# BLUE NOTE 20



# HARVEST TIME AND AUTUMN WEATHER REFRESHES THE LOWCOUNTRY

Each year from September 15 to October 15, **Latinx Heritage Month** is celebrated to honor the histories, cultures, and contributions of Latinx communities, coming from over 20 countries in North, Central and South America, each with its own unique language and culture. This community is the fastest growing ethnic group in the US!

See 2020 Hispanic Census Data.

October 11, is **Indigenous Peoples' Day**, not an official holiday in SC, but we can celebrate it by learning more about the concerns of American Indian and Alaskan Natives. Listen to the awardwinning documentary <u>podcast</u>, "This Land," Season 2, and learn how the far right is using Native children to attack American Indian tribes and advance a conservative agenda.

# OCTOBER 2021 VOLUME Z, ISSUE 5

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# OCTOBER 2021

# MONTHLY DCDP GENERAL MEETING: MEET THE CANDIDATES

will be Virtual
October 12, 7 to 8:30 pm.

Our guest speakers will be Summerville Councilman Aaron Brown and St. George Councilwoman Margie Ladson. To register click <u>here</u>.

# OPEN DCDP LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

We're accepting nominations for:

DCDP 2nd Vice Chair

DCDP Secretary

State Executive Committeewoman

State Alternate Executive Committeewoman

Please email

### info@DorchesterDemocrats.com

if you'd like to nominate someone for a position.





**SCAN. REGISTER. VOTE** 



Register 46 representative Joshua Stephens and Voter Registration Chair, John Mosier, with DCDP members, at the Lincolnville Community Center, on 9/18/21.

**Dorchester Democrats** are holding voter registration drives, every Saturday in October. We'll focus on precincts in Summerville, so we can help Councilman Aaron Brown win reelection. (See **S'ville** below.)

Western Dorchester County Democratic Club will canvass in precincts in St. George, to help reelect Councilwoman Margie Ladson, on the last two Saturdays in October. (See **WDC** below.)

**We need volunteers** from 10 AM to 12 noon on these Saturdays, to talk to people about their concerns and register them to vote, in the following precincts:

October 16--Germantown (S'ville)

October 23--Butternut (S'ville)

October 23--St. George (WDC)

October 30--Carolina (S'ville)

October 30--St. George (WDC)

To sign-up and get the details, please email John Mosier at mosierjo@yahoo.com

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# WESTERN DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB MEETING

October 25, 2021
6:30 P.M.
LOCATION: CLASSY SASSY
421 North Parler Avenue,
St. George, 29477
Please plan to attend and bring
friends!!! Masks are required.

# NEW MEMBERS MEET

Virtually for

Dordems Coffee Talk

Saturday, October 16th,

10:00am-11:00am

Do you have questions about the Dorchester County Democratic Party? Want to get involved? Bring your coffee and join members of our Welcome Committee for a relaxed conversation. Invite your friends! Please email to sign up:

newmemberdcdp@gmail.com

# **The State,** 9/30/21

"SC students, residents go without fast internet despite millions committed to companies" An estimated 400,000 South Carolinians do not have fast internet access and the plan to provide it over 6 years is not quick enough. Read more here.

# OCTOBER 2021



# Schools are back, again but for how long?

SC Supreme Court <u>upholds</u> law banning school mask mandates, but SC Department of Education says that districts can enact and enforce their own mandates if they use federal funds or funds left from the previous school year. Read Post and Courier, <u>Opinion</u>, 9/29/21.

Over 107,000 SC school children have been quarantined for 7 to 14 days. since the start of this school year and many of these children don't have broadband to access classes virtually.

Being deprived of an education is more detrimental to a child than wearing a mask in class, per Molly Spearman, SC Superintendent of Education.

# NOVEMBER Z, 2021 MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

**Note:** Non-partisan candidates that the DCDP supports are in **Bold Italicized.** 

--Town of <u>Harleyville</u>-No endorsements.

--Town of <u>St. George</u>-DCDP supports District 2 incumbent
Councilwoman Margie Ladson.

--Town of Reevesville--No endorsements

--Town of <u>Ridgeville</u>-DCDP supports incumbents Mayor
Clarence Hughes, Councilwoman
Lorraine Grant and Councilwoman
Pfaehler Grant.

--Town of <u>Summerville</u>-DCDP supports District 1 incumbent
Councilman *Aaron Brown*.



Summerville Councilman Aaron Brown

# OCTOBER 2021 VOTER UPDATES

The state website, <u>SCVotes.gov</u> has updated voting information. Look under "Check My Voter Registration" to be sure it's up to date.

Generally, voters must register 30 days before the election to be eligible to vote. With recent purges of the rolls, EVERYONE should check your status before October 4, 2021.

