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## 2016 SCDP Coordinated Campaign Town Hall



Shown L to R: Michael Pratt, Leola Robinson-Simpson, Chris Fedalei, Chandra Dillard & Phillip Chambers

On October 6, as Hurricane Matthew thundered toward the state, Upstate Democrats gathered at the West End Community Center for the 2016 SCDP Coordinated Campaign Town Hall. Under the banner “Enough is Enough,” five of the federal and state legislative candidates in the 4th Congressional District – Chris Fedalei, Rep. Chandra Dillard, Rep. Leola Robinson-Simpson, Michael Pratt, and Luke Qullen – answered questions for almost an hour and a half from the moderator, Eryn

Rogers, and the audience. The panel eloquently and decisively described their plans to deliver opportunity, security, and unity to our state and to tackle significant issues facing Greenville and Spartanburg County constituents in the areas of foreign policy, criminal justice reform, healthcare reform, infrastructure, and education. SCDP Chair Jaime Harrison, SC State Director for Hillary for America Alycia Albergottie, and Fedalei for Congress and Coordinated Campaign

*Continued on Page 2, See **TOWN HALL***



## Why I am a Democrat by Chandra Dillard

As I recall growing up, I think I must have been born a Democrat. I'm a Democrat because our party cares about improving the economy for all and not for only a few of our friends. I'm a Democrat because while I'm glad to have a safe and decent place to call home, our party realizes that this may not be the same for all our neighbors and we work to do something about it. We believe that a rising tide lifts all boats, but we also recognize that some of us don't have boats and we must help our neighbors reach the water. I'm a Democrat because we believe that a child's success should not be determined by his zip code. These are just a few of the reasons why I'm a Democrat. Every day we are patriots too, as we honor the red, white and inclusive blue. We are indeed stronger together.

# Choosing to Vote Absentee?

Absentee voting is available to registered voters who will be out of the County on Election Day. Also, if a registered voter is unable to go to the polls due to physical disability, illness, or AGE (65 or older), they may request an absentee ballot. If a registered voter will be on the job site at their place of employment for the entire time the polls are open (7:00am - 7:00pm), they may request to vote by absentee.

Applications for absentee voting can be requested by the voter in person, by phone, or written request. An immediate family member may request an application to be sent to a voter. Once the application is returned by the voter, the ballot will be mailed to the voter to cast their vote. The ballot must be returned to the voting office no later than close of polls on election day (7:00pm), the returning envelope must be properly signed by the voter and witnessed (signature) in order to be counted. Persons who are 65 years of age and older may vote by the absentee method if they wish to do so and properly apply. For persons admitted to a hospital in an emergency situation within four days of



an election, some special provisions exist, so call for details.

## ABSENTEE VOTING NOTES:

To absentee vote through the mail, it takes **TWO mailings**, one for the application and one for the ballot (which must be returned before close of polls on election day). **START EARLY!!!!**

Immediate family may request an application be mailed or delivered to a voter. Only in the case of physically handicapped individuals, homebound

voters, or confined voters, can someone other than the voter or immediate family request an application, then only after providing the proper information on the appropriate form provided by the voting office.

Ballots may only be handled by the voter, the U.S. Postal Service (or other certified carrier), or the person **designated in writing** by the voter to return his/her ballot to the voting office.

Contact the County Voter Registration Office for more information or to request an absentee ballot, call: 864.467.7264

[http://www.greenvillecounty.org/voter\\_registration/pdf/2016\\_absenteevgeneralelection.pdf](http://www.greenvillecounty.org/voter_registration/pdf/2016_absenteevgeneralelection.pdf)

## Or Vote Absentee at County Square

### TOWN HALL, Continued from Page 1

Field Organizer Connor Vetter also shared local and statewide plans for field operations that will lead to victory for our candidates on November 8. This event would not have been possible without the coordinated efforts of a team from the Greenville and Spartanburg County Democratic Parties and the South Carolina Democratic Party. Much appreciation for a job well done to Phil Chambers, Shelly Roehrs, Jalen Elrod, Jamie Robinson, Whitney Wright, Ann Funderburk, Karen Hahn, Christopher Riehle, Grady Patterson, Anita LeBold, Matthew Ellison, Christale Spain, Kate Franch, and Joshua Dantzler. We are grateful to Eryn Rogers for keeping the discussion on point and moving; to Jaime, Alycia, and Connor for their leadership; to our candidates for fighting for to our candidates and their campaign teams for fighting

Voting personally in the office is the most popular way to vote absentee; it provides for one process without the hassle of dealing with two mailings.

