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

"The Candidate For the People - Shirley Chisholm"





DonnaMarie Woodson

Forty-six years ago on January 21st, <u>U.S. Representative Shirley</u> <u>Chisholm</u> made history when she announced her intention to run



for President of the United States. In her historic speech, Representative Chisholm declared that she was not the Black candidate, the candidate of the women's movement, or the candidate of any political bosses, fat cats, or special interests, but rather, a candidate of the People.

Born Shirley Anita St. Hill on September 30th, 1924, Shirley

Chisholm was the first daughter of Guyanese and Bajan immigrants who had settled in Brooklyn, New York.

After graduating from Brooklyn College in 1946, Chisholm began her exemplary



career as a teacher, earning a Master's of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Columbia University.

Chisholm began her career in politics when she became a New York State Assembly member from 1965–1968. In 1968, Chisholm arrived in Washington, D.C when she became the first Black woman to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, representing New York's 12th Congressional District.



In 1971 Chisholm co-founded the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) to increase the number of women in all aspects of public life as elected and appointed officials, judges in state and federal courts, and delegates to national political conventions. At the time of the NWPC's conception, women numbered just 363, or 4.7 percent of state legislators. Today, women number 1,738 state legislators, or 23.5 percent, as more women seek positions in public service. Congresswoman Chisholm served seven terms in Congress, introduced more than fifty pieces of legislation, and maintained her reputation as a hard-working progressive, who strongly championed equality for women, people of color and the poor.

When Shirley Chisholm launched her presidential bid in 1972, she was the very first Black woman to do so and faced gender and racial discrimination as a candidate. Gender discrimination was the greatest challenge in Chisholm's opinion. She often said: "between being black and being a woman, the biggest problem was being a woman."



Fast forward to to January 21, 2019, the same day as Shirley Chisholm declared her candidacy, the Junior Senator from California, <u>Kamala Harris</u>, made her announcement, throwing her "heels" into the ring as a candidate for President of the United States in 2020. Harris is the

American woman and the fourth

first African-

KAMALA HARRIS *** 2020

woman currently serving in Congress to announce a run for the White House in 2020.

In Senator Harris' own words: "Justice. Decency. Equality. Freedom. Democracy. These aren't just words. They're the values we as Americans cherish. And they're all on the line now," Harris said in

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the video teaser before her official kickoff in her birthplace of Oakland, CA on Sunday, January 27, 2019.

"The future of our country depends on you and millions of others lifting our voices to fight

for our American values," the Democratic California senator said. "That's why I'm running for president of the United States. "I'm running to lift those voices, to bring our voices together."

Harris chose to announce her campaign run on January 21st to honor the legacies of two of her heroes:



Shirley Chisholm and Martin Luther King Jr., who has been a role model for Harris throughout her life in what she views as his "aspirational fight for progress."

Legacy – Shirley Chisholm

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In February 2005, Shirley Chisholm '72: Unbought and Unbossed, a documentary film, aired on U.S public television. It chronicled Chisholm's 1972 bid for the Democratic presidential nomination. It was directed and produced by independent African-American filmmaker Shola Lynch. The film was

featured at the <u>Sundance Film Festival</u> in 2004. On April 9, 2006, the film was announced as a winner of a <u>Peabody Award</u>.

Chisholm's legacy came into renewed prominence during the 2008 Democratic presidential primaries, when Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton staged their historic "firsts" battle – where the victor would

either be the first major party African-American nominee, or the first woman nominee – with at least one observer crediting Chisholm's 1972 campaign as having paved the way for both of them.



The 2018 Midterms were historic not only for the largest majority



since 1974, but also for the diversity and number of women candidates.

I wonder, will this energy and momentum carry through the 2020 elections? And, will Shirley Chisholm's dream be realized with the election of the First African-American woman President of the United States?

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Editorial

Resign, Mr. Trump, Resign By Tarik Kiley January 23, 2019



Fueled by xenophobia and racism, President Trump, refuses to recognize the fact that a border wall may not be the most effective way of achieving border security for the USA. In other words, people can fly into the country, they can dig tunnels under the wall, and also enter America through other ports of entry, such as the entire border with Canada. Actually, "the wall" is not about border security at all. It is about racism. President Trump hates brown people so much that he

wants to build a testament to white supremacy, which he believes will be symbolic of the nationalistic hatred which he harbors.



On the campaign trail, President Trump said that Mexico would pay for the wall. Now, he wants the American taxpayers to pay for the wall. He would

force American federal workers to work for free, and cause suffering for so many. Mr. Trump has reached the point at which he is hurting the American people. He has shut down the government over his temper tantrum to get funding for his "border wall." He is not only narcissistic, but he also seems to be paranoid. It is the same type of paranoia which led Hitler and the Nazi Party to exterminate Jews. He



labels brown people from Central and South America as "criminals" and uses language which vilifies them without any evidence to support his statements.

After all, racism is a social construct and has no merit or basis in scientific fact. Just, as the segregationists tried to make dark skin a stigma, so now does Mr. Trump attempt to make brown skin and Spanish speaking a stigma. He would separate families of asylum seekers at the southern border, and treat them inhumanely, and use ICE to continue to ensure that brown people are stigmatized and denied their humanity.



