



***North Carolina Congressional District***  
***11*** *Newsletter #11 of 2021-2022*



**CHAIR'S MESSAGE**

Hello fellow NC11 Democrats!

Summer weather is in full swing, and the general campaign season is in full swing as well! Across District 11 we have candidates working extremely hard to get their message out and win over voters as we move into the fall. One of our first big elections will be this Tuesday, as Jackson County School Board incumbent Abigail Clayton is fighting to keep her seat in a run-off against an extreme right wing candidate who has publicly stated that she does not believe in the “false teaching of Separation of Church and State”. If you live in Jackson County, I’m sure that I don’t have to tell

you the importance of Tuesday’s election. If you have not early-voted, please be

sure to get to the polls on Tuesday and do your part to keep extremism from flooding into our schools!

This week the first swing through District 11 will happen for the North Carolina Democratic Party's 2022 Rural Tour. NCDP Chairwoman Bobbie Richardson and others will be visiting Buncombe County on Tuesday as well as Haywood and Polk Counties on Wednesday. If you are able to attend, please come out and hear how your party is working to connect in our rural communities. I am planning on being in attendance at all 3 events, and I look forward to saying hello to those of you who come out!

As we recently announced, we are excited to be holding the NC11 Democratic Gala on the evening of September 10th at the Doubletree in Biltmore Village! The evening's events will include a reception from 5:30PM-7PM followed by dinner and a program which will include the Liston B. Ramsey Awards and the Mountain Democrat of the Year award as well as speakers from NC11 and across North Carolina. Tickets will go on sale in the coming week, and stay tuned for more announcements on highlighted speakers!

As always, I cannot stress the appreciation that I and the rest of the NC11 Executive Committee have for all of the tireless work that all of you do to promote Democratic ideals across Western North Carolina. As we have seen over the last month, the stakes for the elections that are upcoming this fall could not be higher. Keep your heads up, hold fast, and continue to fight for the values that we hold dear!

Matt Ballance  
NC District 11 Chair

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**SAVE the DATE!!**



# NC11 DEMOCRATIC GALA

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**Celebrating those who have worked to further  
Democratic values in Western North Carolina over the  
last year!**

**Reception: 5:30 PM - 7 PM    Dinner/Program: 7 PM - 9 PM**

**Liston B. Ramsey & Mountain Democrat of the Year Awards**

**Keynote Speakers (To Be Announced)**

**SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 10TH | 5:30 PM - 9 PM**

**Doubletree Biltmore Village  
115 Hendersonville Rd.  
Asheville, NC 28803**

## Learn About Your Candidates

Here are the [National Democratic candidates, State Democratic Candidates, and Democrat Judges](#) (See Candidates Drop down) we need to get behind them for the November election. The Republican assault on our democracy is real and we need to support those who are willing to defend free elections, the environment, voting rights, and the right to make your own health care decisions.

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## Summerfest was a Success!!

On July 10th, the Young Democrats of Henderson County (YDHC) hosted their first Young Dems Summer Fest at Continuum Art in downtown Hendersonville. Over 200 attendees gathered to meet local candidates and advocacy groups while enjoying BBQ and music. Local musicians included Daniel Shearin, Threadbare, Mike Martinez, and Kathryn O'Shea who performed sets across the four hours of the festival. Numerous candidates and elected officials spoke including Jasmine Beach-Ferrara (NC11), Michael O'Shea (NC State House 117), Justice Ervin (NC Supreme Court), Mary Ellen Kustin (Henderson School Board), and Mayor Preston Blakely (Fletcher). The event also had several booths from local advocacy groups. The YDHC would like to thank all candidates, representatives, advocacy groups, and attendees for coming out to the festival.



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## **Mark Your Calendars**

### **Western NC Rural Tour**

Buncombe	County	Tuesday	July	26	3:30PM
Haywood	County	Wednesday,	July	27	10:30AM
Polk	County	Wednesday	July	27	1:30PM
Burke	County	July	27	4:30	PM

North Carolina Democratic Party Chair Dr. Bobbie Richardson, is continuing her initiative to listen to, hear from, and bring change to North Carolina's rural communities. This event will encourage that all participants will be required to wear a face mask at

all

times.



**Jackson County Democrat Party Banned Book Club**

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie  
 Thursday, July 28 6:30 – 8pm EDT  
 Jackson County Democratic Headquarters 500 Mill St Sylva, NC 28779  
 To bring attention to our apparent return to book banning advocacy, we started a Banned Book Club and we're reading some of the books currently banned. This month our book tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the reservation to attend an all-white farm town high school. Anyone who is interested in reading and discussing books is invited. You don't need to have read the book to attend.

