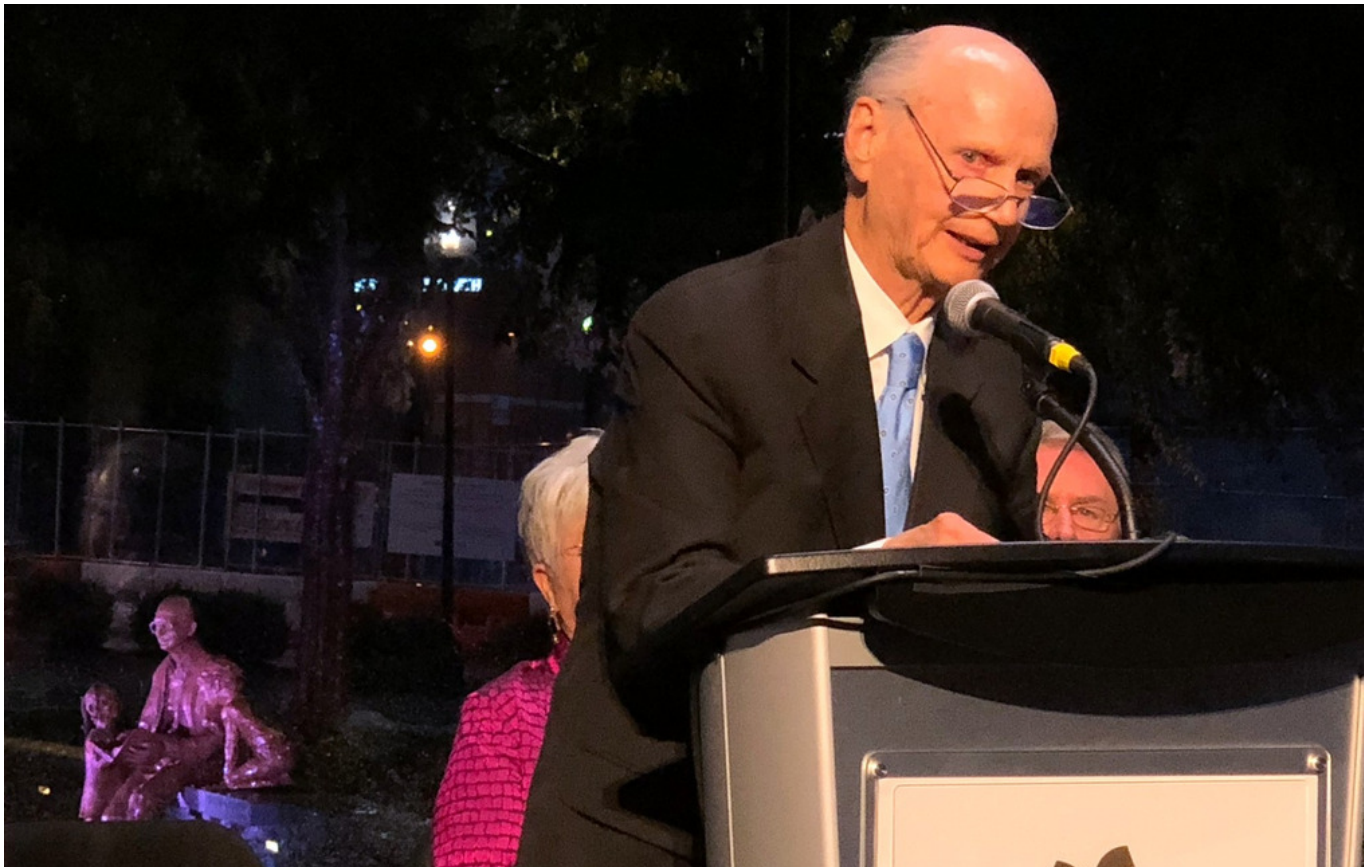


THE BRAY

The latest news and updates from the Greenville County Democratic Party



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Chair's Message

BY KATE FRANCH



My Fellow Democrats:

