

COASTAL CONNECTION

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Campaign Contacts:

US Congress (3rd District)

- **Johnny Rouse**
rouseforhouse.com

US Senate (Burr Seat)

- Cal Cunningham
CalforNC.com
- Elaine Marshall
elainemarshall.org

THIRD DISTRICT CONVENTION SET FOR 11:30 PM ON MAY 15TH, 2010 IN JACKSONVILLE, DETAILS INSIDE

FROM THE CHAIR

NCDP analyst Stephen T Gheen's releases a monthly report as to registration stats across North Carolina. If you track them, you'll notice an alarming trend. We are losing Democrats. Since Election Day 2008, the 17 counties on the 3rd District have lost nearly 11,000 registered Democratic voters.

There is an expected loss to attrition and updates to the voter file, but these numbers are alarming, many should be offset by new registrations. The pattern, Democratic losses larger than Republican losses or slight gains, has been dominant over the last nine months. The default mode for new registrations is Unaffiliated. Statewide, approximately 10,000 to 15,000 citizens are registering each month, but they are predominantly registering Unaffiliated and, to a lesser extent, Republican. Democratic registrations are largely dormant.

"Democrats have simply lost their vision and energy in the contest to register new voters. Coupled with the apparent low turnout in Tuesday's primary, both failures are indications that Democrats will limp into the November campaign rather than mount the smart, aggressive ground game that won 2008" says Gheen.

In order to be successful in November we must turn this trend around and that plan starts now.

COUNTY	Dem % Change 11/08 to 4/10	GOP % Change 11/08 to 4/10	UNA % Change 11/08 to 4/10
BEAUFORT	-4.58%	-1.78%	4.42%
CAMDEN	-1.57%	0.16%	2.24%
CARTERET	-4.16%	-2.02%	2.72%
CRAVEN	-4.61%	-4.45%	-0.29%
CURRITUCK	-7.43%	-1.95%	-0.77%
DARE	-4.45%	-3.58%	-2.30%
DUPLIN	-4.31%	-2.26%	1.83%
HYDE	-6.83%	-2.13%	6.27%
JONES	-2.04%	-0.62%	6.26%
LENOIR	-2.96%	-0.99%	5.43%
NASH	-0.60%	-3.32%	11.82%
ONSLOW	-3.58%	-0.94%	4.36%
PAMLICO	-9.84%	-5.48%	-0.49%
PITT	-5.09%	-7.40%	1.02%
TYRRELL	-2.62%	-4.47%	2.78%
WAYNE	-1.49%	-1.08%	4.04%
WILSON	-1.69%	-3.71%	6.62%
TOTALS	-10881	-6066	4375

RUNOFF FOR SENATE NOMINATION

Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and former state Sen. Cal Cunningham are headed to a Senate primary runoff, meaning that the we Democrats will duke it out for the next seven weeks rather than take on the Republicans.

Marshall led last Tuesday's Democratic primary with 36 percent of the vote, just short of the 40 percent needed to clinch her party's nomina-

tion. Cunningham immediately called for a runoff, which will be held June 22.

The winner will take on Republican Sen. Richard Burr, who easily won the Republican nomination with 80 percent of the vote over Larry Linney of Charlotte, Brad Jones of Hendersonville and Eddie Burks of Asheboro.

SEEKING TO UNSEAT WALTER JONES

Democrats got a message of continued change from an Eastern North Carolina challenger for the U.S. House District 3 seat now held by Rep. Walter B. Jones.

Johnny Rouse of Winterville told party members he is “running for Congress because I know the potential our region possesses. I know we can accomplish things that seem to elude us.” Rouse passed some blame to both parties in Washington as he outlined changes that would remove “unfunded mandates” for education included in No Child Left Behind, and spread the use of government stimulus to “focus on building an updated electric grid that is more efficient.”

“Washington is too focused on corporations,” said Rouse, the former two-term chairman of Pitt County Democratic Party. “The government has been spending tax dollars to keep companies from failing even as those companies export jobs and capital into foreign markets. It’s

easy to accuse companies of being greedy but it is their responsibility to maximize profits,” he said. “Our leaders have failed to create legislation and incentive packages to keep companies domestic.”