Absentee ballots are now available, but Covid-19 **will not** be a valid reason for voting absentee in SC this year.

Citizens should continue to monitor https://www.scvotes.gov for updates on scheduled elections.

# November 2022 Krystle Matthews for US Senate asks:

"Why did Sen. Tim Scott vote against the bipartisan infrastructure bill?"

SC is in dire need and would get:

the next five years

✓ \$4.6 billion in highway funding
 ✓ \$274 million in bridge replacement and rehabilitation funding
 ✓ \$70 million to assist in the deployment of electric vehicles and charging stations over

PAID FOR BY THE DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

# DORCHESTER COUNTY AWARDED GRANT TO FIGHT HUNGER

In Dorchester County, 8.7% of the population does not have access to sufficient food to meet basic needs, including 11% of children!

Thanks to a recent Community Development Block Grant, help is on the way.

Dorchester County will receive a \$215,000 grant to address food insecurity in low-to-moderate (LMI) areas where these issues were worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **Lowcountry Food Bank** will administer the grant by allocating food, refrigerators and freezers to six of its partner agencies that serve these areas located in the western portion of the County.

The entities that will receive assistance are Greater St. Paul AME Church and Pringletown Community/Morris Chapel in Dorchester, Upper Dorchester Community Ministries and Shady Grove UMC in St. George, Bethel AME Church in Ridgeville, and House of Prayer and Praise in Harleyville.

Print, sign and share the Fair Maps Petition to End Gerrymandering in SC.

# OCTOBER 2021

### REDISTRICTING

<u>LWV video</u> answers questions about redistricting, from **People Powered Fair Maps** on 9/30/21. Examples of how "packing and cracking" is bad for community representation.

"Members of the local community need to be engaged in the process of defining what their community looks like and therefore the political lines that define them."

The 3 C's: culture, concerns and the count. Communities need to be able to elect their representatives not the other way around. Also discussed, the importance of working in coalitions—collective efforts will take us across the finish line.

SC Lede, "<u>Lil Bootsie</u>," 9/25/21 In this podcast episode, **Lynn Teague**, vice

In this podcast episode, **Lynn Teague**, vice president of the League of Women Voters of SC, looks at the redistricting process. "Lacking preclearance\* now means you have to challenge (district) maps after the fact." This makes the oversight job more difficult.

The 1st and 6th Congressional districts have a large discrepancy in population: the 1st has 6% too much and the 6th has 6% too little.

\*In 2013 the US Supreme Court gutted Section 5 of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, that required pre-clearance of any proposed voting laws from states that had a history of voter suppression. The majority held that voter suppression was a thing of the past.

### US SENATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Police Reform Act negotiations between Senators Tim Scott (R), Cory Booker (D) and Karen Bass (D) have failed to reach an agreement. After allowing Scott to water down the bill, qualified immunity remained a sticking point. Read more here.

Also see Dr. Rubin's blog entry, "**The Affable Assassin Strikes Again,**" <u>here</u>.



### Freedom to Vote Act

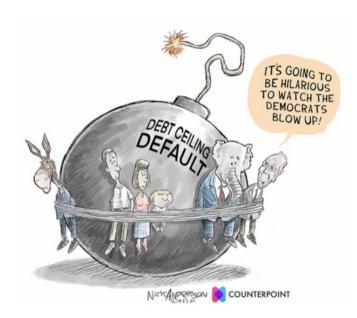
- Protects and expands the right to vote
- Eliminates the influence of Dark Money
- Curbs partisan and racial gerrymandering

Read the details here.

Where we go from here: If Joe Manchin, the bill's architect, is unable to get ten republican legislators to support the bill when it comes to the floor, it will be necessary for the Senate to change the rules in order to pass this and other key voting rights legislation like the **John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.** 

Biden must use his influence to get the Senate to pass the bill by making a filibuster carve out.

# OCTOBER 2021





**FYI** The Trump administration added \$8 Trillion to the National Debt.



### NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Tim Lewis Ann Marie Finn John Mosier John Lowe

Barbara Felder Rita Young

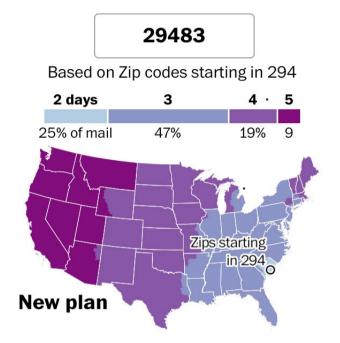
Editor: Aniya Cohen

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### OCTOBER 2021

How long it should take for mail to arrive, if it's sent from ...



We don't agenize, we organize!



TO THE DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY







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OF SOUTH CAROLINA