At this juncture, in history, America is as divided as ever. America is moving in two conflicting directions. First,

America is becoming more diverse and more information rich than ever before, in history. Secondly, out group vs. in group divisions are leading to greater political polarization throughout the country. People are smarter than ever, but at the same time people are fighting one another more than ever over identity. There are Democrats vs. Republicans, Whites vs. Blacks, the Rich vs. the Working Class, English speakers vs. Spanish Speakers, etc.

Also, even though America is actually at this point in history more capable of achieving greater things than ever, in history, we follow a man, who has no respect for scholarship, for critical thinking, or for emotional intelligence. We, the smart American people, are following a man who is actually not that smart.

This is what happens when people create a bogeyman when people find a scapegoat for their own unhappiness. Instead of fixing our problems, we point our fingers at an out group, and blame them for everything. At this point, our imaginations become our own worst enemy.



What could we be doing instead of hating and scapegoating others? Well, first of all, we could be building. We could be building our families, our communities and strengthening the fabric which holds our communities together. We could work to alleviate suffering at home and abroad. We could be educating our children and honoring

our educators for the hard work which they do. We could be advancing science, technology and the arts.



For the federal government, this means investing. We could invest in the infrastructure much as President FDR did. We could

invest in high speed rail to interconnect the country and to reduce car dependency. We could invest in clean energy such as solar and wind, recognizing that dirty coal is not coming back. We could improve our air transit system by investing in low space flight. This list goes on.

We also need to prepare our workers for the post-industrial world. The old industrial cities of the Northeast and the mid-West have primarily de-industrialized. I know for a fact, as a transplant to a southern town from the old industrial city of Baltimore, MD. Baltimore, MD is a perfect example of what happens when a city deindustrializes. Crime rose, and opportunity declined, but we can fight

this decay by investing in sunrise industries and divesting from sunset industries. Not only is coal and some forms of manufacturing not coming back, but there are also industries which are ripe for investment such as robotics, artificial intelligence, low space flight, and clean energy.



We have to also consider our social responsibility to the world. Nowhere in the world, should

there be famine or suffering due to senseless war. This was the whole purpose of the League of Nations proposed under President Woodrow Wilson, and the rise of International Law. We should be helping farmers across the world improve their agricultural techniques and do our best to mediate peace between nations.

But most of all, we need proper leadership. We need a president with vision. We need a person who can envision a better future and lead us there. Unfortunately, President Trump is not that person. So, he should resign. He should stop his vitriol and do what is right for his fellow Americans and his fellow human beings. He should quit, now.

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Announcements



Democrats of N. Mecklenburg Monthly Meeting Thursday, February 7th, 2019 7:00 PM MAGNOLIA WOODS 12125 STATESVILLE ROAD HUNTERSVILLE, NC 28078 (SHARED DRIVEWAY WITH CAROLINA VETERINARY SPECIALISTS) <u>CLICK HERE TO RSVP</u>

African American Community Foundation Grant Writing Basics Workshop Wednesday, February 6th at 9:00 AM Friendship Missionary Baptist Church 3400 Beatties Ford Rd. Charlotte, NC 28216

Announcements



SPCLC Goes To HK on J!

Southern Piedmont Central Labor Council Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 6:00 AM – 3:00 PM The annual HK on J March Jones Street organized by the NAACP (You must reserve your seat on the bus) Tickets by <u>Eventbrite</u>

<u>Health Care Justice:</u> Improved Medicare for All "Teach-In" Sunday, February 10th 3:00 – 5:00 PM Queens University Belk Chapel Radcliffe Ave (behind Meyers Park Traditional Elementary School) Charlotte, NC



North Mecklenburg Progressives Monthly Dinner Tuesday, February 12th, 2019 at 6:30 PM Famous Toastery <u>12715 Conner Dr., Huntersville</u> (Off Gilead, in front of Earthfare) RSVP – Email: <u>n.meck.progressives@gmail.com</u>

League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg Civics 101

(Civics 101 is a 5-week, one-evening-per-week program led by current and former government officials in a face-to-face format.) Regularly scheduled meetings - 6:15pm - 8:30pm

<u>First Class: Feb. 25th - City Government</u>

(at the Government Center) For more Info and to Register Click <u>Here</u>



Mobile Market Volunteer Orientation! Hosted by The Bulb Wednesday, February 27, 2019 6:30 PM – 7:30PM Free Range Brewing 2329 North Davidson St. Charlotte, NC 28205



Please submit your group events to <u>donnamarie93@gmail.com</u> by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the Announcements.



Women's March 2019

Women Leaders Legacy Breakfast



(Legacy Breakfast Moderator - Congresswoman Alma Adams, Panelists - NC State Sec. of State, Elaine Marshall, NC State Auditor, Beth Wood, NC Representative Christy Clark, 1st African-American woman Sheriff in NC, Paula Dance of Pitt County, Durham D.A., Santana Deberry)

(Women's March - DonnaMarie Woodson, Natasha Marcus, Gracie Hemphill, Diana Martin, Kathy Miller, Billie Gale, Congresswoman Alma Adams, Justice Anita Earls)

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