



Vote! This is No Time to Leave Votes on the Table

by Diane Hubbard, Chair, Randolph County Democratic Party

Tomorrow is my 50th birthday and what glorious gift did I get for this milestone? Why, Covid, of course. So, I'll have lots of time on my hands for several days to mull over where we need to take our party as we head toward the November elections.

It is more important than ever that we hold Republicans accountable for the horrific changes in policy and law that they have foisted on us. Their Supreme Court is bought and paid for, they revel in gridlock in the Senate, and the legislature in Raleigh is poised to repeal women's rights to bodily autonomy the moment the opportunity arises. Our first line of defense is our Democratic legislative candidates.

I need your help in helping fund our State House and Senate candidates. Instead of sending me gifts and good wishes for my birthday, I'd like you to help fund our candidates if you can. I'm asking you to donate \$50 in honor of my 50th year, but any amount will be a huge help. Every dollar donated will go directly to the candidates. Visit secure.actblue.com/donate/50th-birthday for more details and to donate online. If you'd prefer to donate via check, you may send it to Randolph County Democratic Party P.O. Box 4814, Asheboro, NC 27204. Please put a note in the memo that it's for Diane's 50th Birthday. (Please note that anonymous donations cannot be accepted.)

We will be needing 100+ volunteers for various tasks. Now

would be a great time to get involved if you haven't before. We are looking for people with all sorts of skill sets. Are you an introvert? Maybe you'd like to write postcards or text bank. An extrovert? You might love canvassing or being a poll greeter. Are you a fantastic baker? Boy, have we got a bake sale for you! We need poll watchers, sign placers, data analyzers, event planners, phone bankers, and HQ staffers. We would love for you to become a more active part of our community. This is a year-round fellowship. We are not just volunteers, we are friends, whether it is campaign season or not. There is a place for everyone.

Lastly, I need you to get out and vote when the time comes. I need you to find other Democratic voters and take them with you when you go. I know Randolph County is a hard row to hoe for Democrats. We should not let this keep us at home on Election Day. Cheri Beasley is going to need every single vote she can get from our county. If Randolph County had turned out just 20 more votes in each precinct for her, she would have won her 2020 race and would be our NC Supreme Court Chief Justice now. I know for a fact that we have 20 Democrats in each precinct who didn't vote that year. We can't let this happen any longer. This Senate election is too important. We need a Senate majority so that we can really start doing some good for the American people. We must not leave any votes on the table this time.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Email: randolphdem@gmail.com

Newsletter email: randolphcountydems.org

Facebook:

facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty

Address: Democratic 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)



Volunteers and Organizers Needed!

There is a lot to be done before the midterm elections this November and many hands make light work. We are looking for several volunteers for various jobs and projects this campaign season. Some of these positions include volunteer coordinator, campaign sign management, letter writers, organizers for specific communities/voting blocs, poll watchers, electioneering, door-to-door canvassers, HQ staff, event organizers, and other projects as the need arises.

Please email Diane at rcdp.countychair@gmail.com or visit tinyurl.com/RCDPvolunteer and let us know which project or activity you'd like to help with.

Please find some passionate intensity

—by Megan Crotty

**“The best lack all conviction, while the worst
Are full of passionate intensity.”**

— W. B. Yeats

I sent my daughter off to school Wednesday like every other day. I put her long, thick hair in a ponytail, and then I told her I was going to go get ready for work. She bowled me over with her usual hug and, as usual, feigned distress at how much she would miss me.

The day before, a gunman had killed 19 elementary school students and two teachers in Texas. My daughter had no idea this happened. She was blissfully unaware as she squeezed me with all her might in an attempt to actually lift me off the ground before we parted ways — she, to her second-grade class at Lindley Park Elementary School; me, to my job at Randolph Community College.

Whenever these mass shootings happen (and there have been more in 2022 than actual days), I come back to the above Yeats quote.

Why is it so hard for us to do something?

Why, especially in Randolph County where we live in a “Second Amendment Sanctuary,” do we value objects over people?

Why are the shooters full of that passion, but we as citizens, as people who just want to live, to thrive, to be able to hug our loved ones another day, aren’t?

We keep shrugging our shoulders.

