the Asheboro Library.

—reviewed by Linda Hartford

Looking for kids’ books that reflect Democratic values like empathy, acceptance, respect, and protecting the environment? Here are five classics:

The Snowy Day, by Ezra Jack Keats (1962)

The Story of Ferdinand, by Munro Leaf (1929)

The Lorax, by Dr. Seuss (1971)

Corduroy, by Don Freeman (1968)

Frog and Toad are Friends, by Arnold Lobel (1970)

—from Todd Dulaney

Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth, by Sarah Smarsh.

Heartfelt and insightful. Also, *There, There*, by Tommy Orange. Stunning interconnected stories concerning the lives of urban Native Americans.

—reviewed by Martha Crotty

February & March Collection Drives

In February, the Randolph County Democratic Party collected 211 pounds of food that was donated to Christians United Outreach Center (CUOC).

The March drive, held to benefit the Family Crisis Center, was also very successful. Thanks to everyone who donated!

Randolph Friends of Democracy T-Shirts, Etc.

Make a statement and support the Randolph County Democratic Party by buying T-shirts, mugs, and stickers. All proceeds go to the Randolph County Democratic Party building fund. Available at the online shop: teespring.com/stores/randolph-friends-of-democracy.



Board of Elections

The newly appointed Randolph County Board of Elections was sworn in at the Historic County Courthouse on March 15. They are: Margaret Megerian (D-Chair), Tiffany Alston (D), Pete Oldham (D), Darren Allen (R), and Bill McAnulty (R). On the same day, the State Board of Elections announced that voter IDs will not be required in the 2019 elections.

Election Bills

There are two current election bills we should be aware of:

House Bill 24 – Ensure Safety at School Voting Sites would require that county boards of election have a safety plan in place and have permission from the local school system before using schools as a polling site. If this becomes law it may make it more difficult to find voting sites.

House Bill 294 – Partisan Elections Act would require that all elections become partisan elections and occur in even numbered years following the census year. There are several reasons this is a bad bill:

- Municipal issues are not partisan issues. “There’s no Democratic or Republican way to fill a pothole or to improve the life of your people,” said Martin O’Malley at the Triangle Smart Cities Summit 2017. The same is true for educational issues.
- Municipal and educational council and board officials should not be beholden to party politics in order to get elected. They should only be concerned with the work and function of the council or board.
- If this law is passed, all vacancies on any elected municipal or educational council or board will be filled by the Executive Committee of the party of the person who resigned or passed away. These positions could be handed out to party donors or volunteers, completely overlooking other residents who may be better qualified to serve. Currently, vacancies on elected, non-partisan councils and boards are decided by the remaining members of the council or board.
- This law will make it difficult for unaffiliated candidates to be elected. Currently, unaffiliated as well as partisan candidates only have to pay the fee and fill out the paper work to run for non-partisan offices. If the law passes, unaffiliated candidates will have the extra burden of gathering numerous signatures on a petition to get on the ballot.

Newly-elected Precinct Leadership

Archdale: Chair, Larry Thomas

Asheboro East: Chair, Todd Dulaney; Vice Chair, Megan Crotty; Secretary, Pat Chamberlin

Asheboro North: Chair, Linda Hartford; Secretary, Earlie Davidson

Asheboro South: Chair, Paul Meier; Vice Chair, Bill McCaskill; Secretary, Tim Greene

Asheboro West: Chair, Delilah Warner; Vice Chair, Ed Bunch; Secretary, Fairiest Little

Liberty: Vice Chair, Elvin Marley; Secretary, Janice Lineberry

New Market: Chair, Rob Vollat; Vice Chair, Rebekah Todd; Secretary, Dallas Ward

Providence: Chair, Karen Katula; Vice Chair, Nancy Sharpless; Secretary, Merrill Howard

Ramseur: Chair, Carnell Goldston; Vice Chair, Marjorie Casey; Secretary, Vera Andrews

Randleman: Chair, Ruth Scanlan; Vice Chair, Winona Stalvey

Staley: Chair, Deborah Highland; Vice Chair, Jessie McMaster; Secretary, Roshonda Peoples

Union Grove: Chair, Chad Conville; Vice Chair, James Hasty; Secretary, Tiffany Conville

We especially need people in the following precincts to form a committee and select officers: *Back Creek, Grant, Level Cross, Southern, Southwest, Tabernacle, and Trinity Tabernacle*. Anyone interested can leave a message at (336) 629-9003 or email RandolphDem@gmail.com, and we will be in touch.



