

Learn More - visit our updated website!
www.greenvilledemocrats.com

Visit Us
1300-J Washington Street
Greenville, SC 29607

Contact Us
864-232-5531

headquarters@
greenvilledemocrats.com

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Join Democratic Women of Greenville County in their Facebook group!

GCDP Merchandise Available

You can see our new GCDP logo in the new header for *The Bray* above, but did you know that merchandise is available in exchange for a donation to the Greenville County Democratic Party?

We have koozies available for a \$5 donation and car magnets available for an \$8 donation. Both are available at the Greenville County Democratic Party Office during normal office hours at 1300-J E. Washington Street, Greenville, 29607.

We are also taking orders for GCDP T-Shirts. The shirts are dark blue with the new logo across the chest and are available for a donation of \$20 to the Greenville County Democratic Party.

All items can be picked up by making a cash donation at the GCDP Office or by credit/debit card at upcoming Greenville County Democratic Party events (including the: Women's Monthly Meetings, Young Democrats Monthly Meetings, and GCDP Monthly Meetings & Breakfasts).

Reach out to Jarrod Wiggins at gcdpcomms@greenvilledemocrats.com with questions!

Chair Message: There are Rays of Light Breaking Through the Storm Clouds

Fellow Democrats,

I hope you're enjoying your summer. Thank you for continuing to contact elected officials to share expectations that they put the welfare, needs, and values of their constituents - and those who have fled to our country seeking freedom, justice, and a hope-filled life - above party loyalty. The temperatures might soar, but our passion and commitment will not be cooled. I encourage you to also consider applying that passion and your skill, expertise, and belief in the power of government to ensure and protect justice and equality to one of the many opportunities available to community stakeholders to distinctly shape local public policy.



In addition to the partisan Greenville City Council races, city council races in Greenville County's other municipalities will appear on the November 7, 2017 general election ballot. Filing has opened for several city council seats in Greer, Fountain Inn, Mauldin, Simpsonville, and Travelers Rest. If you live within one of these city's limits, serving on council is an opportunity to directly represent and impact your community. In order to be listed on the 2017 ballot, you must be a registered voter, file a notice of candidacy during the filing period, and pay a filing fee. Other requirements might pertain, so please visit your municipality's website and contact the office of the city clerk for more information.

Greer: District 2, District 4, District 6, & Commissioner of Public Works; Filing opens July 17 (noon) and closes August 15 (noon); cityofgreer.org/government/elections

Fountain Inn: Ward 1, Ward 3, Ward 5; Filing opens July 17 (noon) and closes August 15 (noon); fountaininn.org/election

Mauldin: Ward 1, Ward 3, Ward 5; Filing opens July 12 (noon) and closes August 15 (noon); cityofmauldin.org/city-council

Simpsonville: Ward 2, Ward 4, Ward 6; Filing opens July 14 (noon) and closes August 15 (noon); simpsonville.com/election

Travelers Rest: Seats held by Mayor Wayne McCall, Harvey Choplin, Rebecca Cooper, Rick Floyd, and Jeff George; Filing opens July 17 (noon) and closes August 15 (noon); travelersrestsc.com/our-community/government

Seats on many of the citizen elected Greenville County local fire, police, sanitation, sewer, and special tax district boards will be on this year's November ballot as well. Filing takes place from mid-July through mid-August - visit greenvillecounty.org/Council/BoardsCitizenElected for more information.

(Continued on page 3)

A myriad of opportunities for direct citizen participation, without having to run an election campaign, are available through seats on local boards and commissions. One of the semi-annual application periods for county-wide Greenville County Boards and Commissions is underway through July 31. A number of seats are open on a wide ranging variety of the boards and commissions that inform, advise, and make recommendations regarding local policy implementation to the Greenville County Council.

