



You Can Help Make a Difference in Randolph County

by Diane Hubbard
Chair, Randolph County Democratic Party

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season! I'm sitting here procrastinating because there are so many things that are coming up for the RCDP and only so much space to tell you about them.

Republicans in Raleigh once again created gerrymandered maps. They were sued by several organizations because of it and the period for filing to run for office was postponed. It will resume on February 24 at noon and run through noon on March 4. If you are interested in running for office, you and I should discuss where you'd be a good fit and what your goals are in running. Email me at rcdp.countychair@gmail.com and we'll set up a meeting. For a list of offices that are up this year and their filing fees, visit tinyurl.com/Offices2022.

It's also nearly time for our annual Precinct Organization Meetings. The organization period runs from February 5 – February 19. Because of the seemingly never-ending risk of Covid in our county, these meetings will be held via Zoom.

There are 22 voting precincts in Randolph County. Only half are organized. The other half need to be. If you vote in Back Creek, Grant, Level Cross, New Market, Randleman, Southern, Southwest, Tabernacle, Trinity, or Trinity-Tabernacle, I encourage you to attend this year's precinct meeting and help us get organized. If you vote in an already organized precinct, but have never attended a meeting, please sign up for more info on how to participate. The link to sign up for information is listed at the end of this article.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 336-629-9003

Email: randolphdem@gmail.com

Newsletter email: randolphcountydems.org

Facebook:

[facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty](https://www.facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty)

Address: Democratric Headquarters, 224 Sunset Ave.,
Asheboro, NC 27203 (henceforth referred to as HQ)

Mailing address: Randolph County Democratic Party,
P.O. Box 4814, Asheboro, NC 27204

HQ is currently open. Call for hours.

(Paid for by the Randolph County Democratic Executive Committee and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. c2022)

We need a minimum of five people per precinct to have a quorum. You can then elect officers as well as delegates to the County Convention coming up on March 19. We hope newly active attendees will help us make inroads with other Democrats in their precinct. The more people we have activated in each precinct, the wider our network becomes. This helps us recruit great candidates, party volunteers, poll workers, canvassers, people to help distribute campaign signs, and future Democratic Party officers. Will you be one of the five in your precinct to come forward and help us loosen the stranglehold Republicans have had on Randolph County for nearly 50 years?

I'd also like to encourage any unaffiliated voters who are reading this to consider changing your registration to Democratic and attending your precinct meeting. We love our like-minded unaffiliated friends, but we'd love to have you officially on board!

If you have questions or concerns, please email me at: rcdp.countychair@gmail.com.

Visit this link to sign up to receive more information: www.mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems/event/437039/

Try to stay warm and safe out there. We look forward to seeing you soon!



NCDP Chair Richardson on MLK Day

On Monday, January 17, North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Bobbie Richardson released the following statement:

"Today, as we honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., we ought to rededicate ourselves to the ideals that he dreamed could be real and dedicated his life to: a nation where everyone has the opportunity to thrive, communities take care of one another, and democracy is strong. The pursuit of this dream brought him to North Carolina on several occasions, where he publicly spoke about his dream and called it "the American dream."

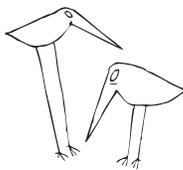
"The necessity of Dr. King's teachings are still critical to the future of our state and country. My fellow Democrats, we must not allow this dream to be shattered. Now is the time to rejoin the fight to defend democracy and to remain steadfast in our support of one another as we speak out against all forms of hate, discrimination, and disinformation. There is work to be done and we must each do our part to fight for fair elections and voting rights."

Literacy Matters

Did you know that RCDP has a lending library available for Randolph County Democrats? We have nearly 150 books, CDs, and DVDs that we will loan you. We have books about climate change, racial issues, poverty, and religion. We have several biographies and memoirs of Democratic figures, from Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Jimmy Carter all the way to present day Dems like Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Vice President Kamala Harris. We have books on strategy, training, and campaigning for candidates. To see a complete list, please visit RandolphCountyDems.org/library.

We also have a free book cart parked outside HQ on days we are staffed. We offer fiction, non-fiction, biographies, cookbooks. If you're cleaning off your bookshelves, we will take donations of books that no longer spark joy for you. However, we do not accept books that promote things like medical quackery, racism, homophobia, sexism, or sedition. Everyone is encouraged to come by and take a free book (or two or three) to promote literacy in Randolph County.

If you have books you would like to donate to either our lending library or to our book cart, please send an email to rcdp.countychair@gmail.com and we'll work out a time for you to drop off your donation.