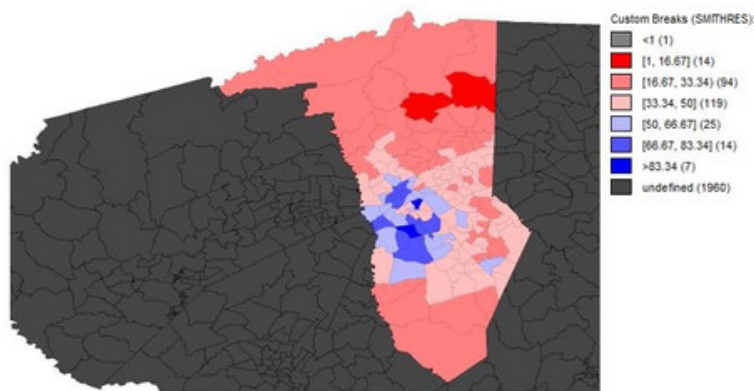
"Every strike brings me closer to the next home run." Except for the several years when my youngest son played, I'm not much of a baseball fan; but this quote from Babe Ruth struck a chord with me as I reflected on the November 6 election. It does feel like Democrats can strike out more often than not in the electoral process in the Upstate, even though the team we field is consistently passionate, skilled, and determined to give their all to "win the game" on behalf of every citizen.

Chair's Message (continued)

We know we need to provide the team members who are on base already (i.e., serving in elected office) with additional votes to accomplish the lasting change (runs) they have been diligently striving for on local, state, and national stages. And yet so often, despite high hopes and hard work, we don't get onto first base.

Instead of giving in to brooding and dismay, I propose that we fully embrace the Bambino's optimism and fortitude, take a look at what we did accomplish, make improvements where needed, and come out swinging with full force again at our next turn at bat. As we celebrate the wins of Democrats across the nation and South Carolina, (see Trav's message on page 7) let's also applaud that:

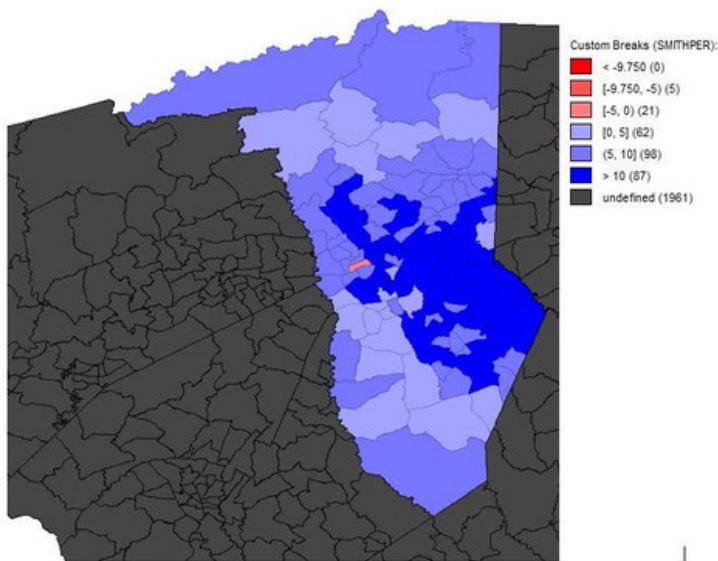
- We slashed the margin in the gubernatorial race in Greenville County by 20 points from 2014 totals.
- Voter turnout in Greenville County increased more than 40% over the 2014 midterm election. Until the database is updated we won't be able to directly measure the field operation out of GCDP Headquarters, but approximately 33,000 voter contact attempts were made throughout the county from September through Election Day.
- The GCDP fielded the largest slate of candidates in years. Of the twelve candidates on the local slate, only four were incumbents, six were running for the first time, and nine were women (in keeping with the national trend this election cycle).
- Close to 2,000 Smith/Norrell yard signs passed through the GCDP office – a pace we have not experienced before. Voters who had never been to the office found their way to it and, as a result, many also volunteered and picked up signs and literature for other Democratic candidates on the slate.
- The GCDP sent a GOTV mailer to just under 11,000 Greenville County voters, invested in online internet advertising that reached 126,000 users in our county geographic area, and produced a radio spot on Rejoice 96.9.
- The results of the midterms show that Greenville County is overwhelmingly shifting blue:



[Figure 1]

This map (figure 1) shows the actual 2018 midterm results by precinct, however figure 2 shows precincts swinging democratic in 2018 from the baseline results in 2012, 2014, and 2016.

Chair's Message (continued)



[Figure 2]

None of these results would have been possible without the effort of so many of you – not only did you vote and take others with you, you also registered voters; phone banked; canvassed; drove voters to polls; poll watched; donated to candidates; attended forums, rallies, and fundraisers; marched; wrote postcards; planted signs; and clearly demonstrated in words and deeds that elections matter. Your commitment validated and championed our candidates. Thank you. Please keep the faith and stay engaged. Momentum is on our side.

