

Dear Santa,

We Democrats have been exceptionally good this year. President Biden has gotten some significant legislation passed that will help many Americans of all demographics going forward. We didn't steal any classified documents and hide them in our gold-leafed vacation destination for gifters. We didn't foment an insurrection or take away women's rights to control their own bodies. We didn't gut the Environmental Protection Agency and we didn't claim that states with strict open carry restrictions are violating the 2nd Amendment. We did better than expected in the midterm elections even though the GOP has gained a razor thin majority in the US House. Republicans are in such a state of disarray that their expected infighting in the coming months will be interesting to watch. While we may not have had the greatest luck in Randolph County, we are still very hopeful when we look toward the next two years.

Here is our wish list for the upcoming year. Would you and your elves be so kind as to help us recruit some volunteers for the 2023 Municipal elections and the 2024 Presidential election? We promise to keep doing our best to make this country a better, healthier, more prosperous place for everyone, regardless of whether they agree with us politically.

We will need:

- Precinct Officers for All Voting Precincts
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Festival and Event Staff
- Community/Cultural Outreach
- Headquarters Staff
- Poll Greeters
- Phone Bankers
- Post Card Writers
- Door to Door Canvassers
- Sign Placers
- Poll Observers
- Monthly HQ Cleaning Crew
- Hospitality/Birthday Committee
- Speakers/Programs for Meetings
- Any other skills that might be helpful

Please have these volunteers reach out to RCDP.CountyChair@gmail.com for more information. We also have a list of tangible items that we could use at our Headquarters throughout the year. These are available for purchase via our Amazon Wishlist. [RCDP Amazon Wishlist - *tinyurl.com/RCDPWishlist*](https://www.amazon.com/?ref=AWS_Links_List&pf_rd_p=81111111-1111-4444-8888-888888888888)

Stay warm out there,
Randolph County Democrats

NCDP Statement Re: Trump

On November 18, North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson released the following statement:

“Defeated former President Donald Trump prioritized tax giveaways to the ultra-wealthy and corporations that led to the worst economy since the Great Depression, appointed the U.S. Supreme Court that overturned Roe v. Wade, and incited a mob to attack the Capitol. His record failing to stand up to protect the wallets of North Carolinians, our freedoms, and our very democracy proves he is too extreme and dangerous to serve our great country once again.”

With Gratitude

Thank you for your support during the 2022 campaign. I deeply appreciate all of you who gave your time to support our local party and Democratic candidates like myself by greeting people at the polls, hosting meet-and-greets, canvassing, phone banking, helping at events, putting out signs, offering your expertise and skills, donating, or voting. This election is over, but our journey is not. Let's continue to work together for Randolph County and North Carolina.

With Gratitude,
Susie Scott

Thanks!

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Phone: 336-629-9003

Email: randolphdem@gmail.com

Newsletter email: randolphcountydems.org

Faceook:

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

Address: Democratic Headquarters, 114 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)

Randolph County
Democratic Party

RanDem News

DECEMBER 2022/JANUARY 2023, Issue No. 23

**Thankful for so Many Things**

by Diane Hubbard, Chair, Randolph County Democratic Party

Thanksgiving is a few short days away. By the time you read this it will have come and gone but I still want to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all the people who worked for the RCDP during this recent midterm election. Thanks to the Randolph County Board of Elections Director Melissa Kirstner, and all the staff at the Board of Elections office who did a fantastic job of ensuring that early voting and Election Day voting went smoothly. They are a credit to their profession. Also, thank you to the Board members themselves, who make the decisions that our elections staff members put into practice.

Thank you to all the poll workers, judges and assistants who staffed polling places. Election Day is a long time to be cooped up in one room, but for the sake of our democracy you all commit to doing it. You deserve all the accolades for it.

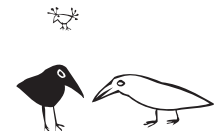
Thank you to our volunteers who showed up to canvass, phone bank, and write postcards. Thank you to our poll greeters who are constantly outnumbered by any number of Republican greeters whose behavior can range anywhere from mild-mannered normal to obnoxious conspiracy theorist. Thank you to our poll watchers, who were ready to go, should there be shenanigans at any polling place.

