

THE BRAY

The latest news and updates from the Greenville County Democratic Party



GCDP volunteer coordinator Nadia Land-Green assists with the Habitat for Humanity build.

The Primaries are here!

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2018 Elections 9-10

BY KATE FRANCH



Fellow Democrats,

Thank you to the GCDP delegates and alternates who attended the SCDP State Convention in Columbia last month. A rousing day was spent hearing from candidates from across the state and conducting business to shape the Party for the coming year. If you haven't had a chance to read the lively GCDP Blog post by Lawson Wetli that describes her "Long-time Democrat, first-time delegate" experience at the convention, please check it out: greenvilledemocrats.com/news/.

Chair's message (continued)

The GCDP had one of the largest delegations in attendance and, I'm especially proud to say, the largest number of delegates still present at the close of the convention around 5 p.m. That's the kind of commitment that will create change! The wonderfully big news now is that the mid-term election cycle is underway. With it comes the opportunity we've been waiting for to turn the tide through the electoral process.

First, though, we will hold a Primary Election on Tuesday, June 12 to decide the Democratic nominee for the contested seats on the November 2018 ballot for which more than one candidate filed:

- As Democrats, we will choose our nominee for the Third and Fourth Congressional Districts (Rep. Duncan's and Rep. Gowdy's seats respectively), the gubernatorial ticket that includes the lieutenant governor for the first time, and SC House District 19 (Rep. Loftis's seat) and District 25 (Rep. Robinson-Simpson's seat). A list of all filed candidates in Greenville County may be found on **pages 9-10**. Campaign information for Democratic Party candidates may be found on the GCDP website: greenvilledemocrats.com/links-and-resources/democratic-candidates-for-2018/
- South Carolina has an open system Registered voters do not have to be a member of a particular political party (Democratic, Republican, Green, American, etc.) to vote in that party's primary. This year, only two parties – the Democrats and the Republicans – will hold primary elections in Greenville County on Tuesday the 12th. A voter may cast a ballot for either party's ticket, but not both.
- If no candidate receives 51% of the vote from the primary election, a run-off election will be required for the two (or, rarely, three) candidates who receive the highest number of votes. If a run-off is necessary, it will be held on Tuesday, June 26. If you vote a Democratic ballot on June 12, you may vote on the 26th only in the event of a Democratic run-off election in your precinct. (You may vote in a Republican run-off IF you either voted a Republican ballot or not at all on the 12th.)
- Two advisory questions will be included on the statewide primary ballot. For Democrats they are:
 - Do you support passing a state law allowing doctors to prescribe medical marijuana to patients?
 - Do you support passing a state law requiring the governor of South Carolina to accept all federal revenues offered to support Medicaid and Medicaid expansion efforts in the state?
- The Greenville County Election Commission has finally updated its website with ballot and polling place information. Absentee voting at County Square begins May 14 and will run through June 11 (see **page 4**). Because primary elections will take place for the two congressional districts in Greenville County as well as three statewide constitutional offices, all polling sites will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on June 12. We have been notified of changes to polling locations, but please see **page 3** to see if you will vote at a different location. For more information, check greenvillecounty.org/VoterRegistration/ or call 864-467-7250.

If you need a good reason to carve out time to make your political voice heard during the coming month, consider this from Nate Cohn in the New York Times (March 6, 2018):

In a way, primaries resemble special elections. Nonpresidential primaries are relatively low-turnout affairs that provide a clue about which side's base is more engaged. That's extremely important in midterm elections.

Let's put the Republican Party on notice and let them know that they cannot take the Upstate for granted any longer. And, let's affirm for ourselves – long-time Democratic voters, newfound activist partners, and recently returning, relocated, and millennial neighbors – that Greenville County is ready to stand up, be heard, and lead the charge for change. Your vote IS your voice!