**Hot Springs Democratic Candidate Meet and Greet**

Hosted by Madison County Democrats  
 Friday, July 29 5 – 7pm EDT  
 115 Church Rd Hot Springs, NC 28743  
 Meet and Greet the Democratic Candidates: NC State House Candidate Josh Remillard, Local candidates for county commission and school board. Event at the

Ponder Residence in Hot Springs. BBQ and light refreshments. Covid Precautions. Sponsored by Hot Springs, Laurel, Revere Rice Cove and Spring Creek precincts.

### **Three Precincts Gathering - Polk County Democrats**

Saturday, July 30 (Dunn's Rock, East Fork, and Cedar Mountain), 11:45 am in the Dunn's Rock Community Center, 461 Connestee Road. Come and hear historian Dan Carter and meet Democratic candidates running for local offices.

### **Jackson County Democrats - Sign Waving**

Artist Appreciation Month  
Monday, August 1 4:30 - 5:30pm EDT  
Location Democratic Headquarters 500 Mill St Sylva, NC 28779

Join us for a sign waving in support of artisans and crafts in our county. This is the day that kicks off American Artists Appreciation month. Bring a positive sign or make one at Democratic Headquarters. You don't have to be a Democrat to participate.



### **Get To Know the Candidate Series - Zoom Event**

Henderson County Democratic Party  
Get to Know the Get to Know the Candidates' Registration  
Meet NC Supreme Court Justice Candidates, Lucy Inman, and Sam Ervin IV. THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022, 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm  
Online via Zoom (Confirmed registrants will receive Zoom invitation prior to the forum.)  
Learn more about us at [www.myhcdp.com](http://www.myhcdp.com), and please consider making a donation via the website to help us fund our "Get Out The Vote" initiatives.

### **FILL OUT THE REGISTRATION**


REGISTER BY AUGUST 11, NOON.  
PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE A ZOOM LINK BEGINNING AUGUST 10 AFTER 5 PM.

Get To Know  
the  
Candidate  
Series:

NC Supreme Court  
Justice Candidates, Lucy  
Inman and Sam Ervin IV

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2022  
5:30 pm - 6:15 pm  
Online via Zoom



**Candidate Kick-off Event & TCDP Monthly Meeting**  
 Polk County Democrats - Zoom Event  
 Tuesday, August 16 5:00 pm at the Depot Railroad Avenue Park, 390 Railroad Ave.  
 Hybrid meeting begins at 7:00 pm. (Join at 6:45 pm to hear the City Council report  
 from Mayor Maureen Copelof.)  
[Contact the Chair Polk County Democrat Party](#) for registration Information

**Henderson County Democrat Party HQ Grand Re-Opening**  
 Friday, August 19, 6-8PM  
 1216 6th Ave West, Suite 600, Hendersonville, NC  
 This is a fundraiser for the candidates with a minimum \$20 donation. The entry  
 donations will be divided among those candidates at the event. We are also having a  
 "wine pull". A \$10 donation goes to HCDP. If your name is drawn, you will pull a bottle  
 of Napa wine to go home with you. Refreshments and music are complimentary. \*Due  
 to Covid uptick, please wear a mask while inside the office area. We will mingle with  
 the candidates and other guests outside while listening to some fantastic live music.



### East Asheville Cluster "Get to know your candidates" Picnic

Buncombe County Democratic Party  
Saturday, August 20 10am – 1pm EDT  
Murphy-Oakley Park 715 Fairview Rd Asheville, NC 28803  
Please join us at the for the East Asheville 2022 campaign kickoff! Get to know your candidates and enjoy mingling with Democrats. We'll gather at the Murphy Oakley Park picnic shelter. Bring something to share for a potluck. Drinks, plates, cups and silverware provided.

### Reems Creek Democrats Celebration & Election Kick-Off

Buncombe Democratic Party  
Saturday, August 20 6 – 8:30pm EDT  
Reems Creek Golf Club 36 Pink Fox Cove Rd Weaverville, NC 28787  
Welcome, Reems Creek Democrats, like minded-Independents & Candidates! Before we hit the election session, let's gather together, celebrate and have some fun. You'll have a chance to meet your candidates for November's election, connect with neighbors and learn about plans to fight for our Democracy! Gather at the Reems Creek Golf Course Clubhouse. Appetizers and cash bar. \$10.00 per/person donation requested.

