

# The Bray

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October 2013

Greenville County Democratic Party

Greenville, SC

## Affordable Care Act Marketplace Opens

Open enrollment for the new health insurance exchanges under the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare, began Oct. 1, 2013. The enrollment period runs through March 31, 2014, and the insurance can take effect as soon as January 1, 2014.

The Marketplace allows everyone to choose a health plan that balances coverage and cost in a way that makes sense for their situation. In fact, everyone must have proof of insurance when filing 2014 taxes unless they are exempt.

The 20 Community Health Centers in South Carolina have programs to help consumers understand the new law and their coverage options. To find the Community Health Center nearest you, please visit <http://clyburn.house.gov/> and click on the Affordable Care Act button.

For more information on purchasing healthcare insurance through the Marketplace or for more information on exemptions, please visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov) or call toll-free 1-800-318-2596.

Millions of Americans have already benefited from the Affordable Care Act. College students have been able to continue coverage under their parents' insurance plans up to age 26; many senior citizens have seen reductions in their prescription drug costs; and 77.8 million citizens saved \$34 billion last year because the ACA requires insurance companies to be more cost-efficient and to spend less than 80% of the premiums on overhead. The Department of Health and Human Services also estimates that consumers saved \$1.2 billion in premium increases in 2012 because insurance companies must now justify those increases and present them for review.

The Affordable Care Act has already saved millions of Americans billions of dollars. Let's spread the word about the Marketplace and coverage choices that will save them billions more.

## Make Sure Your Vote Counts

Election Day is November 5. GCDP has two candidates for local office: Gaye Sprague ([www.gayesprague2013.com](http://www.gayesprague2013.com)) is running for re-election to her At-Large City Council seat, and Dave Langenhan ([www.vote fordave2013.com](http://www.vote fordave2013.com)) is running for a seat on the Greenville Water Commission.

Please note these important points:

- 1) In-house absentee voting runs from Oct. 7 until November 4, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday in Human Services wing, Conference Room H, County Square, 301 University Ridge, Greenville, SC 29601.
- 2) To vote absentee by mail, call 467-7264 to request an application for an absentee ballot.
- 3) Schools are no longer used as polling places while school is in session. This means that if you normally vote at a school in national and state elections, you will be voting somewhere else in this City Election. Verify your polling location before you vote! To find your polling place for the Nov 5 City Election, go to [www.greenvillesc.gov](http://www.greenvillesc.gov), select "Departments" in the upper right hand corner, select "City Clerk", then select "City Elections," then click on "View City Polling Places." If you do not know your precinct, you can find your precinct by going to [www.scvotes.org](http://www.scvotes.org) and selecting "Find Your Polling Place." You can also call the Greenville County Board of Voter Registration at 467-7250 or the City Clerk at 467-4431.
- 4) To vote absentee in person or to vote on election day, one of the following forms of **photo ID is required**: SC Driver's License; ID Card issued by SC Dept. of Motor Vehicles; SC Voter Registration Card with photo; Federal Military ID; or US Passport.
- 5) For a ride to the polls or to vote absentee in person, call Democratic Party Headquarters at 864-232-5531.

## Democratic Women

Kaye Lingle Koonce, 1st Vice Chair of the SC Democratic Party and the co-founder of Project XXSC <http://www.projectxxsc.com/> will be the guest speaker at the October 14th meeting of Democratic Women of Greenville County. Ms. Koonce retired in September of 2010 as General Counsel and Senior VP at Trident Technical College in Charleston, SC, having served TTC for 23 years. Ms. Koonce has been active in local, state and national politics for 35 years. Ms. Koonce has been married for 40 years to Randy Koonce who is a chemistry professor.

**The Monday, October 14th meeting will be held at The Runway Cafe beginning at 5:30pm.** The Runway Cafe is located at 21 Airport Road at the Greenville Downtown Airport. From Laurens Road, turn onto Airport Road at the U.S. Post Office.

**A buffet dinner is available for \$15.00 Reservations are required for dinner** and must be made by Thursday, October 10th by calling Greenville County Democratic Headquarters at 232-5531 or [headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com](mailto:headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com) Guests are welcome to attend.

November 11th, we'll be hosting the next Governor of SC, SC Senator Vincent Sheheen. at 5:30 p.m. at the Handlebar on Stone Avenue.

See you in October!

## Chandra Dillard Honored by CVSC

Congratulations to our own SC House Representative Chandra Dillard on her recent award from the Conservation Voters of South Carolina. At their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Tie luncheon, CVSC recognized Rep. Dillard for "listening to citizen concerns, asking the right questions and sticking to her convictions to protect the health of communities and the environment."

## Contributions

The GCDP thanks the following members for their recent financial contributions: Floyd McGurk, Cort Flint, Shirley Scott, Allan Jenkins, Dan Belby, Thomas Donnelly, Senator Karl Allen and Lynne Lucas.

The GCDP also thanks Andy and Stephanie Arnold for fulfilling their Silver Level Yellow Dog Pledge for 2013.

## House Parties for Candidates

Margot Hackett will host a drop-in for voters who wish to meet Dave Langenhan, our candidate for Water Commission, on Oct. 12 from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. at 26 Simmons Avenue, Greenville 29607 (off Laurens Rd. near Parkins Mill Rd.). Light refreshments will be served. No RSVP required. Margot can be reached at 236-7586 with any questions.

Come get a yard sign, enjoy light refreshments and show your support for Gaye Sprague on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the offices of Sprague and Sprague, 3101 Augusta St. If you cannot attend but have already requested a yard sign, it will be placed in your yard the weekend of Oct. 11-12. If you cannot attend but want to request a yard sign, contact the campaign at [Sprague4Council@cs.com](mailto:Sprague4Council@cs.com) or call 277-6716.

## Bray Brigade Respondents Needed

Even though you may be on our faithful volunteer list, occasionally we need to update or add to our list, *particularly with the Bray production*. If you have the time, and like interesting conversations, please call headquarters to join the Bray Brigade. The responsibilities include folding, stuffing and sealing. Our thanks go to Tom LeBlanc, Yvonne Reeder, Kaye Martell, Anne Funderburk, Allan Jenkins and Jessie Wofford who helped with the August Bray.

**Please "Like" the Greenville County Democratic Party on Facebook.**

## Motivating Young Voters

Thank you to Allan Jenkins for bringing our attention to an interesting paper regarding the need to mobilize young voters in the coming national elections.

[http://www.thedemocraticstrategist.org/\\_emos/tds\\_SM\\_votermobilization\\_2014.pdf](http://www.thedemocraticstrategist.org/_emos/tds_SM_votermobilization_2014.pdf)

*The Bray* is published by the Greenville County Democratic Party, 1300-J Washington St., Greenville, SC 29607/232-5531, Eric Graben, chairman. Karen Tannenbaum, editor. Linda Neely, format and distribution. Know someone who would like to receive **The Bray**? It is available by email or traditional mail. Call HQ or contact [headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com](mailto:headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com). Please mail contributions to party headquarters. If your financial contribution to the GCDP is over \$100, please indicate profession or retired (required by SC Ethics Commission). Thank you.