

TRUE BLUE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RICHLAND COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

~SEPT 2018~

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

This long hot summer has driven home two things to me.

First, global warming is real. Second, the volunteers in Richland County are the most dedicated, hard-working people on the face of the earth.

They braved the heat and humidity (whew) to organize, organize and organize. At the county party, there has been door knocking, phone banking, postcard writing, and social media flexing, to improve our information on voters (knowledge is power).

Richland County officer Johnnie Cordero and other leaders spearheaded the first Black Caucus for the South Carolina Democratic Party. There have been huge volunteer efforts from the campaigns active in Richland County: James Smith, Congressman Clyburn, Sean Carrigan, Major Whittenberg, Dick Harpootlian, and all of our excellent Democratic candidates. This movement is being led from the bottom up by volunteers. ~cont'd~



MARCURIUS BYRD, Volunteer Coordinator for the South Carolina Democratic Party, has a message for Democrats: It's not enough to vote on November 6 – you must **“GET INVOLVED!”**

“Get involved with the party at the county or state level, whether through voter registration or canvassing or volunteering for candidates,” Byrd said. “We need your body, your time, your money. Everyone counts.”

Byrd's role in the Democratic Party has focused on building voter registration teams that can immediately switch to the get-out-the-vote effort. In 2012, he was the first County Chair for Young Democrats of S.C., then started Young Democrats of Richland County with a goal of building one chapter in every county. His chapter of Young Democrats of Central Midlands was recognized as the program of the year in 2013.

“Many Democrats do not need to be convinced which party to vote for, but need to be reminded there is an important election this year,” he said. “There is a need for phone banking, canvassing, walking neighborhoods and knocking on doors known to belong to Democratic voters.

“The RCDP creates a community of people who identify themselves as voters,” Byrd said. “It's part of your identity – of who you are: a **voter.**”

by **Skot Garrick**

TRUE BLUE

RCDP NEWSLETTER PAGE TWO SEPTEMBER 2018

FROM THE CHAIR, cont'd

Now we are at the critical moment.

Having spent over a year building our infrastructure by organizing precincts, recruiting volunteers, and improving our voter data, now is the time to put these resources to work.

I am happy to report that we have hit the ground running. On Monday, Sept. 17, the hurricane did not slow us down and we launched our canvassing (door knocking) drive. We are canvassing EVERY DAY, six days a week between now and the election.

Check volunteer opportunities to learn how you can be a part of this or visit us at:
<https://richlandscdems.com/events/>

After all, this movement is about you, the Democrats of Richland County.

Yours, *Matt Kisner, RCDP Chair*



~Volunteer Opportunities~

Canvassing: Every M-F 5:30-7:30 and every Sunday 2:30-5:30 (until the election). Canvassing is simply knocking on doors of known Democrats to help them vote by explaining absentee-in-person voting and offering to send them a postcard reminder. Contact matt@richlandscdems.com

Phone banking: bring a phone and (if possible) a laptop. Either drop in on Mondays and/or Thursdays 5-7:30 (until the election) at the RCDP office or come to volunteer training to learn how to canvass on your phone and how to do virtual phone banking from home.

~Absentee-in-person voting~

Do you know you can vote in person before the election at FOUR locations?

From Monday, Oct. 8 to Monday, Nov. 5, at:

- Richland County Elections Office 2020 Hampton St. Columbia; M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Sat., Nov. 3, 9-noon.

From Monday, Oct. 22 to Monday, Nov. 5, M-F, 9-5 at:

- Ballentine Community Center 1009 Bickley Rd. Irmo
- Parklane Adult Activity Center 7494 Parklane Rd. Columbia
- Garners Ferry Adult Activity Center 8620 Garners Ferry Rd. Hopkins

You qualify for in-person absentee voting if you

- work on election day
- are 65 or older
- have a disability
- will be travelling outside of the county on Election Day.

Full qualifications for absentee voting can be found online: <https://www.scvotes.org/absentee-voting>

**RCDP: richlandcountymocraticparty@gmail.com // www.richlandscdems.com
PO BOX 446, COLUMBIA SC, 29202 // 915 LADY STREET, SUITE 111, COLUMBIA, SC 29201**