

FIRST IN THE NATION



Message from the Chair

By Amanda McDougald Scott
GCDP Chair



Dear Greenville County Democrats,

Happy New Year! I hope your year is off to a great start, and that you spent your time ringing in the new year exactly the way you wanted.

I also hope that every single one of you who helped out in the 2023 Greenville Municipal elections is proud of the work that you did. Because of our work together, we were able to accomplish a record-breaking turnout of 24.5%.

This letter is a bit longer than usual because I want to give you an overview of some of the accomplishments from the past year.

First, we have raised more money than any other GCDP administration in GCDP filing history: \$94,011. Below are some details about how some of that went to directly support candidate campaigns, which does not include operating costs.

Operating costs help us provide services, a space for candidates, volunteers, and elected officials to gather, and more. These funds are important—which is why we want to also let you know to save the date for our **2024 Tastings on the Town**, which will be held on **April 4, 6-9pm at Revel**. **Sponsorships are open! Click [here](#) to sponsor today!**

Straight Ticket Democratic Voters

Block Parties We held six block parties including

eight precincts (some precincts were combined) to focus on improving voter engagement and turnout. The block party precincts were chosen based upon low voter turnout in 2019, with an aim to improve turnout in 2023. Although participation varied between events, every block party included both live and robocalls into each precinct to invite voters. Improvements in straight ticket voter turnout were made in one of the eight precincts: Greenville 6, with a 10% increase. The same number of voters voted straight ticket in Greenville 26, and there was only a 2% voter difference in Greenville 21.

Even better news is that gains in straight ticket voters were made in areas in which the GCDP focused its get out the vote (GOTV) efforts. Although the GCDP strived to touch all precincts in the Greenville municipality, strategic prioritizations based upon resources and our target universe were made. Below is a sample of the 22 precincts in which we either held either a small difference in voters from 2019 OR we made gains.

Precinct	2019 Straight Ticket Dems	2023 Straight Ticket Dems	Dem Straight ticket difference (2019-2023)
GVL 5	145	160	-15
GVL 8	133	152	-19
GVL 24	75	94	-19
GVL 25	47	37	10
Mauldin 2	10	22	-12
Rock Hill	1	3	-2

Split Tickets

We know, based on the fact that Councilwoman Dowe won and former Councilwoman Shain lost this year, that many Democrats split their tickets.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

These numbers are a bit more difficult to discriminate, however, we await more details. Once we get the data from the SCDP, we will know how many of our targeted voters who do not usually vote in municipal elections voted in the 2023 election. Both campaigns worked hard, and the GCDP focused on turning out the base for both candidates.

Candidate Support Accomplishments

We have accomplished much over the past year, including (but not limited to) the ability to contribute to our municipal candidates in the 2023 municipal race. Our contributions were at a level previously unseen from a monetary standpoint, and an impressive rate from our volunteers. Estimates of the amount spent on some of those activities were:

- GOTV Activities: \$12,116
- Mailers: \$11,412
- **Estimated Total: \$23,528**

Volunteer efforts accomplished:

- more than
 - 9,000 texts
 - 4,530 canvass attempts
 - 5,014 phone calls
- 5 block party robocalls
- 1 Election Eve, 3 Election Day robocalls.

Priority 6 and Protect 6

Priority 6 We will not realize any statewide victories until we are able to demonstrate wins with quality candidates in Greenville and Spartanburg Counties. This is why we have launched Priority 6, a program with Spartanburg County to help our candidates realize success in 2024 and beyond. Bolstered by Priority 6, we have been recruiting, advising, supporting, and coordinating efforts with our

candidates to get them up and running for 2024. Participating candidates may buy in to services provided by the GCDP to help them get started, maintain support, and coordinate with other campaigns in 2024. This is a service that has already provided value to our 2024 candidates, and each participating candidate has lauded its helpfulness in navigating the process and more.

We needed additional help to guide our candidates in this effort that we share with Spartanburg. Therefore, we hired a consultant from Orangeburg who brings a wealth of knowledge and depth of understanding and experience in South Carolina politics. Please welcome Phil Ford and Emily Mayer of Ford and Ford whenever you get a chance.

Priority 6 launched in 2023 to help our 2024 candidates, and also aimed to propel our 2023 candidates to success. We encouraged our 2024 candidates to get out and help our 2023 candidates, which some of them did. Thank you to our 2024 candidates who participated for taking seriously—and learning from—our 2023 campaigns.