Our deep appreciation is also extended to our inspiring candidates up and down the ballot for their passion, integrity, and competence. Each accepted the toil and challenge of the candidate's road with grace and grit and united us with platforms that would bring progress, opportunity, equality, and justice to our communities. We tip our hats in respect and gratitude to Rep. James Smith, Rep. Mandy Powers Norrell, Constance Anastopoulou, Rosalyn Glenn, Melvin Whittenburg, Brandon Brown, Mary Geren, Rep. Chandra Dillard, Rep. Leola Robinson-Simpson, Bruce Brown, Judi Buckley, Carrie Counton, Lucy Hoffman, Helen Pendarvis, Councilwoman Xanthene Norris, Jeverus Howard, and Judge Debora Falukner. In motivating voters with vision and action, they have created indelible change in Greenville County.

The race for 2020 started on November 7; along the way we will have at least one special election and local municipal elections. With the holidays upon us, let this be our post-season time to renew our spirit and resolve while focusing on honoring traditions with family and friends. In the new year, we will regroup for the pre-season and return to fine-tuning the game strategy of organizing, connecting with like-minded voters in our neighborhoods, messaging that spreads Party values, and honing campaign skills.

Babe Ruth also said, "It's hard to beat a person who never gives up." There is power in persistence. Greenville Democrats are planting our feet squarely in the batter's box and preparing to swing like never before. With you in the lineup, we will bring our runners home.

Wishing you and your families very happy holidays,

Kate

NAACP Annual Membership Meeting

The Greenville Branch of the NAACP will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Sunday, December 9th, 4:00 pm at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 400 S. Hudson Street.

The results of the November 11 Branch Election are: President, Rev. J.M. Flemming; 1st VP, Bishop Sam Zimmerman; 2nd VP, Peggy Baxter; Secretary, Georgianna Taylor; Assistant Secretary, Kate Franch; Treasurer, Ruth Mayes; Assistant Treasurer, Anita LeBold. Executive Committee Members Elected: Grady Cooley, Mary Duckett, Mary Edwards, Lillian Brock Flemming, Truman Humbert, Dr. Feliccia Smith, Rev. Tevin Smith, Frank Taylor, and Lawson Wetli. They will be installed on 2nd Sunday, January 13 at 4 pm.

"Be the Blue Wave"

The GCDP's "Be the Blue Wave" GOTV Rally on October 28 brought together a crowd of several hundred – representing all ages, interests, and communities – to connect with their Democratic candidates while enjoying a fabulous fish fry, homemade desserts, entertainment, and games. The candidates inspired and everyone left fired up and ready to vote! Thank you to the following many for helping to make the day a success for all: co-host Democratic Women of Greenville County and sponsors Hope Huddle and #Resist; the Brutontown Community Center staff; fish fry aficionados Larry and Ann Thompson; emcee Carlyle Steele; bands Side Alley and The Remnants; tech crew Jake Erwin; Melinda Menzer, Lillian Brock Flemming, volunteers from the host and sponsor organizations, and the GCDP Fundraising Committee.

Calendar of Events

December

04

Greenville NAACP annual membership meeting, 4 PM, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 400 S. Hudson Street.

05

Homeless Period Project Packing Party
5:30 PM GCDP HQ
1300 J- E. Washington St. Greenville 29607

08

Democratic Women's Coffee Meetup 9 AM,
West End Coffee Shoppe, 1021 S. Main Street
Greenville.

09

Democratic Women's Holiday Drop-In, 3-5 PM
Fulton & Barr Law Office 209 W. Stone Ave.
Tax deductible donations are requested to
their featured charity, the Center for
Education Equity (CEE).

There will be no monthly breakfast
meeting in December.

January

02

Young Democrats Monthly Meeting
6 PM
Location TBD

14

Democratic Women monthly meeting, 12:15 PM,
West End Community Center, 404 Vardry St.

19

Democratic Women's Coffee Meetup 9 AM,
West End Coffee Shoppe, 1021 S. Main St.
Greenville.

26

GCDP monthly breakfast meeting 8:30 AM,
Upstate Circle of Friends, 29 Ridgeway Drive,
Greenville.

Dick Riley honored with Peace Center statue

Former Governor Dick Riley was honored by the City of Greenville recently with a statue placed outside the Peace Center. The 85 year old Greenville native and Furman University graduate served as U.S. Secretary of Education during two terms of the Clinton administration.

Riley said he was "honored" that the city paid tribute to him and applauded Greenville artist and cousin Zan Wells for her work on the sculpture, which depicts Riley reading a book to two children. The statue is meant to encourage all people to be directly involved in the education of the community's children.

"The arts are an integral part of a high-quality education and the vitality of a community, so I'm particularly pleased that the Peace Center offered to have the sculpture placed on Graham Plaza." Riley said in a release. "My hope is that all children and adults will believe in and commit to my quote on the sculpture. 'Education Really Matters.'"