### **In-person Voting Hours for the November 8 General Election**

Now Through November 7, 2016

Monday – Friday

8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

### **Extended Hours**

Saturday, October 29 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 5 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 27 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 28 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Absentee Voting for Greenville County registered voters is located at:

301 University Ridge  
Greenville, SC 29601  
Conference Room H

The outside sign on the front of the building is the Human Service Agencies.

Democratic Party values; and to Mr. James Childress and the West End CDC for their assistance and support.

# Phone Banking and Canvassing Opportunities

## Phone Banking

Mondays 5:00pm - 8:30pm

Thursdays 5:00pm - 8:30pm

Fridays 5:00pm - 8:30pm

## Canvassing

Saturdays 9:00am - 12:00pm  
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Sundays 1:00pm - 4:00pm

All take place at GCDP Headquarters  
1300 East Washington Street Suite #J

Please contact Tucker Lawson  
Organizer for South Carolina Democratic Party  
by phone 864-529-2088  
or email [tucker@scdp.org](mailto:tucker@scdp.org)

## GCDW Monthly Meeting

Carlyle Steel will be the guest speaker for the November 14 meeting of Democratic Women of Greenville County. Please make reservations by 3:00pm, Friday, November 11 by calling or emailing headquarters.

## October Breakfast Speaker

At the October breakfast meeting on the 22nd, we will begin looking ahead to the 2017 South Carolina legislative session. We expect bills to be filed that will focus on economic conditions in the state, including a reintroduction of minimum wage legislation. To set a foundation through which to review these legislative efforts, John Brisini of the South Carolina AFL-CIO will present "Common Sense Economics 101." John recently served as Vice-Chair Issues of the leadership committee for the 2016 Spratt Issues Conference Planning Committee.

From the SC AFL-CIO website ([sc.aflcio.org](http://sc.aflcio.org)):

*We are witnessing the largest redistribution of wealth in our nation's history while the effects of the Great Recession still paralyze communities and working families. It's harder for working people to achieve or*

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### October 18 (Tuesday) 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Democratic Party Event | Fedalei for Congress  
Chiefs Wings & Firewater  
723 Congaree Road  
Greenville, SC 29607 (See page 4)

### October 22 (Saturday) 8:30am

GCDP Monthly Breakfast Meeting  
Pleasant Valley Connection  
510 Old Augusta Road  
Greenville, SC 29605

### October 24 (Monday) 7:00pm

Fedalei/Gowdy - Dixon/Scott Candidate Forum  
Furman University  
Watkins Room, Trone Student Center  
3300 Poinsett Hwy  
Greenville, SC 29613

### November 4, (Friday) 6:30pm

NAACP Greenville Branch  
34th Annual Freedom Fund Banquet  
West End Community Center  
404 Vardry Street  
Greenville, South Carolina 29601

### November 8 (Tuesday) 7:00am-7:00pm Election Day

### November 14 (Monday) 12:15pm

Democratic Women Monthly Meeting  
Southern Fried Green Tomatoes  
1175 Woods Crossing Road  
Greenville, SC 29615

*maintain a middle-class lifestyle despite increases in productivity and longer work hours. Entire communities have been devastated by bad policies designed to reward the wealthy. For communities and working people across the country, it seems as if the economy is like the weather, something unpredictable that happens to us. But the economy isn't like the weather—it doesn't just happen. Politicians support policies that foster an economy that works for Wall Street and the privileged few instead of one that works for everyone.*

*Common Sense Economics is a training and education program, conducted by and for union members and progressive allies, to educate working people on how our economy works and how actions and policies impact our economy.*

Continued on Page 4, See **BREAKFAST**



## **BREAKFAST, Continued from Page 3**

Please join us at 8:30am at Pleasant Valley Connection (510 Old Augusta Road) for a delicious breakfast buffet and John's presentation. Donations to help offset the cost of breakfast are welcome.

