

SPARTANBURG DEMOCRATS Monthly Newsletter

August 2026 Edition



Fourteen Weeks to Make a Difference

We have 14 Tuesdays until election day. And I want to challenge you to take at least one action each of those weeks. Whether you're registering voters, volunteering to knock doors, making phone calls, training as a poll worker, attending an event, or donating to a candidate. We need everyone working towards our goal to elect more Democrats in South Carolina this year.

Every time a Democrat challenges a sitting republican in SC, voter turnout increases average of 2.5% in that district. Voters want a choice and we have thirteen of them.

You can contribute to all 10 of our state house candidates with one contribution to our Local Champions Fund. And join us August 17 as we celebrate incredible women running for office in our community and through out the state at our 'Run, Ladies, Run' event in downtown Spartanburg.

In solidarity,

Kathryn

Kathryn Harvey
Chair, Spartanburg County Democratic Party

RUN, LADIES, RUN!

DEMOCRATIC WOMEN
ARE RUNNING TO LEAD

MONDAY, AUGUST 17
5:30 TO 7:30 PM

Join the Spartanburg County Democratic Party for Run, Ladies, Run! on Monday, August 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Citizens & Southern Event Center in downtown Spartanburg. Meet Democratic women running for offices across the ballot, enjoy food and fellowship, and help support local candidates and voter-turnout efforts throughout Spartanburg County. Tickets are \$50, or \$25 for Young Democrats. Sign up using the QR code below.



LOCAL CHAMPIONS FUND

The Local Champions Fund is a unified effort to support nine Democratic candidates running for South Carolina State House seats in 2026. Each candidate is challenging an incumbent in a competitive district and will receive coordinated support from the SPCDP. With a goal of \$50,000—about \$5,000 per race—this fund allows supporters to strengthen multiple campaigns through a single contribution that is distributed across all participating candidates. These races matter not only for representation in Columbia, but also for driving voter engagement and turnout across Spartanburg County and beyond.



South Carolina Democrats Build Momentum

Skardon joins the ticket as SC secures first-in-the-nation status.



Johnson Selects Sam Skardon as Running Mate

Democratic gubernatorial nominee Rep. Jermaine Johnson has selected Charleston Democrat Sam Skardon as his running mate. A former congressional aide to the late U.S. Rep. John Lewis and former chair of the Charleston County Democratic Party, Skardon brings experience in economic development, small-business financing and clean-energy investment. He currently serves as director of business development for the nonprofit Clean Energy Fund of the Carolinas. Skardon will join us Monday evening at the T.K. Gregg Community Center for our August meeting.

South Carolina Poised to Lead Again

The Democratic National Committee's Rules and Bylaws Committee has selected South Carolina to lead off the 2028 Democratic presidential primary calendar. South Carolina Democratic Party Chair Christale Spain credited the volunteers, organizers, county parties, activists and candidates who have worked to strengthen the party and ensure every voice is heard. "This decision demonstrates our party's commitment to competing in the South and recognizes the importance of Black and rural voters in shaping the Democratic Party's future," Spain said. She also noted South Carolina's flexibility in scheduling the primary and its record of conducting a well-run contest. The state will join five other diverse early-primary states in helping Democrats choose their 2028 presidential nominee.



Join Jermaine Johnson in Spartanburg

Spartanburg supporters are invited to a fundraising reception for Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dr. Jermaine Johnson on Sunday, September 13, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The event will support Johnson's campaign to invest in South Carolina's infrastructure, strengthen public education and lower costs for working families. The family friendly fundraiser is hosted by Sen. Glen Reese & Michael Reese.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 | 5:30-7:30 P.M.
FRETWELL (101 FRETWELL STREET)



Contact Your Representatives

Hold Our Elected Officials Accountable

Federal Representatives

SENATE

Sen. Lindsey Graham
Senior Senator
(202) 224-5972
lgraham.senate.gov

Sen. Tim Scott
Junior Senator
(202) 224-6121
scott.senate.gov

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rep. William Timmons
4th Congressional District
(202) 225-6030
timmons.house.gov

