

## **Chatham County Democratic Party Weekly News Digest November 13, 2023**

### **November 7th Municipal Election Results**

Here are the unofficial results for the municipal elections held in Pittsboro, Siler City, Goldston, and Cary on November 7:

[https://er.ncsbe.gov/?election\\_dt=11/07/2023&county\\_id=19&office=ALL&contest=0](https://er.ncsbe.gov/?election_dt=11/07/2023&county_id=19&office=ALL&contest=0)

In Chatham County, voter turnout was 21.28%. Statewide the turnout was 15.75%.

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### **Upcoming CCDP-Sponsored Events**

**November 13, 2023, 6:30 - 8 p.m. – Discussion of “Saving Us – A Climate Scientist’s Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World,” CCDP Community Engagement Center, 628-A East Street, Pittsboro**

Are you worried about the climate crisis? Want to know how you can help? You are invited to a discussion of an important book: "Saving Us - A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World" by Katharine Hayhoe. The discussion will be facilitated by Keith Johnson and Vickie Atkinson.

Called “one of the nation’s most effective communicators on climate change” by The New York Times, Katharine Hayhoe knows how to navigate all sides of the conversation on our changing planet. A Canadian climate scientist living in Texas, she negotiates distrust of data, indifference to imminent threats, and resistance to proposed solutions with ease. Over the past fifteen years Hayhoe has found that the most important thing we can do to address climate change is talk about it—and she wants to teach you how.

For more information, contact Vickie Atkinson at [vickie.l.atkinson@gmail.com](mailto:vickie.l.atkinson@gmail.com) or text 919-824-0974, or Keith Johnson at [kmjohnso15@hotmail.com](mailto:kmjohnso15@hotmail.com). It is not necessary to read the book to attend the discussion, though we hope you will.

**November 14, 3 – 5 p.m., CORA’s Turkey Tuesday Food Bank Collection Day, Food Lion, 70 Ballentrae Ct., Pittsboro**

Help CORA, our local food bank, this holiday season! Volunteers will offer shoppers a CORA Holiday Wish List as they enter Food Lion. Shoppers may choose to purchase items from the list and donate them for the food bank upon leaving the store.

Please wear your CCDP tee shirt, hat, and/or volunteer name badge.

People of all ages are encouraged to participate in this event!

Sign up [here](#).

**November 14, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. – Training - Join Our Office Crew, CCDP  
Community Engagement Center, 628 East Street, Pittsboro**

Volunteer at CCDP's Community Engagement Center!

This training is held every Tuesday from 1:30 - 3:30 pm and covers everything you need to know to feel comfortable and competent staffing the office along with an experienced volunteer.

After this one-time training session, you will be a CEC Associate Office Staff Member and you will be paired with a Senior Office Staff Member. We will work with your availability and preferences and get you on the Staffing Calendar.

Sign up at: [Training - Join Our Office Crew](#)

**November 17, 2 – 2:30 p.m. – Events Team Orientation (Virtual Event)**

CCDP puts on LOTS of events every year, and we have SIX different events teams to do it all!

Join this weekly Zoom to talk about which events team (or teams!) is right for you!

After you sign up, you'll receive an email confirmation from Mobilize that will include the Zoom link.

Sign up [here](#).

**December 2, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Training – Introduction to Voter Registration &  
Voter Education, CCDP Community Engagement Center, 628 East Street,  
Pittsboro**

Get ready to register people to vote! This one-hour training will cover how to help people fill out a voter registration form and give you answers to questions newly registered voters are likely to ask.

This is a great way to prepare for working in the CCDP Community Engagement Center, greeting people at CCDP events, canvassing, and a variety of other volunteer activities.

Sign up at: [Training - Introduction to Voter Registration & Voter Education](#)

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## Other Upcoming Events

**November 14, 7:30 - 8:45 p.m. – New Maps and the Path Forward, sponsored by Neighbors on Call (Virtual Event)**  
**Join at 7 p.m. for optional social time**

Featuring:

NC Senator Sydney Batch  
NC House Rep Ashton Clemmons  
Dr. Kimberley Hardy, NCDP 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair

Republican legislators enacted our new 2024 districts last week.

Can Dems break the supermajority in 2024 (yes!), and what can we realistically hope to achieve beyond that? Which legislative districts will be competitive next year? Could lawsuits impact the outcome? We'll ask the experts. Then we'll roll up our sleeves and get to work.