Thank you to our candidates, who file to run knowing that the odds are against them. Their dedication to the belief that no one should run unopposed is commendable. We know that for most offices, we have the better candidates. Maybe someday the voters will come to realize that, too.

And last but certainly not least, thank you to our Democratic voters, like-minded unaffiliated voters, and Republicans who were fed up enough to take stock of their voting habits and cross the aisle. We appreciate every single vote you cast for us.

There will be more opportunities to get involved in the coming months. The midterms are not even two weeks behind us and already we're looking forward to 2023. The first quarter of 2023 will bring precinct meetings, the county convention, and election of new party officers. I encourage those of you who are already volunteers to bring a friend to your precinct meeting. If you live in a precinct that is not organized, please consider helping us get it organized. If you're interested in volunteering, please email me directly at RCDP.CountyChair@gmail.com.

Take some time to enjoy yourself, however you choose to celebrate (or not celebrate). We'll be here in the new year, ready to hit the ground running for municipals and for preparation for the 2024 Presidential election. I hope you all have a wonderful, safe holiday season. Thank you again for all your help. See you next year!

**CALENDAR**

(Meetings will be conducted in person unless otherwise noted or announced.)

NO December Executive Committee Meeting**January 7, 2023, Saturday — Executive Committee Breakfast Meeting, 9:30 am at Democratic HQ.**

114 Sunset Ave., Asheboro. Susie Scott will be speaking to the group about the separation of church and state. Bring a breakfast item to share.

January 19, 2023, Thursday, 7 pm at Democratic HQ

Program: What is the Inflation Reduction Act and how will it benefit us for years to come. Speaker: Paul Meier. Light refreshments provided.

January 15, 2023 — February/March Newsletter deadline

Check our Facebook page ([facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty](https://www.facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty)) and website ([randolphcountydems.org](https://www.randolphcountydems.org)) often for information and updates. We have many opportunities to make a difference in Randolph County in the coming months.



What can Leandro Funding do for Randolph County?

by Susie Scott

In November, the North Carolina Supreme Court ordered the state legislature to release the funds for two years of the **Leandro Plan**. According to our state constitution, “The people have a right to the privilege of education, and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right.”

Like many other school systems across North Carolina, Asheboro City Schools and Randolph County Schools would benefit greatly from the extra funding provided by the ruling. Here’s a sample of what it would bring to **Randolph County Schools**:

- Total state funding would increase from \$101.5 Million to \$147.6 Million
- An additional \$1.3 Million would be available for classroom supplies and textbooks
- Teacher assistant funding would increase from \$4.2 Million to \$6.2 Million
- The budget for nurses, psychologists, counselors, social workers, and media specialists would increase from \$5.5 Million to \$14.1 Million

Asheboro City Schools would see the following benefits:

- Total state funding would increase from \$31.4 Million to \$45.2 Million
- An additional \$393,100 would be available for classroom supplies and textbooks
- Teacher assistant funding would increase from \$1.4 Million to \$2.0 Million
- The budget for nurses, psychologists, counselors, social workers, and media specialists would increase from \$1.6 Million to \$3.9 Million

Our public schools (and more importantly our children) need the services that would be afforded by implementing the Leandro Plan. Please support this effort by contacting your current and new state legislators to ask them to support this funding. Our children’s education shouldn’t have to wait on additional court cases.

You can find out more about how our local schools will benefit from the Leandro Plan at Every Child NC, <https://everychildnc.org/leandro-impact-analysis-2/>. There is also a tool to explore benefits to Early Education (birth to age 5) at <https://everychildnc.org/leandro-impact-analysis-early-education/>.

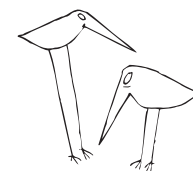
Book Reviews

How the South Won the Civil War by Heather Cox Richardson
I just finished this book and have been asked to review it: Everything I’ve been raving about and raging against for the last forty years is true. I’m not crazy! This has all happened before, many times. We have been in a war between democracy and oligarchy for over two hundred years. Here’s the proof, receipts, and all. Read this book. Give it to your kids and grandkids for Christmas.

— reviewed by Jay Hubbard

Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng
Set in the future where our society is governed by and consumed by fear, this book is a deeply moving, suspenseful and terrifying, as well as a cautionary tale.