Our Dues Help Keep NCDP Running

Did you know that we receive no funding from the State or National Democratic Party?

As a County Democratic Party in North Carolina, it is our annual sustaining dues that help keep the NCDP running. This year, our sustaining fund dues are nearly \$1,900.

The 2022 Sustaining Fund fee structure is based on a calculation of 2¢ per registered voter in each county. These funds are used to:

- Provide Votebuilder to County Parties
- Maintenance & Updating of Party's Website
- Organize & Conduct Training for Party Officers, Activists & Volunteers
- Development of Literature on Democratic Issues & Message
- Provide Mobilize for County Parties

Help us reach our goal as quickly as possible by donating today.

Visit secure.actblue.com/donate/RCDPsustaining to contribute.

Reviews

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson
An eye-opening, brilliant, painful examination of America's caste system. Every American should be required to read this book. From page 267: "Some of the participants who heiled Hitler and laughed at humans being tortured in the Jim Crow South are still alive, cradling grandchildren to their bosom." And, "It is easy to say, if we could just wait until the bigots die away . . . It is much harder to look into the darkness in the hearts of ordinary people with unquiet minds, needing someone to feel better than."

— reviewed by Martha Crotty

1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created by Charles Mann

I've been reading Mann's *1493* over the last few days. It's a fascinating book about the "Colombian Exchange" that followed the famous voyages of Cristobal Colon (Columbus to the rest of us). A few things I've learned upon reading are as follows:

- ✓ Potatoes are fascinating.
- ✓ Chinese history is fascinating.
- ✓ So is the history of the Philippines,
- ✓ And the Spanish empire in the Americas.

None of this was, or is, taught adequately in American public schools.

And, once again, potatoes are really, really cool.

— reviewed by Jay Hubbard

Statement of Purpose

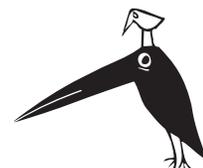
We are a diverse, inclusive community of resilient, respectful local citizens who are open-minded, compassionate, and courageous.

We are focused on facts, truth, accountability, justice, and the common good.

We work to promote democratic ideals.

We fight for the preservation of democracy, fair representation and governance, social justice, a healthy environment, economic opportunity, and a better future for all.

We encourage our community to be informed and involved and to elect Democrats who stand for these ideals.



CALENDAR

(Meetings will be conducted on Zoom unless otherwise noted or announced.)

February 1 at 7 pm — **Randolph County Executive Committee Meeting on Zoom. The meeting is open to all registered Democrats in Randolph County.**

January 29 — **2022 Winter SEC Meeting, (In Person. Location TBA)**

January 29 — **2022 Blue NC Celebration Fundraising Reception, (In Person. Location TBA)**

February 1 at 7 pm — **County Executive Committee Meeting on Zoom**

February 5 - 19 — **Precinct Organization Meetings on Zoom**

February 8 at 5 pm — **Randolph Board of Elections Meeting, Northgate Commons, Asheboro**

February 24 — **Filing Period for Candidates Resumes**

March 1 at 7 pm — **Randolph County Executive Committee Meeting on Zoom**

March 4 — **Filing Period for Candidates Ends**

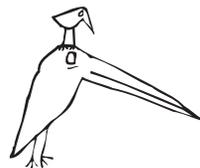
March 15 — **Newsletter Submission Deadline**

March 19 — **County Convention Meetings, venue TBA**

March 26 — **Makeup date for County Convention if needed**

May 21 — **District Convention Meetings, venue/time TBA**

Summer SEC / 2022 Convention, TBA (In Person. Location TBA)



Don't Miss Out!

Check our Facebook page
(facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty)
and website

(randolphcountydems.org)

often for information and updates.

We have many opportunities to make a difference in Randolph County in the coming months.

Women's Access to Healthcare Under Attack in Randolph County

by Susie Scott

My grandmother had three daughters. She lost her mother when she was less than a year old to the 1918 Flu Epidemic. Growing up on a farm with no brothers or sisters, she wanted a large family. But the birth of her third daughter was especially hard, and she spent weeks recovering in bed. The doctor told her that another pregnancy would kill her, leaving her daughters with no mother – a situation she knew all too well. I'm glad she made the choice to not have more children because our family would not have been the same without her love and insight.

A friend of mine also had a health crisis when she had an ectopic pregnancy. After it was terminated, she went on to have two precious children who are now young, caring adults with amazing futures in front of them. I hate to imagine what might have happened if her medical options had been limited or her treatment delayed. Ectopic pregnancies are common, occurring in 1 of every 50 pregnancies.