Protect 6 is an initiative that provides the same services for the 6 seats that we must protect in 2024. We already have wonderful incumbents in each of these 6 seats, and do not want to lose our Democratic strongholds in these seats. Both Priority and Protect 6 are voluntary programs that are designed to help Greenville and Spartanburg Counties move forward.

You can help support Priority and Protect 6 by donating [here!](#) (Click the text for the link)

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

Conclusion

I hope you will vote early in the First in the Nation Presidential Primary this year, for which there is more information in this Bray. If you like to go on Election Day, that is February 3 (polling places also included in this Bray).

I hope you agree that we have a lot to be proud of, and have a lot of work yet to do. We have worked diligently to put into place infrastructure, and will continue to do so into 2024. However, first, let us celebrate our accomplishments. Help us by donating or volunteering today! Click [here](#) to donate!

I am looking forward to working together for a prosperous 2024. I know we will make progress with some of the gains we have already made, as well as those to come.

Best,

Amanda





VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2024

Three candidates will be in the ballot:
President Joe Biden
Congressman Dean Phillips
Marianne Williamson



**Vote in South
Carolina's historic
FIRST IN THE NATION
Presidential Primary**



EARLY VOTING

8:30-6PM

JAN 22 -JAN 27

JAN 29 - FEB 2

Travelers Rest City Hall
125 Trailblazer Dr.
Travelers Rest, 29690

McAlister Square
225 S. Pleasantburg Dr. Ste. B10
Greenville, 29607

Mauldin Senior Center
203 Corn Rd.
Greenville, 29607

Mt. Pleasant Rec Center
710 South Fairfield Rd.
Greenville, 29605

**Check your voter information at
SCVOTES.GOV**

PLEASE NOTE PRECINCT CHANGES FOR THE FEBRUARY ELECTIONS

Precinct	Polling Location
Circle Creek	Oakview Elementary School
Darby Ridge	Pebble Creek Baptist Church
Fountain inn 1	Fountain Inn Activities Center
Mauldin 3	Mauldin Cultural Center
River Walk	Advent United Methodist Church
Sandy Flat	Pleasant View Baptist Church
Graze Branch	Hillcrest Middle School

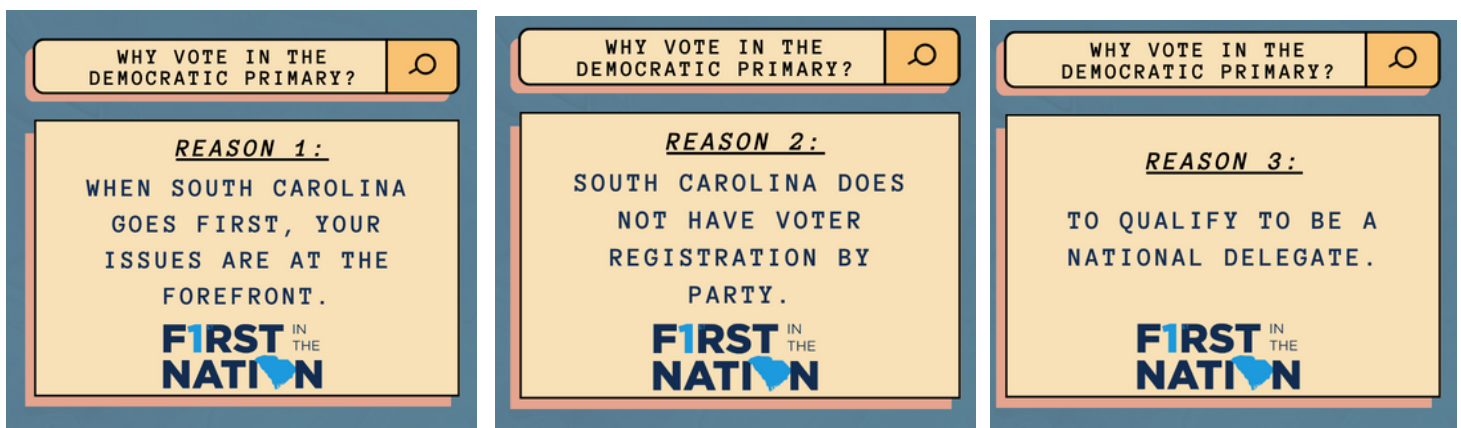
**If a precinct/polling place is not on this list it
votes at the usual location.**

To check your polling location click [here](#).