### Resources:

Use the following link to access a Common Sense Economics quiz. How much do you know about the issues that shape our lives, communities, and economy <http://cse.aflcio.org/cse-101>

*"Prosperity Economics: Building an Economy for All,"*  
Jacob S. Hacker and Nate Loewentheil

## Rides to your polling location: Get on board

Headquarters has a list of volunteers willing to drive voters needing a ride to their polling place - through the absentee voting period and on Election Day. Voters needing a ride should call or email Headquarters with their name, address, phone number, preferred date and time for voting, and their polling place if known.

If you do not know your polling location, a volunteer will be able to look it up for you. During the absentee voting period, voters will be taken to County Square to vote.

## Books We Love *We're Still Right They're Still Wrong* by James Carville

By Roxanne Cordonier

After spending weeks reading about the Koch brothers ongoing plan to dominate the American political process, it was a relief to read an updated version of James Carville's 1996 New York Times best seller, *"We're Right, They're Wrong."* Carville's original book blew up the Republican economic agenda and shined a bright light on the GOP's ridiculous positions on health care, welfare, tax reform and economic growth. *"We're Still Right"* picks up the fight 10 years later, focusing like a laser beam on the Republican's Presidential nominee Donald Trump. Carville contends that Trump succeeded because the Republican Party failed. All that snake oil the GOP has to peddle to its followers over the years: *cutting taxes will stimulate the economy and create jobs, Obamacare will wreck the*

*economy, that we would have six dollar a gallon gas once Obama got re-elected* etc. etc., all those lies have finally caught up with them.

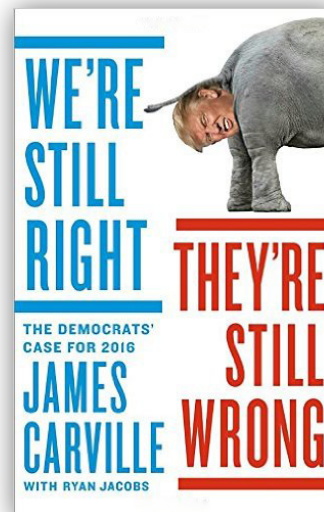
The book is chock-a-block full of facts and figures to back up the fact that Democrats know how to govern while Republicans are still repackaging the same failed policies. The only thing that's new is that we now have real life examples of how detrimental those policies can be. Kansas has become the life experiment with supply-side economics and it's been a disaster. In 2012, Governor Sam Brownback embarked on what he called the "march to zero," a march to zero income taxes. Brownback

wanted to eliminate these taxes which paid for 40% of the state's budget and replace them with consumption taxes. The result has

been painful for the people of Kansas. By 2015, Brownback had turned the state's \$500 million surplus into a \$250 million deficit, job growth now lags behind neighboring states and cuts to education have proven devastating to students and teachers.

If you want to arm yourself with facts and figures to dispel the

baloney that both political parties are alike or that Trump is qualified to become president, you must read this book.



## Philip Chambers '15CC and a Columbia-founded Startup Challenge Trey Gowdy

Shortly after graduating Columbia College, Philip Chambers '15CC, secured solid employment at a PR agency near Aspen, Colorado. On the surface, representing some of the biggest outdoor brands in North America might seem like anyone's dream job, but for

Chambers, the new role left him feeling somewhat unfulfilled. Hearing a higher calling, he soon returned to his home state of South Carolina where he ended up managing the campaign of 27-year-old Chris Fedalei, who was running against a long standing incumbent Trey Gowdy.

At Columbia, Chambers had worked with a team of fellow students to push for resiliency funding aimed at improving NYC's utility infrastructure post-Hurricane

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**CHAMBERS, Continued from Page 4**

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Sandy. “We were a small team that made a big impact — even as lowly undergrads. The experience helped me realize the difference you can make if you’re dedicated,” he recounted. Chambers took this lesson to heart, channeling this enthusiasm into South Carolina primary races where he helped shore up support in national and state-level primary campaigns.

Chambers noticed a significant gap in the party’s activity: his hometown of Spartanburg where he worked with Democratic candidate and attorney Chris Fedalei to carve a path to victory in a district that hadn’t had a Democratic representative in nearly 25 years.