News from the 2019 Democratic Party County Convention

The Randolph County Democratic Party held its County Convention on Saturday, March 30, at the Randolph County Courthouse in Asheboro. Newly elected county officers for 2019-2021 are:

Chair, Susie Scott

1st Vice Chair, Diane Hubbard

2nd Vice Chair, Ruth Scanlan

3rd Vice Chair, Megan Crotty

Treasurer, Lois Bohnsack

Secretary, Nancy Sharpless

We also elected three members to the SEC (State Executive Committee): Elworth Cheek, Richard O'Brien, and Rebekah Todd.

Resolutions

In addition to electing county officers and passing a budget for the next two years, we also passed the following five resolutions which will be forwarded to the 6th District Convention. You can find more details about these resolutions on our website at RandolphCountyDems.org/resolutions2019/.

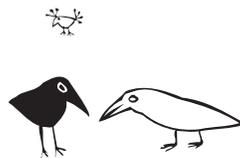
- A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT HB 10, REPEAL 2015 LAW RELATING TO MONUMENTS—A resolution that the N.C. Democratic Party supports HB 10, an act to repeal the 2015 law relating to the protection of monuments and memorials.)
- A RESOLUTION REGARDING ELECTIONS—A resolution that candidates for all judicial, municipal council/board, county or city board of education, and soil & water conservation district elections be elected in non-partisan elections.
- A RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE DACA (DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS) PROGRAM AND A PATH TO CITIZENSHIP FOR DACA RECIPIENTS—A resolution that the N.C. and Randolph County Democratic Parties support continual support of DACA recipients by extending the DACA program and providing them with a pathway to citizenship.)

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• **A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE TO ENACT A NON-PARTISAN INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION BY THE YEAR 2020**—A resolution that the North Carolina Legislature enact a nonpartisan independent redistricting commission that is fair and that follows the North Carolina Constitution that requires that state legislative districts be apportioned without reference to political affiliation.

• **A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE ENACTMENT OF COMMON SENSE GUN REGULATION**—A resolution that the North Carolina Legislature should enact common sense legislation to protect the safety of N.C. residents and families as follows:

1. Enacting the Extreme Risk Protection Order, which allows families and law enforcement to ask the courts to temporarily remove guns from individuals who endanger themselves or the community.
2. Enhance the National Instant Criminal Background Check (NICS) by requiring any public agency in North Carolina to enter all relevant data in their custody into NICS in a prompt and timely manner.
3. Develop a method of coordinating the entry of relevant mental health data that would prohibit an individual from legally possessing a firearm into NICS, while maintaining the confidentiality of the individual and providing an avenue for judicial redress for that individual as required to ensure due process.
4. Mandate that any individual within the State who intends to transfer possession of a firearm into the custody of another individual ascertain that the receiver of that firearm is not prohibited by law to possess the firearm being transferred.
5. Increase the age to legally purchase a semiautomatic centerfire firearm with a capacity in excess of 10 rounds to 21 years of age.
6. Making tip lines available statewide.
7. Provide funding to increase the number of school psychologists and counselors.
8. Directing the Center for Safer Schools to recommend more funding for trained school resource officers and coordination with local law enforcement agencies.



Other Events of Interest

The George Washington Carver Community Enrichment Center (GWCCEC) has scheduled **Hatitude** for **April 27** at 3 p.m. For more information, please call 336-267-5420.

The film *Straws* by Linda Booker, will be shown at the Sunset Theatre on **April 12**. This movie is sponsored by NC AAZK, to kick off the One Planet People! campaign. Learn all about the ma-

for problem of plastic pollution and be empowered to be part of the solution. Come meet and greet with vendors and local businesses about alternatives to single use plastics. Learn more about the film here: strawsfilm.com

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the movie screening at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Q&A with film creator, Linda Booker, following the movie. A general admission ticket is required to attend — online \$8 (plus fees); at the door \$15.