

# NC-11 February 2022 Newsletter



## *North Carolina Congressional District*

*11 Newsletter #6 of 2021-2022*



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Hello NC 11 Democrats

After months of being in redistricting limbo, we now have maps! While the GOP has appealed to the US Supreme Court on the ruling handed down last week on the most recent congressional map, it appears almost certain that the current map that we have is the congressional district that will be in place for at least the next year or two.

First, the good news: We are still the 11th, and no longer have to be concerned with whether we will stay as such or become the 14th. The bad news: We lost Watauga County in this current map, which made the district much more competitive. We also lose friends in Avery and Mitchell Counties who have been drawn out of the 11th

and will now be part of the 5th Congressional District. While we hate to see them go, we know that Howard Larsen and others in the Mitchell/Avery area will work hard to bring Democratic victory to that district as well. We also regain Polk, McDowell, and part of Rutherford County, and we are happy to have them back with us!

Candidate recruitment has hit a fever pitch, and we along with the House and Senate Caucus' are finalizing a number of candidates across our region as we move toward the Friday filing deadline. With that said, PLEASE keep pursuing and promoting your respective County Commission and School Board races. We need good Democrats running for these positions and to ensure that the radical Republican policies that we see being pushed on a local level across North Carolina do not take hold here in District 11!

County Conventions are coming up in March! Be sure to keep up to date with the details on your county's convention plans, and we look forward to all of the good work that will be coming out of these events.

Mark your calendars now for the District Convention which will be held on May 21st! More details will be coming on location and time, but we are extremely excited and hopeful to do this convention in person and have an opportunity to have Democrats from all across WNC together to do the important work of our party, as well as to fellowship and enjoy one another's company.

Lastly, I know I speak for everyone when I say that the thoughts and prayers of the entire district are with the people of Ukraine. The citizens of that country are fighting for their freedom, and the right to keep their democracy. One of the best ways that we can honor their sacrifice is to fight with the same zeal for our democracy as well. So when you are feeling like we are fighting an uphill battle in our effort to bring more democratic representation to our district, think about those fighting in Ukraine. Be energized and inspired by it. And fight on, harder than before.

Thank you for all that each of you do!  
Matt Ballance  
NC District 11 Chair

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**Welcome Julie Montanea!  
District 11's New Treasurer**



I'm honored to be appointed Treasurer for District 11 Democrats. My hat's off to Gayle for serving in this role for eight years – before saying "Yes" I looked over past Disclosure Reports to the Board of Elections and can see she's done a great job. I have served as treasurer for Democratic candidates pretty continuously for the last twenty years, so I'm quite familiar and comfortable with the campaign finance requirements that govern the financial end of our operations. I am also Chair of my precinct and serve on Buncombe Dems' Data Support Team,

so I know – and love! – the challenges of grassroots organizing. I look forward to working with you and getting to know more wonderful Democratic activists across the WNC region.

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## **Mark Your Calendars**

### **Effective Use of VoteBuilder II**

Trainer: Kathie Kline [Join Event](#)

March 16 from 6:00-7:30PM

### **County Conventions**

March 19 (Make-up date March 26)

### **March NCDP Opportunities**

Sign ups, NCDP Digital Department Office Hours, Training and Organizing Office Hours and County Convention Office Hours.

[North Carolina Mobilize Events](#)

### **April Bi-Monthly Meeting NC 11th Congressional District**

Wednesday April 13, 2022 7:00PM

Please check [nc11democrats.org/events](https://nc11democrats.org/events) for more details.

### **District Convention**

May 21 - Details TBA at the District website.

### **Primary Election**

Tuesday, May 17th. 2022 Primary Election date

Candidate filing will end on Friday, March 4th at 12PM.

Visit [The North Carolina State Board of Election's website](#) for more updates. Please [click here](#) for further candidate filing information.

## Unity Dinner and State Convention - June 18

### County Events

Please visit our website [Events page](#) to learn of many meetings, and special events offered by our counties.

Counties please send us your events using the [submission page](#).



### All Things Training

Thanks to all those who have attended our recent training sessions.

**District 11 YouTube Channel** Remember to subscribe to our District 11 YouTube Channel where you can find recordings of recent trainings and our [candidate forum](#).

**VoteBuilder Training** On February 16, Kathie Kline presented the first of a 2-part series on Effective Use of VoteBuilder. By the time this newsletter is published, a recording of this training will be on our YouTube Channel. Please watch prior to attending the following training. **Effective Use of [VoteBuilder Part 2](#) will be held on March 16, 6:00-7:30pm.** This training will build on the skills covered in Part One of this series. Learn how to set up phone banks and canvasses as well as the

Volunteer Management System in the My Campaign section of Votebuilder. Finally, if time and interest allows, creating neighborhood turfs in precincts will be introduced.