In solidarity,

Kate

Calendar of Events

June

02

DWGC Coffee Meet-up – Panera Bread
375 Harrison Bridge Rd. Simpsonville
9 AM

02

Wear Orange Day
One City Plaza – 103 N Main St, Greenville
2-4 PM

06

Young Dems Monthly Meeting
GCDP Headquarters
6-7:30 PM

09

Greenville NAACP Prayer Breakfast
165 Staunton Bridge Road, Greenville, 29611
\$15- Tickets must be purchased by 5/31
9 AM- <mailto:anitalebolde@hotmail.com>

09

Community Candidate Forum
Reedy River Baptist Church
1012 Mauldin Rd, Greenville, SC 29607
2-4 PM

09

Nicholtown Community Neighborhood Party
327 Ackley St, Greenville, 29607
1-5 PM to benefit Phillis Wheatley Center

June

10

GCDP/OUR Revolution GOTV Rally
8 Rochester St. Greenville, SC
2-4 PM

10

NAACP Monthly Meeting
400 S Hudson St, Greenville 29601
4-5:30 PM

11

Democratic Women Meeting
12:15 PM
Lunch: \$15 with RSVP/\$17 at the door
RSVP to DWGC 232-5531

12

SC Democratic Primary Elections
Find your polling place at
<https://www.scvotes.org/>

16

DWGC Coffee Meet Up
1021 S Main St, 29601
9:00 AM

23

GCDP Monthly Meeting
29 Ridgeway Drive, Greenville, SC 29605
8:30-10:00 AM

Polling place changes

A number of polling places have been changed for the June 12 primary **only**. Make sure you know where you're voting!

Precinct	You Usually Vote Here	You vote here on June 12	Address
Greenville 06	Mount Calvary Baptist Church	Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church	2 Jeff Cir., Greenville, SC 29611
Greenville 20	Trinity United Methodist Church	Augusta Road Baptist Church	1823 Augusta St Greenville, SC 29605
Greenville 23	Eastlan Baptist Church	Sara Collins Elementary School	1200 Parkins Mill Rd Greenville, SC 29607
Feaster @ Rolling Green	Eastside Presbyterian Church	Rolling Green Retirement Center	Hoke Smith Blvd Greenville, SC 29615
Maridell @ Tigerville	New Liberty Baptist Church	Tigerville Elementary School	25 Tigerville Elementary School Rd Taylors, SC 29687
Mission	Morningside Baptist Church	Pelham Rd Elementary School	100 All Star Way Greenville, SC 29615
Simpsonville 3 @ Sycamore	Simpsonville United Methodist Church	First Presbyterian Church	510 E Curtis St Simpsonville, SC 29681
Simpsonville 4 @ Simpsonville 2	Renovation Church	Plain Elementary School	506 Neely Ferry Rd Simpsonville, SC 29680
Standing Springs @ Simpsonville 2	Standing Springs Baptist Church	Plain Elementary School	506 Neely Ferry Rd Simpsonville, SC 29680
Stone Valley @ Edwards Forest	Springwell Church	Taylors Elementary School	809 Reid School Rd Taylors, SC 29687
Stonehaven @ Woodruff Lakes	Advent United Methodist Church	Woodruff Rd Christian Church	20 Bell Rd Greenville, SC 29607

Absentee Voting


Have you voted in the primary yet? Even though we don't have early voting in SC, there are a number of criteria you may meet to vote absentee. Absentee voting is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm, with Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 2nd and 9th, and extended evening hours until 7 p.m. on May 31 and June 1.

If you meet any one of these criteria, you can vote absentee:

- A Member of the Uniformed Services on Active Duty (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA))
- A Merchant Marine (UOCAVA)
- A Spouse or Dependent of a Member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine (UOCAVA)
- A U.S. Citizen Permanently Residing Outside the United States (UOCAVA)
- A U.S. Citizen Temporarily Residing Outside the United States (UOCAVA)
- Persons Sixty-five Years of Age or Older
- Physically Disabled Persons
- Persons Attending Sick or Physically Disabled Persons
- Students Attending School Outside Their County of Residence and Their Spouses, or Dependents Residing With Them
- For Reasons of Employment Will Not Be Able to Vote on Election Day
- Government Employees, Their Spouses and Dependents Residing With Them, Who Are Serving Out of Their County of Residence on Election Day
- Persons on Vacation Who Will Be Outside Their County of Residence on Election Day
- Persons Who Will Be Serving As Jurors In a State or Federal Court on Election Day
- Persons Admitted to the Hospital As Emergency Patients On Day of Election or Within Four (4) Days Prior to the Election
- Persons With a Death or Funeral in the Family Within Three (3) Days of the Election
- Persons Confined to a Jail or Pre-trial Facility Pending Disposition of Arrest or Trial
- Certified Poll Watchers and Poll Managers, County Registration Board Members and Staff, and County Election Commission Members and Staff Working on Election Day

Two things are critical to making the Blue Wave a reality: getting voters registered and getting voters to vote. For many, getting to the polls can be a barrier. But we can help by providing drivers.