“Our incumbent, Trey Gowdy, is well-known and nationally prominent” says Chambers. “No one has really challenged him.” But by the end of the first quarter, Chambers and his candidate Fedalei had out raised all other Democratic challengers combined. “It may be accurate to say that until we came along, no one in our community has been able to stand up and say ‘there are other views here besides those of the GOP.’

So how did Chambers and Fedalei launch a campaign

with so little of the party’s resources and infrastructure available to candidates in more competitive districts? They did it with a core of dedicated young volunteers, a passion for progressive politics, and of course, a healthy dose of technology.

“A lot of what we do is mine potential donors through databases, to target the people who are most likely going to donate money, volunteer for us, or simply vote for us,” said Chambers. The campaign also utilizes a variety of innovative new technologies, including Columbia-founded startup Polis, a canvassing app that streamlines door-to-door political outreach founded by Columbia College alumnae Kendall Tucker ’14CC. “With big data, as long as I have enough people who believe in what we’re doing, it doesn’t matter how



**Phillip Chambers**

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*Continued on Page 6, See **CHAMBERS***

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JOHN HOFFMAN PROMOTIONS  
PRESENTS

# *Democratic Party* Event

## FEDALEI FOR CONGRESS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2016

6 - 9 PM | NO COVER CHARGE | LIVE MUSIC

Located at Chiefs Wings & Firewater | 723 Congaree Road

CALL OR TEXT 864-202-1561 FOR MORE INFO

# Fedalei/Goudy - Dixon/Scott Candidate Forum

The 4th Congressional District, includes much of Greenville and Spartanburg counties. U.S. Rep. Trey Gowdy and Democratic challenger Chris Fedalei will participate in a moderated “conversation” at Furman University on Oct. 24. The university announced. U.S. Sen. Tim Scott and Democratic challenger Thomas Dixon will also participate in the event.

The forum-style event will have Gowdy and Fedalei participate in a 40-minute conversation moderated by Furman professor Danielle Vinson, followed by a



Chris Fedalei

moderated 40-minute discussion between Scott and Dixon. The event will be capped by a 20 minute moderated discussion between all four candidates.

Scott and Dixon are running for South Carolina’s junior senate seat, which Scott has held since being appointed by Gov. Nikki Haley in 2013 to fill the vacancy created by

outgoing Sen. Jim DeMint.

Rather than a structured debate with time limits and rebuttals, the event will be a “wide-ranging conversation,” according to a Furman release. The event is titled “A Conversation with South Carolina Congressional Candidates: An Experiment in Civility and Substance.”

The two campaigns had previously disagreed on the format of the event. Fedalei’s campaign wanted a one-on-one debate and objected to Scott and Dixon being on the stage at the same time as Gowdy and Fedalei. Gowdy’s campaign wanted to include Scott, with whom Gowdy has a close personal and profes-

sional relationship, and Dixon in a forum-type setting. Talks briefly broke down before an agreement was reached on the current format.

Tickets are free but required for the event. Furman students, faculty and staff can get two tickets per person from the front desk of Furman’s political science department in Johns Hall 111 starting Oct. 19. The general public can get four tickets per person from the Trone Student Center information desk starting Oct. 20. \*

Excerpted in part from the 10/10/16 issue of *The Greenville News*.

\* Any remaining tickets will be available the night of the event. For more information, contact Furman’s media relations office at 864-294-3107.

- If you wish to attend the event but anticipate having trouble getting to Furman

University to pick up a free ticket on the morning of the 20th, please call or email GCDP Headquarters with your contact information to let us know how many tickets you are requesting.

- The number of tickets we can make available will depend on the number of people who are willing to go to Furman on the morning of the 20th to request the four per person maximum. If you are able to help in that way, please call or email GCDP HQ to let us know.

- Tickets delivered to GCDP HQ will then be distributed in the order in which the requests were received.



Thomas Dixon

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## ***CHAMBERS, Continued from Page 5***

much money the other guy has. If we reach out to the right people and secure their votes, the other guy doesn’t stand a chance.”

Chambers isn’t sure what he’ll be doing after November — it all depends on the election results, of course — but he’s confident that regardless, he’ll be working

to build a progressive voting base in South Carolina. “There is a direct correlation between energy of the young South Carolina electorate and values that we’re fighting for. We’re making sure that energy is represented at the state and national level where we need more candidates like Chris Fedalei.”



