



**Chatham County Democratic Party Weekly News Digest  
April 1, 2024**

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## **Upcoming CCDP-Sponsored Events and Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Come Meet NC Democratic Gubernatorial Candidate Josh Stein in Siler City!**

**April 3, 5 – 6:30 p.m.**, NC Arts Incubator, 223 N Chatham Ave, Siler City

This is a great opportunity to learn more about [his vision for North Carolina](#).

- Making the Economy Work for Everyone
- Improving Education
- Building a Strong Workforce
- Keeping North Carolinians Safe
- Addressing Housing Affordability
- Increasing Access to Health Care
- Standing Up for Women's Freedoms
- Protecting our Fundamental Rights
- Strengthening Rural Communities
- Supporting Small Businesses
- Protecting & Preserving Our Natural Beauty
- Supporting Veterans and their Families
- Making Government Work for the People

It is also a great opportunity to talk to him about the issues that you are most concerned about. And, bring a friend. Organizing is the key to victory....and it can be fun too!!

RSVP at: [Meet Josh Stein!](#)

**East Williams Canvass, April 6, 1 – 3:30 p.m.**, Bradford Hall, 115 Allforth Pl, Cary

This will be a door-to-door canvass in the East Williams area, designed to increase voter turnout. We will also be inviting folks to join our volunteer team. We will go out in teams of 2 or 3 and canvass for a couple of hours. Each team will be assigned around 30 doors to canvass.

For more information and to sign up, go to: [East Williams Canvass](#)

### **CCDP Volunteer Trainings**

You're invited to sign up for any of these upcoming training sessions:

April 3, April 17, [Canvassing Orientation and Training](#) @Zoom

April 5, 12, 19 & 26, [Volunteer Orientation](#) @Zoom

April 5 & 19, [Events Team Orientation](#) @Zoom

April 6, 13, 20, [Join Our Office Crew](#), Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

April 13, [Staffing Tent Events](#), Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

April 13 & 20, [Introduction to Voter Registration & Voter Education](#), Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

**Event Hosts are needed for those trainings held at the CEC. To sign up, go to: [CEC Event Host](#) .**

**Volunteer for a Shift at [Pittsboro First Sunday](#), May 5, Downtown Pittsboro**

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### **Other Upcoming Events**

**"South to Black Power" Film Watch, Q&A, & Panel Discussion, April 6, 2 – 6 p.m.,**  
Union Baptist Church, 904 North Roxboro Street, Durham

Join us for an exciting, free community event: Charles Blow's "South to Black Power" Documentary! Get ready to embark on a captivating journey that explores a proposed solution to reverse the great migration to the nine (9) states which currently list the highest percentages of Black population. This strategic move can/will fix many of the Black community's ills caused by American Herrenvolk Democracy and Jim Crow. Are you sick of taking 2 steps forward and 4 steps back as it relates to Black progress?

Immerse yourself in this thought-provoking documentary that sheds light on a thesis brought forth by Charles Blow's book "The Devil You Know, A Black Power Manifesto." Mr. Blow takes us on a transformative and explorative concept to reverse the great migration which drained the South of six million black bodies between the years 1910 and 1970 to Northern, Midwestern, and Western cities and states.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of our shared history and the ongoing fight for racial equality against American Herrenvolk Democracy. Come together with fellow community members to watch, discuss, and reflect on this impactful documentary, and choose to make a difference today and tomorrow with the sharing of viable ideas and actions.

Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family to join us at Union Baptist Church - Durham. This event promises to be an enlightening and engaging experience for all.

For more information and to reserve your spot, go to: ["South to Black Power" Film Watch, Q&A, & Panel Discussion](#)

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### **Events Sponsored by County-to-County**

#### **2-in-1 Phone Bank for Sen. Lisa Grafstein (SD 13) & Safiyah Jackson (HD 37), April 3, 5:45 – 8 p.m. (Virtual Event)**

Spotlight Phone Bank -- sign up now but make calls any time! See details below... Senator Lisa Graftstein is running to hold her redistricted NC Senate District 13 seat; and Safiyah Jackson is the exciting newcomer running to flip NC House District 37 to blue. These are must-win, overlapping, districts in southern Wake County, and we're very excited to be supporting Lisa and Safiyah! We want to make 1200 calls and knocks for them -- come call with us!