- If you are willing to volunteer to drive voters either to County Square to vote absentee up through June 11, please call 864.232.5531 or email headquarters@greenvilledemocrats.com.
- If you need a ride call 864.232.5531 and we will arrange one for you.



More information on absentee voting at County Square is available here:
<http://www.greenvillecounty.org/VoterRegistration/AbsenteeVoting.aspx>.

Democrats build communities

BY LAURA HAIGHT



Members of Democratic Women at work.

Democrats build strong communities. Sometimes with policy, sometimes with sweat equity. On May 12, a crew of more than a dozen members of Democratic Women of Greenville County and the GCDP executive leadership, rolled up their sleeves and worked on a Habitat for Humanity Women Build project at Mulberry Street.

With so much negativity and anger, it was really great to spend the day doing something purely life-affirming. We worked hard in the 92-degree heat and stretched ourselves ("I can't get on a ladder... well maybe a couple of steps." Before I knew it, I looked up to see one of our younger members banging nails up on the roofline!). The house we contributed to building is for a family of four that immigrated here from Egypt four years ago. They were admitted through the much-maligned Diversity Lottery.

I know I will feel a special pride on dedication day when the family gets their house. It was a great day! Thank you to all who participated and to H4H for the work they do.

Hispanic Alliance Summit 2018

The Hispanic Alliance is an Upstate organization working to build a bridge of communication and understanding between Hispanic/Latino communities and the broader community.

Its mission is to improve the lives of its constituents and communities through working collaboratively with partners. Its vision is that the "Hispanic community is embraced as a thriving, productive and positive contributor to the community at large."

On Saturday, May 19, the group brought partners and members together for a summit to report on achievements of the past year, set goals for 2018, and design a five-year vision plan. This was not a boring recitation of reports. It was, like the organization itself, hands on and collaborative. Read our report:

<https://greenvilledemocrats.com/hispanic-alliance-2018-summit/>



Dreamer Sarai Bautista and HA Executive Adela Mendoza

VOTE411.org

Want a personalized insight into the June 12 primary elections where you'll see the choices on **your** ballot as well as information about the candidates and a lot more? You've got it.

The Greenville League of Women Voters has published its Voter Guide on [VOTE411.org](https://vote411.org). Go to the website and enter your address to have all the races and candidates you will see on your ballot displayed. You can see (if the candidate participated in the guide) biographical information on the candidate and how each candidate answered the questions that the League asked. It's a great voter tool.

Try it out, tell your family and friends about it, use it to get important information prior to the June 12 Primary. Be a SMART voter. And above all: Be a voter!

Volunteer database/why it matters

If you've been a volunteer in the past, you are already receiving Nadia Land-Greene's colorful and information-packed emails each week. For the past few months, she's also been encouraging you to fill out our new volunteer email interest form (<https://greenvilledemocrats.com/volunteer/>). Many of you have, but of some 600 volunteers, still less than 15 percent.

So why do we need this? After all, Nadia already has your email address, right?

Some have suggested it's because you might not want to be included in a "database." Well, you already are. Nadia's spreadsheets hold your information in is a database. The Constant Contact service we use to send out *The Bray* and other emails of interest to our constituents is also a database and you are already in it.

What we are trying to do now is to be more strategic about how we use volunteers to achieve all the goals we have for both politics and policy. Our new interest form asks you to tell us more about your interests, your issues, your skills, and your availability.

With one-click now we will be able to pull up a list of people available in the afternoon and for whom gun control is a top issue who would be available to join an advocacy trip to the statehouse. With one-click we will be able to find volunteers with experience in event planning to help us plan effective fund-raising events.

Matching your skills and interests to our needs will help us be more proactive, better use the skills and talents of the great volunteers we have and make volunteering more meaningful to you. But we need more information from you to accomplish these goals.

We are stronger together. Be part of that strength. Please take a moment to update your existing information or sign up for the first time at <https://greenvilledemocrats.com/volunteer/>.

Start a blue wave



START A BLUE WAVE!

RALLY TO GET OUT THE VOTE!

**JUNE 10
2-4 PM**

Primary Day is June 12
Democracy is not a spectator sport

West Greenville Community Center, 8 Rochester St., Greenville

GCCDP
GREENVILLE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

OUR REVOLUTION

For more: greenvilledemocrats.com/rally

Are you ready to get your wave on? Join the Greenville County Democratic Party and Our Revolution for a pre-primary rally on June 10 from 2 to 4 p.m.