- Accommodations Tax Advisory Committee
- Airport Commission
- Airport Environs Planning Commission
- Board of Tax Assessment Appeals
- Construction Board of Appeals
- Economic Development Corporation (Railroad)
- Greater Greenville Sanitation District Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Human Relations Commission
- Library Board of Trustees
- Metropolitan Sewer Sub-District
- Museum Commission
- Redevelopment Authority
- Thrive Upstate (formerly Disabilities and Special Needs Board)
- Zoning Board of Appeals

If interested, an application must be filed, either online or by mail, and you should reach out to your county council representative as well as our Democratic members, Councilor Xanthene Norris and Councilor Ennis Fant, for their endorsement. Visit greenvillecounty.org/Council/BoardsComm for more information. Additional boards and commissions can be found through the County's website and those of local municipalities.

Civic engagement can no longer be an option – it is essential. Greenville County is our home and, as such, we have every right to expect that our values and expectations are respected and represented at all levels of government. If you are willing to step up to leadership, either through appointed or elected office, you will be making that reality achievable. The GCDP is ready to assist and support you.

We are Stronger Together,

Kate

Thank you to June's GCDP Donors!

Leila Aziz, James Bryan, William Byers, Camille Buck, Erin Culbertson, Susan Cyr, Chandra Dillard, Ingrid Erwin, Betty Farr, Lillian Brock Fleming, Ann Funderburk, Eric and Helen Graben, Ryan Hawkins, Gayle Hewitt, Allan Jenkins, Will Keown, Sharon Klompus, Jane Kramer, Kinard Johnson, Tom and Susan Lyness, Frances Moore, Margaret Paylor, Secretary Richard Riley, Meghan Riordan, Ben Saul, Christopher Smith, Russell Stall, Carlyle and Jennifer Steele, Harold Waters, R. Wayne and Rosemary Wicker, Jarrod Wiggins.

Your contributions are appreciated and valued in our quest to elect more Democratic leaders.

SCDP Legislator Spotlight: Rep. Chandra Dillard

Last month, the South Carolina Democratic Party featured Greenville Representative Chandra Dillard in one of their 'Legislator Spotlight' posts (below). As a county party, we are proud of the work Rep. Dillard does for Greenville and all of South Carolina. We thank her for her public service and we look forward to many more years of working alongside her!

South Carolina Democrats:

We hope you had a wonderful 4th of July. This week, our legislator spotlight series features House Deputy Democratic Leader Chandra E. Dillard. Representative Dillard lives in Greenville and represents House District 23.

Chandra Dillard was first elected to the House in 2008, after nine years on the Greenville City Council. She currently serves as Secretary of the House Ethics Committee and House Agriculture, Natural Resources & Environmental Affairs Committee. She is a former President of the Conference of Black Municipal Elected Officials (2006-08) and President of the South Carolina General Assembly Women's Caucus (2015-16). A strong advocate for early childhood education, Rep. Dillard has been recognized by the South Carolina Institute for Child Success. In addition, she has been honored by the SC Independent Colleges and Universities as Legislative Champion of the Year, has been a Green Tie honoree by the South Carolina Conservation Voters, and has received the Leadership Greenville Distinguished Alumni Award from the Greenville Chamber of Commerce.

Rep. Dillard is Director of Community Relations for Furman University. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Winthrop University and a Masters in Public Administration from Walden University. She is also a graduate of Leadership Greenville, Furman's Riley Institute Diversity Leadership Initiative, and Leadership South Carolina. She is a member of the Epsilon Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and Lay Leader at John Wesley United Methodist Church. Rep. Dillard serves on several boards and committees, including Community Works Carolina, Bank of Travelers Rest Advisory Board, the Peace Center Board, and Ten at the Top.

You can follow Rep. Dillard on Facebook and on Twitter. The people of Greenville are well represented in the House!



3rd Congressional District Has Two Democrats Running in 2018



Kate Franch, Greenville County Chair; Bruce Marshall, Oconee County 1st Vice-Chair; Hosea Cleveland, SC-3 Congressional Candidate

An enthusiastic group of family and friends gathered recently at Broadway Lake Recreation Building in Anderson County to support Seneca businessman Hosea Cleveland as he announced his candidacy for the 3rd Congressional District seat currently held by Republican

Jeff Duncan. Mr. Cleveland, owner of a Seneca Insurance Agency, ran unsuccessfully in 2014 and 2016, but the experience gained in those campaigns has encouraged him to try again to unseat Duncan - a strong Trump supporter.