*Meet Lisa and Safiyah on our Kickoff Zoom on Wednesday April 03 at 5:45. We'll offer help to phone bankers who need it and we'll try to make 500 calls that night. But the phone bank continues after that!*

*This phone bank will stay open April 03 thru' April 15! You can make calls whenever it works for you! Once you have the information you're not limited: you can make phone calls any time (9am - 8pm EST) throughout the month.*

For more information on Lisa and Safiyah, visit:

<https://lisagrafstein.com/>

<https://www.teamjacksonfornc.com/>

To sign up, go to: [Spotlight: 2-in-1 Phone Bank](#)

#### **2-in-1 Canvass for Sen. Lisa Grafstein (SD 13) & Safiyah Jackson (HD 37), April 6, 1 - 4 p.m., Fuquay-Varina**

Join us on Saturday, April 6 to speak to voters in southern Wake County about the candidates and issues of concern in overlapping MUST-WIN districts! We'll canvass for Senator Lisa Grafstein, running to hold her re-drawn NC Senate District 13 seat; and for exciting newcomer Safiyah Jackson, running to flip House District 37 blue!

We'll be meeting in Fuquay-Varina, exact location tbd. On-site training will be offered to all new and returning volunteers so don't worry if you haven't canvassed before, we've got you covered! And if you want to canvass with a friend -- bring them along, or we'll pair you up with a fellow-volunteer on the day!

We will contact all registered participants with full details of location and on-site canvass training closer to the event.

Sign up at: [Spotlight: 2-in-1 Canvass](#)

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### **Events Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue**

#### **Sweep Salon: How the Equal Rights Amendment Protects IVF & Birth Control, April 2, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Virtual Event)**

As the recent Alabama Supreme Court decision made clear, extremists aren't stopping with abortion. Access to IVF and birth control are on the line – and it is clear that the goal is to erode women's rights nationwide. But we won't let them. One tool we have is the Equal Rights Amendment – join us and get the latest update about this important constitutional amendment. Nicole Bates of Shattering Glass will share the status of the ERA, how Pennsylvania just used an equal rights amendment to protect women in that state and how you can make a difference!

Sign up at: [How the Equal Rights Amendment Protects IVF & Birth Control](#)

#### **Little Banned Book Club: The Moon Within, Wednesday, April 3, 7:30 p.m. (Virtual Event)**

Join us as we read *The Moon Within*, about Celi Rivera as her life swirls with questions and her mother's insistence she have a moon ceremony when her first period arrives. It's an ancestral Mexica ritual that Mima and her community have reclaimed, but Celi promises she will NOT be participating. Can she find the power within herself to take a stand for who she wants to be?

Sign up [here](#).

#### **Troublemaker Training: How to Fight Back Against Book Bans, April 4, 7:30-8:30 p.m. (Virtual Event)**

Ready to stand up to extremists causing chaos at school board meetings? Want to defeat calls for book bans in your schools? Join us to learn how to effectively recruit people to fight back and the tactics you can use to defeat book bans in your community. You are the majority -- it's time to make your voices heard!

Sign up at: [Troublemaker Training: How to Fight Back Against Book Bans](#)

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## News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

March 29, 2024 Press Release

### North Carolina Democratic Party Statement on Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee's Inclusion of NC House and Senate Races on Their Priorities List

*Following the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee's [inclusion of NC House and Senate races](#) on their "Spotlight Races" program, which are districts chosen as priorities for the DLCC to help break the Republican supermajority in the General Assembly, North Carolina Democratic Leaders released the following statements:*

"The recognition of the North Carolina Senate and House from a key national partner such as the DLCC is a clear signal that North Carolina is on the map this year," said Senate Democratic Caucus Leader Dan Blue. "The path to breaking the supermajority is clear, and it runs through these districts — each with incredible candidates that will serve these districts with dignity. This should be a signal to all that the North Carolina Senate and House is going to break the supermajority in 2024 and restore the veto power to our next Democratic governor."

"We're thrilled to have partners like the DLCC who understand North Carolina is the frontline in the fight for a quality public education, the right for women to make their own healthcare decisions, and for voters to elect their representatives democratically," said North Carolina House Minority Leader Robert Reives. "Folks locally and nationally are taking notice; North Carolina Democrats have excellent candidates running across our state for the legislature because the Republican supermajority is taking us in the wrong direction."

"The DLCC have been tremendous partners fighting alongside us in this crucial election," said North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton. "Their inclusion of both our battleground House and Senate districts shows that they are committed to helping us restore power back to the people in this election and that we will break the supermajority. All eyes are on North Carolina this election cycle and we are so lucky that we have these democratic candidates in these races putting up a fight for the future of our state."

March 26, 2024 Press Release

### North Carolina Democratic Party Welcomes President Biden & Vice President Harris to North Carolina

*Ahead of President Biden and Vice President Harris' visit to Raleigh, North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton released the following statement:*

"On behalf of North Carolina Democrats, I'm thrilled to welcome both President Biden and Vice President Harris back to the Tar Heel state. From creating good-paying jobs in all parts of the state to lowering health care costs and more, the Biden-Harris Administration has delivered for North Carolinians time and time again. North Carolina is a key battleground in 2024 and with the Biden-Harris Administration's record of fighting for our families, as Donald Trump works to roll back our rights, we are ready to make North Carolina a part of their winning coalition this November."

