

Important Dates to Remember

February 11 – Winter SEC Meeting
February 20, 6 p.m. – Chatham County Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 25 - March 11 – Annual Precinct Meetings
March 20 – Chatham County Board of Commissioners Meeting
April 15 – Annual CCDP County Convention

For more upcoming events and details, visit: <https://www.ccdpnc.org/calendar-of-events>

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News from the Chatham County Board of Elections

Here is the link to the proposed precinct split information for Manns Chapel and Pittsboro precincts.
<https://www.chathamcountync.gov/government/departments-programs-a-h/elections>
This will be discussed at the February 21, 2023 board meeting. The board already approved the split for Manns Chapel.
They have not produced names of the precincts for Manns Chapel.

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News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

This week's news releases:
ICYMI: 50 Years After Roe v. Wade Decision, NC Republicans "Hope to Pass a More Restrictive Law"
As calendars marked exactly [50 years since the establishment of Roe v. Wade](#) yesterday, a Charlotte Observer editorial highlighted how Republicans have worked since Roe's inception to abolish reproductive rights and what's at stake now that it's overturned.
In North Carolina, women's freedoms are protected by Gov. Cooper's veto, but Republicans leaders Berger and Moore are already ["attempting to reach a consensus"](#) in their caucus to change that. Decades later - women of North Carolina are still not entrusted with making their own health care decisions.
But as the editorial noted – ["elections really matter"](#) – and North Carolina Democrats will always fight back against extreme politicians who want to tell women when they'll be pregnant or how to determine their own future.
Read more:
[Charlotte Observer: What's changed in the 50 years since Roe v. Wade? Everything — and nothing](#)

- Exactly 50 years ago, in 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court guaranteed the right to an abortion with its decision in Roe v. Wade.
- Roe changed our society by giving people a choice. Armed with more control over their bodies — and by extension, their lives — women became more likely to attend college, have a career and earn higher wages. The ruling has also saved lives by providing greater access to a procedure that is often medically necessary.
- Half a century later, that right is gone, and the privacy, dignity and opportunity made possible because of it could disappear, too.
- Currently, abortion is legal in North Carolina for any reason until 20 weeks — the result of a 1973 law that went into effect when Roe was overturned. Republican leaders in the state legislature have made it clear they think 20 weeks is too permissive, and they hope to pass a more restrictive law. House Speaker Tim Moore and Senate leader Phil Berger told reporters this month that they have assembled working groups in both chambers and are attempting to reach a consensus, which could be a ban on abortion after the first trimester. The governor's veto remains intact — barely — for now, but that could all change after 2024.
- "Will abortion laws change in our state? How will they change? I can't say for sure," Kreitzer said. "I don't know, elections really matter."
- We know being denied an abortion hurts low-income and marginalized people the most. That's the kind of world we face if and when abortion access is taken away.
- Fifty years after it was decided that politicians have no business policing people's bodies, we're here again, being told that they do.

North Carolina Democrats Kick Off Legislative Session with Bill to Protect Reproductive Freedom
Yesterday, North Carolina House and Senate Democrats [filed legislation](#) to codify the protections of Roe and defend North Carolinians' freedom to make their own health care decisions. The bill comes as Republicans are planning to introduce an abortion ban that would take away those rights and freedoms.

"At the start of this legislative session, this bill is a statement of values and a promise to women across this state that Democrats will always protect their freedoms and fight to keep politicians out of these personal decisions," said NCDP Chair Bobbie Richardson.
In the aftermath of the overturning of Roe v. Wade, North Carolina Republicans have set their sights on further restricting access to abortion. Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson was ["overjoyed"](#) by the decision and said it was Republicans ["duty"](#) to pass more restrictive legislation, while Speaker Moore called it a ["top priority"](#) for the 2023 session and Leader Berger said they would take ["immediate action."](#)

ICYMI: Editorial Warns of Potential Economic Damage, Wreckage to State Standing with Robinson's Candidacy
North Carolina knows the impact of a governor who puts culture wars ahead of the livelihood of the state all too well. Yesterday, a New York Times [editorial](#) highlighted the catastrophic damage Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson would cause if promoted to the Governor's office, writing that he would halt job creation across the state ["by repelling the sorts of companies and educated young workers attracted to it during the six years that Gov. Roy Cooper."](#)

His time as Lieutenant Governor ["mingles cruelty and snark,"](#) as he's used his bully pulpit to refer to ["homosexuality as 'filth' and to the transgender rights movement as 'demonic.'"](#) As a strategist noted, North Carolinians don't want ["somebody prosecuting the culture wars when there's a hurricane."](#)
New York Times: Anti-Gay? Anti-Science? Antisemitic? Run for Governor of North Carolina!

His election would almost certainly retard the state's economic dynamism by repelling the sorts of companies and educated young workers attracted to it during the six years that Gov. Roy Cooper, a moderate Democrat who cannot run for another term, has been in office.
Robinson's religion is indeed the whipping, slashing kind. It mingles cruelty and snark. When Paul Pelosi was assaulted in his home by a hammer-wielding intruder, Robinson didn't offer prayers for his recovery. He expressed doubt that Pelosi was an innocent victim — and [mocked him.](#)

He has referred to homosexuality as "filth" and to the transgender rights movement as "demonic." He's preoccupied with the devil, whose hand he saw in the movie "Black Panther," which was "created by an agnostic Jew and put to film by satanic Marxist," he railed in a Facebook post that could have used some copy-editing.
But Mac McCorkle, a longtime Democratic strategist who is now a professor at Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy (where I also teach), said that while North Carolinians have elected their share of firebrands like Robinson to Congress, they have made different choices for the very different job of governor, who guides the day-to-day functioning of the state.

