



RanDem News



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2025, Issue No. 39

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CALENDAR

(Meetings will be conducted in person at Democratic HQ, 114 Sunset Ave, Asheboro, NC, unless otherwise noted.)

- ☑ **Monthly Breakfast and Executive Committee Meeting** at HQ Saturday, August 9, 9:30 am; Bring a breakfast item to share. mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems/event/815694/
- ☑ **Randolph Board of Elections Meeting** 1457 N. Fayetteville St., Asheboro; Tuesday, August 12, 5:00 pm.
- ☑ **Canvass or Phone Bank for Our Courts** Saturday, August 16, 9:00 am at Democratic HQ
- ☑ **17th Annual Defending Democracy Blue Jean Gala:** Saturday, September 6: See enclosed invitation. *RCDP monthly meetings have been moved to the **second Saturday** of the month to coincide with the NAACP monthly meetings.
- ☑ **Randolph Board of Elections Meeting** 1457 N. Fayetteville St., Asheboro; Tuesday, September 9, 5:00 pm.
- ☑ **Monthly Breakfast and Executive Committee Meeting** at HQ Saturday, September 13, 9:30 am; Bring a breakfast item to share. mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems/event/815694/
- ☑ **Newsletter submission deadline.** Sept. 15: Oct/Nov Issue
- ☑ **Asheboro Fall Festival Booth and Bake Sale,** Saturday, October 4, 9:00 am to 6:00pm.

To RSVP for upcoming meetings, please visit mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems.

Standing Firm on Our Values, Moving Forward Together

By Kim Nelson-Edwards, Chair, Randolph County Democratic Party

Recently, I visited the North Carolina Democratic Party website and took the time to read through our official party platform. I was proud - and truly encouraged - to discover 38 pages that deeply reflect the values, vision, and priorities that I, too, hold dear for Randolph County.

As I read, I felt energized. The beliefs and commitments outlined by our party are not just words on paper - they are also a call to action. They align with the direction I envision for our county and state. I am proud to be a Democrat. And more importantly, I am motivated to move the needle toward a more just and inclusive democracy - **one vote at a time.**

I know that after the last presidential election, many of us felt discouraged. It's taken time to regroup and refocus. But I'm here to tell you: **we cannot give up.** We are **not** defeated. It's time to rally. It's time to support candidates in Randolph County who care about all of us - not just their own echo chamber or political gain.

Yes, I've heard the voter remorse. And to that I say - **it's never too late to make a change for the good of the people** of Randolph County and this country. Now is the time to act.

I want to share a few guiding principles from the NC Democratic Party Platform that I stand behind 100%. These words are not only inspiring, but they also challenge us to live up to our highest ideals:

"Democrats from across the state are united by shared values that define who we are and what we stand for. That means fighting to ensure all North Carolinians have a fair shot at a good life, regardless of their background, where they came from, their economic status, or who they love."

Our party believes in:

- Ethical and accountable government
- A fully funded public education system that treats teachers with dignity
- Access to healthcare and housing for all
- Environmental protection and real action on climate change
- Fair and firm law enforcement that respects due process and justice

These are not just talking points - they are also the bedrock of a truly democratic society. If these values speak to you, I invite you to join us. Together, we can grow a stronger, more inclusive Randolph County. **Better candidates, better outcomes, and better leadership begin with us.**

This is not a one-woman show. **It takes a team. It takes you. It takes all of us.**

Let's stay motivated. Let's make a change. Let's do it together.



MAGA Has Forgotten Sunday School Lessons

Most Randolph County voters would say they are "people of faith." Yet, most voted for a president whose administration does not follow biblical norms. The Bible says that humans are made in God's image, yet the administration mistreats immigrants and the poor. Leviticus says, "Don't mistreat any foreigner who lives in your land. Instead, treat them as well as you would treat citizens and love them as much as you love yourself."

It also says, "When you harvest your grain, always leave some of it standing around the edges of your fields and don't pick up what falls on the ground. Leave it for the poor and for those foreigners who live among you."

Furthermore, it says: "I demand equal justice for those foreigners who live among you." Voters forget that Ruth was a foreigner living among Jews before she married Boaz and they were ancestors of both David and Jesus. Some also forget Rahab who saved the Jewish spies in Jerico was the mother of Boaz.