Rep. Ralph Norman
5th Congressional District
(202) 225-5501
norman.house.gov

State Representatives

STATE SENATE

Tom Corbin
Senate District 5
(864) 834-9915
corbinlawn@bellsouth.net

Shane R. Martin
Senate District 13
(864) 804-8499
shane@senatormartin.com

Josh Kimbrell
Senate District 11
(864) 553-0606
josh@exodusaircraft.com

Harvey S. Peeler, Jr.
Senate District 14
(864) 489-3766
hpeeler@peelerco.com

Lee Bright
Senate District 12
(864) 978-9522
leebright@scsenate.gov

STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Dennis Moss
House District 29
(864) 487-2121
dennismoss@schouse.gov

W. Scott Montgomery, IV
House District 32
(864) 237-4499
scott@votescottmontgomery.com

William "Bill" Chumley
House District 35
(864) 303-2726
billchumley1@gmail.com

Josiah Magnuson
House District 38
(864) 420-7933
j@magnusonsc.com

M. Brian Lawson
House District 30
(864) 809-3501
blawsonsc30@gmail.com

Travis Moore
House District 33
(864) 680-0441
TAMoore2002@gmail.com

Robert J. Harris
House District 36
(864) 542-5036
rob@harrisforsc.com

Rosalyn Henderson-Myers
House District 31
(803) 212-6965
roz2012@gmail.com

Sarita Edgerton
House District 34
(864) 381-8225
saritaforsc@gmail.com

Steven Long
House District 37
(864) 978-3104
stevenlong4@gmail.com

U.S. Congress

To find your federal representatives,
scan the QR code to the right.



State Legislature

To find your state representatives,
scan the QR code to the right.



Download the SC State House App

Gain easy access to information from the
South Carolina State Legislature on the go!
Review bills filed in the State
House and Senate, watch video
recordings, find your legislator,
and keep track of key legislation.



Meet Your 2026 Democratic Candidates

Learn More About the Democrats Stepping Up to Serve

Statewide Candidates



DR. ANNIE ANDREWS (U.S. SENATE)

Dr. Annie Andrews is a pediatrician and public health advocate running for U.S. Senate to fight for South Carolina families, kids, and working people who've been left behind by politics-as-usual in Washington.

Learn more or get involved at drannieandrews.com.



DR. JERMAINE JOHNSON (GOVERNOR)

State Representative Jermaine Johnson is running for governor to invest in infrastructure, mental health, education, and economic opportunity in communities that have been overlooked for too long. Learn more at johnsonforsc.com.



SYLVIA WRIGHT (SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION)

Lifelong educator Sylvia Wright is running for Superintendent of Education to restore the promise of free, high-quality public education for all students in South Carolina. Learn more at wright2026sc.com.



VINCENT COE (STATE TREASURER)

Vincent Coe is a community advocate and longtime South Carolina organizer running for State Treasurer to strengthen financial transparency, improve accountability in state investments, and ensure public funds are managed responsibly for taxpayers. Learn more at vincentcoeforsc.com.



RICHARD HRICIK (ATTORNEY GENERAL)

Richard Hricik is a Charleston attorney with more than 30 years of legal experience running for Attorney General to defend the rule of law, protect South Carolina families and consumers, hold powerful interests accountable, and safeguard the state's public resources. Learn more at richardforattorneygeneral.com.



JASON BELTON (SECRETARY OF STATE)

Jason Belton is a public service professional and community-focused candidate running for Secretary of State to modernize business services, strengthen election administration support systems, and improve accessibility and efficiency for South Carolinians. Learn more at jasonbeltonforsc.com.



TIFFANY BOOZER (COMPTROLLER GENERAL)

Tiffany Boozer is a small business owner and civic advocate running for Comptroller General to promote fiscal accountability, strengthen oversight of state spending, and ensure transparent and efficient management of South Carolina's finances. Learn more at boozerforsc.com.