— reviewed by Martha Crotty



Share a Review or an Opinion

Send your review/opinion piece to: redp.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.



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.

Volunteer Spotlight

Vera Andrews

Vera Andrews has been volunteering with RCDP since 1978. She has worked hard for us during elections, canvassing neighborhoods, greeting voters at the polls, and talking to her friends about our Democratic candidates. If anyone ever embodied the spirit of helping your fellow man, Vera Andrews is that person. Her dedication to the children of Randolph County and beyond is without compare. Friends have said of her, “...she worked to love children and spread love to everyone she met.”

Vera was the first African American, multicultural, state licensed home daycare owner operator in Randolph County. Vera’s Kiddie Care opened in August of 1985 at her home in Liberty, serving private payers and DSS clientele. “With the help of my wonderful spouse, mother, supportive children, and supportive siblings we were able to try and meet the demand for quality childcare in Liberty, Staley, Siler City, and Ramseur,” said Vera. Later, Vera and her husband Joe moved to Joe’s hometown of Ramseur and expanded their business from 8 to 33 children. The demand for quality childcare continued to grow. “In 1990, we moved to 532 N. Greensboro St. Liberty, to a State licensed facility with a capacity of 61.” They also created a Before and After School facility at 114 N. Fayetteville St., Liberty.

In Vera’s own words, “In 1994, our center on N. Greensboro St. was chosen as a Center of Excellence by Dr. Wanda Hedrick who was doing her thesis from UNC Chapel Hill on Multi-Cultural Childcare. Her students came to our facility and conducted their study! What an experience! We were the only center in Randolph County that met her criteria. We were serving African Americans, Caucasians, Hispanics and Indian. As a result of her study, I accompanied her to Ontario, Canada to give highlights of my experience in childcare [of] operating a multicultural childcare facility in Randolph County, NC. What an exciting, rewarding experience!”

In 2003, Vera had to close her childcare center. She continued to operate at 114 N Fayetteville St. (for children 4-12 years old) and hosted a Summer Camp until March of 2021, when they had to close due to the pandemic. Vera has 36 years of childcare experience and has also been employed in the school system for 26 years with Exceptional Children.

Vera is the ninth child of a family of 13. She is married to Joe L. Andrews and has five children, 15 grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. She is an active member of Oliver’s Chapel AME Zion Church, an NAACP Officer, and an Advanced Senior at NC A&T.

Bill McCaskill

Bill McCaskill has been volunteering with the Randolph County Democratic Party for nearly 50 years. This recent midterm election was no exception. Bill could be found at the Board of Elections, handing out blue Democratic sample ballots every day of Early Voting. On Election Day, he is usually found at one of the Asheboro polling places, greeting voters and doing his best to let folks know why it’s in their interest to vote for Democratic candidates. In the past Bill himself has been a candidate for both the NC House and the NC Senate. He was elected to the Asheboro City Council in 2021. He strongly supports youth programs including expanded services to meet the need for afterschool and summer programs. Bill was the author of the recent “Resolution to Remove and Relocate the Confederate Statue and Monument Located at the Historic Randolph Courthouse.” This resolution was passed unanimously by the Asheboro City Council.

Bill is a lifelong resident of Asheboro and attended Asheboro City Schools. In 1972, he graduated from East Carolina University and began working at Randolph County Social Services. For thirty-two years, he worked as a front-line child welfare worker and social worker supervisor serving abused and neglected children. After retirement from DSS, Bill was employed with Cardinal Clinic helping troubled youth. He has also volunteered in several child service agencies, most recently mentoring students with Community in Schools. During his campaigns for public office, many of the people whose lives he impacted commented on social media about how Bill was a positive influence in their lives. Bill has dedicated his life to serving his community. Many of the children he helped have noted that he was the one who pulled them out of dangerous situations.

Bill McCaskill has served as a member of the state committee charged with drawing up new child welfare laws for the Legislature and is a former volunteer with the *Guardian ad Litem* program. He supports his alma mater as a member of the ECU Pirate Club. He also supports the Salvation Army, the Randolph-Asheboro YMCA, and Randolph County Community in Schools.



BTW: If you would like to nominate a local Democrat for our volunteer spotlight, please email your nomination to Diane at: redp.countychair@gmail.com.