## New Class of Clyburn Fellows

The Democratic weekend of September 30-October 1 also marked the completion of the first Clyburn Fellowship class. We are so fortunate to have had such a dynamic group of 27 young people to set the fellowship on a strong course. Last week, several of them, led by Carlton Boyd of Columbia, wrote a letter to the editor published in The State discussing the vital role that the Clyburn Fellowship has played in building our state party; if you missed the letter, [click here to read it](#).

These original fellows will be the core of our party for years to come.

With the first class of Clyburn Fellows having completed the program, we are delighted to announce the members of our second class. These 46 young people (25 women and 21 men) come from all backgrounds and represent 30 counties in South Carolina. The newly selected Clyburn Fellows, along with their home counties, are:

Velice Cummings	Aiken	Ates Emiroglu	Horry
Katrina Williams	Allendale	Scott Firsing	Horry
Jared R. Donaldson	Anderson	Justin Scriven-Eason	Jasper
Phil Dudley	Anderson	Shane Turner	Lancaster
Bretticca Moody	Bamberg	Shaterica Neal	Laurens
Shawnta Harrison	Barnwell	Chad Bauerschmidt	Lexington
Marian Hutchinson	Barnwell	Tony Mozeak	Marion
Pamela Brandon	Beaufort	Alonzo Harrison	McCormick
Mayra Rivera-Vazquez	Beaufort	Maya Slaughter	Orangeburg
Mahwish "Mev" McIntosh	Berkeley	Margaret (Molly) Dunn	Pickens
Kendra Alexis Hasty	Calhoun	Joseph Bias	Richland
Denise Ciccarelli	Charleston	Marcurius Byrd	Richland
Marvin Rashad Pendarvis	Charleston	Hamilton Grant	Richland
Ryon Smalls	Charleston	Tiffany James	Richland
Donna Walker	Clarendon	Breanna Spaulding	Richland
Jessica Bright	Colleton	Marquice Clark	Spartanburg
Shamieka Sims	Fairfield	Nicole Vilencia Hazard	Spartanburg
Sheldon A. Butts	Georgetown	Luke Quillen	Spartanburg
Shakeema Smalls	Georgetown	Azilee Billy	Sumter
Sarah Locke	Greenville	Dianna Bardis	Union
Avery Martin	Greenville	Doward Harvin	Williamsburg
Jeanmarie Tankersley	Greenville	Ivori Henryhand	Williamsburg
Jarvis Holmes	Hampton	John Kraljevich	York

With the skills that the Clyburn Fellowship will impart over the coming months, this new class of fellows will join the inaugural class in playing significant leadership roles in our party. We are excited by the prospects for the future that the Clyburn Fellowship is creating, and we are grateful to Congressman Clyburn for his instrumental role in making the Fellowship a fixture of

our party. Together we will fight to turn South Carolina blue, this year and for years to come.

Sincerely,

Jaime Harrison  
Chair, SCDP

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Welcome Mike and Vera Stang, who have joined the team as office volunteers at Headquarters on Monday afternoons.

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Find your polling location at [http://www.greenvillecounty.org/voter\\_registration/pdf/2016\\_pollinggesites.pdf](http://www.greenvillecounty.org/voter_registration/pdf/2016_pollinggesites.pdf)

## *Thanks to Our Contributors!*

The Greenville County Democratic Party wishes to express its gratitude to its recent donors. These include *Yellow Dog* pledges.

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Edith Chou	William and Pat Howle	Pat and Kim Paschal
Elizabeth "Lib" Cook	Catherine Jacobson	Dwight and Liz Patterson
Tracy D. Cooper	Allan Jenkins	James and Joyce Patterson
Roxanne Cordonier	Douglas Jones	(in memory of Sara Payne)
Stan Crowe	Robert T. Jones	Felicia Pepper
Stella Dominguez	Gwen Kennedy	Dexter Reaves
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*Donations are always welcome and appreciated.*

### **Help us go GREEN**

Want to help the planet by going green and reducing expenses for the party?

You can help by electing to receive only the electronic version of *The Bray*. Please contact headquarters to let us know and to provide your email address if we do not have it.

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