### **March 27, 2024 Press Release**

### **NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton Statement on Democratic Candidate Marilyn Lands' Victory in Alabama Special Election**

*Following [Marilyn Lands' victory](#) in a Trump District for the Alabama House of Representatives, North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton released the following statement:*

"Marilyn Lands' victory is a victory for abortion rights and a signal to the Republican Party that voters won't stand for their insidious attacks on our freedom of bodily autonomy. I'm inspired by Marilyn Lands and we are lucky to have candidates like her stepping up to run - and winning - by championing the Democratic platform of a woman's right to reproductive health. Access to abortion is on the ballot."

**###**

### **News from Neighbors on Call**

### **NoC Spring Happy Hours With Special Guests**

Let us treat you and a NoC-curious friend to a drink at one (or all!) of our NoC Spring Happy Hours!

Find community, optimism, and a way to help pave the way to victory with Neighbors on Call and our special guests (with more to come!):

#### **Wed 5/1 @ 5:30pm in Wake Forest with:**

NC Sen. Sydney Batch  
NC Rep. Terence Everitt (for SD 18)  
Evonne Hopkins (for HD 35)

#### **Sun 5/19 @ 4pm in Hillsborough with:**

NC Rep. Terence Everitt (for SD 18)  
NC Rep. Renée Price  
Commissioner Bryan Cohn (for HD 32)

### **Thurs 5/23 @ 5:30pm in Pittsboro with:**

NC House Dem Leader Robert Reives  
NC Sen. Lisa Grafstein (SD 13)  
NC Sen. Natalie Murdock  
Safiyah Jackson (for HD 37)

We're looking to grow our circle of committed activists who can help us break the supermajority, and we need your help. Please bring your friends! We can't wait to meet them. Our special guests are coming to meet you!

### **Policy Update for April 1, 2024**

#### **Fair Representation**

- [On Thursday a federal appeals court ruled to keep an NCGA-drawn NC Senate map in a gerrymandering suit brought by two Black voters in eastern North Carolina who alleged the map discriminated against Black voters.](#) The ruling, which affirmed a lower court decision against the plaintiffs, was issued by a three-judge panel, divided 2-1 with the sole judge appointed by a Democratic president, Judge Roger Gregory, dissenting. The judges writing the majority opinion, Judges Allison Rushing and J. Harvie Wilkinson III, pointed to the nearness of the election as a motivating factor in their reasoning, though Gregory noted in his dissent that the NCGA left the plaintiffs little time to bring their case given that they enacted new maps close to the candidate filing deadline.

#### **Education Policy**

- [On Tuesday the NC House Select Committee on Education Reform made a report to the NCGA that included a recommendation to modify criteria for the state's A-F grading system for schools.](#) The committee recommended the inclusion of new "readiness" and "opportunity performance" measures in the grading system, in line with a proposal Superintendent Catherine Truitt made to the committee last month. "Readiness" would look at how many students go to college, a job, or the military after they graduate from the school, as well as how many are able to graduate in four to five years, while "opportunity performance" would measure participation in school activities and rates of absenteeism. The committee also mentioned teacher pay in its report, noting that teacher recruitment in the state is still challenging given low teacher pay.

### **Policy Update for March 25, 2024**

#### **Voting Rights**



NC State Board of Elections data from the March 5 primary shows that more than 1600 ballots were thrown out during the primary election. This election was the first statewide election with a new mail-in ballot receipt deadline of Election Day (previously ballots only needed to be postmarked by Election Day), resulting in 1124 ballots received after the deadline being thrown out. Additionally, the new voting ID requirement resulted in 473 provisional ballots rejected for lack of voter ID, either because voters did not fill out an exception form (413 voters) or because their request for an exception was denied (60 voters).

## **Reproductive Rights**

On Thursday a group of North Carolina Democrats called on the NCGA and Congress to protect rights to in vitro fertilization (IVF) treatment. A recent Alabama Supreme Court ruling that found that embryos created through IVF are children led some providers to halt IVF treatment in Alabama, though the Alabama Legislature later passed a law to protect the treatment. NC House Speaker Tim Moore has said he doesn't think the NCGA will take up the issue in the coming session.