We'll be at the West Greenville Community Center, 8 Rochester St., Greenville, come rain or shine!

Candidates will be on hand for you to talk with (yes, there may even be some - short - speeches), there'll be food trucks, music and entertainment, as well as the camaraderie of Democrats getting energized and activated.

Bring your questions and your friends, because democracy is not a spectator sport!

Longtime Democrat, Newbie Delegate

BY LAURA HAIGHT

Lawson Wetli is well known in activist circles - whether it's gun control, women's healthcare, immigration, or animal rights, Lawson is in the middle of the fight. But despite that experience, this was the first year she attended a political convention as a delegate.

So we asked her to give us her impressions of the state convention last month. Those impressions are funny, bold, moving, and insightful. Read the full story on our [blog](https://goo.gl/8QuCaF): <https://goo.gl/8QuCaF>. It will make you want to get involved. If you do, the first step is to get involved at the precinct level. Contact GCCDP Chair Kate Franch (gcdpchair@greenvilledemocrats.com) for information on how to do that.



Lawson Wetli and Chair Kate Franch at the Convention.

Party with the Young Dems and support Phillis Wheatley Center and Nicholtown Community

Greenville Young Democrats will host a neighborhood party for the Nicholtown community to raise funds needed to make the Phillis Wheatley Center's youth bus safe and roadworthy.

The party takes place Saturday, June 9, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Nicholtown Baptist Church, 327 Ackley Rd, Greenville. There will be a fish fry and activities for kids and community outreach services. Funds raised will go toward repairing the youth bus.

This is also the last weekend before Primary Day and Young Democrats will be providing information to voters, raising awareness of the upcoming election and registering voters for the general election in November.

In addition, The Phillis Wheatley Center is interested in hearing from members of the community with more ideas for fundraising and activities for children. If you have ideas, or wish to make a donation, email youngdemocrats@greenvilledemocrats.com.



Congratulations to our new Clyburn Fellows

The South Carolina Democratic Party James E. Clyburn Political Fellowship (Clyburn Fellowship) offers leadership, policy, and campaign training to a select group of young professionals from each county in South Carolina. The Clyburn Fellowship was created to develop and train the next generation of Democratic leaders. Congratulations to the 2018 Clyburn Fellows from Greenville County: Jalen Elrod (First Vice Chair of the GCDP and President of the Greenville Young Democrats), Tina Belge (Third Vice Chair of the GCDP) and Elias Valentin (Member of the SCDP Hispanic Caucus). Thank you for representing Greenville County as a Clyburn Fellow!

2018 Elections

Statewide

Incumbents are denoted in parentheses.

*** Governor/Lt Governor

(Henry McMaster / Kevin Bryant - R)

Martin Barry (American)

Kevin Bryant (R)

John Yancey McGill (R)

Henry McMaster (R)

Phil Noble (D)

James Smith (D)

Catherine Templeton (R)

John Warren (R)

Marguerite Willis (D)

*** Secretary of State

(Mark Hammond - R)

Nelson Faerber (R)

Mark Hammond (R)

Joshua Putnam (R)

Melvin T. Whittenburg (D)

Kerry Wood (R)

*** State Treasurer - (Curtis Loftis - R)

Rosalyn L. Glenn (D)

Curtis Loftis (R)

Sarah Work (American)

*** Attorney General - (Alan Wilson - R)

Constance Anastopoulo (D)

Todd Atwater (R)

Walter D. Herlong (R)

Alan Wilson (R)

Comptroller General - (Richard Eckstrom - R)

Richard Eckstrom (R)

State Superintendent of Education - (Molly Spearman - R)

Israel Romero (D)

Molly Mitchell Spearman (R)

Commissioner of Agriculture - (Hugh Weathers - R)

David Edmond (Green)

Chris Nelums (United Citizens)

Hugh Weathers (R)

Federal

*** US House District 3 - (Jeff Duncan - R)

Hosea Cleveland (D)

Jeff Duncan (R)

Mary Geren (D)

Dave Moore (American)

*** US House District 4 - (Trey Gowdy - R)

Dan Albert (R)

Barry Bell (R)

Lee Bright (R)

Brandon P. Brown (D)

Stephen H. Brown (R)

Mark Burns (R)

JT Davis (D)

James Epley (R)

Guy V. Furay (American)

Eric Graben (D)