In his announcement speech, Mr. Cleveland spelled out his determination to promote the vital interests of all those working families in the District who need protection of their. "Health, Wealth and Security." He asked the voters for their support for his campaign, explained how the Democratic party can take back the long time Democratic district, which was held by prominent figures such as Brian Dorn and Butler Derrick, before Lindsey Graham won the seat for the Republicans. Jeff Duncan won the seat in 2012 in a hard-fought campaign led by Jane Dyer, and has been re-elected twice in 2014 and 2016. Cleveland is confident that an African-American candidate can win the seat with the support of the large minority vote in Greenwood, McCormick, Abbeville and Edgefield counties and good turnout of traditional Democratic voters in more industrialized Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties.



Paulette Keffas Chassin, Oconee County Chair; Michael Kay, Anderson County Chair; Mary Geren, SC-3 Congressional Candidate; Kate Franch, Greenville County Chair; Ethan Cashwell, Pickens County Chair

In April, Mary Geren announced her candidacy for South Carolina's 3rd Congressional District.

"As a mother and teacher, I can no longer sit on the sidelines and watch as everything that makes our democracy special is threatened. As a result, I have decided to run for Congress in 2018 against Rep. Jeff Duncan," announced Geren in front of family, friends and supporters at Clemson University. "I'm running because I want a representative that represents me, a working mother. I want a representative who represents the working people, who represents common sense, who does something besides collect a paycheck, who stands up for the least of these and against blatant corruption."

Geren has focused her message on ensuring all South Carolinians have the same opportunity she had through a strong public education system, fair pay for all, and fighting to ensure all Americans have affordable healthcare. Geren will be running a campaign that is about talking with the voters across the district, hearing their concerns, and not hiding from those who disagree with her.

Just this week, Geren announced that she raised \$4,000 more in funds from individual donors from April through June 2017 than incumbent Jeff Duncan.

Emerge South Carolina Seeks an Executive Director

Founded in 2017, Emerge South Carolina is the premier political leadership training organization for Democratic women in South Carolina. Their mission is to recruit, train, and inspire Democratic women to pursue public office at the local, state, and national levels through their 6-month campaign training program.

Emerge South Carolina's work is sorely needed. The Palmetto State ranks 47th in terms of female representation in the state legislature, with women making up a mere 14 percent. What's more, South Carolina currently has no women serving in Congress and there are only two women mayors or executives in towns with 30,000 or more people. Emerge South Carolina is an affiliate of Emerge America, a national organization currently working in 21 states: Arizona, Alabama, California, Colorado, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin.

For more information about Emerge America and Emerge South Carolina, please visit: <http://www.emergeamerica.org/EmergeSC>

Opportunity for Executive Director

Emerge SC is seeking a highly motivated, talented, self-disciplined, and entrepreneurial individual to serve as the full-time Executive Director. The ED reports to the Chair of the Board of Directors and works with state board members to achieve the organizational goals. The primary responsibilities include, but are not limited to: fundraising and budget management, program implementation, class recruitment, board management and support for program members and alumnae.

Responsibilities

- Program & Communications
- Fundraising & Administration
- Organizational Development

For the full job posting visit: www.emergeamerica.org/blog/emerge-south-carolina-seeks-executive-director.

Emerge America Candidate Training

Since the election, everything's changed. More Democratic women than ever are going to run for office. Emerge America is going to teach them how to run and win.

Our affiliates have expanded their programs. We've launched in several new states. And now we're offering candidate boot camps to reach Democratic women in even more places. These boot camps are teaching women how to tell their story, manage a campaign, fundraise, get out their message and so much more.

If you're considering a run for public office- join Emerge America at one of their upcoming Candidate Boot Camps!

July 21-23: Milwaukee, WI
August 18-20: Atlanta, GA
October 20-22: Washington, DC

Visit www.EmergeAmerica.org to learn more or sign up for a Candidate Boot Camp!

