

The Anderson County Democratic Women's Club News

January 2024

Monday, January 22nd – 5:30 – 7:00pm

The 2024 Elections: A Pivotal Moment for Our Future with Tamara Bates

201 Café and Wine Bar (201 Jackson Square, Oak Ridge TN 37830)

5:30 to 7:00 pm -- Light hors d'oeuvres provided – Cash bar

As the 2024 elections approach, the stakes have never been higher. Several ACDWC members have answered the call and are running for office, including Anne Backus (State Representative in District 33 against John Ragan); Theresa Venable (Anderson County School Board D5); Ebony Capshaw (Special Election County Commission D6); and Ashley Craven (Oak Ridge City Schools).

This election is more than just about selecting representatives; it's about shaping the future of our nation and Tennessee. Every vote counts and every voice needs to be heard. These elections will impact key issues like healthcare, climate change, economic policy, and social justice.

Electing Democrats up and down the ballot is crucial for advancing a progressive agenda that looks out for the well-being of all citizens. Our goal is beyond winning an election; it's about building a community and a nation where everyone thrives.



Leading our charge is Tamara Bates, the Director of Community Engagement for the Tennessee Democratic Party. Her experience and dedication are invaluable in our efforts to engage and empower communities across Tennessee.

Your involvement is crucial. With Tamara Bates' leadership and the support of the Tennessee Democratic Party, let's unite to create a more inclusive future for Tennessee and our nation. Your vote is your voice – ensure it is heard in 2024!

Tamara Bates, a dynamic and influential figure in the political landscape, currently serves as the Director of Community Engagement for the Tennessee Democratic Party.

With a career marked by significant contributions to historic elections, Bates has been a pivotal organizer and strategist. Her notable work in the groundbreaking Senate elections for Raphael

Warnock and Jon Ossoff showcased her exceptional organizing skills and political acumen.

Previously, Bates played a crucial role as an organizer for the Florida Democratic Party. Her expertise was further highlighted during the 2016 presidential election, where she was a key member of Hillary Clinton's campaign team. In each of these roles, Bates demonstrated her deep commitment to grassroots movements and the power of community engagement. Her strategies encompass a wide range of grassroots tactics such as effective canvassing, persuasive phone banking, and relational organizing.

Bates is a strong advocate for the importance of voting, often emphasizing that the art of voting is not just a right, but a cornerstone of democracy. Her work has consistently focused on empowering communities and ensuring that every voice is heard in the democratic process. Tamara Bates stands out as a dedicated, inspiring leader whose efforts have significantly impacted the political sphere, especially in advocating for democratic engagement and participation.

Future ACDWC Events

February 26th

Glenda Whitfield will speak about Gun Control

The Clinton Community Center (101 S Hicks St, Clinton, TN 37716) 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Other Events

Upcoming Public Meetings: View meeting schedules for [Oak Ridge](#) and [Anderson County](#).

City Council Regular Meeting, 7 pm 2nd Monday of month, Municipal Building Courtroom

Municipal Planning Commission, 5:30 pm 3rd Thursday of month, Oak Ridge Municipal Courtroom

Traffic Safety Advisory Board, 7 pm 3rd Monday of month, Central Services Complex Conf Room

Disability Advisory Board, 11 am 3rd Monday of Month, Senior Center

Land Bank Board of Directors, 8:30 am 3rd Tuesday of month, Municipal Building Courtroom

Recreation and Parks Advisory Board, 7 pm 2nd Thursday of month, Civic Center Social Room

Anderson County Commission Meeting, 6:30 pm 3rd Monday of month, Anderson County Courthouse Rm 312

Anderson County Library Board, 5:30 pm 2nd Thursday of month, Clinton Public Library

Anderson County Operations Committee, 6:00 pm 2nd Monday of month, Anderson County Courthouse Rm 312

Anderson County Democratic Party:

The party is looking for volunteers ready to make the next 300+/- days until the election count. To volunteer go to: www.andersoncountymunicipalparty.com/Volunteer2024

MLK Prayer Breakfast:

Monday, January 15, 2024 -- 7:30 AM 9:15am -- Green McAdoo Cultural Center (101 School St. Clinton, TN, 37716)

Gather for breakfast and to reflect on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life's work. Special musical guest Brandon Whitaker and several area faith leaders will lead prayers so that we may continue to live into King's dream. Sponsored by the Green McAdoo Cultural Center and the Oak Ridge/Anderson County NAACP. This event is free, but please [reserve a ticket](#) so they can plan accordingly.