Riley is the second Greenville County Democrat to be honored with a statue on Main Street. Former Mayor Max Heller is memorialized with a bronze sculpture and storyboards which were unveiled on Heller's 90th birthday on May 28, 2009.

GCDP Huddle holiday projects

Meals On Wheels Gift Collection

The GCDP Huddle, a service group, is supporting Meals On Wheels of Greenville County to make the Holiday season brighter for seniors and homebound individuals in our community. We will collect filled, medium-sized gift bags that will be distributed by Meals On Wheels drivers to their clients in December. Suggested items to include:

Gloves/hat/ scarf

Socks

Blanket/throw

Food items, such as a cookie tin (sugar free)

Pens/stationary/stamps

Word search/Sudoku/crossword puzzle (large print)

Simple jigsaw puzzle (large pieces)/calendar

Playing cards

Flashlight

Adult coloring book with pens/pencils

Other items such as a pill organizer, tissues, etc

You can make your gift bag donations until December 1 at:
GCDP Headquarters
1300-J East Washington Street, Greenville, SC 29607

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Henry at crwhenry@yahoo.com.

Homeless Period Project Packing Party

December 5, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

The Turtle Shell Bar & Grille

305 North Main Street, Mauldin, SC 29662



with Thanksgiving and the holiday season!



Here's how you can help:

Bring items to, and help pack
at a "party" for



Wednesday, The Turtle Shell
Dec. 5th, 2018 306 N. Main St.
at 5:30 p.m. in Mauldin



Finally, we are collecting post-
Winter Break school supplies for

Upstate Circle of Friends at Headquarters again (Monday
through Friday at 1300-J East Washington, 9:00 a.m. till
3:00 p.m.), due by Friday, December 28th!



Donate a Medium-Sized Bag
of Gifts to Meals On Wheels-
Greenville! Due at
Headquarters by 12/1!



ADOPT A HOMEBOUND NEIGHBOR FOR THE HOLIDAYS

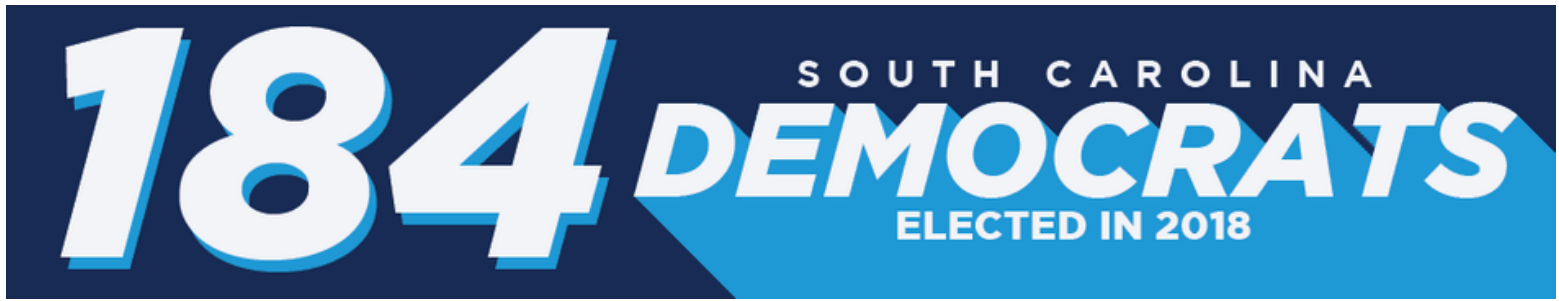
Thank you for making the holiday season brighter for seniors and homebound individuals in Greenville County! Below is a list of suggested gifts you can purchase for the client(s) you adopt.

- Gloves/hat/ scarf
- Socks
- Blanket/throw
- Food items, such as a cookie tin (sugar free)
- Pens/stationary/stamps
- Word search/Sudoku/crossword puzzle (large print)
- Simple jigsaw puzzle (large pieces)/calendar
- Playing cards
- Flashlight
- Adult coloring book with pens/pencils
- Other items such as a pill organizer, tissues, etc.

colored pencils, wide-ruled composition notebooks, crayons, dry erase markers, No. 2 pencils, washable glue sticks, paper folders with pockets and prongs, hand sanitizer in dispensing pump bottles, washable Crayola markers, Fiskar scissors, tissue boxes, gallon zipper plastic bags, Magic Rub erasers, wide-ruled spiral notebooks, clear plastic school boxes, Post-It sticky notes, 1" view binders, 4x6" index cards, wide-ruled filler paper, clear pencil pouches, and canisters of disinfectant wipes



YOU Won: A Note from SCDP Chairman, Trav Robertson, Jr.