Interactive maps on the Dave's Redistricting App:

- [NC House map \(2024 enacted\)](#)
- [NC Senate map \(2024 enacted\)](#)

Suggested reading:

- [“Power at Any Price: North Carolina’s latest gerrymander” from Carolina Forward](#)
- [“Newly Proposed NC Maps are more gerrymandered and less responsive than maps struck down in 2021”](#)

Sign up at: [Upcoming Events](#)

**November 14, 6 – 7:30 p.m. – Restoration Village, Chatham Community Library, 197 NC Highway 87 N, Pittsboro (Sponsored by CORE)**

Join us for our last Restoration Village of the year! Bring a dessert to share! Please label all ingredients in your dish for us to avoid allergic reactions.

**REGISTER NOW**

**November 14, 7:30 p.m. – Being an Advocate for Disability Rights, With Keisha Greaves (Virtual Event), Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue**

Come learn how you can support this important work and what is at stake on a daily basis for people in this fight. Keisha Greaves, the founder of Girls Chronically Rocks and the GCR Adaptive Project story, will share her journey as a disability rights and

body positivity advocate and explain the value of education, accessibility, and inclusivity for all bodies.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

**November 15, 6 p.m. – RWB Family Meeting: Let’s Talk Elections! (Virtual Event), Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue**

It’s time to celebrate! We protected reproductive freedom and defeated extremist school board candidates in big numbers. RWB members put in the work and now it’s time to break down those successes – and where we are headed for 2024. Join us and let’s chat all things elections!

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

**November 15, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. – Banned Book Club November- Maus, Sponsored by Red Wine & Blue (Virtual Event)**

Join us as we read Maus by Art Spiegelman. Maus is a moving work of art often cited as the greatest graphic novel ever written. Art not only recounts the chilling experiences of his father during the Holocaust, he tells the story within the story about his tortured relationship with his aging father. This is an unforgettable story of survival and a disarming look at the legacy of trauma. You won’t want to miss this.

Sign up at: [Banned Book Club November- Maus](#)

**November 16, 7:30 p.m., How to Handle Tough Topics at Your Thanksgiving Table (Virtual Event), Sponsored by Red, Wine, & Blue**

We love to spend time with family – but we also know it can sometimes lead to uncomfortable and awkward conversations over the turkey and mashed potatoes! Want some help navigating discussions around racism and attacks on the LBGTQ+ community? Join us to hear from Jillian Gaeta of Roots to Revolution!

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

**November 17, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Coffee with CORE, Chatham Rabbit, 223 N. Chatham Ave., Siler City**

Learn more about CORE (Community Organizing for Racial Equity) and meet others working to **#BUILDSTRONGERCOMMUNITIES**.

Register at [www.mobilize.us/corenc](http://www.mobilize.us/corenc) .

**November 18, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m., ¡Despierta Carolina! Youth Leadership Summit, RECITY, 12 Broadway St, Suite B, Durham**

Join us for the ¡Despierta Carolina! Youth Leadership Summit. We are creating a space for NC youth to learn, connect, and feel empowered to take action in the 2024 election. This event is hosted in partnership with Poder NC Action, Siembra NC, Advance Carolina, Mi Familia Vota, and NextGen America. This all-day event will be hosted in Durham and will feature speakers and workshops that guide us to dream about what a future NC can look like for nuestra gente and what role all of us play in making that dream a reality.

Sign up at: [Despierta Carolina Youth Summit](#)

**December 1, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., CORE Community Organizing Interest Meeting With IAF, 79 Degrees West Coworking Space & Innovation Hub, 120 Mosaic Blvd. 120, Pittsboro**

Join CORE with IAF to learn more about community organizing and the broad-based membership organization we're building here in Chatham County.

Sign up [here](#).

**December 6, 7:30 p.m., Little Banned Book Club: Born on the Water (Virtual Event), Sponsored by Red, Wine & Blue**

Join us for Little Banned Book Club where we focus on children's books that are being targeted by extremists and being banned or challenged in communities across the country. Our discussion this month will be about The 1619 Project: Born on the Water. A book about a child who through a family tree assignment learns that her ancestors were brought to America as slaves. Together, we will read the book, talk about its impact and why some folks are up in arms about it.

**[SIGN UP NOW](#)**

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**News from the North Carolina Democratic Party**

[Candidate filing](#) opens December 4, 2023 and closes on December 15, 2023. If you are interested in running for office, fill out our [form](#) to get connected.