What do we do? In the barrage of citizens-turned-experts on social media, I’ve seen people suggest everything from a ban on guns to arming teachers (you know, because they don’t have enough on their plates already) to adding more police in the schools to requiring more stringent background checks.

Me? I will never own a gun. I’ve never shot a gun. I don’t want to be near a gun. That’s me. But there are many people (even in the Democratic Party), who still hold steadfast to the Second Amendment.

My hope is that we can all agree that another 19 babies shot dead isn’t OK. Not in Texas. Not in Florida. Not here at home in Randolph County, which also happens to be a “Sanctuary for the Unborn.” Can we also make it a Sanctuary for the Born? Can we please, *please* try and come to some sort of compromise to make it harder to get one’s hands on a firearm?

I don’t think that’s too much to ask. We all want to see our sons and daughters grow up. But thanks to another heart-breaking shooting, there are 19 more families who won’t see their babies grow up. Nineteen wonderful, precious pieces of hope are gone.

Can we please find that passionate intensity?

Fall Festival

The Asheboro Fall Festival will be held on **Saturday, October 1**, and **Sunday, October 2**, in Downtown Asheboro. We have requested our usual spot in front of HQ and will have a 10 x 20 foot booth. We plan to sell persimmon pudding and other delicious desserts. We will need volunteers to supply the persimmon, make the pudding, work in the booth, etc. More information will be forthcoming in the August/September newsletter.



Blue Jean Gala

The festive Blue Jean Gala will be held on **Saturday, August 20**, beginning at 5:30 at the George Washington Carver Community Enrichment Center. The Gala Committee, chaired by Todd Dulaney, has been meeting and making plans. This is a festive and fun get-together for Democrats in our area as well as an important fundraiser. We hope to have a guest speaker that will inspire the Democrat in you. Your invitation is enclosed. Please plan to attend and support the Randolph County Democratic Party!

Scholarship 2022

The Randolph County Democratic Party opted not to award an education scholarship for 2022. The submissions we received did not meet the criteria laid out to be considered for the award.

Reviews

White Lies: The Double Life of Walter F. White and America’s Darkest Secret — by A. J. Baime.

The incredible story of Walter F. White, a Black man who passed for white in the early 1900s in order to report on lynchings. The book is full of the history of the NAACP and our country’s deplorable legacy of racism.

— reviewed by Martha Crotty



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.

General Election Information

In the primary election, Cheri Beasley (cheribeasley.com) was elected to be the Democratic candidate for the US Senate. Thanks to everyone who turned out to vote, especially those who voted on Sunday. We hope that Sunday voting will be an option in the November election.

The Democratic candidates who are running for office in the general election appearing on the ballot in Randolph County are listed here, along with their contact information.

General Election Candidates

Ben Clark, US House of Representatives, District 9
BenClarkNC.com

Brooke Crump, NC Senate, District 29
facebook.com/BrookeCrump.NC.Senate

Erik Davis, NC House of Representatives, District 78
erikdavisnc.com

Shawn C. Ewing, NC Senate, District 25
Ewingformc.com

Robert T. Reives, NC House of Representatives, District 54
reivesforhouse.com

Susie Scott, NC Senate, District 70
SusieScottForNC.com

Kimberly Walker, Randolph County Board of Commissioners, District 4
kimberly-walker.com

Sean Walker, Randolph County Sheriff
Walker4Sheriff.org

Additionally, if you are interested in learning more about the Judicial Candidates who will be on the November ballot, here is their contact information:

Contact Information for Judicial Candidates

Gale Adams: judgegaleadams.com

Sam Ervin IV: ervinforjustice.org

Lucy Inman: lucyinmanforjustice.com

Darren Jackson: judgedarrenjackson.com

Brad A. Salmon: judgebradsalmon.com

Carolyn Thompson: carolynthompsonforjudge.com

CALENDAR

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

June 7 at 6:30 pm — **Randolph County Executive Committee Meeting, open to all registered Democrats in Randolph County. This meeting will be held in-person at Frazier Park Picnic Shelter.**

June 18 — **Summer SEC / 2022 Convention**

July 5 at 7 pm — **Randolph County Executive Committee Meeting**

July 15 — **August/September Newsletter deadline**

August 20 at 5:30 pm — **Blue Jean Gala**

October 1 & 2 — **Fall Festival**

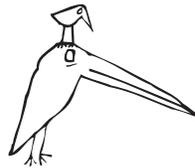
Check our Facebook page

(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.



