



**Chatham County Democratic Party Weekly News Digest
March 18, 2024**

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Chatham County Democratic Party County Convention Election Results, March 16

The following individuals were elected to represent CCDP on the House District, Senate District and Prosecutorial District Executive Committees:

House District Executive Committee:

- David Kalbacker
- Del Turner

Senate District Executive Committee:

- Rhesa Versola
- Diana Hales

Prosecutorial District Executive Committee:

- Esther Coleman
- Steve Maynor

###

Upcoming CCDP-Sponsored Events and Volunteer Opportunities

CCDP Volunteer Trainings

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

March 19, [Join Our Office Crew](#), Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

March 22, 29; April 5, 12, 19 & 26, [Volunteer Orientation](#) @Zoom

March 22, April 5 & 19, [Events Team Orientation](#) @Zoom

March 27, April 3, April 17, [Canvassing Orientation and Training](#) @Zoom

March 26, [Staffing Tent Events](#), Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

March 23; April 23 & 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](#), April 7, Downtown Pittsboro

###

Other Upcoming Events

Chatham County Board of Elections Regular Meeting, March 19, 5:30 p.m., Board of Elections Office, 984 Thompson Street, Suite D, Pittsboro

The Chatham County Board of Elections will hold its regular meeting on March 19, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

The public may view the meeting online at <https://meet.goto.com/835462757>.

Information about the Chatham County Board of Elections can be found online at www.chathamcountync.gov/elections. Questions may be directed to the Board of Elections office at 919-545-8500.

CORE Restoration Village, March 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Chatham Community Library, 197 NC-87, Pittsboro

Monthly Restorative Village gathering that includes breakout space for personal and group work on race, identity, and healing. We share our stories, participate in reflection, and build trusting relationships. Restoration Villages are a part of our building blocks.

Sign up at: [Restoration Village](#)

Poder Social Hour: Spring into Social Action, March 21, 5 - 7 p.m., Mike D's BBQ, 455 S Driver St, Durham

Poder is hosting our FIRST Social Hour of the year, and you're invited to join in on the fun! Get ready to spring into civic action! Join us for good vibes, conversations, and building community as we deepen our understanding of North Carolina politics and our role in this year's elections. We'll be joined by guest speaker Satana Deberry - if her name sounds familiar, that's because it was on the primary ballot!

RSVP at: [Poder Social Hour](#)

C2C Candidate Panel, March 25, 7 – 8 p.m. (Virtual Event)

Get to know some of the candidates County-to-County will partner with in 2024!

We are so pleased to feature Sen. Lisa Grafstein (SD 13, Wake County), Ms. Safiyah Jackson (HD 37, Wake County), Ms. Woodson Bradley (SD 42, Mecklenburg County), and perhaps an additional face or two!

Join C2C and moderator Senator Sydney Batch for this exciting hour. We'll find out why these candidates are running for office, where they stand on some important issues, how they hope to make NC better, and what is happening in their districts.

Sign up at: [C2C Candidate Panel, March 25](#)

Ferrington Democratic Club, "Politicizing Health Care," March 26, 7 p.m. (Virtual Event

The Ferrington Democratic Club's speaker on the subject of "Politicizing Health Care" will be Rebecca Slifkin, Ph.D. Dr. Slifkin is a recently retired professor of Health Policy and Management at the UNC-CH School of Global Health. Previously, she worked for the US Dept. of Health and Human Services on the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Her policy and research areas have included Medicare and pharmacy benefits, Medicaid managed care, and rural public health departments.

To request the Zoom link, use the contact form on the Club's website: [Contact Us \(ferringtondems.org\)](#) by 5 p.m. on the day of the event. Earlier is better.

Women's March – Bigger Than Roe, March 26, Washington, D.C.

The Supreme Court announced it will begin hearing oral arguments on the abortion pill (Mifepristone) on March 26th. This will be the Court's first serious return to the issue of abortion since overturning Roe v. Wade in 2022. If successful, this case can impact healthcare access for millions of women across the US — including in states where abortions are legal. Women's March is mobilizing a targeted action in Washington, DC to support women's rights to Mifepristone, reproductive choices, and healthcare.

