



DCDP 2025 ELECTION ISSUE

FALL 2025
VOLUME 6, ISSUE 4

LET'S KEEP OUR EYES ON THE PRIZE!

Democrats account for about 46% of eligible voters in SC, but Republicans hold 2/3 of the State House seats--a super-majority in both houses. We need to break their grip on power, or continue to get bad bills like anti-DEI, school vouchers and the punitive, no-exceptions abortion ban, S. 323.

With the resignation of Rep. Chris Murphy, the District 98 State House seat is available and flippable. Let's learn from past errors of low participation and show up for the Nov. 4 Democratic Primary (early voting is from Oct. 20 through Oct. 31, 8:30 AM to 5 PM).

Check scvotes.gov to see your voter registration, which has your districts, along with your polling place. You'll also be able to see your sample ballot there. In-person early voting, when possible, is the safest, easiest and most dependable way to cast your ballot; you'll need to bring your photo ID. Click [here](#) to download our most excellent ***Guide to Elections in 2025!***

Volunteers Needed...Here, There and Everywhere to GOTV

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." ~Helen Keller

Although we have been receiving a great response from folks filling out the DCDP interest form, we need more to volunteer. We need everyone reading this to step up. Step up even if you think you have nothing to contribute. Even if it is just calling a few friends or talking to your neighbor over the back fence, you will be contributing to the effort. Our focus at the moment is the race for the SC House District 98 seat, which has been held by Republican Chris Murphy since 2011. We feel we have a good chance to flip this seat. But we need a small army of volunteers to **Get Out The Vote** by canvassing door to door, phone banking, text banking, postcard writing and more. There are also a number of DCDP committees that need active members to serve in a variety of capacities. Sign up today by sending your name and phone number and volunteer interests to Debbie at allhandsdcdp@gmail.com Debbie Lodge also needs another committee lead for volunteers.

"Every person can make a difference, and every person should try."

~President John F. Kennedy

***GREETINGS FELLOW DEMOCRATS, POTENTIAL PARTY MEMBERS,
AND DORCHESTER COUNTY CITIZENS,***

We're officially 10 months into 2025 and we've all had to come to terms with just how fragile our democracy is. It's almost cliché at this point but elections have consequences and 2024 may have been one of the most consequential in American history. Since being sworn in and gaining control of all three branches of government the GOP wasted no time implementing project 2025 and attacking our institutions and long held rights.

While 2026 will be a true inflection point, we have a real opportunity over the next 90 days to send a clear message to our SC elected leaders that we've had enough of MAGA, the SC freedom caucus, and far right extremists that are polluting our politics. I want to recognize the amazing work of Gray Somerville and the entire communication team for the voters guide that was just published. This is an outstanding resource and truly helps inform our community on the issues and the candidates.

I also want to recognize the amazing work of Gwen Greenwalt and her precinct rebuilding efforts, Rita Adkins and the Take 98 team, and Debbie Lodge and the volunteer team who will be partnering to hit the ground and help flip another seat from red to blue in 2025 and even more in 2026.

I would be remiss to not acknowledge all the great things happening in our Western Club and the outstanding work of Tim Lewis for his Leadership there. I also want to recognize Barbara Felder for stepping up to help lead our high school outreach and for her and Richard Hayes leading the charge promoting the Democracy Builders program with the party.

Most of all this incredible work doesn't get done without our precinct leaders, your donations, your volunteerism, and your support.

I'm in absolute awe at what we've accomplished together over the last 7 months and I'm truly inspired at how much more we can still accomplish from here. While the GOP and its leadership is infighting, bickering, and embattled in various sexual scandals we're doing the work to win.

With immense gratitude and humility,

***MICHAEL FRONK, CHAIR
DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY***



STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 98 CANDIDATES



Damian Daly—a self-described moderate. His concerns are: SC leads in evictions, gun violence; the minimum wage is still \$7.25; we need to unionize; poor performing schools are bringing down the better performing ones; SC refused \$\$ to feed our kids; we need more gun laws.

No Website.