### South Buncombe Dems Summer Event

Buncombe Democratic Party  
Sunday, August 28 2 – 5pm EDT  
Lake Julian Park 37 LAKE JULIAN RD Arden, NC 28704  
<https://www.mobilize.us/congressionaldistrict11democrats/event/475635/>

### **Monthly District 11 Messaging Team Zoom**

August 29 6:30 PM  
County Parties - Send a representative by [requesting a link here](#)

### NC 11 Democratic Gala

September 10  
5:30PM Reception 7PM Dinner

Doubletree Biltmore Village

Liston B Ramsey and Mountain Democrat of the Year Award

**NC Court of Appeals Judicial Candidate Forum**

September 11 3 – 5pm EDT

Buncombe County Democratic Party 951 Old Fairview Rd Asheville, NC 28803

This is your opportunity to get to know the Democratic judicial candidates for the NC Court of Appeals. Judge Carolyn Thompson (Seat 8), Judge Brad Salmon (Seat 9), Judge Gayle Murray Adams (Seat 10), and Judge Darren Jackson (Seat 11) will all be present to share their experience and respond to questions. Who should attend: Voters in Buncombe and surrounding counties

**For more Candidate events see our website [events calendar](#)**

**County Events**

Please visit our website [Events page](#) to learn of many meetings, and special events offered by our counties.

Counties please send us your events using the [submission page](#).

**KEEP US INFORMED!!!**

**WE WILL POST YOUR COUNTY EVENTS AND  
CAMPAIGN DEBATES/FORUMS ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE**

[Use this submission form to send](#)

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## All Things Training

Activist Chelsea Hoglen-White delivered two outstanding presentations on this topic: **Changing Voter Behavior: Building Relationships and Transforming Western NC with Evidence-Based Practices** live on June 25 in

Waynesville and on Zoom training on July 12. A huge thank you to Chelsea Hoglen-White for sharing her expertise and experience. She got all of us, in attendance, to take a fresh way to look at how we communicate with voters! And it is evidence-based and can make a difference in election results. If you missed this training, please check it out on our Youtube channel [here](#).

Voter registration is a key GOTV strategy. NCDP has a thorough training on how to do it properly. Use this link to access the training and get your volunteers trained. [Voter Registration by NCDP:](#)

If you have any ideas for training, expert speakers, comments or questions, please contact me, Denise Marecki, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, Training at [denise@nc11democrats.org](mailto:denise@nc11democrats.org)

Much appreciation for all you do!  
Denise Marecki,  
2nd Vice-Chair, Training

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## Treasurer's



## Corner

**Fundraising at the Gala**

I hope you've got our Gala event marked on your calendar for September 10th. We are all looking forward to an evening of warm fellowship, in-person with good Democrats from our District.

The Gala is of course a welcome opportunity to raise funds for

taking our message to neighbors and winning races in November's critical election. While planning the event we've tried to strike a balance, offering both reasonably affordable and more indulgent ticket options. Please help spread word of the Gala among friends and supporters – we have a limited number of seats, and we want every one of them filled. As of July 22nd our account balance is \$10,165.

Julie Montanea  
District 11 Treasurer

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**From 3rd Vice Chair: Communications**



Hello Everyone

We are still in need of a Social Media Assistant to manage posting on our FB, TW and IG accounts. Anyone with that skillset and the willingness should reach out to me by [email](#) .

**County chairs:** Please make sure your 3VC gets your county news to me for this newsletter. Deadline posted in this newsletter. TWICE!!

**Suggestion to County officers:** Have two people on your CEO team maintaining a list of all the usernames and passwords for the digital accounts you have for your county. That way if someone is unreachable the other person has the info.

**Candidate Events:** Campaigns/candidates may now submit posts of events for the District website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Please send detailed requests with pictures for addition to the District 11 Events Calendar. Pictures with captions of events that have recently happened in our counties are also welcome. Please try to get permission from people before taking photos. It's respectful.

**Newsletter Submissions for County News:** 150-200 words and one picture. Please share what your county has been doing. Events that are pending should be sent to the submission link for our events calendar.

[Event submission link for posting on District 11 Website Events Calendar](#)

Karen Albig Smith, 3rd VC Communications  
communications@nc11democrats.org

### **Look for our next newsletter in August**

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is August 19, 2022 5PM

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### **HELP US RAISE OUR SUBSCRIBER #S**

[Subscribe](#) to the District 11 News and Alerts on the Homepage.

Invite your fellow Democrats to join us also.

