



Jackson Dems News

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Frank's Corner

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Frank Burrell - Chair, Jackson County Democratic Party

Here are your Candidates for November 8th

In this edition, we will focus on the local and state-wide races. Having just watched both the Republican and the Democratic Conventions, the Jackson County Democratic Party strongly endorses Hillary Clinton for President of the United States of America and condemns Donald Trump as unfit for the Office of the Presidency. In the words of Barack Obama, "We do not look to be ruled...Anyone who threatens our values, whether Fascists or Communists or Jihadists or homegrown demagogues, will always fail in the end."

Stand With Us

By Brian McMahan

This November, the voters of Jackson County will decide who will represent the people of Jackson County in the District 3 and District 4 seats on the Board of County Commissioners. It is important that we not only maintain a Democratically-controlled Board of Commissioners, but that we keep in office quality elected leaders like Commissioners **Vicki Greene** and **Mark Jones** who are strong advocates for the causes we support as Democrats. If you want commissioners who are:

- ... willing to take a stand against corporate personhood,
- ...willing to go on the record as being against fracking,
- ...willing to support local laws to strengthen our environmental protections,
- ...willing to invest in our public educational systems to provide our children with the best facilities possible,
- ...willing to expand our local parks system for greater recreational opportunities,
- ...willing to support our local farmers through creative public/private partnerships,
- ...willing to work with emergency services to fund facilities that meet our communities' needs for the next 40 years,
- ...willing to address the animal shelter facility inadequacy,
- ...willing to make responsible and balanced decisions concerning the budget appropriations and taxes,
- ...willing to support local law enforcement

and to work with the justice system to meet current needs,
...willing to provide for a transparent, responsive, and cooperative local government system,
THEN.... you need to re-elect Vicki Greene and Mark Jones. If you want commissioners that share the same campaign slogan as Donald Trump, offer old ideas, political rhetoric, and a type of change that would be bad for this county, then you might want to consider the "Mickey/Mao" team. Let's make a responsible and wise choice for Jackson County and re-elect Vicki Green and Mark Jones.

Vicki Greene

Mark Jones



I'm so proud of my fellow Jackson County Democrats. People of all ages, from teenagers to people in their 90's, are coming out to volunteer because this election is so important. There is no way that we can match the millions of dollars poured in by Koch, Pope, and other wealthy Republicans as they seek to maintain control of state and local politics. However, there is no way they can match the energy and determination of Jackson County Democrats.

We still need more volunteers to help with all aspects of getting out the vote and educating voters. If you are as enthusiastic as I am about electing Democrats this November, please contact me or any of the officers. We need your help and your vote. We also need financial donations and encourage you to become a regular monthly contributor.

Frank Burrell – 828-507-5980 or
Carolyn Cagle – 828-508-5296

*Don't Boo -
Vote*

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Clear Choice between Ross and Burr

Deborah Ross is running to unseat 2-term senator Richard Burr. Deborah is a Duke Law School graduate, former faculty member and attorney. She served as a NC State Representative from 2003-2013 and currently works for a transportation agency working to provide good public transportation for people in the Triangle area. Below are the ways in which Deborah and her opponent's positions compare on some of the most important issues in this election.

Ross on Economy	Burr on Economy
She believes public investment in infrastructure will create good jobs and stimulate economic growth. Among those infrastructure projects needing investment are public transportation, roads, public schools, water and sewer systems, as well as providing broadband service to every household in North Carolina. She supports tax breaks for small business investment, a national fair pay act, ending tax breaks for companies that send jobs overseas, and raising the federal minimum wage.	He does not support the use of federal funding to stimulate the economy and voted against the stimulus package following the financial collapse in 2007. Burr supports decreasing corporate taxes and voted in favor of maintaining tax breaks for corporations who send jobs overseas. He also opposes raising the federal minimum wage.
Ross on Energy	Burr on Energy
Supports clean energy development and opposes fracking. As a state representative Ross supported renewable energy policies that brought money and jobs to NC and she opposed measures to prevent NC from basing coastal policies on scientific predications. She understands how important the tourism industry is to our state and knows we must protect our many natural resources through clean and renewable energy and technology.	He opposes regulations to combat climate change, including any international emissions targets designed to reduce the effects of climate change globally. He has voted against any type of "carbon credit trading" (cap and trade) and supports oil exploration in federally protected areas.
Ross on Health Care	Burr on Health Care
Deborah believes that all people deserve affordable health and preventive care. While she recognizes the Affordable Care Act isn't perfect, she believes we should be working to improve it, not wasting time and tax dollars on countless repeal efforts. As a state representative, she supported expanding Medicaid in North Carolina to add 500,000 low-income residents, which would have reduced pressure on the health system, helped rural hospitals, created thousands of new jobs statewide, and improved the North Carolina economy.	He opposed accepting federal dollars to expand Medicaid in our state, leaving half a million people without health care. This has caused hospitals to go into deeper debt than in states that received federal Medicaid dollars. He also opposed setting up a North Carolina State Health Care Exchange and opposes raising taxes EVEN on the wealthiest households, which could offset the cost of the Medicaid program.