EARLY VOTING

**Municipal Elections and
DISTRICT 98 PRIMARY
October 20 thru October
31 (M-F)
8:30 AM to 5 PM**

For questions, contact
Dorchester County Elections
and Voter Registration,
(843) 563-0132,
vote@dorchestercountysc.gov

**ELECTION DAY is
November 4th
Polls will be open
from 7 AM to 7 PM**
Check your voter registration
for your district and polling
place at
SCvotes.gov

Check our website under
[BLOG](#) for Candidate
interviews with Comms chair
Gray Somerville.



Stephen Kohn—A husband, proud father, successful businessman, and Air Force veteran. He has served as President of the Charleston Area Realtist Association, President-Elect of the Charleston Trident Association of Realtors, and sits on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Lowcountry and Lowcountry Youth Services. He is also a mentor, an author, and is currently completing his Doctorate in Leadership at Charleston Southern University. In the State House, Stephen will be a fighter for our families. He will stand up for us and never backdown to special interests or bullies.

His priorities include:

- Building a stronger local economy by attracting businesses that hire local workers and tackling the affordability crisis.
- Restoring women's reproductive freedoms
- Protecting voting rights
- Investing in infrastructure to ease traffic congestion and make our roads safer
- Fully funding public schools while enhancing classroom safety
- Expanding access to health care
- Safeguarding our natural resources

Website:

www.StephenForSC.com



Dr. Sonja Ogletree-Satani—A dedicated leader, Air Force veteran, esteemed professor, and accomplished business expert with a passion for service and community empowerment. She brings over three decades of experience in leadership training, business management, consulting, and organizational development. She founded Corporate Cycle Consulting, LLC, where she has assisted countless individuals and businesses in achieving their strategic goals and optimizing their operations. She was the 2017-2018 National President of the American Business Women's Association and the 2019-2022 Chair of the South Carolina Area Council of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA).

Her priorities include:

- Protecting women's rights
- Economic growth and development
- Supporting public education
- Expanding access to affordable housing and healthcare
- Funding for infrastructure
- Common sense gun safety and gun violence prevention
- Fighting for the Middle Class: workers, unions and organized labor

Website:

www.sonjaogletreesatani4sc98.org

Primary Runoff (if necessary)

Early voting period:

November 12 - November 14

Early voting location: TBD

Day of Runoff: Tuesday, November 18, 2025

DISTRICT 98 SPECIAL ELECTION DAY

January 6, 2026

Voter Registration Deadline: Sunday,
December 7, 2025 (mail-in registration forms
will be accepted if postmarked by Monday,
December 8, 2025).

Early voting period: December 22 - January 2
(Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., closed
state holidays).

Day of Special Election:
January 6, 2026

DCDP MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 11, 2025, 10 AM to 12 PM

This meeting is online via Zoom

**Rep. Dr. Jermaine Johnson will tell us
why he will run for Governor in 2026!**

Please register on the website or click [here](#).

The next Membership meeting will be on
January 10, 2026, from 10 AM to 12PM.

WESTERN DORCHESTER COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB (WDCDC) MEETING

In-person, 4th Mondays

**October 27 and November 24
at 6:30 PM**

Open to members and aspiring members.

Classy Sassy Salon,

421 N. Parler Ave., St. George

Contact Tim Lewis for scheduled speakers, at
timlewis75@gmail.com

STATE PARTY ORGANIZING INITIATIVE

In 2026, South Carolina has the chance to
change the course of history but that won't
happen if we wait until the last minute. That's why
we're inviting you to step up and join our new
organizing program: "Democracy Builders."

It's simple: you become the go-to connection
between the Democratic Party and your own
community. It's our year-round outreach effort.

As a Democracy Builder, you'll:

- Check in a few times over the next year with 35–
50 neighbors and friends in your community
- Share key updates about elections and issues
that affect their lives
- Listen to what matters most to them
- Invite them to get involved in DCDP

You don't need to be a campaign veteran to
make a difference, just someone who cares
about building a better South Carolina. We'll give
you everything you need: training, lists,
resources, and ongoing support.

State Committee Chairpersons, Barbara Felder
and Richard Hayes.

Sign up [here](#) to be a Democracy Builder!