DESHAWN BLANDING (COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE)

DeShawn Blanding is a South Carolina agriculture advocate and grandson of a fourth-generation farmer running for Commissioner of Agriculture to support family farms, strengthen the food supply chain, protect farmland, and build a more resilient agricultural future for farmers, families, and rural communities. Learn more at blandingforsc.com.



U.S. House Candidates



COURTNEY MCCLAIN – SOUTH CAROLINA’S 4TH DISTRICT (SC-04)

Spartanburg native and communications professional Courtney McClain is running in SC-04 to deliver fresh, local leadership in Washington and to make government work for everyday South Carolinians. Learn more at mcclainforsc.com.



MALLORY DITTMER – SOUTH CAROLINA’S 5TH DISTRICT (SC-05)

Brand strategist and small-business champion Mallory Dittmer is running in SC-05 to lower the temperature in politics and unite Democrats, Republicans, and independents around common-sense solutions. Learn more at dittmerforcongress.com.



South Carolina House Candidates



MARINA FRANCO

Candidate for SC House District 29



SAVILLE WILLIAMS

Candidate for SC House District 34



STEPHANIE HOLSTEIN

Candidate for SC House District 30



TATIANA SKIPPER

Candidate for SC House District 35



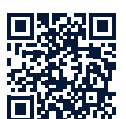
ROSALYN HENDERSON-MYERS

Candidate for SC House District 31



VIRGINIA MCLEAN

Candidate for SC House District 36



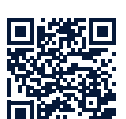
IRENE BENSON

Candidate for SC House District 32



SETH SAUER-HART

Candidate for SC House District 37



CLEMSON TURREGANO

Candidate for SC House District 33



TAMMY HAHN

Candidate for SC House District 38



Spartanburg County Council Candidates



LEKESA WHITNER

Candidate for County Council Chair



GARRETT GIBSON

Candidate for County Council District 5



FRANKLAND WATTS

Candidate for County Council District 6



Choose Your Way to Get Involved

Knock doors, make calls, attend events and help elect Democrats across Spartanburg County.

Knock Doors for SC House Candidates

Join volunteers each Saturday morning as we speak directly with voters and build support for Democratic candidates across Spartanburg County.



AUGUST 8 **CLEMSON TURREGANO (HD-33)**

Camp Croft Baptist Church
9:30 a.m. - Noon



AUGUST 29 **STEPHANIE HOLSTEIN (HD-30)**

Chesnee Library
9:30 a.m. - Noon



AUGUST 15 **MARINA FRANCO (HD-29)**

Cowpens Library
9:30 a.m. - Noon



AUGUST 22 **SETH SAUER-HART (HD-37)**

Boiling Springs Library
9:30 a.m. - Noon

MORE SATURDAY CANVASSES AHEAD

September 12: Virginia McLean, House District 36

September 19: Saville Williams, House District 34

September 26: Tammy Hahn, House District 38

October 3: Rep. Rosalyn Henderson Myers, House District 31

Times, meeting locations and registration information will be posted at spartanburgdemocrats.com.

Canvass with Frankland and LeKesa

County Council candidates Frankland Watts and LeKesa Whitner are teaming up for two early-morning canvasses:



Saturday, August 15
Fairmont-Larkin Park
8:00–9:00 a.m.



Saturday, August 22
Wellford Memory Park
8:00–9:00 a.m.

These canvasses end before the scheduled State House canvasses begin, allowing volunteers to support multiple candidates in one morning.

Make Calls for Candidates

Phone banking provides a direct way to identify supporters, recruit volunteers and remind voters what is at stake in November.

DAYTIME PHONE BANKING

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
Noon–3:30 p.m.

Available now through November 11

Call headquarters in advance to reserve one of two office stations.

EVENING PHONE BANKING

First and second Thursdays
5:00–8:30 p.m.

Beginning September 3

Call one day ahead to reserve one of three office stations.

