

# **New Hanover County Democratic Party**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**November 11, 2009**

**[www.newhanoverdems.com](http://www.newhanoverdems.com)**

### **Democrats Sweep Wilmington Elections!**

Congratulations to Mayor Bill Saffo and the winners of the Wilmington City Council election. Saffo was re-elected with 61 percent of the vote. Democrats Earl Sheridan, Charlie Rivenbark and Kevin O'Grady were elected to the three city council seats that were at stake. When the new council members are sworn into office in December, six out of seven city council members will be registered Democrats. Here is a link to a Wilmington Star-News story about the winners in the: [Wilmington election](#).

However, from the results of elections in other places around the state, we have our work cut out for us in 2010. To paraphrase President Obama, this is a time 'to celebrate, but not to rest.'

### **2010 Election: Start Your Engines**

Filing begins February 8, 2010. Primary Election Day is May 4. Here are some of the offices that will be on the ballot:

U.S. Senator (six year term); U.S Congress, Seventh District (two year term);

NC Senate (Julia Boseman seat, two-year term);

All our NC House District seats – House 16, 18, and 19 (two-year terms)

Two Superior Court Judgeships (eight-year terms); Several District Court Judgeships, including the Rebecca Blackmore, Melinda Crouch, and James Faison seats (four-year terms); plus, a number of statewide Appellate Court races.

Sheriff (four-year term); District Attorney (four-year term); Clerk of Superior Court (four-year term)

Two County Commissioners (four-year terms); four members of the Board of Education (Nick Rhodes and three Republicans up for re-election, for four years)

Soil & Water Conservation Supervisor (two members, four-year terms).

## **First Anniversary of Election of Barack Obama**

On November 5, 2009 Democrats across the county celebrated the one-year anniversary of the election of President Barack Obama. Here is a link to the WECT TV coverage of the celebrations: [Anniversary celebration.](#)

Two days later, history was made again when the United States House of Representatives voted to pass their health insurance reform bill. President Obama said that “despite countless attempts over nearly a century, no chamber of Congress has ever before passed comprehensive health reform. This is history.”

## **University Poll: North Carolinians Favor Public Option**

North Carolinians favor a public option as part of health insurance reform, according to a recent Elon University poll. The survey found that 54 percent would support health insurance legislation that includes a public option and 41 percent said they would use a public option if available. Three out of four North Carolinians said they believe the health care system needs reform. However, poll respondents are equally divided about what type of change is needed. Forty-seven percent favored a national insurance plan in which the federal government pays most of the health care costs for all citizens and 47 percent oppose it. The poll was conducted last week and surveyed 703 North Carolina residents. It had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.8 percentage points.

Here is the link to the poll results: [University poll.](#)

## **New Hanover County Democrats: Making a Difference**

First Vice-Chair **Deborah Maxwell** is the 2009 recipient of the *Social Work Section Award for Outstanding Achievements to Social Work in Public Health*. This prestigious award was presented by the North Carolina Public Health Association. Congratulations, Deborah!

Thanks to the following volunteers for the Adopt-a-Highway **Project Green Day** held on October 10: **Lotan Corriher, John McHarry, Jennifer MacNeish, Becket Morgan, Jim Morgan, Al Pacer, Aaron Ward, Allyson Goins, Lisa Hudson, and Molly Gargon.**

## **Photographs of 2009 Unity Banquet**

Check out Owen Wexler’s photographs from the 2009 Unity Banquet. These are excellent, professional quality photographs. Go to the web site at [www.newhanoverdems.com](http://www.newhanoverdems.com) Click on News & Media, click on “photo galleries.”

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