Rouse said the federal government should focus its money on small businesses with creative solutions. Small businesses committed to the local community will also be better stewards of the environment where they live, he said.

Rouse also criticized the use of the U.S. military as the world’s police force. “It is not the American taxpayers’ responsibility to defend and protect the wealthy nations of the world,” he said, especially at the expense of American lives. He made his remarks to about 35 Craven County Democrats gathered in New Bern for a recent meeting.

By Sue Book; New Bern Sun Journal

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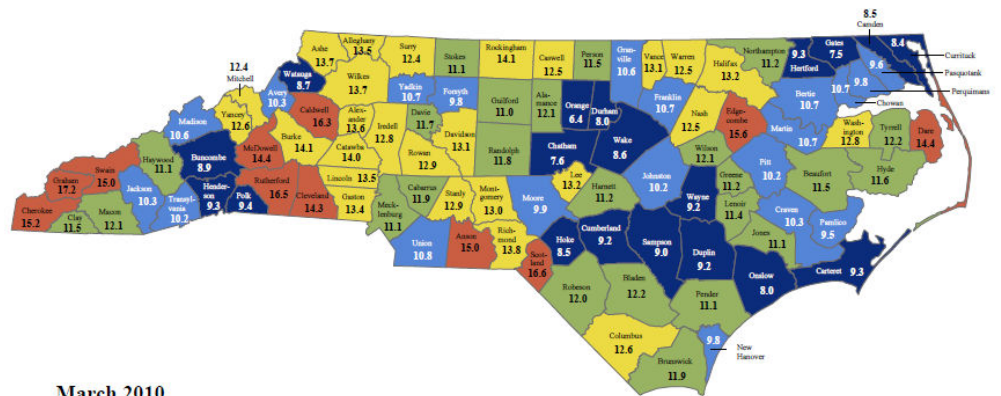
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UNEMPLOYMENT RATES DROP



March 2010

- 6.4% to 9.4%
- 9.5% to 10.8%
- 10.9% to 12.2%
- 12.3% to 14.1%
- 14.2% to 17.2%

- ^ 0 Counties Higher Than Previous Month
- ✓ 100 Counties Lower Than Previous Month
- = 0 County Same as Previous Month

North Carolina Rate 10.9%
Not Seasonally Adjusted

Note: March 2010 data are preliminary.

RALEIGH — Unemployment rates decreased in all of North Carolina’s 100 counties in March, according to statistics released today by the state’s Employment Security Commission.

“News that all North Carolina counties experienced a decrease in the local unemployment rate is certainly welcome, but we still have challenges ahead of us,” said ESC Chairman Lynn R. Holmes. “With initiatives like Reemployment Services (RES) and the Reemployment Eligibility Assessment (REA), the ESC is focusing even more resources to help our unemployed customers get back into jobs.” Chairman Holmes also singled-out JobsNOW — a program Gov. Bev Perdue has created — which can link both workers and employers to resources critical to

jump-starting local economies. North Carolina had 39 counties that were at or below the state’s unadjusted unemployment rate of 10.9 percent.

Unemployment rates also decreased in all 14 of the state’s Metropolitan Statistical Areas (Metros) over the previous month. The Hickory/Lenoir/Morganton Metro experienced the highest unemployment rate (14.5%), a 1.3 percentage point decrease. Rocky Mount had the second-highest rate at 13.5 percent, falling 1.2 percentage points. The Durham/Chapel Hill Metro had the lowest unemployment rate at 7.8 percent, decreasing 0.6 of a percentage point. Jacksonville followed at 8.0 percent.

DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET IN NEW BERN IN FEBRUARY

The Third Congressional District Executive Committee, despite threats of snow, met in New Bern on Saturday, February 6th. Immediately preceding the meeting was a "working lunch" allowing participants time to network and socialize. The crowd also heard from Johnny Rouse, former Pitt County Chair and candidate for the District Congressional seat.