If you are interested in participating, go to: [Will you take action on March 26th?](#)

###

Events Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue

Why Schools Became Political Battlegrounds & How Moms Are Fighting Back, March 19, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Virtual Event)

Remember the days when school board meetings were a bit boring? Do you wonder how we got to a place where book bans, anti-LGBTQ+ policies and attacks on race and even sex education are dominating school board agendas? Laura Pappano, author of

the new book “School Moms” has the answers! She is joining us to share her research, explain what is at stake and help parents understand how they can effectively fight back.

Sign up at: [Why Schools Became Political Battlegrounds & How Moms Are Fighting Back](#)

TroubleMaven Academy Class 7, March 20, 7 – 8 p.m. (Virtual Event)

TroubleMaven Academy is an 8-session bootcamp style “Academy” where we train women across North Carolina to be more politically savvy and ready to fight for our rights! By the end of the Academy, you will have the information and skills you need to be an effective, confident advocate around issues that are important to you; be able to share what you've learned with the women in your network and social groups; and be ready to mobilize “on a dime” with women across the state to push back and block extremists attempts to take away our rights.

To participate, go to: [TroubleMaven Academy Class 7](#)

Ask Me Anything: Myths vs. Facts About Gender Affirming Care, March 21, 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Virtual Event)

Politicians nationwide are trying to ban gender affirming care -- not just for youth but for adults as well. Extremists want to confuse and scare people to push a political agenda. Are you wondering what exactly is gender affirming care? Are you concerned about things you are seeing on social media? Do you want to get answers, learn the truth and fight back against disinformation? Then join us and let's talk about it with medical professionals who specialize in this care. It is time to get answers to all your questions.

Sign up at: [AMA: Myths vs. Facts About Gender Affirming Care](#)

###

News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

President Biden Clinches Democratic Nomination

Last night (March 12), Joe Biden secured the delegates necessary to become our party's presumptive nominee. Donald Trump also became Republicans' presumptive nominee, making it official – this election will be a contest between competing forces in the battle for the soul of our nation: President Biden who is moving us into a future where everyone gets a fair shot and our freedoms and democracy are protected, and Donald Trump, who wants to pull us back to the past with resentment, revenge, and retribution.

Donald Trump and his hate, anger, revenge, and retribution represent the oldest of ideas:

- Brags about overturning Roe and wants to pass a national abortion ban,
- Vows to repeal the Affordable Care Act,
- Says immigrants are “poisoning the blood” of our country,
- Wants to bury the truth about January 6,
- Believes we should “get over” school shootings,
- Tells Putin that Russia can do “whatever the hell they want” to our NATO allies.

President Biden is running on a vision of what America can and should be. He is fighting for the American people: taking on Big Pharma, making corporations pay their fair share and helping working people get ahead, and fighting back against extreme MAGA Republican attacks on the right to choose.

Court Strikes down Republican Power Grab Bill SB 749, Returning Appointment Power to Governor Cooper

A unanimous panel of three North Carolina judges sided with Governor Cooper and struck down the Republican-sponsored “power grab” law SB 749 that would have removed the governor’s authority to make appointments to the state board of elections and instead granted it to the GOP-controlled Legislature. The law would have also given the Legislature the final say on appointing leadership positions to state and county boards of elections if board members were unable to reach a decision and also prevented the governor from removing members from state and county boards for any reason. In addition to stripping Cooper’s appointment power, the law would have required state and county boards of elections to have an even number of Democratic and Republican-appointed members, increasing the potential for deadlock. The now-struck down law departed from the current structure that allows a majority of state and county board members — three out of five — to be from the governor’s political party. The North Carolina State Board of Elections oversees election administration and works in conjunction with the state’s 100 county boards of elections that are engaged in conducting local elections, preparing ballots, operating voting sites and more.