**Social Media Training** NCDP has a brief but concise training on using Social Media to promote messaging and events. Check it out! [Social Media and Digital Tools](#)

**Coming Soon:** Fundraising Training There will be a Fundraising Panel Discussion planned for early April. Stay tuned for more details.

If you have any ideas for training, expert speakers, comments or questions, please contact me. Good luck with your County Conventions!

Denise Marecki,  
2nd  
Training

Vice-Chair,

[denise@nc11democrats.org](mailto:denise@nc11democrats.org)

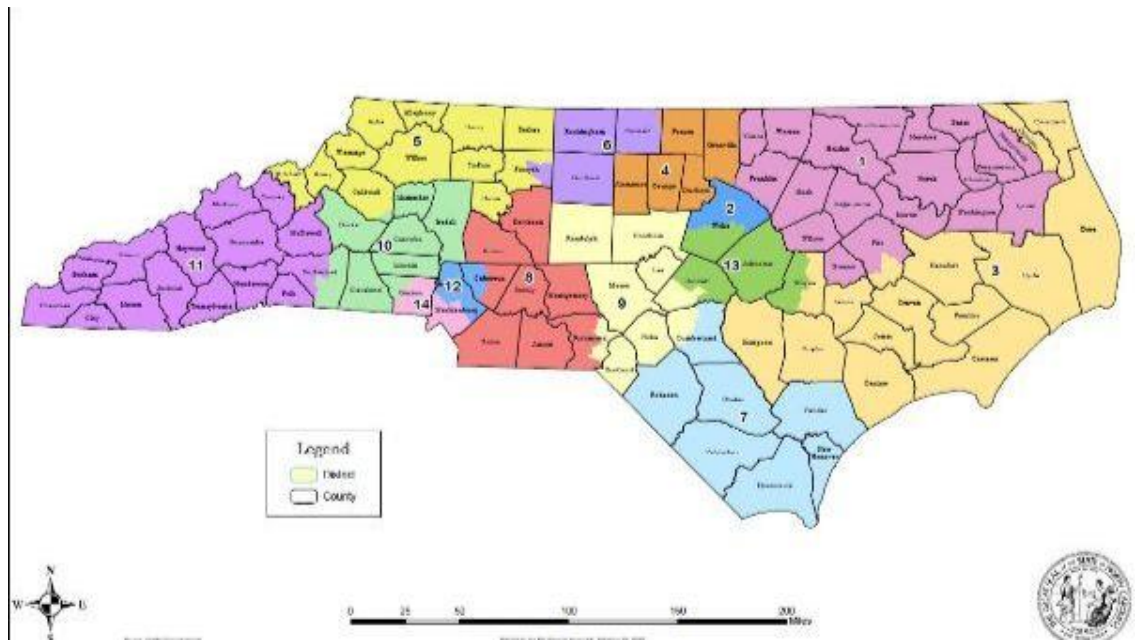
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**We have new Maps!!!**

[NC Congressional Map](#)

[NC State House Map](#)

[NC State Senate Map](#)



## Hopeful News for Voters in NC

(from Carolina Forward)

[Tens of thousands of low-income North Carolinians have had their driver's licenses revoked simply because they're unable to pay simple fines or penalties.](#) A new court settlement between the North Carolina DMV and the ACLU, Southern Poverty Law Center and Southern Coalition for Social Justice could change that forever, and put an end to penalizing people for their own lack of income.

## Western NC Young Dems holding Regional Conference

Young Democrats of Western North Carolina are holding the annual Western Regional Conference in Asheville, NC at Circa 29 on March 26th from 2-4PM. They will have guest speakers, awards, and a chance for young people across the West to meet with candidates and

elected officials heading into the midterm primaries. If you'd like to be a sponsor for the Western Regional Conference there are 3 different sponsorship levels. [ActBlue](#)



**Highlight on WNC Young Dems**  
**Meet Kristen Robinson**  
**Western Region Director, Young Democrats of NC**

My name is Kristen Robinson and I am the Western Regional Director for the



Young Democrats of North Carolina. I was born and raised in Madison County, North Carolina. I pursued a degree from Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College and went on to earn my Bachelor's in Political Science from the University of North Carolina Charlotte. I came back to the mountains of Asheville to organize and give a voice to our Western counties that often get left behind in Raleigh and Washington.