Just after 12:30, the meeting was called to order and various housekeeping business was undertaken, including roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance, and approval of the agenda. The first, and most pressing item of business was filling the vacant 3rd Vice Chair position. The only nominee was Carolyn Bryan of Onslow County. She was elected to the office by a unanimous vote of acclamation.

Participants were then treated to a presentation entitled "New Directions" by Don Owens, Press Secretary for Congressman Etheridge and 3rd District native from Manteo, where he detailed the considerable progress made by the Obama Administration and Congress since the Inauguration.

Officer and committee reports followed. Treasurer Al Herlands reported that a couple of counties had submitted their assessments, and this was providing much needed funds to start our direct solicitation campaign. Chair Chris Hardee briefed everyone on various personnel changes and issues going on at the State Party level, accomplishments, and upcoming events. On the technology front, Chris reported that the website, nc3dems.com, is now active, and content is being updated. He also highlighted the newsletter and asked the counties' assistance in both distributing them and providing content for future issues.

There was considerable time spent in discussing a date and location for a Leadership Dinner, similar to that held in the 7th District. This

would be an excellent opportunity to feature candidates for the 3rd District as well as the US Senate race. It was determined to hold the event in Washington NC on March 27th. Unbeknownst to anyone at the meeting, though, was that the 1st District had already secured a location to hold a similar event on the same date as ours.

When the conflict became apparent only days after our meeting, the Board discussed possibilities of changing the date, location, and even the idea of having a luncheon on the same day, but the full calendar of events which had limited our choices in selecting the date in the first place proved to be too much to overcome, and the event was cancelled.

The last report was from Alicia Davis, our new Regional Field Director. She announced that the newly revamped State Party website should be ready to be unveiled by the SEC meeting the next weekend. She also expressed that she has a precinct organizing workshop that she'd already done for several counties and would like to do for others in the District.

The only item of Old Business remaining was getting all our counties organized. Chris reported that Lenoir County, after a couple of attempts, is now organized, leaving only Tyrrell remaining. He will continue working toward the goal of having all counties organized. There was no new business for consideration. Lastly, upcoming dates were announced, including that the District Convention would be held in Jacksonville on May 15th.

Minutes of this meeting are not official until approved at the next meeting, but for a copy of the full draft minutes of this meeting, you may contact Rich Elkins, District Secretary and Webmaster. His email, as well as that of all the officers, can be found at our website, www.nc3dems.com.

ANNOUNCEMENT

3rd District Democratic Convention

is called for Saturday,
May 15th at 11:30 at
the Stratusphere
Ballroom (4075 Gum
Branch Road) in
Jacksonville.

A networking lunch
will precede the
Convention.

11:30 Registration
12:00 Lunch (\$9)
1:00 Convention

Contact Chairman
Chris Hardee
for more information.
252-216-7900

NCDP CONVENTION

The 2010 State Convention will be held Saturday, July 31, 2010 at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux, 1707 Owen Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28304. The Sanford Hunt Frye Dinner will be held Saturday evening, July 31 at the same location. The State Executive Committee meeting will be held Sunday morning, August 1 at the same location.

CAMP OFA: Organizing for America announced new volunteer trainings to take place all across the United States. At the Camp OFA trainings, community organizers and OFA staff will talk about the best ways to organize events and build neighborhood teams, empowering more Americans to help President Obama succeed by advocating for his agenda and electing and re-electing Democrats this fall. To find a Camp OFA near you, please visit <http://my.barackobama.com/page/content/campofa2010/>.

Financial Position Still Limits Activities

This election cycle (January 1, 2009 to April 17, 2010), the 3rd District Democratic Party Committee has collected \$1,321.67 and spent \$1,897.55, leaving us with \$637.27 in the bank.

We need additional funds to ensure we are able to support our County parties and through them our Democratic candidates and Democratic principles. I am looking forward to seeing you at the District Annual Convention on May 15. Please bring your checkbooks to the Convention and be generous. You can always mail contributions to Treasurer, 3rd District Democrats, PO Box 466, Oriental NC 28571-0466.