How to vote Down-Ballot

Names to find on the Ballot

Linda Coleman, Lt. Governor

Josh Stein, Attorney General

Elaine Marshall, NC Secretary of State

June Atkinson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Dan Blue III, State Treasurer

Beth Wood, State Auditor

Walter Smith, Commissioner of Agriculture

Wayne Goodwin, Commissioner of Insurance

Charles Meeker, Commissioner of Labor

Mike Morgan, NC Supreme Court

Vince Rozier, NC Court of Appeals

Abe Jones, NC Court of Appeals

Linda Stephens, NC Court of Appeals

Ricky McKoy-Mitchell, NC Court of Appeals

Kimberly Carpenter, District Court Judge



Democratic Candidate for Congress, District 11

For Rick Bryson, the mountain region of North Carolina has always been a magnet. "After college, I could not find work here in my field, so I moved north. But every day, I was looking south, back toward my home."

Bryson's career includes mechanical engineering, chemical research and Defense Department projects as well as a magazine feature writer. Rick has published more than a thousand technical articles for clients, in magazines ranging from medical, to design, to the Wall Street Journal and has published four novels. His latest novel, The Jefferson Legion, is a political story set in the Nantahala National Forest.

Shortly after returning to Bryson City, Rick turned to politics and rediscovered the excitement over how much change a government can truly make. In a few years in the '60's, America had moved from segregation to voters' rights for all races, Medicare for the elderly, equality for women and a commitment to go to the moon. "I was a 'believer' back then; coming home has made me a believer again."

Since October of 2013, Rick has strenuously opposed the actions of Mark Meadows, our current representative in Washington, who shut down the government and failed to consider the Law of Unintended Consequences. Meadows' act cost the nation \$2 billion and cost this district over \$23 million in lost wages and revenue. Meadows has voted **against** roads and towns, but has supported legislation to cut food stamps and kill public education. Meadows is silent regarding public insults to women. Bryson decided to take on Meadows himself and announced that he would run AGAINST Meadows' destructive record and give people something to vote FOR. Rick Bryson believes in securing Social Security, stands strong on women's issues, supports veterans, and intends to bring a world class jobs program to the mountains.



Rick Bryson
Candidate for U.S. Congress

After his 2013 run for Bryson City Alderman, Rick Bryson said "I knocked on every door in town that didn't have a fence around the yard. (Dogs lurk behind fences.)"

Let's Put Mark Meadows Out To Pasture

It's probably fair to say that no other Congressman has done so much damage in such a short time. Mark Meadows is considered to be one of the leaders of the Republican Party and is closely aligned with the Tea Party and the Koch Brothers. Much like Donald Trump, Meadows doesn't always feel like the bills for work already done should be paid. In fact, in 2013 he was the lead Congressman in shutting down the entire US Government rather than spending what was necessary to pay the bills. This more than two week shut-down cost Meadows Electoral District more than **\$1 million** per day partly because the North Carolina National Parks were included in the shut-down.

The Washington Post quotes local backpacker guide Burt Kornegay, "I'm very sorry that he is my congressman. He nearly put me and a lot of other people around here out of business."

He has been known to vote against his own party if the party showed any sign of cooperation across party lines. In fact, Meadows seems to have lost any sense of working for all the people in his district and works hard to discriminate against all groups and organizations that disagree with his views. His views are all in line with the Tea Party and he was removed by the Party as chairman of the Subcommittee on Government Operations after not voting for a Republican-led bill.

Recently, Meadows is being investigated for paying his chief of staff after he no longer worked for the lawmaker. Meadows paid the former staff member his regular salary but reported that he was now a Senior Advisor. Government rules clearly state that no one can be paid while not doing work and Kenneth West was not working in a government position. West was relieved of his duties when it was discovered that three female staff members had accused Mr. West of sexual harassment. Of course, Meadows had to let his friend go but thought he had found a way to keep on paying him.

Mark Meadows consistently votes against the people he serves. He votes against Public Education, Health Care for all North Carolinians, Environmental Health and Safety, Women's Issues and against a Living Wage. **REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER!**

Calling all Democrats



Joe Sam Queen

There's a clear choice in November for North Carolina House Seat District 119. We will choose between Joe Sam Queen, incumbent Democratic Candidate or Mike Clampitt, Republican candidate.