Statement from Governor Cooper: “The State Board of Elections continues to uphold the highest standards of fairness and Republican leaders should stop their efforts to control the ballot box and sow chaos before the November elections. Bipartisan courts and voters have repeatedly rejected these clearly unconstitutional attempts to seize control of elections.”

Statement from Chair Clayton: “General Assembly Republicans have done everything they can to strip Governor Cooper of his authority and the powers bestowed to him twice by our voters. In this crucial election year, I’m proud that the courts are striking down these anti-democratic bills drafted by Republicans solely to increase their own power. This bill went against what North Carolinians wanted. This failed on the ballot in 2018 but Republicans in Raleigh are hellbent on finding ways to increase their own

power. Today we celebrate this win and tomorrow we get back to work to fight for the future of our state.”

###

Update from NC Counts

Thank you again to all who were able to join us for our March Redistricting Roundtable on Tuesday (March 12), and a special thank you to our guest speakers – Justice Orr, Attorneys Wilson and Simpson, Tyler Daye, Darlene Azarmi and Quinn O’Connor.

- The participant folder with all of the information is [here](#) - [Participant Folder](#)
- The recordings from our meeting are [here](#) - [Recording](#)
- The slide deck is [here](#) - [Roundtable Redix March, 2024](#)
- Notes are [here](#) - [March Roundtable Notes](#)

As a recap, we were joined by Justice Orr and Attorneys Wilson and Simpson (minute 13 in the recording). They provided an overview of the redistricting case they are litigating, Bard v. NC State Board of Elections - a case focused on our unenumerated right to a fair election in NC. If you and/or your org are interested in staying up to date with this litigation and messaging out about the concept of fair elections, they would be happy to add you to the press list. Email any contact information that you would like added to andrew.simpson.ch@gmail.com. And for an update on the redistricting litigation cases we are following in North Carolina, please check out our [redistricting lawsuit handout here](#) - [Redistricting lawsuits in \(3\).pdf](#).

Quinn O’Connor from Rep. Nickel’s office provided an overview of the Federal Redistricting Transparency Act and the Federal Fair Maps Act (minute 54 of the recording). As FYI - they are planning to introduce the Fair Maps Act bill on Tuesday, 3/19, and if you would like your organization to be listed as a supporting organization on the press release, please let Quinn know by Monday, 3/18. Her email address is Quinn.OConnor@mail.house.gov. You can find details of the Fair Maps Act [here](#) ([FAIR MAPS Section-by-section summary \(1\).pdf](#)), and the Redistricting Transparency Act [here](#) ([The Redistricting Transparency and Accountability Act Section by Section.pdf](#)).

And a reminder - our NC Counts Coalition annual convening is at the Harris Conference Center in Charlotte on April 10th and 11th. For NC Counts Coalition members who want to request travel support, you must register by March 20th. Registration will close on April 1st. Registration is limited to two people per organization—if you want to register more, they’ll be put on a waitlist.

- English registration: <https://bit.ly/2024RegistrationNCCC>
- Registration in Spanish: <https://bit.ly/Inscripcion2024NCCC>

PLEASE NOTE - we are canceling our April Redistricting Roundtable with the hopes you can join us at our April convening on the 10th and 11th,. Our next Redistricting Roundtable will be on Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

###

News from County-to-County

Our work heading into November is off to a great start. We have a wonderful slate of Democratic NC Assembly candidates statewide. We have a governor's race that will be one of the most closely watched in the nation, with our Democratic candidate Josh Stein, with his long history of working for the citizens of North Carolina, running against far-right conspiracy theorist and Holocaust denier Mark Robinson. We'll have lots of help! [The Democratic Governors Association](#) and the [National Democratic Committee](#) are already using their resources to inform NC voters what an important election this is.