Upcoming Events

GCDP Monthly Meeting & Breakfast

July 22, 8:30am
Upstate Circle of Friends
29 Ridgeway Drive, Greenville, 29605

This Saturday we will host Will Alexander, a USC student and Greenville native, to discuss the current progress and ongoing efforts with Resistance Summer. Resistance Summer is a grassroots program of the Democratic Party designed to engage and mobilize voters. It's goals are to maintain our base, while engaging new voters and building relationships in their communities. Mr. Alexander has worked for Hillary for America, the Democratic National Convention, and the South Carolina Democratic Party.

Peace Center: Greenville Democrats Night (*Finding Neverland*)

July 26, 7:30pm
300 S. Main St, Greenville, 29601
www.peacecenter.org
Discount Code: GCDP

Roast Honoring Rep. Harold Mitchell

July 28, 6-9pm
Upstate Readiness Center (URC) at USC-Upstate
*More information on the GCDP Events Calendar.

Young Democrats of GVL County

August 1, 5:30pm
GCDP Headquarters
1300-J Washington Street, Greenville, 29607

Democratic Women of GVL County Monthly Meeting & Luncheon

August 8, 5:30pm
West End Community Development Center
404 Vardry Street, Greenville, 29601
*Please RSVP to headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com or (864)232-5531 by 8/2/2017

Lifetime Legacy Award Celebration for Lillian Brock Flemming, hosted by the Committee for the Celebration of John Gamble

August 19, 6:00 pm
West End Community Development Center, 404 Vardry Street, Greenville, 29601
Contact 864-498-9019 or admin@thelegacycommittee.com for additional information.

GCDP Monthly Meeting & Breakfast

August 26, 8:30am
Upstate Circle of Friends
29 Ridgeway Drive, Greenville, 29605

Democratic Women of GVL County 50th Anniversary Event

October 5, 2017, Hilton Greenville, 45 W. Orchard Park Drive, Greenville, 29615

South Carolina State Conference of the NAACP 2017 Convention, hosted by the Greenville Branch of the NAACP

October 12-15, 2017, Hilton Greenville, 45 W. Orchard Park Drive Greenville, 29615

Party Leadership

Kate Franch
Greenville County Chair

Roxanne Cordonier
State Executive Committee Alternate

Dexter L. Reeves
1st Vice Chair

Michael McCord
State Executive Committee Alternate

Grady Patterson
2nd Vice Chair

Jake Erwin
Voter Protection Chair

Whitney Wright
3rd Vice Chair

Jarrod Wiggins
Communications Coordinator

Gaybriel Gibson
Secretary

Katy Lentz
Political Action Coordinator

Anita LeBold
Treasurer

Nadia Land-Greene
Volunteer Coordinator

Christopher Shipman
State Executive Committee Delegate

Linda Hardman
President, Democratic Women

Ingrid Erwin
State Executive Committee Delegate

Jalen Elrod
President, Young Democrats

Democratic Trivia!

1. Who is the Senate Minority Leader?
2. What is the only state to have TWO Senators within the Senate Democratic Leadership?
3. How many women are in the U.S. Senate?
4. How many states have TWO female US Senators?

June Answers!

1. 16 Presidents
2. 1976
3. True
4. 46

Answers in the August edition of *The Bray*!

Receiving *The Bray* via email saves the GCDP money in printing and postage - all valuable resources. If you are currently receiving a mailed copy and are willing to change to the email version, please email the GCDP at headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com with your name and contact information. We appreciate the help!

The Bray is published by the Greenville County Democratic Party, 1300-J East Washington Street, Greenville, SC 29607, phone 232-5531; Kate Franch, Chair; Roxanne Cordonier, Editor; Jarrod Wiggins, Production & Layout; Linda Neely, Ann Funderburk, & Karen Hahn, distribution. Know someone who would like to receive *The Bray*? It is available by email or traditional mail. Call GCDP HQ or email headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com. Please mail contributions to GCDP Headquarters. If your financial contribution is over \$100, please indicate profession or retired (required by SC Ethics Commission). Thank you.