First in the Nation Democratic Presidential Primary Saturday February 3rd

South Carolina Democrats have an important job to do in voting in the Democratic Presidential Primary. **We understand the want to help stop Trump at all costs, but a vote in the Republican Primary has significant implications on our Democratic Process this cycle.**

- 1) When Democrats vote in Republican primaries in Presidential elections it skews our data and makes it more difficult to adequately identify our core Democratic voters.
- 2) We need your vote not just for this election, but for future local, statewide, and federal elections.
- 3) Our place in line is not a given in 2028. We need South Carolina Democrats to turn out in 2024 to remain the standard setting electorate for future Presidential elections. A vote in the Democratic Primary keeps SC issues top of mind and top of the ticket.
- 4) This honor has been achieved on the backs of our most tried-and-true democratic organizers, women of color. As we enter Black History Month, consider that your vote is honoring those whose shoulders we are standing on now.
- 5) A vote for Nikki Haley will not stop Trump in SC, and at the end of the day she will push the same MAGA agenda forward.



Greenville County Democratic Party Convention

March 2nd at 1:30 p.m.

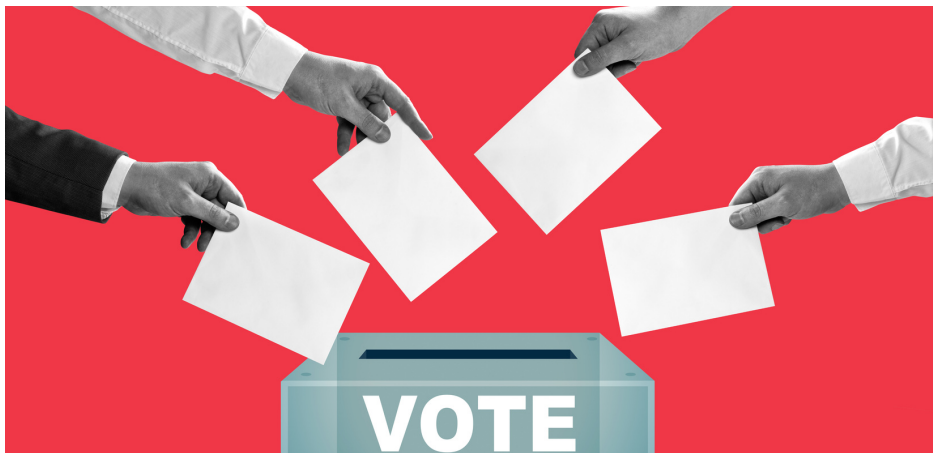
Phillis Wheatley Community Center

335 Greenacre Rd., Greenville, 29607

The South Carolina Democratic Party rules were changed last year to stipulate that county parties must hold a convention yearly. This year the GCDP will hold our convention on Saturday March 2nd at 1:30 p.m. Any registered voter in Greenville county who considers themselves a Democrat may attend the convention.

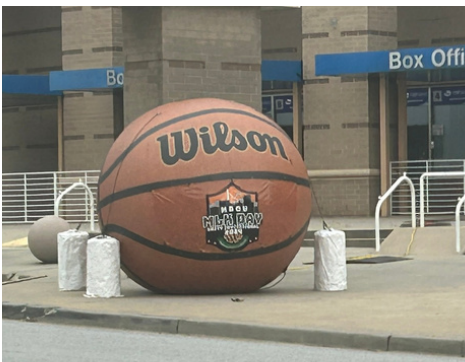
What business will be covered?

- Electing a Chair, 1st Vice Chair (of a different gender than the Chair), 2nd Vice Chair (of a different race than the Chair), 3rd Vice Chair (must be between the ages of 18 and 36), Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - Filing for these positions will open two weeks prior to convention.
- Electing Precinct Officers.
 - Filing for these positions will open two weeks prior to convention.
- Electing delegates to the state party convention.



MLK Day Legacy Breakfast

The Greenville County Democratic Party was proud to sponsor the MLK Day Legacy Breakfast on January 12th. We also participated in the HBCU MLK Unity Invitational to help get out the vote for the Democratic Presidential Primary.