Joe Sam has a strong history of legislative accomplishment. He has served in the NC House for two terms and served in the NC Senate for three terms before that. He currently is serving on eight committees and has introduced 60 Bills to the House. His voting record demonstrates his constant fight for the rights of the people of Western North Carolina.

Joe Sam is an Architect with Haywood County roots going back for six generations. He serves as Chairman of the Folk Moot Festival, the Appalachian Music and Dance Preservation Society, and the Friends of Mountain History. One of his best known talents is as a Caller for Appalachian Dance and he organizes and calls Summer Street Dances on Main Street in Waynesville.

Joe Sam is full of energy and excitement and will continue to represent our area with skill and experience.

Mike Clampitt, currently of Bryson City, spent most of his working life in Charlotte as a fireman, rising to Captain. He also spent some time working in Raleigh as Assistant to the Sargent at Arms (responsible for security of the buildings and setting up meeting rooms). He has an Associate of Science Degree in Fire and Technology.



Mr. Clampitt's pictures are not available without permission

Mr. Clampitt maintains an old fire engine which he uses to give rides and to keep local children cool in the summer.

His work for the last six years appears to be as a professional political candidate. He has run against Joe Sam Queen twice before and lost both times.

His finance campaign for the 2014 election was questioned by Republican Haywood County leaders about a potentially illegal and unreported donation at a time when the campaign was not in operation.

Clampitt supports Donald Trump, Mark Meadows, Pat McCrory and Jim Davis. He states that he supports fracking, gun rights, and states' rights and wants to repeal and repudiate Obamacare.

So, here's the choice:

Joe Sam Queen, well educated, highly experienced with a progressive agenda or, Mike Clampitt, no experience, regressive and unfit for the NC House.

The choice is clear.

Down-Ballot

Have you heard the term **down-balloting**? We've all seen what happens if a Democratic President doesn't have enough support in the House and Senate. In 2012 not enough of us practiced down-balloting and we elected an obstructive and defiant Congress that has blocked everything President Obama has tried to do. We can't do that again!

The same is true in the North Carolina government. Because we didn't elect enough Democratic Representatives and Senators to the State in 2012 and 2014, Governor McCrory and his friends have been able to put dozens of un-American laws into effect and have lost millions of dollars from businesses that no longer want to operate in North Carolina. They have had free reign to damage our whole education system and begin to implement their plan to do away with Public Schools and privatize them. The bottom line in a for-profit business, including schools, is money, not children.

This year, consider supporting Democrats from the Courthouse to the White House. The only way real reform can happen in education, health care, campaign financing, and Social Security is to elect leaders all focused on American people, not money.

**Vote Down-Ballot
all the way!
Vote Democratic!**

Trump words???...I have the best words... I get my information from watching TV... I consult with myself because I have a great brain... A great brain...the best brain...Trump will also build a big wall to keep Mexicans out and he will make Mexico pay for it!...How....??? it's all part of the great plan!...ISIS will be gone very, very quickly...How???... I won't tell you... It's a secret !!!...

Give me a break. That's a bunch of malarkey. Joe Biden

What Roy Cooper Wants for North Carolina

We need a governor who works for us, not for his corporate cronies. In just three and a half years, Pat McCrory has made North Carolina an example of how **not** to govern and the butt of jokes by TV comedians. McCrory's Carolina Comeback is a farce. 55 of our 100 counties have fewer jobs and 75 have more people looking for work since before the Recession. Our median income is 41st in the nation and layoffs are increasing. "Governor McCrory has busied himself with forming backwards laws behind closed doors." Roy Cooper has a plan to return our state to one we can be proud of.