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## **Selected News and Opinion Stories**

**Axios Raleigh:** [Biden campaign opens 10 field offices in North Carolina, as it tries to play offense in swing state](#)

**Ballotpedia:** [State of Election Administration Legislation, March 2024 Roundup](#)

**Cardinal & Pine:** [Biden and Harris tout healthcare expansion in Raleigh visit](#)

**Carolina Forward:** [The Devastating Economic Impact of Massive Deportation](#)

**Carolina Public Press:** [Elections directors leave NC counties amid low pay, voter hostility](#)

**Chapelboro:** [Chatham County Schools Offering Free Teletherapy Services to All Students](#)

**Chapelboro:** [Chatham County Roundup: Pittsboro Mayor Kyle Ship Talks Parks, Main Street, and More](#)

**County-to-County:** [The racial disparities in North Carolina that must be addressed](#)

**County-to-County:** [North Carolina: A purple state with a red General Assembly](#)

**County-to-County:** [Why do other countries choose to pay high\(er\) taxes?](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [It's April. Joe Biden Is Still a Good President, and Trump is Still the Ugliest Thing We've Ever Seen](#)

Hopium Chronicles: ["Hopium is a rejection of the darkness they are trying to spread"](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Do More, Worry Less, and Let's Get to 55](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Build Back Better, Reconstruir Mejor - Joe Biden's Historic Opportunity](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Forward or Backward? - My Warning From 2012 About the Right's Descent Into Authoritarianism](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [The Case for Optimism: Rejecting Trump's Poisonous Pessimism](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [The 50 Year Strategy - An Essay From Mother Jones, Late 2007](#)

Indy Week: [In Raleigh, Biden and Harris tout healthcare record](#)

Lucid: [How to Push Back Against Propaganda](#)

Lucid: [Crowds and Power](#)

Lucid: [Trump's Greatest Success: His Personality Cult](#)

Lucid: [Biden as an Authoritarian: A Phony Talking Point](#)

NBC News: [Supreme Court signals it's likely to continue allowing mifepristone abortion pill access, despite challenge](#)

NBC News: [Biden aims to make North Carolina a top battleground — but Trump isn't worried yet](#)

NC Health News: [How could SCOTUS abortion pill ruling affect NC?](#)

NC Health News: [Environmental advocates spread awareness about state waterways](#)

NC Health News: [Nearly 900,000 at risk of losing broadband subsidies in NC](#)

NC Newslines: [Cooper launches another broadside against state's school voucher program](#)

NC Newslines: [Democrat Don Davis votes with the GOP as he seeks reelection in a toss-up congressional district](#)

NC Newslines: [Self-managed abortions increased by about 26,000 after Dobbs decision, study shows](#)

NC Newslines: [Supreme Court must stick to the facts in abortion pill case](#)

NC Newslines: [In Gubernatorial Race, Mark Robinson Exposes Republican Fault Lines](#)

News & Observer: [Democrats target NC legislative races in 2024 election](#)

News & Observer: [Biden and Harris talk health care during Raleigh, NC visit](#)

News & Observer: [US appeals court rules on NC Senate redistricting lawsuit](#)

News & Observer: [NC GOP picks Trump-endorsed state party chair ahead of 2024](#)

News & Observer: [NC Rep. Jon Hardister to resign; counties lose election staff](#)

NPR: [Former RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel dropped as NBC contributor following outcry](#)

NPR: [RFK Jr. taps Nicole Shanahan as his vice presidential pick](#)

NPR: [Barack Obama and Bill Clinton headline major Biden fundraiser in New York](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump Shares Video Featuring Image of a Hog-Tied Biden](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | The Persistent Threat to Abortion Rights](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump on Trial: The judge cracks down](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [On Politics: Seeking balance, tripping up](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump on Trial Alert: Court allows smaller bond in New York fraud case](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump on Trial Alert: Gag order in Manhattan criminal trial](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [On Politics: Who are the RFK Jr. voters?](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Judge Keeps April 15 as Start of Trump Hush-Money Trial](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Merrick Garland's possible mistake in prosecuting Donald Trump over Jan. 6](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | Why Biden Is Vowing to Raise Taxes](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | One Purple State Is 'Testing the Outer Limits of MAGAism'](#)

The Assembly NC: [Decades After a Basketball Scandal, NC Places a Big Bet](#)

The Assembly NC: [UNC's \\$97 Million Online Education Gambit Hits Headwinds](#)

USA Today: [Kamala Harris pushes envelope as Biden struggles with some Democrats](#)

Washington Post (May require subscription): [The Campaign Moment from The Washington Post](#)

WNCN: [NC Republican Party declines to say if they support Superintendent nominee](#)

WRAL: [How we grade NC schools must change, legislative group says](#)

WRAL: [NC hits electric vehicle registration goal two years early with more than 80,000 on the road](#)

WUNC: [How engaged are North Carolina college students in the 2024 election?](#)