First in the Nation Tour Stop with North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper

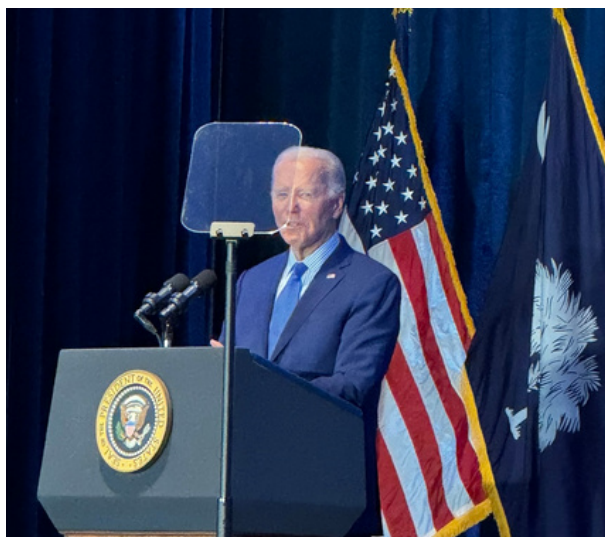


First in the Nation Fireside Chat with The Honorable Marcia L. Fudge



South Carolina Democratic Party First In The Nation Dinner with President Biden

The GCDP was proud to be a sponsor at this fundraiser dinner for SCDP. We had a great turnout with three tables purchased.



South Carolina Democratic Party Council of Black Democrats First in The Nation Sunday Dinner

The GCDP was proud to sponsor a table at this year's Sunday Dinner. We appreciate everything that Chairwoman Margaret M. Sumpter and the SCDP Council of Black Democrats have done to help support the GCDP. We are especially thankful for their contributions in helping to turn out the vote in our 2023 municipal elections.



City of Greenville Boards & Commissions

Serving on a Board or Commission is a great way to get involved in the community. City Council appoints citizens in April and October of each year, with terms beginning in May and November, respectively. Applications for the April round are due February 1st. For more information or to access the online application click [here](#). Appointments to the following Boards and Commissions will be considered by City Council in the upcoming round:

- Arts in Public Places
- Design Review Board
- Greenville Airport Commission
- Historic Review Board
- Municipal Election Commission
- Planning Commission
- Richland Cemetery Advisory Committee
- Springwood Cemetery Advisory Committee

**Join a Board
or Commission**



Get Involved!

Looking for Leaders Could YOU be the one?

Hosted by:
Dem Women of Greenville County
SC Dem Women's Council
Greenville County Black Democrats

Have you considered making a difference by running for office?

Connect with & learn from knowledgeable experienced panelists who know what it takes to run for office. They'll be covering three important topics.

- ✓ **Preparing to Run-** Amy Bowlin, Shelly Dezen, Candy Fletcher
- ✓ **Fundraising-** Jill Fletcher, Lindsey Green
- ✓ **Outreach-** Leila Aziz, Terrie Easley

SATURDAY
Feb 10
10AM-1PM

Hughes Main Library
Greenville, SC

For more information about this event visit

<https://bit.ly/DWGC-Workshop-Details>

Admission is free but registration required by Feb 5

Click [here](#) for info.
Click [here](#) to sign up.



The GCDP has decided to move away from monthly breakfasts for the foreseeable future. Several regional groups of Democrats have started or been holding meetings each month, such as the North, South, and now East Greenville Democrats. We feel it's best to support them in their endeavors, as they have had great attendance. We are open to suggestions for other types of monthly gatherings.

Save the Date

Tastings on the Town
Thursday April 4th
6-9 p.m.
at Revel Event Center
304 E. Stone Ave., Greenville, SC, 29609

Sponsorships Available by
clicking [here](#).

\$300 - Bronze
\$500 - Silver
\$750 - Gold
\$1,000 - Platinum



Calendar: What's going on?

February

1

Drinking Liberally Weekly Meeting, 6 PM, Think Tank Brew Lab, 101 Airport Road, Greenville, 29607. Email greenville@hosts.drinkingliberally.org for more information.

3

Democratic Party Presidential Preference Primary, 7 AM - 7 PM. For more information contact the county Election Office at 864-467-7250. Check your polling location [here](#).