So, it's time for C2C volunteers to help break the Republican supermajority! First step? Join us and meet our March Spotlight Candidate [Dante Pittman \(HD 24\)](#) in person in Wilson County [Saturday, March 23](#). You can join him and other wonderful volunteers to knock on doors and talk with voters. Afterward, you can chat and eat with Dante at the famous Parker's Barbecue. We'll have caravans from Chapel Hill. [Sign up here](#) to canvass!

Check out this video of [Dante](#) talking about his values and campaign. Our Kickoff Phone Bank for Dante last week was amazing! In just one night, volunteers made 773 calls and had 63 good conversations with voters! And we're still going. Let's continue to [phone bank](#) all month for Dante and [canvass](#) with him March 23. In addition to making phone calls and canvassing, we invite you to [write postcards](#) on behalf of [Dante Pittman](#). Learn more and [sign up here!](#)

You can also join a Spanish language [phone bank](#) (open all month) and a Spanish language [canvass](#), and check out the [Spanish language version of our County-to-County website!](#) We know how important it is to connect with Latino voters and volunteers across the state. And remember - everyone who makes phone calls or canvasses this month is entered into a raffle to win a C2C t-shirt!

March came in like a lion here at C2C, and it'll be going out with [a fabulous panel on March 25](#), when you'll be able to ask questions and meet a group of dynamic candidates – [Safiyah Jackson](#), [Lisa Grafstein](#), [Bryan Cohn](#), [Nicole Sidman](#), and [Woodson Bradley](#)! We'll be spotlighting them in April, but come meet them via [Zoom](#) as [Sen. Sydney Batch](#) moderates an evening that is sure to be enlightening and delightful.

Our [February Spotlight](#) with [Bryan Cohn](#) (HD 32), a new arrival to state politics, and [Terence Everitt](#) (SD 18), who is currently serving in the NC House, was a hit! Thank you to the C2C Volunteers who made calls or knocked on doors last month. You made a total of 1,860 calls and knocks for Bryan and Terence – well surpassing our target!

[Sign up here](#) for our news and updates. [On the Issues](#) articles provide a deep and thoughtful dive into North Carolina and national politics and policy.

###

Survey from US Senator Thom Tillis

“Although we have a very important election in just eight months, there are still a number of critical issues that Congress must address. I always appreciate hearing the viewpoints of North Carolinians. Please take a minute to fill out the following survey about current events and issues and make your voice heard.”

To complete the survey, go to: [Survey](#)

###

News from Neighbors on Call

Next Stop Granville, March 27, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. ("Doors" open for optional social time at 7 p.m.) (Virtual Event)

The path to breaking the supermajority runs through Granville, a diverse, growing, vibrant county next door to the Triangle -- with TWO must-win state legislative districts. Neighbors on Call and the Granville County Democratic Party invite you to learn more about Granville (and the best hot sauce contest in NC!) with: Ricky Hurtado, moderator; Oxford City Commissioner Bryan Cohn, candidate for NC House District 32; Dr. Linda Jordon, Mayor of Butner; Liz Purvis, Chair of the Granville County Democratic Party. Introductions by NC Rep. Terence Everitt, candidate for NC Senate District 18

Sign up at: [Upcoming Events](#)

###

Selected News and Opinion Stories

Axios Charlotte: [N.C. labor commissioner's race: Braxton Winston vs. Luke Farley](#)

Axios Raleigh: [Biden's campaign presence in North Carolina is ramping up](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [Mark Robinson's history of conspiracy and antisemitism gets a national spotlight](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [A woman fled to NC when another state's abortion ban prevented her from receiving life-saving care](#)

Carolina Forward: [Summing up the 2024 primary election](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Runoff elections to extend NC primary voting season to May 14](#)

Chapelboro: [North Carolina Judges Block Elections Board Changes Pushed by Republicans That Weaken Governor](#)

Chapelboro: [Chatham County Roundup: Pittsboro Mayor Kyle Shipp](#)

CNN: [GOP nominee to run North Carolina public schools called for violence against Democrats, including executing Obama and Biden](#)