Recent press reports have revealed that both national political parties spend lavishly on food, entertainment, and travel for their staffs, all with little transparency or accountability. Well, the 3rd District Democrats have no staff. And we spend almost nothing on food, entertainment, or travel for our officers. Please see the listing of expenses on the Treasurer's report.

During this cycle, we took two actions intended to increase our revenues so that we could engage in more activities. Neither has been as successful as we hoped. The first was the imposition of an assessment on each County party due February 28, the amount based on each County's voting strength at our District Annual Convention. To date, Craven, Currituck, Lenoir, Nash, Onslow, Pamlico and Wilson County parties have paid their assessments totaling \$720. The County parties in Beaufort (\$75), Camden (\$21), Carteret (\$159), Dare (\$93), Duplin (\$24), Hyde (\$15), Jones (\$9), Pitt (\$243),

Tyrrell (\$12), and Wayne (\$120) have not paid their assessments, which total \$771. Please send those funds to me, or bring your checks to the District Convention. Each County party needs to pay its share of the District Committee's expenses; it is not fair for some to take advantage of the responsible Counties.

We also solicited funds by letter in mid-March from over 900 Democrats who live in the District who had made financial contributions to the State party in the past. Paper, printing, and postage cost almost \$650. To date, we have received only a disappointing \$200 in contributions in response, \$50 from each of four people.

We have taken some new actions this cycle, and they are reflected in our expenditures. We created and sent a newsletter out to District Democratic leaders. The authors and editors took no fees, but printing and mailing cost \$342.13. The cost of this, the second newsletter, is not reflected in the most recent Treasurer's report that it will be handed out at the convention. We have also created and maintained a web site at a very nominal cost. We would welcome your feedback as to whether you feel the level of communication from the Executive Committee should be maintained, increased, or decreased.

Transparency? Please let me know if you have any questions about the Treasurer's report or our filings with the SBOE. I will be happy to provide the details of every expenditure of committee funds. All you have to do is ask. Contact Treasurer Al Helands at al@nc3Dems.com.

Budget for cycle	2009-10
Revenue	
Donations	500
Assessments	1,500
Fundraising	5,000
NCDP	0
Total Revenue	7,000
Expenses	
Conventions	800
Exec Meetings	400
Training	400
GOTV	750
Organizing	250
Council of Review	100
State Meetings	100
Voter Registration	250
Technology	50
Supplies & Postage	400
County Grants	3,000
Total Expenses	6,500

Weber v. Jones Take 3

Many of you were anxiously waiting to see if indeed Craig was going to file for Congress again. He ran in both 2006 & 2008 as the Democratic nominee and had suggested to many including directly to me that he in fact going to file in 2010. Well ladies and gentlemen, he did. Per the SBOE website :

<http://www.sboe.state.nc.us/GetDocument.aspx?id=2268>

Craig filed to run against Walter Jones Jr. (again) in the NC 3rd Congressional District as a REPUBLICAN. He joined Bob Cavanaugh (also from Carteret County) in the GOP primary against Jones Jr. Again, Craig was unsuccessful against Walter. Democrat Johnny Rouse is our candidate. Please support Johnny in the November General Election.

Democratic Women

The Region Three Democratic Women met in New Bern for their Annual Meeting on April 10th. The meeting featured DWNC President-Elect Sarah Anderson as the Guest Speaker. She updated the group on the upcoming election cycle and the DWNC Vote Project called "The Power of the Pen." With NC having nearly 55% women and some 3rd District counties exceeding 57% (Pitt, Lenoir, and Wilson) turning out the women to vote is critical. Other Business included the election of new officers for Region 3. Barbara Harrison is the new Director. Joining her are Debra Tyson and Rosemary Stark as Deputy Director and Secretary/Treasurer. Outgoing Director Deloris Kennedy thanked everyone for their hard work and ongoing dedication to elect Democrats.

HEALTH REFORM BENEFITS THAT BEGIN THIS YEAR

By 2014, health reform will eliminate all discrimination for pre-existing conditions, expand health insurance for 32 million additional Americans, and provide the largest middle class tax cut for health care in history.

It will take four years to fully implement these reforms in a responsible way, but a host of desperately-needed reforms and consumer protections will take effect this year.