Last night we witnessed a stronger Democratic Party. Democrats exceeded our share of the electorate and increased Democratic performance by almost 135,000 votes. Most importantly, South Carolina Democrats won a majority of the races in which we fielded candidates, up and down the ballot. We won 184 races, from the County Council to County Treasurers to the State House, and that total doesn't even include Democrats who won in municipal and school board elections.

For the first time since 2008, we are sending two Democrats to the United States Congress. Joe Cunningham will join Representative Jim Clyburn in Washington, D.C. where he'll fight hard to put the Lowcountry above politics.

We flipped a State Senate seat for the first time in more than a decade with Dick Harpootlian. We also flipped two State House seats with the election of JA Moore and Krystle Simmons. This is huge for Democrats, but it is just the beginning.

None of this could have happened without the outstanding candidates we had up and down the ballot. None of this could have happened without the work of our spectacular county parties. None of this could have happened without the amazing team of people these candidates surrounded themselves with. Most importantly: None of this could have happened without you.

I'm fired up and you should be to – but we're not taking a break. We're going to keep working until we flip this whole state blue and elect people who will move South Carolina forward. Thank you.

I appreciate you,

Trav Robertson Jr.
Chairman, South Carolina Democratic Party

Emerge SC Matching Campaign

Emerge South Carolina's mission is to recruit, train and provide a powerful network of Democratic Women to change the face of politics in 2018 and beyond.

Emerge SC recently announced a goal to raise \$20,000 before December 31, 2018. They are now more than a quarter of the way to reaching this goal. Emerge SC has received a pledge of matching funds up to \$20,000. This means every dollar you donate between now and December 31st will be matched up to \$20,000!

GCDP supports the efforts of Emerge SC to recruit and train more female Democratic leaders. You can donate online by clicking on the link below.

<https://act.myngp.com/Forms/-2377337653298200576>

Shop Democratic

With holiday shopping just around the corner, Democrats will be out in force. The GCDP Democratic Marketplace can give visibility in The Bray and on the GCDP website to local Democrat-owned businesses. All things considered, why not shop Democratic? Ads are reasonably priced. We promote the marketplace page on our social media and you can share the link with your friends and customers as well. Check out the page at www.greenvilledemocrats.com/marketplace; place your ad order at www.greenvilledemocrats.com/marketplace-order!



There are many places to purchase goods and services. So why not buy Democratic?
These retailers and service providers are supporters of the Greenville County Democratic Party.

Services



Erica Edmonson is an Independent Beauty Consultant for Mary Kay. I specialize in skincare, beauty products, and have great gift options! View on the web, contact via email, Facebook or Instagram (@erica4marykay).



Style Matters is a personal wardrobe styling business. Our mission is to offer you the tools you need to look and feel fabulous.
www.stylemattersgreenville.com



Anita LeBold/ Mortgage Loan Officer/ Franklin American Mortgage/
864.325.8540. Helping thousands of individuals and families experience the American dream of home ownership. NMLA #396283

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**AND HELP THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AT
THE SAME TIME?**

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Questions? Email brayads@greenvilledemocrats.com

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October Contributors

Our thanks to our October contributors to the Greenville County Democratic Party:

J. Steadman Ariail, Ron Barbare, Bari Bestermann, Jeanne Blinknoff, David Burke, Randall and Susan Clark, Tom and Becky Faulkner, Lori Ford, Lucy Foxworth, Brian and Carolyn Grothaus, Linda and Bill Hardman, Gail Hewitt, Virginia Holder, Jeslie Johnson, Charles and Cindy Kay, Ettalee Kearnes, Leonette Neal, Chriinjev Peterson, Barbara Rabhan, Maybelle Randolph, Judith Russell, Jennifer and Hal Smith, Kelly Taylor, Beverly Turner, Wesley Walker

Recurring Donors: Ron Cowan, Kinard Johnson, Anita LeBold, Starla Taylor

(Recurring Donors contribute online and decide the monthly amount - no minimum required. Contact the GCDP Treasurer, Anita LeBold, at anitalebald@hotmail.com or 864.325.8540 if you would like to be a Recurring Donor).

YOU CAN MAKE MUCH-NEEDED DONATIONS IN PERSON, BY VISITING THE OFFICE, MAILING A CHECK, OR DONATING ONLINE 24X7 AT **[GREENVILLEDEMOCRATS.COM/CONTRIBUTE](https://greenvilledemocrats.com/contribute)**.

Thank you.

Connect with us

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