



**Chatham County Democratic Party
News You Can Use
June 11, 2024**

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Upcoming CCDP-Sponsored Events and Volunteer Opportunities

Come meet Representative Wesley Harris!, June 18, 5 – 6 p.m, CCDP Community Engagement Center, 628 East Street, Pittsboro

Rep. Harris is a Ph.D. Economist currently serving in the NC House of Representatives and running for NC State Treasurer. He's a strong advocate for protecting our state bond ratings, increasing our capacity for investment in infrastructure that improves people's lives, ensuring quality healthcare and securing retirement for state employees, among other things.

Join us and listen to what will Rep. Harris will do for us, if elected, and have an opportunity to ask questions in a small, informal group.

Space is limited, RSVP at: [Meet Wesley Harris](#)

Canvasses

Siler City Canvass, June 16, 1-3:30 p.m.

More information and sign up at: [Siler City Canvass](#)

North Williams Canvass, June 22, 9 - 11:30 a.m.

More information and sign up at: [North Williams Canvass](#)

Goldston Canvass, June 29, 9-11:30 a.m.

More information and sign up at: [Goldston Canvass](#)

West Chapel Canvass, June 30, 1-3:30 p.m.

More information and sign up at: [West Chapel Precinct Canvass](#)

CCDP Volunteer Trainings

[Canvassing Orientation and Training](#), June 19, @Zoom

[Volunteer Orientation](#), June 14, June 21, June 28, @Zoom

[Join Our Office Crew](#), June 22, Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

[Staffing Tent Events](#), June 29, Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

[Introduction to Voter Registration and Voter Education](#), June 22, Community Engagement Center, 628 East St., Pittsboro

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Other Upcoming Events

**Community Discussion With Chatham County Commissioner David Delaney:
Briar Chapel and Environs -- 2050, June 11, 6 – 8 p.m., Chatham Grove
Community Center, 1301 Andrews Store Road, Pittsboro**

Briar Chapel and Fearrington Village make the northern segment of US 15-501 the densest part of unincorporated Chatham County. The 27312, 27516, and 27517 zip codes merge here encompassing parts of five election precincts, 3 board of education districts, and 3 different commissioner districts. Since 2017, Plan Chatham's strategic vision includes such diverse goals as foster a healthy community, preserve Chatham's rural character, provide infrastructure for economic development and compact growth in cities and dense areas, ensure equitable housing and education, and conserve natural resources. This event asks residents to engage in structured discussion with each other to jointly envision this area in 2050. Near-term influences on that visioning include completion of the Unified Development Ordinance, Pittsboro seeking satellite annexation authority, Briar Chapel completing development, and Chapel Hill planning to extend infrastructure and development to Smith Level Road. The conversation occurs as communities nationwide consider ways to address social and economic poverty, bridge urban-rural differences (many perceived), and build resilient communities. Please bring your ideas, curiosity, and positivity for an uplifting discussion together.

No tickets needed, but details available at this [Eventbrite page](#). Hope to see you there!

**Juneteenth Celebration, June 15, 11 a.m.- 4 p.m., Chatham County Fairgrounds,
Pittsboro**

Come to the 7th Annual Juneteenth Black Arts Festival. There will be music, food, and fun for all! For more information and to volunteer to help with CCDP, go to: [Juneteenth](#).

**North Carolina Democratic Party Unity Dinner, July 20, VIP Reception 5:30 p.m.;
Dinner 7 p.m., Raleigh Convention Center**

Join Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, Governor Roy Cooper, Attorney General Josh Stein, and Chair Anderson Clayton for our main event! Sign up [here](#).

###

News from the North Carolina Democratic Party

Justice for All: Meet Your Judicial Candidates, Join NC Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton on Zoom on [June 18 at 7:30 p.m.](#) and become part of the movement to take back our courts.