Our own NCDP Chair Anderson Clayton was on Good Morning America this week! Watch the clip and share to your network [here](#).

We are hiring! Check out [our openings](#) and share with anyone you think may be interested.

Thanks,  
Team NCDP

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## News from Neighbors on Call

Policy Updates for November 13, 2023:

### Fair Representation

- [Black voters removed from a state Senate district where their choices could determine the winner](#): *Switch is “a true attack on the Black vote,” says New Hanover County resident and activist – Lynn Bonner, NC Newsline*

### Voting Rights

- [Few problems reported as 2023 elections offer first test of new voter ID rules in North Carolina](#): *For many voters casting ballots in North Carolina's 2023 municipal elections, it's the first time they've had to show photo identification at the polls. And even people who lack ID will still be allowed to vote, under most circumstances. – Will Doran, WRAL News*

### Reproductive Rights

- [On Thursday the North Carolina Court of Appeals withdrew a decision it had issued that parental rights can be taken away from a pregnant woman who commits a crime](#). The decision had been criticized for misrepresenting precedent and establishing “fetal personhood” in case law. The withdrawal of the decision, signed by a group of judges who had originally concurred with Judge Hunter Murphy’s decision, means that any precedent it would have established is erased.

Policy Updates for November 6, 2023:

### Governance

- [NC judges give Cooper partial victory over legislative Republicans in separation of powers court case](#): *Republican lawmakers passed bills this year reworking key state boards and stripping the governor's office of some of his appointment powers. Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper sued over that legislation. – Travis Fain, WRAL News*

### Economic Policy

- [Long waits, improper payments: NC lawmakers examine problems in COVID-era unemployment benefits](#). *Years after more than 1 million North Carolinians struggled with long delays in receiving their unemployment benefits during the COVID-19 pandemic, state legislators are seeking answers on what went wrong and how to fix the problems in the future. – Will Doran, WRAL News*

- [Casinos, marijuana, happy hour: What NC lawmakers left behind this year:](#) *When lawmakers finished up their work for the year last week, some of the highest-profile proposals of the 2023 session were left on the table. Why they didn't pass, and what could happen next.* – Laura Leslie, WRAL News

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## News from NC Congressman Jeff Jackson

The government is set to shut down in seven days.

There are two ways to avoid this: We can either pass a budget (which means passing 12 separate funding bills) or pass another temporary extension.

In reality, there's no way the House and Senate are going to agree on a full budget in the next seven days. The House has only passed seven funding bills so far and the House and Senate have agreed on zero of them. Even assuming everyone started working in good faith tomorrow, we're still a couple months from an actual budget deal.

So that leaves a temporary extension.

BUT agreeing to a temporary extension is what got the last Speaker fired.

The new Speaker knows this - and he doesn't want to be fired - so his plan was to pass as many funding bills as he can *before* asking his right-flank to go along with another temporary extension next week.

Basically, he wants to show his right-flank that he's trying very hard to do things the way they want in the hope that they'll cut him some slack when he inevitably tells them he has to do a temporary extension. (Which was roughly former Speaker McCarthy's strategy, by the way.)

This week, the Speaker's goal was to pass two funding bills.

Tuesday night we tried to pass the first one. We had been there for over an hour voting on all these random amendments for the bill, and then, at last, we reached the vote for the actual bill.

And just before it came to a vote, leadership took it down. No vote.

Same exact thing happened on the next funding bill. We had an hour of amendments leading up to the big vote on a funding bill, only to have the bill pulled off the agenda moments before the vote.

Why? Because of internal division within the majority party about the bills themselves. In short, some members of the majority want deeper cuts than others.

So, the Speaker's plan didn't work. Zero funding bills passed this week. No progress.

Next week is decision time for the Speaker. He's going to have to go to his caucus with another temporary extension, and I honestly don't know how they're going to react.

The Speaker is hoping that his right-flank basically says, "Ok, we're not going to vote for a temporary extension, but we also won't try to fire you if you bring it to a vote and it passes."

If we're going to avoid a shutdown, that's roughly what needs to happen. I don't think there's another path.

### **Fake vs. real amendments**

I mentioned that we voted on lots of amendments this week.

I just want to stress: A ton of these are fake efforts just to get your attention.