These are just two examples of many where women needed to have all their medical choices available along with sound, unfettered advice from their doctors. Women of childbearing age sometimes face difficult decisions, and they should be able to make those decisions without interference from government.

Although most pregnancies and births result in healthy babies and moms, pregnancy and childbirth do carry significant medical risks for many women. Those risks have been rising over the past three decades in our nation. According to the CDC, the rate of pregnancy-related deaths in the U.S. more than doubled from 1987 to 2017.

The risks for African-American women are even greater at three times the rate of risks for white women. The difference in those rates does not improve even when you compare groups of women from both races with the same risk factors. This suggests the disparity is caused by racism and not race. U.S. Representative Alma Adams addressed this problem at a press conference in April 2020 when she shared the story of Kira Johnson, an expectant mother who was in “exceptional health and had the best prenatal care.” Kira underwent a scheduled C-section that resulted in the delivery of a healthy son. A couple of hours after the surgery, her husband noticed blood in her catheter. Despite her deteriorating condition and her husband's repeated attempts to make her medical team aware of the issue, Kira was forced to wait for hours before she was finally taken to emergency surgery. Her heart stopped as soon as the second surgery began due to 10 hours of internal bleeding that resulted from the accidental laceration of her bladder during the C-section. The surgeons found 3.5 liters of blood in her abdomen — over half the average total blood volume for

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adults. After her death, her husband honored her legacy by starting the 4Kira4Moms organization, which advocates for improved maternal health policies.

Women’s access to healthcare is under attack in Randolph County!

In December, at the Randolph County Board of Commissioners meeting, Chairman Darryl Frye introduced a resolution declaring “the full humanity of the preborn child, and declares Randolph County to be a sanctuary for the pre-born, where the dignity of every human being will be defended and promoted from conception or fertilization.” After Commissioner Hope Haywood spoke in favor of the Resolution, it passed unanimously. It also “protects the gift of life from conception or fertilization.” As most of us know, oral birth control works by preventing a fertilized egg from implanting itself in the womb. Do our commissioners believe that women should not have access to birth control pills? Is this what we as a county believe?

The resolution was promoted locally by a handful of church leaders along with Caralynn Vaughn, executive director of Your Choices Randolph (formerly Randolph Pregnancy Care Center). Your Choices Randolph is “100% pro-life” according to Commissioner Maxton McDowell’s wife, who has been a speaker for the anti-choice group for several years. At the November meeting, Commissioner Frye said that he also has been attending some of the Your Choices meetings over the past three years at the invitation of the McDowells.

Although a few local organizations supported this resolution, it was not conceived in Randolph County. It’s part of a national campaign by the Personhood Alliance, which believes the existence of human DNA defines personhood. They also are against vaccine mandates and believe that COVID-19 vaccines are unethical because they “used aborted fetal cells in the testing phase.”

The Personhood Alliance has a three-step program for action. Step one: establish a resolution that recognizes

personhood and equal protection from conception/fertilization to natural death. Step two: build a coalition of churches and local government to create a culture of personhood protections and advance those concepts at the state and national levels. (Randolph County is currently at this step after passing the resolution.) Step three: “defy unjust laws” by creating local laws that ignore Roe v. Wade and by defying any other law that “violates the personhood of vulnerable

If we want healthy women (and healthy babies), we must support women by giving them access to the best healthcare and medical advice available. They have the intelligence and the morals to make decisions for their own health without others questioning their choices and without any level of government coming between them and their doctors.

children and adults.” Remember, they would also apply this protection to recently fertilized eggs.

Could you imagine what might have happened to my grandmother and my friend if they had to go through what they experienced in Randolph County today? If we want healthy women (and healthy babies), we must support women by giving them access to the best healthcare and medical advice available. They have the intelligence and the morals to make decisions for their own health without others questioning their choices and without any level of government coming between them and their doctors. They also have the right to decide when and if they want to have children. After all, they alone bear all the risk.



Notice Regarding Cash Donations

The Randolph County Democratic Party cannot accept anonymous cash donations. If you send us a cash donation, it must be under \$50 and needs to include your name, address and occupation for FEC reporting purposes. Anonymous donations to RCDP must be forfeited to the NC State Board of Elections. We want to make sure we keep those donations working for us at the local level. Thank you for your cooperation.

Share a Review or an Opinion

Send your review/opinion piece to: rcdp.newsletter@gmail.com. There is a 50 word limit for reviews, and a 300 word limit for opinions. We will publish as many as space allows. Please be aware that articles will be edited if necessary for space and clarity. Thank you.