You'll meet our outstanding slate of Democratic statewide judicial candidates, [Justice Allison Riggs](#) for NC Supreme Court and [Judge Carolyn Thompson](#), [Commissioner Martin Moore](#), and [Ed Eldred](#) for the NC Court of Appeals.

Learn more and spread the word about:

- Our exceptional candidates who will uphold the rights of *all* North Carolinians.
- The stakes - democracy, justice, and personal freedoms are on the line.
- The plan to take back our courts by 2028!

Senators Tillis and Budd Vote Against the Contraception Bill

- Senators Thom Tillis and Ted Budd voted alongside their Senate Republican colleagues to block legislation Wednesday that would enshrine a federal right to access contraception
- The legislation, led by Senator Ed Markey, D-Mass., and Senator Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, would establish nationwide rights for individuals to “obtain contraceptives and to voluntarily engage in contraception” and protect health care providers who offer it. It defines contraceptives as “any drug, device, or biological product intended for use in the prevention of pregnancy” and prohibits the federal government or states from enforcing laws or standards that impede that right. It empowers the Justice Department and affected private entities to sue to enforce the new protections.
- Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska and Senator Susan Collins of Maine were the only Republicans who voted with Democrats in support of the bill.
- Senator Tillis and Senator Budd voting against access to lifesaving reproductive healthcare is in step with their fellow North Carolina Republicans including Mark Robinson.
- Over the weekend, Mark Robinson attended a men’s summit sponsored by [“a far-right Christian group that warns of the ‘dark truth of birth control,’”](#) calls contraception “evil,” and “claims that birth control pills achieve the same result as abortion.” Robinson’s appearance at the event should come to no surprise as he has consistently called for a total ban on abortion and says he [“absolutely”](#) believes that life begins at conception.”

Statement from Chair Clayton

“Senator Tillis and Senator Budd just took Republicans’ crusade against reproductive freedoms one step further by voting against protecting access to contraception. They and Republicans like Donald Trump and Mark Robinson have repeatedly worked to take away fundamental freedoms. Voters in North Carolina believe in protecting rights, not taking them away and they’ll show it by coming out in droves to vote in November.”

NCGOP Hosting Event with Convicted January 6th Insurrectionist

NCGOP Communications Director Matt Mercer is proudly hosting an event, along with Western Wake Republican Club, with convicted January 6th Insurrectionist Stephen Horn in Cary.

Western Wake Republican Club

welcomes

Matt Mercer
NCGOP Communications Director

Stephen Horn
Reporter

Antoine Thomas
Host of the Real Talk Podcast

MONDAY JUNE 24, 2024
Sophie's Grill & Bar
2734 NC-55, CARY, NC 27519
DINNER & SOCIAL AT 5:45 PM
EVENT AT 6:45 PM

The Importance of Media This Crucial Election Year
With Special Guest Margo Ackiss (MargoInNC on TikTok) who will discuss Citizen Journalism

THIS EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE - DINNER IS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

Stephen Horn was found guilty of four misdemeanors by a jury in federal court and deemed to have been a rioter at the January 6th insurrection.

Matt Mercer, the current Communications Director for the NCGOP and host of the event, also recently faced blowback for his tweets praising infamous Senator Jesse Helms and going after UNC-Chapel Hill.

“This is who the Republican Party is now but this is not what North Carolina stands for,” **said NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton**. “Instead of appealing to voters across the state with a message and vision to vote for, they’re amplifying conspiracy theorists and hosting January 6th insurrectionists. Donald Trump has welcomed extremists into the Republican Party who join him in actively attempting to dismantle democracy and this November, voters across our state are going to defeat them at the ballot box.”

###

District 20 Updates from NC State Senator Natalie Murdock (Highlights)

House Bill 237

Yesterday, the majority introduced a conference report for their "Unmasking mobs and criminals" bill that tacked on a surprise provision affecting campaign finance laws. This conference report was not provided to us or included on the Senate calendar until the morning of the vote. HB 237, which aims to criminalize mask wearing has absolutely nothing to do with campaign finance, should not be used as a vehicle for passing election law changes. This is like the motorcycle abortion bill all over again.

The new section in HB 237 weakens the transparency of existing election disclosure laws and would allow convicted felons, like Greg Lindberg, to anonymously donate millions to candidates' campaigns. This provision is nothing more than political money laundering, and will further erode public trust in our elections. For these reasons, my colleagues and I walked out of the chambers before the vote in protest of this egregious bill.

Black Farmers Advocacy Days

On Wednesday, Rep. Ager, Rep. Jeffers, and I had the opportunity of hosting Black Farmers Advocacy Days in partnership with the State Innovation Exchange. I was honored to host the following farmers:

Delphine Sellars the Co-Executive Director of Urban Community Agronomics
Phoebe Gooding the Executive Director of Hawks Nest Healing Farm,
Demi Trucker with the Uyoga Farm,
Courtney Alston Wilson the Executive Director of Glow House Agriculture, and founder of the NC Association of Black Farmers,
Reverend Richard Joyner founder of the Conetoe Family Life Center .

The farmers advocated in support of the NCDA's minority farmer programming. And discussed some of their main concerns, such as, the ways that heirs' property harms black farmers, and the lack of resources and funding allotted for black owned farms. They urged representatives to support the passing of the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property, and advocated for the creation and establishment of appropriations for the Agricultural Economic Development Fund for Underserved Audiences.

Black Maternal Health Day of Action!

Due to changes in the legislative schedule last week, we have moved the date for our second annual Black Maternal Health Day of Action to June 18th! Black Maternal Health advocates are invited to join us for a press conference and to participate in advocacy meetings with legislators. Here is the current agenda for the day:

9:30 a.m. Advocates will arrive at the legislative building and will be escorted by staff to the designated meeting area.

10:00 a.m. - Press Conference

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Legislative meetings

All are welcome to join us. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to my legislative assistant, [Divine Earth-Dowd](#)

Congratulations to the following organizations in our district for being recipients of the 2024 Golden LEAF Awards: [Meals on Wheels of Durham](#) and [Chatham Outreach Alliance](#)

Learn more about the [Golden LEAF Foundation](#)

Legislative Updates, 6/3 - 6/7

Governor Roy Cooper signed the following bill:

- Senate Bill 542: [DOL Omnibus/Other Changes](#)

Referred to Committee:

HB 385- Various Energy/Env.Changes

SB 911- Const. Amend./Right to Access Public Records

Placed on Calendar:

HB 250- ME/IDS/Driving Privileges/Xylazine Charges

HB 5- Fuquay-Varina/Clemmons Deannexation

Don't see the bill you're looking for? [Search for it here!](#)

Contact Me: natalie.murdock@ncleg.gov

I cannot achieve anything without the support of my constituents. Thank you very much for your continued support! Please contact my [Legislative Assistant](#) for constituent requests. We are happy to serve you!

###

Updates from NC Congressman Jeff Jackson

[Mission to Europa - by Jeff Jackson - Quick Update](#)

[1,357 Amendments Are Coming](#)

###

Calls to Action from Democracy NC on Anti-protest, Anti-mask, Anti-autonomy Bill; Student IDs

A new bill at the legislature attacks bodily autonomy and free speech – and to make matters worse, is aiming to change campaign finance law as well. [House Bill 237](#), yet another troubling anti-protest bill, is moving quickly through the legislature.

However, this bill goes a step beyond just trying to suppress protest and free speech. House Bill 237, which would limit mask usage and penalize protestors that obstruct traffic during demonstrations, is in response to recent campus protests against the attacks in Palestine. However, it's not just about protests.

Here's why we're opposing HB 237:

- H237 would grant members of the public the authority to demand individuals remove their masks, evoking Jim Crow-era citizen arrest. It even limits the types of masks that can be used for “health purposes” and gives law enforcement discretion to determine what types of masks are allowed. Criminalizing personal identity and bodily autonomy on the basis of what a person may be wearing enables profiling, racism, and discrimination.
- H237 targets and penalizes people's right to use roadways and streets for protest and demonstration purposes, a primary mechanism for collective action and to make demands of unresponsive lawmakers.
- Recent changes to the bill would allow federal political committees and organizations, like Super PACs, to make contributions to parties without fulfilling the reporting requirements provided by the State Board of Elections, creating a significant campaign finance loophole. State law currently bans corporations from giving money directly to political candidates but corporations can give direct — and unlimited — funding to a type of federal political fundraising committee.

We have a small window to make our voices heard – the bill will be heard by the NC House on Tuesday and is expected to move quickly. Tell your N.C. Representative vote NO against House Bill 237.

Student IDs

For North Carolina’s large and diverse student population, using a student ID to vote makes voting less complicated. **However, not all student and college/university employee IDs can be used to vote.** For these IDs to be acceptable, the school – public or private universities and colleges – must obtain approval from the North Carolina State Board of Elections (NCSBE).

More than 90 schools across North Carolina have received approval for using their student and employee IDs in the 2024 General Election but many others have not yet applied (check the NCSBE's list [here](#)). ***The period to apply closes this upcoming Friday, June 14, 2024!***

If you attend, work at, or are affiliated with a school in your community that has not received approval yet, we encourage you to **contact campus administrators about the importance of [student](#) and school [employee](#) IDs for making all voices count in 2024!**

Learn more [here](#)!

###

Call to Action from Common Cause NC: Stop the 'Legalized Political Money Laundering Scheme' in NC

We must act now! Anti-democratic politicians in the North Carolina legislature are trying to ram through a bad bill that would make it harder for people, including those with medical conditions, to wear masks in public to protect their health.

But the same bill would make it much **easier for wealthy donors to mask their identities when pouring money into political parties, and from there into candidates' campaign bank accounts**. This is outrageous and shameful.

NC House Bill 237^[1] would tear down protections against the corrosive influence of big money in our elections. We need your help to stop this terrible bill.

If these politicians get their way, our elections could be flooded by unaccountable cash from self-interested mega-donors, all while keeping North Carolina voters in the dark. We can't let that happen!

[ACT NOW: Tell the legislature that we refuse to let wealthy political donors buy our elections in North Carolina!](#)

Powerful politicians want to create a gaping loophole to benefit themselves and their party. They're trying to rewrite the law to let ultra-wealthy donors send unlimited cash to state fundraising committees by first funneling the money through federal fundraising groups. In turn, political parties could pass all that secretive money directly to candidates.

On top of that, the identities of these deep-pocketed donors would be buried from public scrutiny, robbing "we the people" of our right to know who's trying to manipulate our political system.

This bill creates a sort of "legalized political money laundering scheme" that would benefit wealthy interests and their handpicked politicians, while hurting the rest of us.

TAKE ACTION & SPEAK UP NOW!

This is a critical moment for our democracy. Please join us in standing up for clean elections as we fight to ensure the voices of everyday North Carolinians won't be drowned out by self-interested mega-donors.

Thank you for being with us in this crucial fight. Onward!

Bob Phillips, Executive Director
and the team at Common Cause North Carolina

[1] [WRAL: NC lawmakers push new campaign finance rules. Critics call it political 'money laundering'](#)

###

Survey from NC Congresswoman Valerie Foushee

My favorite part of being a public servant has always been getting to have conversations with everyday folks like you. From my first elected role on Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools Board, to the North Carolina Senate, to now as your Congresswoman — I've remained committed to serving my neighbors, and that means listening to what my neighbors have to say.

I wish I could sit down with each of you and hear your concerns directly, but until I can be in 746,711 places at once, we'll have to settle for the next best thing. My team put together a survey so you can share directly with me what's on your mind. It will only take a minute (or less!). [**It's important that I know which issues matter most to you. Will you please take a minute to complete this survey?**](#)

My focus has always been on making a real difference in the lives of folks in my community, so thank you in advance for taking the time to share your thoughts.

— Valerie Foushee

###

Events, Trainings, and Actions Sponsored by Affiliate Organizations

For information, use these links:

Common Cause North Carolina: [**Common Cause NC Events**](#)

Community Organizing for Racial Equality (CORE): [**corenc.org**](#)

County-to-County: [**Volunteer Opportunities, Events, and Petitions Near Me**](#)

Democracy North Carolina: <https://democracync.org/>

NC Counts Coalition: <https://www.nccounts.org>

Neighbors on Call: [Upcoming Events](#) and [Canvasses](#). Their latest policy update can be found at: [NC Policy Update](#).

New North Carolina Project:

<https://www.newnorthcarolinaproject.org/?emci=a73eba22-f111-ef11-96f3-6045bdd9e096&emdi=eb492757-2927-ef11-86d2-6045bdd9e096&ceid=7348446>

Red, Wine, and Blue: <https://redwine.blue/events/>

###

Selected News and Opinion Stories

America, America: [Standing Up to Bullies - by Steven Beschloss](#)

Ballotpedia Administrative State Legislative Tracker: [Admin state/home](#)

BBC: [President Joe Biden's Hunter Biden dilemma grows](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [NC Republicans can't overrule FDA on abortion pill, judge affirms](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [Mark Robinson speaks to group that opposes birth control, report says](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [Let's Get Real About the Constitutional Referendum on Non-Citizens Voting](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [What does the North Carolina Attorney General do?](#)

Carolina Forward: [Launching: "One Morning in Charlotte"](#)

Carolina Forward: [How Gas Plants Are Leading to Rising Bills](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Rapid Loss of NC Elections Directors Tied To Low Pay, CPP Investigation Finds](#)

Carolina Public Press: [High Turnover Among NC Elections Directors Linked to 25-Year-Old 'Vague' Statute](#)

Chapelboro: [Viewpoints: Chatham's Schools Need Chatham's Help](#)

Chapelboro: [Local Government Meetings: June 10-14, 2024](#)

FWIW: [Is campaign cold outreach slowly dying?](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [272,000 Jobs Exceed Expectations - Joe Biden Is A Successful President, The Country Is Better Off \(Corrected Link\)](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [The Choice, Winning The House With George Whitesides \(Video\), "Courage. Opportunity. Democracy. Freedom."](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Winning The Blue Dot With Jane Kleeb, Making June Count, Biden Gains 2 In New NYT Poll](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Making June Count - My Latest Take On The 2024 Election \(Video\). Fighting The Republican War on Women](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Why I Am Optimistic, Reform and Renewal, Making June Count](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Making June Count, Trump Is A Bad Man, A Serial Criminal - His Agenda Is Worse](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Biden Gains Ground in Three New Polls](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [European Right Underperforms Public Polling, Trump's "Strong Leader" Problem, Making June Count](#)

Letters from an American: [June 7, 2024 - by Heather Cox Richardson](#)

Letters from an American: [June 5, 2024 - by Heather Cox Richardson](#)

Letters from an American: [June 3, 2024 - by Heather Cox Richardson](#)

Lucid: [Authoritarianism is not Inevitable; Modi Debacle; New Interviews & Events](#)

Lucid: [Violence is Trump's Brand - by Ruth Ben-Ghiat](#)

MSNBC Op Ed by U.S. Senators Thom Tillis and Jeanne Shaheen: [80 years after D-Day victory, the warning signs are blaring yet again](#)

NBC News: [RNC hires a prominent 'Stop the Steal' advocate to help craft its 2024 platform](#)

NBC News: [New ad hits North Carolina Republican Mark Robinson for anti-abortion comments that women didn't keep their 'skirt down'](#)