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## **County News**

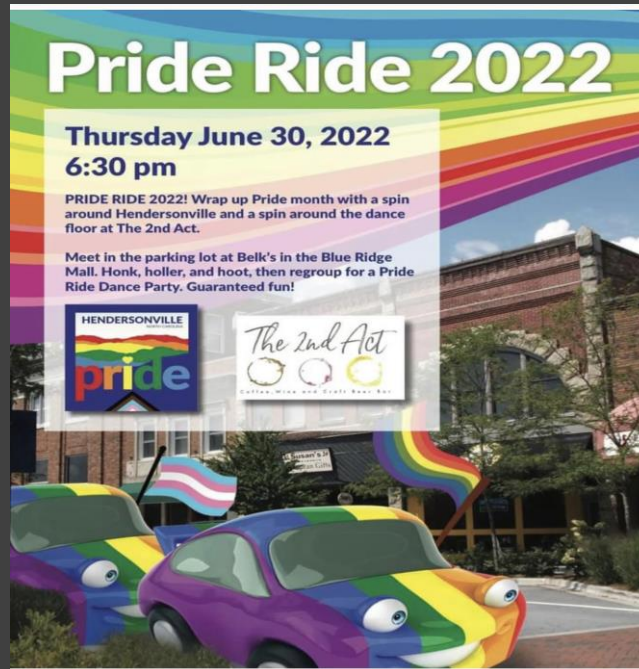
**Haywood** Members of the Jonathan Creek and Lake Junaluska Precincts celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week by serving refreshments to the staff and teachers at their respective elementary schools. On May 3, Junaluska Precinct Vice Chair Teri Domagalski coordinated with her friends and neighbors to provide mid-morning refreshments including: homemade mini quiche, homemade cookies, several varieties of yogurt, clementines, granola bars, orange juice, coffee, and water. In addition to the food, individual appreciation cards with a package of m&m's attached were distributed.

Organized by JCreek Precinct Vice Chair Doreen Carroll with assistance from Precinct Chair Sue Gist, the celebration at Jonathan Valley School on May 4 included door prizes donated by local businesses, home baked goods, coffee and drinks, handmade wooden bookmarks and chair massages throughout the day. The free chair massages donated by Derek "The Bodyworker" and drawing for the door prizes highlighted the day. Others who assisted at JCreek were Arch Ramos and Dennis Corso.

Visit the Haywood County Democratic Party [Website](#)



**Henderson** HCDP wrapped up the month with the R\Pride Ride. Henderson County Democrat Party will begin Saturday canvases September 10 through November 5. Jasmine Beach Ferrera will join us on September 17. Call our office at 828-692-6424 if you would like to join us for Saturday afternoon canvassing 1 to 4 pm the month of September and October. We will be canvassing for all candidates so your help is greatly appreciated. Visit the Henderson County Democrat Party [Website](#)



**Jackson** We've spent the majority of our July time working on behalf of Abigail Clayton in a school board run-off race with an opponent self-described as a "Christian Conservative." Jackson County, probably like her neighbors, experienced enhanced interest in local board races this cycle. The other party ran a well-financed three person slate here for the three available seats. It's obvious we can no longer assume these races will attract pro-public school folks nor can we assume ideological neutrality on personnel and policy issues.

We've nearly completed the first round of outreach to our target group of registered Democrats who vote sporadically and will use our second round to invite them to an old-fashioned political rally in Sylva's Bridge Park on August 20. It will begin at 4 PM and feature music, children's games, food and local county and state politicians. If you're in the neighborhood that day, stop by. Visit the Jackson County Democratic Party [website](#).





Marilynn Davis, our Volunteer Coordinator, staffing our non-partisan tent supporting Abigail Clayton during One-Stop Voting

**Macon** Our 2022 Macon County Democrat HQ opened July 13. Located at 335 E Main Street in Franklin. Hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10AM to 6PM. In September hours will be Monday through Saturday. Union Precinct send a organizing postcard to recruit volunteers.



**Polk** The Polk Dems were active in several community events over the past several weeks. On June 24, some Polk Dems participated in a PROTEST rally in Columbus, our county seat. The positive honks outnumbered any jeers. Columbus has an all-day event in celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We had a booth set up on the main street providing an opportunity to register to vote, learn about our local candidates, and to sign-up to get engaged with the PCDP. We walked with our 2 Democratic Party County Commissioner candidates, Ray Gasperson, and Andy Millard, in the Saluda Coon Dog Day Parade on July 9<sup>th</sup>. Visit the Polk County Democrat Party [website](#).

Want your county news in the next newsletter?  
Send 150-200 words with ONE picture  
to [communications@nc11democrats.org](mailto:communications@nc11democrats.org) by August 19 by 5PM

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## Events

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Operations such as this newsletter are made possible by you. If we are to grow and promote our message at full force, we need your help. \$10, \$20, \$50 is all it takes

from each of you to keep things like this newsletter growing, so please click the contribute button below and donate today. From all of NC-11, thank you.

[Contribute](#)