Some examples:

- Reducing the salary of all employees of the Vice President to \$1 (in other words, eliminate her entire staff)
- Reducing the salary of the Secretary of the Dept. of Transportation to \$1
- Reducing the salary of the White House Press Secretary to \$1
- Reducing the salary of the Securities and Exchange Chairman to \$1
- Reducing the salary of National Highway Transportation Administration head to \$1

These aren't designed to be serious. They're for members to use in their fundraising emails and certain media outlets.

Let me show you what the opposite of that approach looks like.

After I was elected, a handful of meteorologists from my district got in touch. They told me that Charlotte exists in a weather radar gap because the national weather radar network was built decades ago and back then we just didn't get our own radar. We rely on a radar in South Carolina, and that means less accurate weather predictions for my district.

So, I filed a bill a few months ago to try and fix that.

And then the work began. All kinds of issues developed with my bill, various objections were raised, modifications were made, partners were found. For something seemingly small, it became pretty tricky.

Once we had a new version of the bill, we settled on a different strategy: We'd file it as an amendment to a related bill that we knew was going to come up in the Science Committee, of which I'm a member.

And it finally happened this week. I had the opportunity to explain my amendment to my colleagues, and it passed unanimously.

Then the bill itself passed, and now it's headed for the floor.

That's what a *genuine* effort to make amendments looks like, and I kinda love putting it in an email to all of you because I'm pretty sure you're going to appreciate it more than all those amendments that only exist to grab your attention.

Also, I have to say: The Chairman of the Science Committee - who is not in my party - has been exceptionally kind and helpful all year. The fact that we're in different parties doesn't seem to matter to him one bit when it comes to working with me, and in a highly partisan environment I think he deserves a lot of credit for that.

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## News from Democracy North Carolina

More than half a million North Carolinians cast their ballot during the Early Voting period and on Election Day.

While we hope this number could have been higher, given the significant increase in anti-voter policies in the state throughout the 2023 legislative session – including attacks on Same-Day Registration, Early Voting, and local elections officials, as well as the voter ID law requiring photo identification, among countless others – there will likely be long-term implications for North Carolina voters in future elections. Some lawmakers have made it abundantly clear they aim to make voting harder and less accessible for North Carolinians as well as more challenging for election officials, as they make drastic cuts and attacks on election administration and protections.

**When we consider all the shifts and changes that have been made to election laws, it's amazing to continue to see how the people persevere and turn out to vote.** [Read our full statement and preliminary totals.](#)

But this election has absolutely shown us that more education is needed so that voters have the information they need on when, where, and how to vote. The confusion around voter ID, both for voters and poll workers, reflects the state's budget gaps in funding for voter education and additional support and education for poll workers across nearly 3,000 voting sites in the state. Poll workers and election officials are so important to our work, and we should be honoring their efforts through sufficient election funding.

**In light of anti-voter laws, election protection advocates from across the state worked even more diligently to ensure all voters have safe and secure access to the polls.**

Democracy North Carolina's [nonpartisan voter hotline](#), 888-OUR-VOTE, **received 151 calls on Election Day alone**, compared to 78 calls on Election Day in 2021. Many voters faced confusion around whether they qualified to vote in their municipal election – a common theme during a year where there were three municipal election dates, and many voters weren't able to vote in their city or town races due to being outside of the municipal boundary. In some cases, voters experienced not being properly offered a provisional ballot or complete information around photo ID.

Democracy North Carolina's [nonpartisan vote protector program](#), which works to ensure every voter in our state can successfully cast their ballot, **sent 43 Vote Protectors to 6 counties on Election Day**, a program first for a municipal election year. Democracy North Carolina also employed exit poll workers to interview voters and document any challenges they experienced at the ballot box.

This election has shown us this work is far from over. And with [bad maps](#) on the horizon, the time is now to band together. We will follow [canvass monitoring](#) for the 2023 municipal elections and immediately begin to gear up for the 2024 primary and presidential elections. We will be working with coalition partners, campuses, and communities to ensure voters are fully informed of the laws around voter ID, Same-Day Registration, and vote by mail.

**Our focus is clear – supporting all North Carolinians to engage in the electoral process and to cast their vote successfully and safely.**

Onward,

Cheryl and Adrienne  
Co-Executive Directors, Democracy North Carolina

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## **News from the NC Counts Coalition**

Friends,

First, apologies - some of our colleagues who joined us for the Rapid Response Rally did not get a follow up email due to Google restrictions. If this happened to you, we are sorry, and you can find that original message below.