The Hill: [GOP's Mark Robinson under growing scrutiny in North Carolina](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [GOP Has Worse Than Nothin', New Gallego Ad, Do More/Worry Less](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [The Country is Better Off, Biden Raises Lots of Money, The Democratic Party is Strong](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [My March 2024 Election Overview With Special Guest Anderson Clayton - "I Would Much Rather Be Us Than Them"](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [There's Only One American Party Good At This Capitalism Thing - And It Sure Isn't The Republican Party](#)

Inside Climate News: [In the N.C. Governor's Race, the GOP Frontrunner Is a Climate Denier, and the Democrat Doesn't Want to Talk About It](#)

Lucid: [How to Destroy Democracy: Break Public Trust in Its Institutions, the Presidency Included](#)

NC Health News: [First over-the-counter birth control pill in the U.S. expands access to contraception](#)

NC Health News: [DHHS asks lawmakers to widen Medicaid access to pricey drugs like Wegovy](#)

NC Health News: [How is NC spending \\$40M Juul vaping settlement?](#)

NC Newslines: [Coastal Resources Commission Adopts 16 Rules to Keep Natural Resources Protected](#)

NC Newslines: [Stein campaign, NC Democratic Leadership Committee take aim at Robinson's ties to extremism](#)

News & Observer: [NC court rules for Roy Cooper on Republican election board law](#)

News & Observer: [NC lawmakers get 'Black Hole Award' for limiting public info](#)

News & Observer: [NC Democratic state lawmaker who lost files election protests](#)

News & Observer: [Biden, Harris announce joint trip to North Carolina](#)

News & Observer: [NC governor's race watch: Stein on IVF, Robinson on the radio](#)

NPR: [A TikTok ban bill was passed by the House. Here's what that means for the app](#)

NPR: [RFK Jr. faces hurdles to get on ballots as an independent](#)

NPR: [Cleta Mitchell, Trump push false claims of noncitizen voting](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump Spurned by 30 Companies as He Seeks Bond in \\$454 Million Judgment](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump on Trial](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump Says Some Migrants Are 'Not People' and Predicts a 'Blood Bath' if He Loses](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Biden's \\$53 Million February Haul Fuels Money Edge Over Trump](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [How Trump's Allies Are Winning the War Over Disinformation](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Trump on Trial: The delays keep piling up](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Nathan Wade Resigns From Trump Case After Judge's Ruling](#)

NY Times: [Latinos, Shifting Toward Trump, Land at the Center of the 2024 Campaign](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Judge Delays Trump's Hush-Money Trial in Manhattan Until Mid-April](#)

NY Times: [Why Democrats Are Hopeful in North Carolina and Nervous in Georgia](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Election Updates: Biden and Trump lock up enough delegates to secure a rematch](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | There Is a Secret Hamiltonian in the White House](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Conversations and insights about the moment](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | Democrats Need to Stop Playing Nice](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | How Biden Can Out-Populist the Populist](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | Social Security and Medicare Are on the Ballot](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Opinion | Don't Think of It as a Contest Between Biden and Trump](#)

NY Times (May require subscription): [Judge Quashes Six Charges in Georgia Election Case Against Trump](#)

Politico: [Trump endorsed against former Rep. Mark Walker. Then he hired him.](#)

Politico: [Bloodbath at RNC: Trump team slashes staff at committee](#)

The Assembly NC: [North Carolina Gambles On Sports Betting](#)

Wall Street Journal: [No Labels Co-Chairman Pat McCrory Quits Group as It Presses Ahead With Presidential Ticket](#)

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

Washington Post (May require subscription): [Trump has a bunch of new false claims. Here's a guide.](#)

WNCN: [RFK Jr's new North Carolina ballot attempt](#)

WRAL: [Robinson and Stein in extremely tight NC governor's race, WRAL News poll shows](#)

WRAL: [Trump leads in NC as Biden struggles with younger voters, WRAL News poll shows](#)

WXII: North Carolina to be paid a visit by President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris