# THE COALITION OF UNITED PROGRESSIVES CHARMECK CHRONICLE



#### Greetings!

We truly appreciate everyone's involvement. This War on Oppression will only be won as one mass movement.

## <u>Sections</u>

- Spotlight by DonnaMarie Woodson
  - Editorial by Tarik Kiley
    - Announcements
    - Happenings Gallery!

### **Our Mission Statement**

The continual unification of as many organizations as possible starting at the local level, and branching out to both the state of North Carolina and then the entire nation.

# **Spotlight**



"A true Activist is willing to make sacrifices for the good of all mankind."

# Jade X. Jackson

#### By DonnaMarie Woodson

I had the pleasure of interviewing our Executive Director who is a true leader of this movement. Watch her share her story and life of activism.

## **Editorial**

#### **Politics is Local, Really**

**By Tarik Kiley** 

June 27, 2017

America just had a big election in 2016. The fan favorite, Hillary Clinton, was outdone in the Electoral College by Donald Trump. Now, many on the left are up in arms figuratively and somewhat literally speaking. They say that Trump "is not my president." But, whether Trump is "your president" or not, there is a bigger picture here which some of us are missing.

In the 2014 mid-term elections the Republican Party took over Congress. There are perhaps many reasons for this, but this author personally believes that Democrats fell asleep at the wheel. Democrats had elected the first Black president in 2008 and then again in 2012 and all was well in the post-racial, United States of America. Democrats did not foresee the era of Trump and seem to have been shocked with the victories of the Republicans culminating in Trump's victory in 2016.



Now that we are living under Republican rule, how can Democrats have any authority and any power at all?

Well, it is important to remember that politics is local, really. This means that Democrats must vote in local elections in high numbers.

Perusing charmeck.org, there is a list of the duties of the Mayor of

Charlotte and the City Council. The most important duty of the mayor is the execution of local laws.

Together the City Council and the Mayor set city policy. They also appoint the City Manager, the City Attorney, the City Clerk and members of Boards and Commissions. The City Council and the Mayor "enact" ordinances, resolutions and orders. An ordinance is simply a law which is created on the municipal level.

It is important to know about these ordinances to elect persons who will carry out those that represent your views.

Remember the crowd controlling rule, the "Extraordinary Events" ordinance?



Well, that ordinance was recently repealed. Originally designed to deal with fears of disorder before the Democratic National Convention in 2012, this law had become a bane to local activists. These activists banned together and launched a social media campaign which effectively ended the potentially heavy-handed tactics.

This is a perfect example of local politics in action. Persons on the grassroots level sought to change an ordinance which impacted them more directly than Trump ever could. This is not to say that Trump cannot impact you. This is to say that your local laws can have an even heavier impact.

Many of today's popular concerns are actually local policy issues. Police brutality, education, economic development are all local issues. So, the next time you want better school facilities, ask yourself whether you have spoken with your County Commissioner and your representative on the Charlotte Board of Education. More importantly, ask yourself whether you have voted in persons on the Charlotte City Council, the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Education who represent your issues and whose decisions reflect your values.

http://charlottenc.gov/Mayor/DutiesandResponsibilities/Pages/Default.aspx

http://www.charlotteobserver.com/news/politicsgovernment/article158355864.html

http://charlottenc.gov/CityCouncil/focus-areas/Pages/default.aspx

https://www.mecknc.gov/countymanagersoffice/bocc/pages/home.aspx?redir ect=charmeck



Executive Committee Profile DonnaMarie Woodson, Vice-Chair PR/Communications CharMeck Chronicle Editor

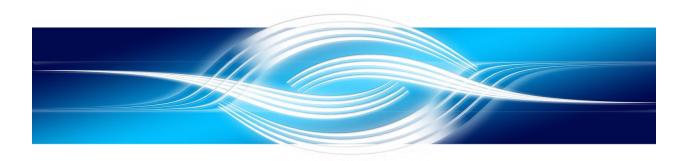
Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, I witnessed the civil rights movement of the 1960's first hand. I have always felt a responsibility to uphold the legacy of my foremothers and forefathers who paid the ultimate price for human rights and dignity in the ever present and continuing struggle.

In 2015, I was diagnosed with both colon and breast cancer and with God's grace I stand as a fighter and a survivor. I believe my charge is to give a voice to the voiceless and stand in faith and commitment to justice for all people.

I'm proud to be a part of this revolution and the ideals of the Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck which strives to be a unifying catalyst for Charlotte, the state, and our country.

In Solidarity,

DonnaMarie Woodson



## **Announcements**

Coalition of United Progressives–CharMeck

**Coalition Cookout for a Cause!** 

Sun, August 27 - 11 AM · 5 PM

Freedom Park Shelter #3

1900 East Blvd, Charlotte 28203



Freedom Park Picnic GoFundMe Page

https://www.gofundme.com/coalition-charmeck-picnic

A special thanks to those who have contributed to our event: **Donald and Alyene Keen, Yvette Huet, Dorene Welch** 

## **Announcements**



### Check out the Coalition's new website at:

https://coalitionofunitedprogressivescharmeck.wordpress.com/

**Coalition of United Progressives Movie Night** 

Birth of a Movement

#### Wednesday, July 12 – 6:30 pm

**Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church** 

Refuse Fascism and the NYC Revolution Club Nationwide Protest July 15<sup>th</sup> TRUMP/PENCE REGIME MUST GO!

League of Women Voters Gerrymandering Birthday Party Invite! Saturday, July 22, 2017 - 1:30 – 3:30 pm 1817 Central Ave. Charlotte, Room 210 (Plaza Midwood) Questions: Barbara Bleiweis – 703-623-2495

## **Announcements**



Indivisible Charlotte Daily Rallies at Tillis' Office

9300 Harris Corners Parkway, Charlotte 28269

June 29<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 – 1pm, June 30<sup>th</sup> – 11: 30 – 1pm

July  $3^{rd} - 11:30 - 1pm$ , July  $5^{th} - 11:30 - 1pm$ 

July 6<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 – 1pm, July 7<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 – 1pm

Swing Left NC-13

Knock on Doors in NC-13!!

July 22, 2017 - 2:00 PM

Mooresville, NC 28117

Info: hollyboowood@gmail.com

You Can Vote

**Charlotte Organizing Workshop** 

Saturday, July 15 at 9 AM - 12 PM

**Matthews Community Center** 

100 McDowell St, Matthews, North Carolina 28105

# **Happening**



# **Gallery!**



#### **The Executive Corner:**

**Executive Director - Jade X. Jackson** 

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

**Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle** 

Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson

**Contributor: Tarik Kiley**