North Greenville County Dems Monthly Breakfast Meeting, 9:30 AM, Swamp Rabbit Brewery, 26 S. Main St., Travelers Rest, 29690. For more information email dunleavykat@gmail.com

7

Young Democrats of Greenville County monthly meeting, 6:30-8 PM, GCDP HQ and on Zoom. RSVP at info@youngdemsgvl.com

9

South Greenville Democrats - 2nd Friday Lunch, 12:30-1:30 PM, The Warehouse at Vaughn's, 109 West Trade Street, Simpsonville, 29681. For more information email mcazessuse@gmail.com

10

Democratic Women's Monthly Coffee Meetup, 9 AM, Old Europe Coffee and Desserts, 716 S. Main St., Greenville, 29601. Though an RSVP is not necessary, it would be helpful. Please email paulacatterall@gmail.com

'Should I Run' Workshop hosted by Dem Women of Greenville County, SC Dem Women's Council, and Greenville County Black Democrats, 10 AM - 1 PM, Hughes Main Library, 25 Heritage Green Pl, Greenville, 29601. Workshop is free but registration is required. Register [here](#).

12

Democratic Women of Greenville County monthly lunch, 12-1:30 PM, The Kroc Center, 424 Westfield St., Greenville, 29601. Purchase tickets [here](#).

17

Eastside Dems Monthly Coffee Meetup, 9 AM, Cartwright Food Hall, Greer, 29651. For more information email eastsidedemsgvl@gmail.com.

20

Dem Women Cocktails and Conversation, 6 PM, Carmella's Café and Dessert Bar, 355 S. Main St., Suite P301, Greenville, 29601.

26

Democratic Women of Greenville County book club, 6-7 PM, Foxcroft Wine Co., 631 S. Main St., Greenville, 29601. No need to register, just show up. Book reading is optional.

28

4th Wednesday Happy Hour, 5-7 PM, Swamp Rabbit Brewery, 26 S. Main St., Travelers Rest, 29690. For more information email dunleavykat@gmail.com.

March

9

Greenville County Democratic Party Convention, 1:30 PM, Phillis Wheatley Community Center, 335 Greenacre Rd., Greenville, 29607.

Recurring Events

Greenville City Council

Meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month. 3:30 pm is a work session; 5:30 pm is a formal meeting. [Agendas and meeting information available online.](#)

PARTY LEADERSHIP

AMANDA MCDOUGALD SCOTT

Chair

JONATHON SWEENEY

1st Vice Chair

SHARON GARRETT

2nd Vice Chair

KIRSTEN PRUITT

3rd Vice Chair

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HUGH OWENS

State Executive Cmte. Delegate

KAT DUNLEAVY

State Executive Cmte. Alternate

JEANMARIE TANKERSLEY

Voter Protection Coordinator

DONORS AUGUST 1 - DECEMBER 31

The GCDP thanks all those who have donated to support the Party's initiative between August 1, 2023 and December 31, 2023.

Recurring Donors

Leila Aziz, Judith Bainbridge, Phil Beckwith, Tina Belge, Kathleen Bitsura, Henry Collins, Ron Cowen, David Cross, Lillian Brock Flemming, Cindy Henry, John Hester, Jeanette Jacobs, Kinard Johnson, Nadia Land-Greene, Stephen Laurence, Janet Lomicka, Doris McLallen, Ashley Newton, Evelyn Nocella, Hugh Owens, San Dee Sheftall, Hampton Smith, Amy Sutherland, Jeanmarie Tankersley, Gail Thomas, Coreen Urbina.

Non-Recurring Donors

Wallace Blevins, Philip D. Brown, Alvena Chapman, Lillian Brock Flemming, Kinard Johnson, Anthony Limon, Patrick Morgan, Robert Reilly, Bill and Nancy Wormstedt.

Priority 6 Donors

Kat Dunleavy, Leslie Fatum, Susan Provenzano, Gail Thomas, Carole Weinstock

YOU CAN MAKE MUCH-NEEDED DONATIONS ONLINE 24X7 AT
[GREENVILLEDEMOCRATS.COM/CONTRIBUTE](https://greenvilledemocrats.com/contribute)

GREENVILLE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

1300 E. WASHINGTON ST. #J

(864) 232-5531

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The Bray is published by the Greenville County Democratic Party. We are located at 1300 E. Washington St., Greenville, 29607, and can be reached by phone at 864-232-5531. The office is staffed Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bray Editor: Kirsten Pruitt 3rdvicechair@greenvilledemocrats.com; Layout and Design: Kirsten Pruitt.