Cooper Plan for Education	McCrory Has Given Us
Comprehensive approach: Pay and respect teachers; reverse cuts for text books, school buses and teaching assistants; reinstate teaching fellows program to attract, not drive away, quality teachers; sponsor teaching improvement programs; support early childhood education, state universities and community college system.	Declining schools and departing teachers. Reduced teaching assistants and teaching resources (textbooks, for example). NC is 46th in the country in per-pupil expenditure. Subversively pushes for privatization of public schools, which would benefit corporations and not citizens.
Cooper Plan for the Economy & Jobs	McCrory Has Given Us
Focus on rising incomes and helping small businesses start and grow. Streamline regulations; invest in workforce; create fair but low tax environment; recruit, retain and start-up businesses in biggest growth sectors of the economy. Improve our state image. "We need a leader with a laser focus on creating good paying jobs and lifting wages."	Economic decisions based more on ideology than sound thinking. Continuing HB2 has been estimated to cost the state \$5 billion in annual investments and incomes. Cronyism: An economic development plan focused mostly on lower corporate taxes and corporate leniency.
Cooper Plan for Health Care	McCrory Has Given Us
Expand Medicaid so neediest are covered by insurance and help control rising costs and consolidation of providers. Turn away from trend toward privatization. Support public-sponsored groups like NC Community Cares. Restore fairness for consumers.	Politicized healthcare for NC citizens by rejecting federal Medicaid support, which came from our own tax dollars. When the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) was implemented, rejecting Medicaid was the state's way to undermine the program's success, to the detriment of residents.
Cooper Plan for the Environment	McCrory Has Given Us
"Growing the economy and a healthy environment go hand in hand." Supports renewable energy technologies, the Clean Smokestacks Act, preserving clean waterways and water quality. Opposes raising utility rates on consumers to unnecessarily benefit corporate shareholders or for companies to clean up their own messes.	Fracking, off-shore drilling, leniency for coal producers and users resulting in coal ash pollution of rivers and streams. Ignored climate change projections to allow developers to continue building up our coastlines. Diverted state funds designated for coastal protection to pay for legal support of HB2.

At the end of July the 4th District Federal Appeals Court blocked the implementation of North Carolina's strict, discriminatory voting law. There is a very good chance that our voting regulations will return to the simple process it was before all the changes. However, there will likely be an appeal to a higher court. Stay alert for messages from your Democratic Party for any changes to process or dates.

Donna Dupree - 828-246-1186

IMPORTANT ELECTION/VOTING DATES

September 9	Absentee Voting by Mail begins for the General Election
October 14	Deadline for Voter Registration for the General Election
October 27	Early Voting begins for the General Election (this could change)
November 5	Last day of Early Voting for General Election
November 8	General Election Day

Jane Hipps for NC Senate

Jane Hipps is running for the NC Senate seat in District 50 now held by Republican Jim Davis. On her website, www.hippsforsenate.net, she states,

"I am running for office because we need a Senator who believes in our middle class and hardworking families and who will also be a strong voice for our people right here in Western North Carolina."

She began her career in public education—counselor, school psychologist, lead teacher regional science specialist—and started her own national science and math consulting business. Retiring from public education, she acquired a Masters’ degree in nursing and became a certified pediatric nurse practitioner. With these credentials, it’s no wonder **Education** is her top issue. She believes our first priority must be the education of our children. Her opponent voted to cut education funds and teacher pay, notoriously stating when teachers complained of a very small salary increase, “If you don’t like it, give it back.”

Her second issue is **Healthcare**. Jane will vote to expand Medicaid, not refuse the federal funds as Jim Davis has done, to take back our own tax money and return to

"Together, we can help our region become the center for 21st Century job opportunities. With time and effort, this vision can become a reality; and the standard of living for our people in Western North Carolina will rise substantially."
Jane Hipps

the business of caring for all of our people.

Jane was a 4-H child who learned to till the earth, sow the seeds, grow the crops and raise the animals. **Environment** is a priority for her. She respects the Cherokee wisdom that it is our responsibility to protect and preserve our mountain lands and waters for generations yet to come. Jim Davis opened our state to the “fracking” industry, which will pollute our rivers, ground water, air and land, threatening the health of our people.

Finally, Jane’s focus is on the **Economy**. She knows that our area has not fully recovered from the recession and she has designed a solid plan to get our economy back on track. Jane Hipps is a leader from the West for the West, and with every vote she will put the needs of the people first.



Jane Hipps

Plan for Economic Growth

1. Fight to **restore funding** for our public schools, community colleges and state universities.
2. Actively encourage our state’s utilization of what are rightfully our **Medicaid Expansion** funds.
3. Strongly support the allocation of state resources for expanded marketing of our **tourism industry:**
Extend the four-lane road from Andrews to Robbinsville.
 Continue support of **Cherokee gaming opportunities.**
 Actively **support our WNC heritage** and the preservation of our arts and crafts industries.
4. Be a strong voice for our working people by fighting for an **increase in our minimum wage** and expanding **quality affordable childcare centers** in Western North Carolina.
5. Work to support our **Small Privately Owned Businesses and Non-Profits:**
 Through the **allocation of state grants** to small, privately owned businesses & non-profits with a special emphasis on creating a **Green Economy.**
 Expansion of **broadband internet access.**
6. **Strongly support Agriculture:**
 Work to **preserve our local farms** by funding Farm to School programs
 Grow our **local food economy** with an emphasis on sustainable farming practices.
7. Strongly support **protection of the Environment:**
Repeal NC’s fracking bill.
 Expand state support for installation of **solar farms** in a manner compatible with environmental protections and the efficient use of natural resources.