Learn to Phone Bank from Anywhere

Engage in Training



VIRTUAL PHONE BANK TRAINING

Third Thursday of each month
6:00–7:30 p.m.
Available at headquarters and by Zoom
Participants will learn how to use the virtual phone-bank system and begin contacting voters from home.



POLL WATCHER TRAINING

Fourth Thursday of each month
6:00–7:00 p.m.
Available at headquarters and by Zoom
Poll watchers help ensure that voters are treated fairly and that election procedures are followed consistently.

Community Action: Bus Trip to Columbia

Join Spartanburg residents at the Public Service Commission's petition hearing concerning the proposed data center project in Spartanburg County.

Bus departure: Wednesday, August 5 at 7:30 a.m. sharp

Hearing: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting place: Upper parking lot behind Wade's Restaurant, 1000 N. Pine Street

Estimated return: 1:00–2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$20 cash, including snacks and water

Seating is limited. Send an email with the subject line BUS TO COLUMBIA to SpartanburgResidentsResist@outlook.com. Include the full names of all attendees and the total number of seats requested.



EVERY COMMUNITY. EVERY VOICE. EVERY VOTE.

★★★★★

Pacolet Town Hall

COME. LISTEN. ENGAGE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



LEKESA WHITNER
Democratic Candidate for
Spartanburg County Chair



MARINA FRANCO
Candidate for
SC House District 29



COURTNEY McCLAIN
Candidate for
SC Fourth Congressional District



Meet candidates and ask questions!



**BENJAMIN MAYS
COMMUNITY CENTER**
850 Sunny Acres Rd
Pacolet, SC



**6:00PM –
7:30PM**

RUN, LADIES, RUN!

Meet Democratic Women running for office in 2026

Monday, August 17 5:30-7:30pm
Citizens & Southern Event Center
148 West Main Street

Dr. Annie Andrews US Senate (Surrogate **Amanda MacDougald Scott** Political Director) | **Sylvia Wright** Supt. of Ed | **Tiffany Boozer** Comptroller | **Courtney McClain** CD 4 | **Mallory Dittmer** CD 5 | **Lekesa Whitner** County Council Chair | **Marina Franco** HD 29 | **Stephanie Holstein** HD 30 | **Rep Rosalyn Henderson Myers** HD 31 | **Irene Benson** HD 32 | **Saville Williams** HD 34 | **Tatiana Skipper** HD 35 | **Virginia McClean** HD 36 | **Tammy Hahn** HD 38



SPC DP
RSVP at spartanburgdemocrats.com

Calendar of Events



AUGUST 3	SPCDP Meeting 6pm TK Gregg Center: Youth Voices Panel
AUGUST 3	Spartanburg County Delegation Meeting (5:30 p.m.)
AUGUST 5	Data Center State House Hearing (10:00 a.m., bus leaves Wades at 7:30 a.m.)
AUGUST 8	Canvass with Clemson Turregano (HD-33) (Camp Croft)
AUGUST 15	Canvass with Marina Franco (HD-29) (Cowpens)
AUGUST 17	Run, Ladies, Run! Women Running in 2026 (Citizens & Southern Event Center, 5:30 p.m.)
AUGUST 22	Canvass with Seth Sauer-Hart (HD-37) (Boiling Springs)
AUGUST 27	Pacolet Town Hall with Lekesa Whitner and Courtney McClain
AUGUST 29	Canvass with Stephanie Holstein (HD-30)
SEPTEMBER 12	Canvass with Virginia McLean (HD-36)
SEPTEMBER 13	Dr. Jermaine Johnson for Governor at Fretwell (5:30-7:30 p.m.)
SEPTEMBER 14	Monthly SPCDP Meeting (Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center, 6:00 p.m.)
SEPTEMBER 19	Canvass with Saville Williams (HD-34)



Monthly Meeting

September 14
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

Dr. T.K. Gregg Community Center
650 Howard St, Spartanburg, SC 29303

SPARTANBURGDEMOCRATS.COM | (864) 585-6957 | INFO@SPARTANBURGDEMOCRATS.COM

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