As a quick recap, the North Carolina legislature voted and approved new maps for the NC Senate, NC House, and the US Congress late last month. You can download and see those maps here - <https://democracync.org/take-action/fairmaps/>; and you can analyze how the maps impact you through our Redistricting and You tool here - <https://northcarolina.redistrictingandyou.org/>.

We preserve our democracy by doing democracy - the work for fair and responsive maps continues!

Please join us for our final Redistricting Roundtable of the year, being held on Tuesday, November 14, from 2:00 to 3:30. In that meeting we will provide additional analysis on the final district maps drawn, with an eye on its impact on our communities; you will hear from colleagues at SCSJ with a few words on their legal perspective; and we will continue to plug the work ahead - including our continued efforts around an Independent Redistricting Commission in North Carolina, and information on the UniteNC "Ready to Vote" tour.

[Register for the Tuesday, November 14 Redistricting Roundtable here - https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYoduGrrj4oE9M0Bpnrls0\\_ofkiZnouT8XN](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYoduGrrj4oE9M0Bpnrls0_ofkiZnouT8XN)

We look forward to seeing you next week.

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**NC COUNTS COALITION**

[www.nccounts.org](http://www.nccounts.org)

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**Selected News and Opinion Stories of Note**

Hopium Chronicles: [Big Elections Tomorrow, More on the NYT Poll, Bibi Must Go](#)

Cardinal & Pine: [How To Vote Without a Photo ID](#)

Chapelboro: [North Carolina's Voter ID Mandate Taking Effect This Fall is Likely Dress Rehearsal for 2024](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Election Day! New Poll Has Biden Up 48-44 Over Trump, GOP's Ongoing Betrayal](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Hopium PM – 2 Polls Now With Biden Leading, KY is Promising, Great Youth Video from VA Today](#)

NY Times (May Require Subscription): [Ohio Vote Continues a Winning Streak for Abortion Rights](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Another Good Night for Democrats, Another Super Shitty Night for Republicans](#)

NY Times (May Require Subscription): [Democrats Take Control of Virginia Legislature](#)

Carolina Public Press: [Violence Against Doctors and Nurses is Rising. A New N.C. Law Aims to Help Protect Them.](#)

WRAL: [State Auditor Beth Wood Charged in State Vehicle Case](#)

WRAL: [NC Auditor Beth Wood to Resign Following New Charge Over Use of State-Owned Vehicles](#)

WRAL: [Few Problems Reported as 2023 Elections Offer First Test of New Voter ID Rules in North Carolina](#)

WRAL: [NC Speaker of the House Announces Congressional Run](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Another Big Night – 2023 Has Been a Very Good Year for Democrats](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [My 2023 Election Recap – 2023 Has Been a Very Good Year for Democrats](#)

Chapelboro: [2023 Municipal Election Results for Local Races](#)

Axios: [The North Carolina Candidates Running for Congress in 2024](#)

Lucid: [Hypermasculinity, Misogyny, Homophobia: The Toxic Triad of Authoritarian Gender Politics](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [2022 and 2023 Have Been Very Good Years for Democrats. We Should Be Optimistic About 2024.](#)

Carolina Public Press: [NC Talks: The Importance of Active Listening](#)

NC Newsline: [Appeals Court ‘Life Begins at Conception’ Ruling Withdrawn](#)

The Assembly NC: [Press On](#)

The Assembly NC: [My Ancestors Won’t Have the Final Word](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Savoring Our Big Wins, The Democratic Party is Strong. Ongoing Republican Betrayal](#)

Ballotpedia.org: [Election Results 2023](#)

NPR: [Sen. Joe Manchin Announces He Won’t Seek Reelection in 2024](#)

NY Times (May Require Subscription): [The G.O.P.’s Culture War Shtick Is Wearing Thin With Voters](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [2023 Has Been a Year of Expansion and Growth for Democrats, After Ohio More Ballot Initiatives Across the US](#)

WUNC: [2023 North Carolina Election Results: Durham, Chapel Hill Get New Mayors](#)

WUNC: [Due South Sits Down With North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper](#)

Hopium Chronicles: [Trump Goes to War Against Immigration and Immigrants – It’s Another Big 2024 Problem for Republicans](#)

The Assembly NC: [Can Charlotte Re-Sort Itself?](#)