MLK: IT BEGINS WITH ME: CREATING A BELOVED COMMUNITY Presented by Oak Ridge Solutions on Racism:

Monday, January 15, 2024 -- 1:00 PM 2:00pm -- Oak Valley Baptist Church (194 Hampton Rd Oak Ridge, TN, 37830)

All are invited to join in celebrating the legacy of Dr. King's vision of nonviolent transformation into a beloved community. We will hear from area choirs, and community members including: Pastor and City Council member Derrick Hammond, City Manager Randy Hemann, Author Al Chambles, the Rev. David Allred, NAACP President Annette Flynn, and Rabbi Ahuvah Loewenthal.

Club Updates

Make a Difference:

The **Hospitality Committee** is looking for those who want to make sure our meetings are fun to attend. Hospitality is in charge of the venue and the food/beverages for our monthly meetings. They are also the folks who do the decorations for the annual picnic and other events. The Hospitality Committee is a good way to make a difference with the Club, while accommodating a busy & variable personal schedule.

The **Scholarship Committee** needs a chair. If you would like to help a young like-minded local woman further her education please step forward. The task involves setting the criteria for the scholarship, working with school counselors to get our scholarship information to the students, and then vetting the applications.

Please contact Regina Guy or Ann Miller if you would like to help with the Hospitality or Scholarship committees.

2024 ACDWC Board:

Ann Miller, Ann Mostoller, Amanda Mantooth, Pat Marshall, and Regina Guy were duly sworn-in at the Holiday Party. A big thanks to our outgoing board members Jan Newsome and Milly Taylor for your service to the club.

Member news:

Appointment? Election? Promotion? Marriage? New baby? Move? If you have news to share with your sister Democrats please let us know and your news will be included in the newsletter.

December 15th Holiday Party

Friday, December 15th

The Lodge (424 Goans Ave. Clinton)

The Holiday Party was attended by approximately 90 people – a wonderful turnout! People really brought their best, and we enjoyed overflowing tables of great potluck dishes and lively conversation. There was a brain-teaser trivia game and we enjoyed a mini-concert from our own Liz&Tim.

There were three ways to share the holiday spirit: The [Child Advocacy Center of Anderson County](#) provides a safe haven and access to professionals for children who are abused, neglected, or trafficked. At the party, we passed the hat in support of the CAC. The CAC works with numerous local



agencies, such as the DA's office, the juvenile court, Children's Hospital, and the local police departments, to provide services and interventions for the child and the non-offending caregivers.

Attendees were also asked to bring contributions for the Briceville Friendship Center's food bank. We outdid ourselves with our generosity! The director of the Friendship Center was very happy for the donations. They had just given out their last box of food and our contribution will get the shelves restocked and ready for those in need. There are many in the Briceville area in need, especially grandparents raising grandchildren and those coping with the outcome of addiction.

We also had a mystery gift silent auction to support the work of the ACDP and the ACDWC. We were able to offset some of the cost of the party with the bids. Congratulations to all who got a fun surprise via the silent auction. The ACDWC also sold the poinsettias that were used for table decorations.



During the party, the attendees were able to honor Helen Jernigan for her many years of leadership and hard work supporting the ACDWC and the Democratic cause in East Tennessee. Helen supports the ACDWC Scholarship Fund with a monthly donation – for which we are immensely grateful. We were honored to have Helen and her family attend the party!

And in the final bit of housekeeping, the ACDWC 2024 officers were sworn in by Liz Ibbotson.

A big thanks goes out to all the volunteers who helped transform the space from plain to festive, who helped wrangle the many dishes on too few tables, who helped people find parking, and those who helped get the word out.

Contact the ACDWC

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Treasurer: Amanda Mantooth mantoothaj@gmail.com

Secretary: Pat Marshall patmarshall744@gmail.com

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Club Website: acdwc.org