760 North Carolina Parents Sign Letter to Lt. Gov. Mark Robinson Ahead of NRA Convention

On May 27, 2022, ahead of Lt. Governor Mark Robinson's speech at the NRA convention in Texas, 760 parents across North Carolina released a letter addressed to Robinson, North Carolina's highest-ranking Republican, demanding answers to why he and the North Carolina Republican Party are beholden to the NRA instead of protecting our children. The letter also called on him to withdraw from the event. Robinson joined Donald Trump and Republican leaders at the NRA's convention in Texas just days after a mass shooting in the state killed 19 children and two adults.

"Thoughts and prayers are not enough. That's why more than 760 parents are demanding to know why Mark Robinson and the North Carolina Republican Party have made the choice to put the NRA's interests ahead of their children's safety," said North Carolina Democratic Party Spokesperson Ellie Dougherty.

Read the entire letter at this link:

tinyurl.com/LtGovRobinsonLetter

Assault on Voting Rights

by Susie Scott

As I sit here getting over a sore throat and sniffles that I picked up sometime during the May primary, I'm thinking about our poll workers and Elections officials. I'm also thinking about the increasing amounts of nonsense that so many of them put up with while they were doing their jobs. I was one of those poll workers for several years before becoming a party officer and eventually running for office myself. In those years, you rarely heard of people harassing elections officials or voters. If only that were still the case today.

During this year's primary, we've had the following incidents reported.

- A voter wanted to vote in a primary he was not registered to vote in. This happens from time to time when voters don't vote in primaries for many years, and then don't remember how they registered decades ago. We had several of these this year, but this particular voter was carrying a firearm and let the poll workers know he was armed thinking it would get the ballot he wanted.

- On Election Day, a Chief Judge was verbally assaulted by an elected Randolph County official because she was doing her job and protecting the voting enclosure from campaigners who attempted to enter on several occasions "to use the bathroom." As most of us know, campaigning is only allowed outside of a 25 or 50-foot perimeter beyond the door of the building where voting is taking place. The Chief Judge continued to follow procedures set in place, and did not bow to the threats and verbal assault.

- Campaigners outside of an early voting site were telling Democratic voters that they could not vote there or had nothing to vote on. The voter ignored them and went inside to vote and reported their actions to the staff inside who reprimanded that campaigner.

- A church-going voter was harassed by campaigners and told that his party didn't have any candidates who were Christians and they continued by insulting his minister.

I have three things to ask of each of you.

The first is to thank anyone you know who worked either at the polls or in our county Elections Office or currently serve on the Board of Elections. It doesn't

matter which party they are registered with. Their task is to follow our state elections laws and procedures to make sure that Randolph County voters can vote for the candidates of their choice without being subjected to intimidation or otherwise hindered from voting.

The second is to never allow bad actors to get between you and your ballot. Ignore them, go inside, and vote.

The third is that if you see intimidation or election violations by anyone outside, or inside, a polling place, regardless of which party they are with, please report it to both the Elections officials inside and then take one more step to report it to our party voter protection team. You can reach their hotline by calling 1-833-868-3462. If you want to help further, you can volunteer to protect voters in Randolph County by observing the polls and helping gather reports. Let us know by calling 336-629-9003 or emailing RandolphDem@gmail.com if you're interested.



Voter Protection Program

The North Carolina Democratic Party has put together a Voter Protection Program to monitor changes in elections and to establish connections with local elections offices. The Voter Protection team will be investigating voter purges to make sure voters aren't purged for incorrect reasons. During elections, the team provides Poll Observers to monitor the polling sites. After elections, they will help with absentee and provisional ballot chases. Team members will attend meetings where the Board of Elections counts and certifies the elections, reporting any issues, such as what kinds of ballots are being dismissed, for example.

Additionally, the Randolph County Board of Elections needs resources to assure voter access. In order to run elections, they must establish a sufficient budget and need support in seeking funds from the County Commissioners. Both Susie Scott and Diane Hubbard attend the County Board of Elections meetings and they are advocating for adequate hours for early voting, as well as for Sunday voting. They also contact the Board of Elections if there is a voting issue during the election so the situation can be remedied before more voters are impacted.