-Bob Williams

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randolphcountyncdems.org/randem-news/

Facebook: facebook.com/RandolphCountyDemocraticParty

Social media/contact info in one place: linktr.ee/randolphncdemocrats

HQ 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. c2025)



SCAN FOR OUR LINKTREE

17th Annual
Defending Democracy
Blue Jean Gala
September 6, 2025



Your invitation is enclosed!
Reserve your seat soon.



SCAN TO DONATE TO RCDP

Happy 50th Birthday
Megan Crotty!



Notices & Announcements

If you would like to place an announcement or notice in RanDem News, email us at rcdp.newsletter@gmail.com. The price is \$10 for an approximately 2"x 4" spot. Some variation on size may occur due to space constraints.

Candidates Running for Municipal Offices

In July, the Randolph County Board of Elections announced the names of candidates running for municipal offices in 2025. The election will take place on November 4, 2025. In the next newsletter (October/November), we will include information about some of the candidates. In the meantime, we encourage you to learn about the candidates running for office in the elections that affect you. For more information, call the Board of Elections office at 336-318-6900 or contact them by email at Elections@RandolphCountyNC.gov

Asheboro City Board of Education (2 seats):

Hilda DeCortez
Mikayla Cassidy
Michael D. Brown
Brad Thomas

Franklinville Mayor (1 seat):

Ben Harman

Franklinville Board of Commissioners (3 seats):

Billy Farias
Sara Nieblas
Richard D. Goodwin
Joe Dawkins

Liberty Mayor (1 seat):

Filmore York

Liberty Town Commissioners (3 Seats):

Rebekkah Glass
Terry L. Caviness
Larry Coble
Tyson Nixon

Ramseur Town Commissioners (2 seats):

David Neve
Diana Brower
Jesse Hembree

Randleman Mayor (1 seat):

Gary B. Betts, Sr.
J. W. Gaster

Randleman Aldermen: (Ward 2)

Craig Hancock
Melissa Allred Blalock
(Ward 3)
Nancy R. Henderson

Seagrove Mayor (1 seat):

David Robert Fernandez

Seagrove Town Commissioners (2 seats):

Jeremy Steinhart
Kevin McBride
Ed Walker
Sandra Walker

Staley Mayor (1 seat):

Karen R. Scotton

Staley Board of Commissioners (5 seats):

Lori Lynn Langley
Renee Harrelson
Brooke Boswell
Faye Johnson
Sherri Martin

Thomasville Mayor (1 seat):

JacQuez Johnson

Wendy B. Sellars
Raleigh York, Jr.

Thomasville City Council (4 seats):

Doug Hunt
Ericka Sanders
Ed Craddock
Adam Leisure
Richard Flippin
Tommy Bryant
Kareem J. Grant, Sr.
Joe Lambert
Dana Skeen Lomba
D. Hunter Thrift
Scott Styers
L. Jeremiah McCauley



"Unless better people get involved with politics, politics doesn't get any better." Anderson Clayton, NCDP Chair

Make Your Voice Heard -If you have an article, event, or book/media review you'd like to contribute to *RanDem News*, please email it to us at rcdp.newsletter@gmail.com.

Primary Elections Set for Two Asheboro Races

Because of the number of people who filed to run for Asheboro Mayor and Asheboro City Council, there will be a primary election for those races on October 7, 2025. A nonpartisan municipal primary is triggered when the number of people filing for a given office is twice the number of seats available, plus one. We will update Asheboro residents on primary early voting hours when we have the information.

Asheboro Mayor (1 seat):

Eddie Burks
Joey Trogdon
Brett M. Thompson
Jennyfer Bucardo

City Council (4 seats):

Phillip R. Check
Mary Joan Pugh
Kelly W. Heath
Al LaPrade
Phil Skeen
Dave Thomas
Jimmy T. Eford
Katie L. Snuggs
Joel McClosky
Bill McCaskill
Kevin Garcia Cordova
Timothy Woodle
Pamela Vuncannon
Aaron McClendon



We the People

I am sitting here on this July 4th wondering what is left of this country. The awful bill has passed and I am in mourning for my fellow humans in the detention camps, who have different skin colors than me, who love someone who others judge, or who are simply poor and can't afford insurance or maybe a home. I understand I might sound trite, but it is always darkest before the dawn. Maybe, just maybe, a fragile hope in something better is being born. I took things like due process, our Constitution, and rule of law for granted. I was not always as empathetic as I should have been.