NBC News: [Operatives with GOP ties are helping Cornel West get on the ballot in a key state](#)

News & Observer: [NC Democrats walk out over mask bill's campaign finance change](#)

Newsweek: [Can Mark Robinson Flip North Carolina Governor Seat? What Polls Show](#)

NY Times (Gift Article): [In Secret Recordings, Alito Endorses Nation of 'Godliness.' Roberts Talks of Pluralism.](#)

NY Times: [The Morning: Fight theory](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: The Bidens' public reckoning with Hunter's addiction](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: Trump's Vegas Strategy: Run On Bad Luck](#)

NY Times: [Live Updates: U.S. Hiring Rises Strongly](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: Republican leaders are pushing to prosecute Democrats](#)

NY Times (Gift Article): [If Trump Wins](#)

NY Times: [The absolute worst argument for why Trump won't win](#)

NY Times: [On Politics: Can Biden use immigration against Trump?](#)

NY Times (Gift Article): [Opinion | Trump Is Blocking Out the Sun: Three Writers on the Politics of the Guilty Verdict](#)

NY Times: [Trump on Trial: One trial down. But will there be others?](#)

NY Times (Gift Article): [Opinion | It's Crazy to Think Trump Wants to Be a Felon](#)

NY Times (Gift Article): [Ibram X. Kendi Faces a Reckoning of His Own](#)

Politico: ['That 10 percent is important': Trump forgoes moderates to juice the base after his conviction](#)

Politico: [Biden has an economic story to tell. And yet ...Biden's economy: good metrics, bad vibes, few levers](#)

Politico: [Biden's border move infuriated progressives. He's trying to fix that.](#)

Politico: [House Republicans tee up Biden revenge plan for victorious Trump](#)

Politico: [Biden weighs in on Trump verdict: 'Folks'.... We're in 'uncharted territory'](#)

Politico: [Border mayors, Democratic allies to join Biden as he announces asylum limits](#)

Politico: [How 1980s Yuppies Gave Us Donald Trump](#)

Popular Information: [The facts about Biden's new immigration policy](#)

Popular Information: [All the arguments against Trump's convictions, debunked](#)

Pro Publica: [Trump Witnesses Have Received Financial Benefits From Trump Businesses, Campaign](#)

Stop the Presses: [Media must realize a key target of fascism is ... media](#)

The Assembly NC: [The Most Magical Place in North Carolina](#)

The Assembly NC: [Jesse Helms Lives On](#)

The Assembly NC: [Trump Snubbed N.C.'s Mark Walker Twice. Now He Has New Life.](#)

The Bulwark: [How Biden Can Flip the 'Acuity' Script](#)

The Bulwark: [Biden Goes It Alone on the Border](#)

The Bulwark: [From Election Denialism to Jury Denialism](#)

The Bulwark: [Biden Tries Flipping the Script on Immigration. Capitol Hill is Unsure.](#)

The Bulwark: [Biden Twists the 'Convicted Felon' Knife](#)

Time: [Poll Gauges Trump Voters on Diversity, Slavery, Gay Marriage](#)

Washington Post: [The Campaign Moment](#)

WLOS: [North Carolina Republicans seek fall referendum on citizen-only voting in constitution](#)

WRAL: [NC Tax Revenue from Sports Betting Eclipses \\$40 Million Since March Launch](#)

WRAL: [Sunday voting disputes highlight political divides at NC elections board](#)

WRAL: [New compromise bill in NC legislature would allow for public mask wearing to prevent disease](#)

WRAL: [Proposal to revamp special education funding heads to NC lawmakers](#)

WRAL: [Cornel West, RFK Jr. submit signatures to get on NC ballot](#)

WUNC: [Mark Robinson speaks at event hosted by Jason Whitlock, sponsored by anti-birth control group](#)

Yahoo News (Herald Sun): [Democrats are changing their strategy for 2024's must-win NC Supreme Court race](#)