Dan Hamilton (R)

Josh Kimbrell (R)

Will Morin (D)

John Marshall Mosser (R)

Shannon Pierce (R)

Justin David Sanders (R)

Claude Schmid (R)

William Timmons (R)

Doris Lee Turner (D)

State House

SC House 10 (Anderson, Pickens, Greenville) -

(Joshua Putnam - R)

West Cox (R)

Lucy Hoffman (D)

SC House 16 (Laurens, Greenville) - (Mark Willis - R)

Mark Willis (R)

*** SC House 17 - (Mike Burns - R)

Judi Buckley (D)

Mike Burns (R)

Lee B. Vining (R)

State House

SC House 18 - (Tommy Stringer - R)
Tony Gilliard (R)
Tommy Stringer (R)

*** SC House 19 - (Dwight Loftis - R)
Carrie Counton (D)
Dwight Loftis (R)
Hao Wu (D)

*** SC House 20 - (Dan Hamilton - R)
Bobby Davis (R)
Adam Morgan (R)

*** SC House 21 - (Phyllis Henderson - R)
Bobby Cox (R)
Phyllis Henderson (R)

*** SC House 22 - (Jason Elliott - R)
Brett Brocato (R)
BK (Bruce) Brown (D)
Jason Elliott (R)
Samuel Harms (R)

SC House 23 - (Chandra Dillard - D)
Chandra Dillard (D)

SC House 24 - (Bruce Bannister - R)
Bruce Bannister (R)

*** SC House 25 - (Leola Robinson-
Simpson - D)
Tony Boyce (Independence)
Jack Logan (D)
Steve Moore (R)
Leola Robinson-Simpson (D)
Bruce Wilson (D)

*** SC House 27 - (Garry Smith - R)
Garry R. Smith (R)
Fred Wall (R)
Ira Williams (R)

SC House 28 - (Ashley Trantham - R)
Ashley Trantham (R)

SC House 35 (Spartanburg, Greenville) -
(Bill Chumley - R)
Bill Chumley (R)
Helen Pendarvis (D)

SC House 36 (Spartanburg, Greenville) -
(Rita Allison - R)
Rita Allison (R)

County

13th Solicitor (Greenville, Pickens) - (Walt
Wilkins - R)
Walt Wilkins (R)

Greenville Auditor - (Scott Case - R)
Scott Case (R)

Greenville Probate Judge - (Debora
Faulkner - D)
Debora A. Faulkner (D)

Greenville County Treasurer - (Jill Kintigh -
R)
Jill R. Kintigh (R)

Greenville County Council 17 - (Joe Dill - R)
Joe Dill (R)

Greenville County Council 19 - (Willis
Meadows -R)
Jevarus Howard (D)
Willis Meadows (R)

Greenville County Council 23 - (Xanthene
Norris - D)
Xanthene S. Norris (D)

Greenville County Council 26 - (Lynn
Ballard - R)
Lynn W. Ballard (R)

*** Greenville County Council 28 - (Fred
Payne - R)
Sylvia Lockaby (R)
Dan Tripp (R)

PARTY LEADERSHIP

KATE FRANCH

Greenville County Chair

JALEN ELROD

1st Vice Chair

WHITNEY WRIGHT

2nd Vice Chair

TINA BELGE

3rd Vice Chair

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CASS TYSON

State Executive Com. Alternate

JAKE ERWIN

Voter Protection Chair

LAURA HAIGHT

Communications Coordinator

April CONTRIBUTORS

Lisa Carlson, Sharon and Maurice Cherry, Evelyn Harmon, Jeanette and Jeff Jacobs.

It's not too late to become a 2018 Yellow Dog Club member!

Contact treasurer Anita LeBold at treasurer@greenvilledemocrats.com to inquire about how to make monthly or quarterly donations. All donations can be made online via the GCDP website: www.greenvilledemocrats.com/contribute.

Thank you.

YOU CAN MAKE MUCH-NEEDED DONATIONS IN PERSON, BY VISITING THE OFFICE, MAILING A CHECK, OR DONATING ONLINE 24X7 AT GREENVILLEDEMOCRATS.COM/CONTRIBUTE.

Connect with us

GREENVILLE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

1300 E. WASHINGTON ST. #J

(864) 232-5531

[HTTPS://GREENVILLEDEMOCRATS.COM/](https://greenvilledemocrats.com/)



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Know someone who would like to receive The Bray? Call HQ or contact 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.