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

**Monday October 20 thru Friday October 31
(no weekends)**

8:30 AM to 5 PM

**Rollins Edwards Community Center
301 N Hickory Street
Summerville, SC 29483**

**St. George Middle School
600 Minus Street,
St. George, SC 29477**

**Wescott Park
9006 Dorchester Road
North Charleston, SC 29420**

OCTOBER EVENTS

*Chamber of Commerce and Journal
Scene Present*

Summerville Town Council

Candidate Forum

Tuesday, Oct 21, 2025

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM EDT

Faith Sellers Senior Center

312 N. Laurel St., Summerville

Doors open at 5:00 pm

Event begins at 5:30 pm

The event concludes at 7:30 pm

This is non-partisan and open to the public.

Click [here](#) for the **Candidate Interviews**
with Dexter Mack and Chubby Smith,
by our Comms chair, Gray Somerville.

NO KINGS

Protest Safely Teach-In Webinar

October 15, 7 PM ET.

Sponsored by the ACLU

Sign up [here](#).



POWER BELONGS
TO THE PEOPLE.
**JOIN THE
MOVEMENT**

SATURDAY, OCT. 18

From 10 AM to 1 PM
500 N. Main St., Veteran's Monument
Summerville, SC
OR

SOUTH CAROLINA UNITES

1:30 to 4 PM
SC State House
1100 Gervais St.
Columbia, SC

FALL 2025

DCDP Communications Team Report

Re-organized in June of this year, the DCDP Communications (Comms) Team is working aggressively to create a communications function capable of doubling the reach and impact of our party over the next two years. Grounded in a strategy that focuses on clear goals, defined audiences, and disciplined execution, the team has delivered over 30 email blasts, 6 blog posts, 2 reports, 2 newsletters, and a working prototype of a fully redesigned website.

Looking ahead, priorities include launching the new website, automating new member onboarding, and expanding local political coverage through guides, profiles, and social media. To keep momentum, the team is calling on members to route communications requests through the Comms Director, volunteer for open roles, and share updates on local activities and successes—efforts that will help build a stronger, more connected Democratic community in Dorchester County. Contact Gray Somerville, chair, gsomerville@gmail.com



THE SUMMERVILLE NAACP PRESENTS

THE FREEDOM FUND *Gala*

"ROOTED IN FREEDOM
RISING FOR JUSTICE"

OCTOBER 25TH | 3PM

SILENT AUCTION | LIVE MUSIC | DINNER

920 W. 1ST NORTH STREET | SUMMERVILLE, SC
BROWNSVILLE CHURCH OF GOD
LIFE CENTER

TICKETS \$50

PROCEEDS TO
BENEFIT SCHOLARSHIP
AND COMMUNITY
INITIATIVES

HOSTS
RAPHAEL JAMES, LIVE 5 NEWS
& SAVANNAH J. STAR 99.7

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
KRISTON D. NEELY
ESQUIRE

FOR TICKETS CALL 843-607-0668

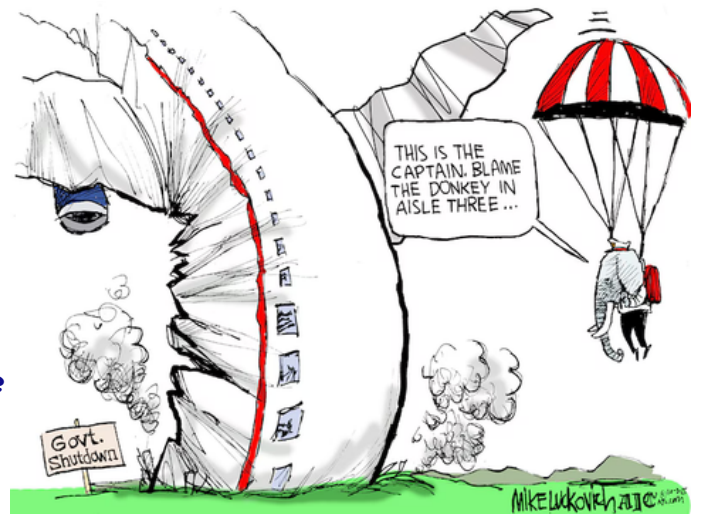
This event benefits scholarships and community initiatives.

"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.*"

-Jane Goodall 1934-2025

Remember that the Constitution doesn't begin with "I, the President," it begins with "We, the People."

~Gloria Steinem



Newsletter Contributors

Michael Frank
Rita Adkins
Debbie Lodge
Richard Hayes
Barbara Felder
Gray Somerville
Jeni Atchley
Nick Outen
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Aniya Cohen, editor

Donate



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