The Young Democrats of North Carolina have been busy out West organizing and preparing for the 2022 mid term elections! Here are some things to look out for coming from the Young Dems: The Young Democrats of Henderson are hosting a NC-14 candidate forum on March 23rd. Haywood Young Democrats are preparing to do deep canvassing and door-knock work. Buncombe Young Democrats are doing a donation drive for a local non-profit, BeLoved, in Asheville to raise supplies for their street pantries for the homeless. And we are all gearing up to work hard to elect Democrats up and down the ballot come November! If you want to chip in to help the Young Democrats, feel free to [donate here.](#)

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## NCDP Training

Upcoming National Democratic Training Committee Opportunities:

March 2nd: [How to Maximize Call Time and Raise More Money](#) 1pm

March 4th: [So You Want to Run For Office?](#) 1pm

March 10th: [Calculating your Vote Goal](#) 1pm

NCDP Training Series: (Click to watch)

[Voter Registration](#)

[Votebuilder for Phonebanking](#)

[Votebuilder for MiniVan & Canvassing](#)

[Field Organizing & Direct Voter Contact](#)

**NCSBE Treasurer's Training:** NCSBE is returning to virtual treasurer training sessions. [Click here for full schedule.](#)

## KEEP US INFORMED!!!

**WE WILL POST YOUR COUNTY EVENTS AND  
CAMPAIGN DEBATES/FORUMS ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE**

[Use this submission form to send](#)

## County News

**Haywood** On Thursday, February 10, the Haywood Democratic Party executive officers hosted a “best practices” training session for all the candidates running for a county office. The featured speaker was Waynesville Alderman Chuck Dickson who was the top vote getter in the 2019 Town Board election. He emphasized the importance of developing personal relationships with voters through door-to-door campaigning. Dickson knocked on 1,000 doors during his campaign. While his efforts paid off for him at the polls, he said he gained valuable information by talking with voters.

**Henderson** Henderson County Democratic Party held their January 26 CEC Meeting and awarded three volunteers with a special paperweight for their service in 2021.

Peter Fricke is a long-time member, precinct officer and office worker. He has the best smile and can tell you anything about a candidate. He does his research. He joined HCDP in 2016 and has been active with the Democratic Party since his retirement in 2010. Bettie Orr (in the purple coat) is also a long-time member. She is currently the Precinct Chair of Hendersonville 3. She is great with communications, organizing poll greeters and literature drops, and has been active in many events and meetings in her years with HCDP. Mary Hardvall (red jacket) is a newcomer in the last year to HCDP, but she was very active in Buncombe County and volunteering with candidates. Mary helped us our tremendously

with phone banking in 2020 and 2021.





We have wonderful volunteers in our organization. No work is too small when getting out the vote. "The sum of our parts is greater than the whole." Our volunteers are core to our success at reaching out to voters. A big thank you to all our volunteers!

Newly registered Democrats and folks changing party affiliation across Henderson County have received handwritten postcards and introductory phone calls. This is an ongoing process that will continue throughout the year. Our volunteer lists have been updated in preparation for GOTV activities once the primaries have been held. The organization of material-drops county-wide and the determination of the best structure is underway. New volunteers have been called to discuss where they can contribute and identify special skills. Candidates without primaries in the upcoming election are being informed of the help the party will provide.

**Jackson** Between February 5 and 19 JCDP conducted 13 precinct meetings, most of which were hybrid sessions with in-person attendance at the Sylva headquarters with a simultaneously ZOOM link. All precincts had at least a quorum in attendance. We are now

gearing up for the March 19 county convention, which will begin at 10 AM and conclude by noon.

On March 12 there will be two congressional candidate forums in the county. The first in Sylva, beginning at 10:30 AM in the Community Room of the library. The second at 3 PM in the library in Cashiers.

We have begun our 2022 schedule of sign waving outside the Sylva headquarters. The next one is February 28 from 4:30 – 5:30. We will be recognizing caregivers on National Caregivers Day. Our party headquarters is now opened MWF from 1-4 PM. Hours will expand in late March.



**Macon** Macon County Democratic Women hosted Lucy Inman at their monthly virtual meeting. They will meet again on Tuesday March 15 from 5-6:30PM at Noah's Play and Train, 486 Palmer St, Franklin, NC. The meeting is open to Democrats, Unaffiliates and like-minded citizens of Macon County.

Want your county news in January's Issue? Deadline for inclusion is January 21, 5PM. Please get your news past and future (with pix) to [communications@nc11democrats.org](mailto:communications@nc11democrats.org)



**From 3rd Vice Chair: Communications**

Hello Everyone  
County officers: Please visit your county page on the District 11 website ([nc11democrats.org](http://nc11democrats.org)) and send any updates such as website URLs, FB, Twitter, Instagram addresses, postal and physical addresses, phone numbers and County officer's names positions, and contact email addresses (or phone).

County officers: Please also visit the state website [NCDP.org](http://NCDP.org) and make sure they have the correct information for your county posted there.

Candidate Events: During the period from the NC primary until the general election in November candidates may submit posts of events for the District website, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Please send detailed requests with pictures for addition to the District 11 Events Calendar. Pictures with captions of events that have recently happened in our counties are also welcome. Please try to get permission from people before taking photos. It's respectful.

[Submit your events for our Website Events Calendar](#)

Karen Albig Smith, 3rd VC Communications  
communications@nc11democrats.org

**Look for our next newsletter in March**

Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is March 18, 2022 5PM

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[Events](#)

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[Contribute](#)