- This year, children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied health insurance coverage.
- This year, health care plans will allow young people to remain on their parents' insurance policy up until their 26th birthday.
- This year, insurance companies will be banned from dropping people from coverage when they get sick, and they will be banned from implementing lifetime caps on coverage.
- This year, adults who are uninsured because of pre-existing conditions will have access to affordable insurance through a temporary subsidized high-risk pool.
- This year, small businesses that choose to offer coverage will begin to receive tax credits of up to 35 percent of premiums to help make employee coverage more affordable.
- This year, new private plans will be required to provide free preventive care: no co-payments and no deductibles for preventive services.
- This year, early retirees will have help in the form of a temporary re-insurance program to help offset the costs of expensive premiums for employers and retirees age 55-64.
- This year, seniors who fall into the Medicare Part D 'donut hole' coverage gap will receive a \$250 rebate to help pay for prescription drugs.

County	Assessment
Beaufort	\$75
Camden	\$21
Carteret	\$159
Craven	\$144
Currituck	\$45
Dare	\$93
Duplin	\$24
Hyde	\$15
Jones	\$9
Lenoir	\$69
Nash	\$72
Onslow	\$246
Pamlico	\$39
Pitt	\$243
Tyrell	\$12
Wayne	\$120
Wilson	\$105
TOTAL	\$1491

Blue Counties have Paid
THANK YOU

HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM SPECIAL EDITION MYTHBUSTER:

Recently, Andrea Stone of AOL News released a list of some of the top health care myths according to the nonpartisan FactCheck.org that continue to be put forward by opponents of reform. The group said some of the confusion was understandable given various versions of the bill considered by the House and Senate and the "awkward two-step legislative dance" that lawmakers went through before it finally passed March 21. Yet even now that the bill is law, "some opponents persist in making false or exaggerated claims about it," the organization said. Among the fictions about the health care law put forward, according to FactCheck.org:

MYTH: "It requires patients be implanted with microchips."

FACT: "This 'rather paranoid claim,' in FactCheck's words, stems from a proposed registry for certain medical devices. It had nothing to do with microchips but, even if it did, it isn't in the law."

MYTH: "It exempts Muslims from the requirement to obtain health insurance."

FACT: "Unlikely. FactCheck says the law was designed to exempt Old Order Amish. Rumors that other religious groups, specifically Muslims, would also be exempt are "likely overblown,"

though it says it is still checking. It noted that the Christian Science Church, which restricts health care use, has said it will not opt out of coverage."

MYTH: "It requires 16,500 armed IRS agents to enforce."

FACT: "This claim put forth by Republican lawmakers is 'a fantasy,' the group says. Contrary to what Rep. Ron Paul, R-Texas, has said, armed agents won't enforce the health care mandate because the law 'specifically waives any criminal penalties for those who both decline to obtain insurance coverage and refuse to pay the tax enacted to penalize lack of coverage.'"

MYTH: "It gives President Obama a Nazi-like 'private army.'"

FACT: "Not even close. Despite Internet rumors, the law sets up a new Ready Reserve Corps of doctors and other health workers who can be called up during public health emergencies."

MYTH: "It cuts benefits for military families and retirees."

FACT: "No. Contrary to a chain e-mail, the military's TRICARE program will not be affected."



**NORTH CAROLINA
DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

3rd Congressional District

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*Shining the Light
to a Brighter Tomorrow*

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- May 4 – Dem Primary
- May 15 – District Convention
- June 22 – Democratic Run Off
- First Tuesdays– Carteret County Democrats Meetings
- Fourth Mondays– Craven County Democrats Meetings
- Fourth Mondays– Onslow County Democrats Meetings
- Second Saturdays– Pitt County Democratic Meetings

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4

May 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2	3	4 PRIMARY Carteret	5	6	7	8 Pitt
9 Mothers Day	10	11	12	13	14	15 District
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Craven Onslow	24	26	27	28	29
30	31 Memorial Day	June 1 Carteret	June 2	June 3	June 4	June 5
June 6	June 7	June 8	June 9	June 10	June 11	June 12