"Do people want somebody prosecuting the culture wars when there's a hurricane?" McCorkle asked. He's inclined to think not. "We haven't had a shouter as governor, well, ever."
But then we hadn't had a spectacle like the far-right rebellion against the ascent of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy in at least a century and a half. We hadn't had a House speaker coddle the likes of Marjorie Taylor Greene until Marjorie Taylor Greene. The Republican Party has gone off the rails but keeps hurtling forward, damage be damned. We'd be foolish in North Carolina to trust that we won't be part of the wreckage.

812,000 North Carolinians Eligible for Student Loan Debt Relief Held Up by GOP
North Carolinians could be benefitting from relief right now were it not for lawsuits brought by Republican elected officials and special interests
According to new data released [this morning](#), 812,000 North Carolinians either applied for or were automatically deemed eligible for student debt loan relief under the Biden-Harris administration's relief plan. North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Bobbie Richardson released the following statement on these historic numbers:
"The enthusiasm for President Biden and Vice President Harris's student debt relief plan is undeniable. For too long, student loan debt has been a barrier for millions of Americans hoping to earn their way into the middle class — and this plan tackles that challenge head on. The Biden-Harris administration's relief program could — and should — be benefiting up to 812,000 North Carolinians right now were it not for MAGA Republicans' efforts to undermine it."

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News from Neighbors on Call

How Michigan Did It, Part 1
Hosted by Michigan Democrats Year-Round Grassroots Program
Hosted by Neighbors on Call
Thursday, February 2 @ 7:30-8:30 p.m.
Via Zoom
In 2022, Michigan Dems swept every statewide partisan election and took the majority in both state legislative chambers. Let's find out how they did it!

Join Neighbors on Call for a conversation with Lavana Barnes, Michigan Democratic Party Chair, about the blueprint for year-round grassroots organizing in all 83 counties across the state.
Register at neighborsoncall.org.

Carolina FORWARD
How Michigan Did It, Part 2
The Battle Plan: How Michigan Democrats Won a Trifecta
Hosted by our friends at Carolina Forward
Wednesday, February 8 @ 8-9pm
Via Zoom
Building on the Michigan Democratic Party's year-round organizing effort, Democratic caucus leaders in the State House and State Senate executed a focused, rigorous and ultimately effective campaign to win governing power.

Join Carolina Forward for a discussion with the people who helped make it happen: Michigan Democratic House Caucus Director Mariah Hill, Senate Caucus Director Steve Lawson, and former State Senate Leader Jim Ananich.
Register with Neighbors on Call for the "GRASSROOTS" PROGRAM (part 1) at neighborsoncall.org.

Register with Carolina Forward for the "BATTLE PLAN" PROGRAM (part 2) at bit.ly/MIDEM22.

Governance

- [In bipartisan NC House assignments, a sign of GOP strategy](#) - WRAL
- ["Trust, but verify": How NC Republicans will try to bridge the one-vote gap in the House](#) - News and Observer
- [From abortion law to taxes, how NC lawmakers might change your life in 2023](#) - News and Observer

Voting Rights

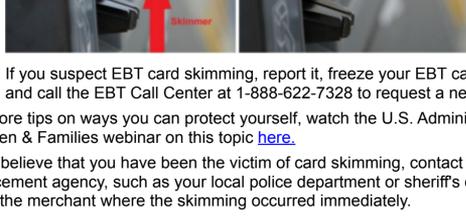
- [NC Republicans want Supreme Court opinions that went against them tossed | The Pulse](#) - NC Policy Watch

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News from Attorney General Josh Stein's Office

CONSUMER ALERT
Be Alert to Card Skimming Targeting EBT Cards
Card skimming thieves have recently been ramping up efforts to scam North Carolinians through EBT card skimming and cloning. These criminals will obtain personal information by attaching a device to card readers that collect card numbers, PIN numbers, and even EBT card information. Scammers will then collect the skimming device to steal and clone people's personal information and EBT card benefits.
To protect yourself from EBT card skimming, follow these tips:

- Go online regularly using the EBT Edge mobile app or by visiting <https://www.ebtedge.com>, to check your account balance. Be on the lookout for errors or charges you don't recognize.
- Before using any card reader, check for alignment issues. Scammers will place a skimming device directly onto the actual card reader, so if it looks suspicious, it probably is.



- If you suspect EBT card skimming, report it, freeze your EBT card immediately, and call the EBT Call Center at 1-888-622-7328 to request a new card.

For more tips on ways you can protect yourself, watch the U.S. Administration for Children & Families webinar on this topic [here](#).
If you believe that you have been the victim of card skimming, contact your local law enforcement agency, such as your local police department or sheriff's department, and notify the merchant where the skimming occurred immediately.

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Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note
[NC Policy Watch: 300,000 North Carolinians Who Were Able to Use Government Health Insurance Since 2020 Could Lose It](#)
[NC Policy Watch: Monday Numbers: A Closer Look at the Make Up of the New General Assembly](#)
[Winston-Salem Journal: Balance of Power: Law to Open Access to Clean Energy](#)
[Chatham News + Record: Pittsboro Commissioners Vote to Litigate PFAS Manufacturers](#)
[Chatham News + Record: An Updated Timeline of Pittsboro's Fight for Clean Water](#)
[Chatham News + Record: Siler City's Land Use Plan -- New Planning Director to Oversee Update of 'Road Map' for Future](#)
[Chatham News + Record: Event to Focus on State of Black, Brown Entrepreneurs](#)
[The Assembly NC: North Carolina Trees Are Feeding Europe's 'Clean Energy' Revolution](#)
[Chapelboro.com: Leftover Issues Aplenty Expected in North Carolina Session](#)