A fascist Project 2025 vision has been "mandated" on us by corporate greed and rich powerful people who ignore the law and other's suffering. To resist is our duty!

"We The People" are standing together and saying "No! This is not what we want." We want to live in a community that has hope and love at its core. It is not about political leanings it's about our ethics and empathy.

In order to take a public stand, a group of like-minded friends has created Stand up On Salisbury (SOS). Come join us on Tuesdays in Asheboro on the corner of Salisbury and Cox Streets from 3:30 to 5:30p.m. and show your resistance to hate and fear. Demonstrate to your fellow humans that we are here. We are not going away and we are seeking change in a nonviolent way that will better our community rather than tear it apart. We need you!

-Gin Wall, SOS Organizer

Randolph Reads Launches to Support Early Literacy

Randolph Reads is a new countywide initiative that brings baskets of children's books to waiting areas throughout Asheboro and Randolph County – including barber shops, auto repair shops, laundromats, and other places where families spend time. The goal is to promote early literacy by making books easily accessible to young children (birth through third grade) in everyday settings.

The program is a collaboration among the Asheboro/Randolph County Public Library, the Chamber of Commerce, the Randolph Partnership for Children, Asheboro City Schools, and community volunteers. Baskets are stocked with age-appropriate books in English and Spanish and refreshed monthly at no cost to businesses.

To support this effort, the Randolph County Democratic Party Education Team is organizing a book drive! We're collecting new or gently used children's books to help fill these baskets and put books into the hands of kids who need them most.

Stay tuned for donation drop-off details and ways to get involved!

Contact Todd Dulaney at todd.dulaney@gmail.com for more details, including a suggested list of books to donate.



Twenty Thousand Jobs

Since January 1st, North Carolina has added over 20,000 new jobs - real jobs that put food on the table and money in people's pockets. That's no coincidence. It's a sign that under Democratic leadership, North Carolina moves forward.

While North Carolina Republicans in Washington are busy ripping away Medicaid, hiking energy bills, and handing billionaires another tax break, our Democratic governor is doing the exact opposite - investing in working families, attracting new businesses, and rebuilding our state stronger than ever.

Even after devastating storms hit our communities, North Carolina didn't back down - we got to work. Because progress doesn't come from corporate giveaways and MAGA talking points. It comes from leaders who show up, roll up their sleeves, and build something real.

This is what Democratic leadership looks like: Job creation, economic recovery, and a North Carolina that works for everybody - not just the ultra-rich.

Be proud to be from a state that isn't waiting for help - we're building our own future. In 2026, let's send that kind of leadership to Congress - so North Carolina and America can grow stronger, together.

New Reporting Once Again Highlights Extreme Partisan Shift Of Boards Of Elections Since Auditor Boliek Took Over

New reporting from The Assembly shines a light on just how much more extreme county boards of elections are becoming across North Carolina after Auditor Boliek assumed control of the State Board. Today's story builds on a recent editorial from the Washington Post that detailed Boliek's background as an "intensely partisan Republican" and his recent takeover of the State Board. The Assembly detailed in their reporting incidents of Republicans being passed over to remain on their County Board of Election because local leadership chose to promote more political figures that would enact their agenda, as one local leader even admitted that one of the reasons for the replacements is that "local GOP leadership may seek more partisan members."

"Boards of Election have a responsibility to securely and fairly administer their local elections. As Auditor Boliek continues transforming the State Board into the most political state agency, more reporting continues detailing how county boards across the state are following his lead, hiring partisan hacks and eschewing responsible leadership. Dave Boliek and the NCGOP need to stop putting their political agenda ahead of the will of the people so that folks across the state can have faith in our election system." said Dawson McNamara-Bloom, a spokesperson for the North Carolina Democratic Party.

Randolph County Board of Elections meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 5:00 pm.

Randolph County is featured prominently in the article referenced above. To read this reporting, please scan the QR code to the right or visit tinyurl.com/forced-out



Canvass or Phone Bank for Our Courts - Randolph County

Calling all Randolph County Democrats! Join us to knock doors or phone bank to talk with your neighbors about NC Republican judges' record of putting politics before the law. No experience necessary! We'll provide on-site training.

RSVP Canvassing: mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems/event/807927/

RSVP Phone Bank: mobilize.us/randolphcountyncdems/event/807940/