
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.

Sections

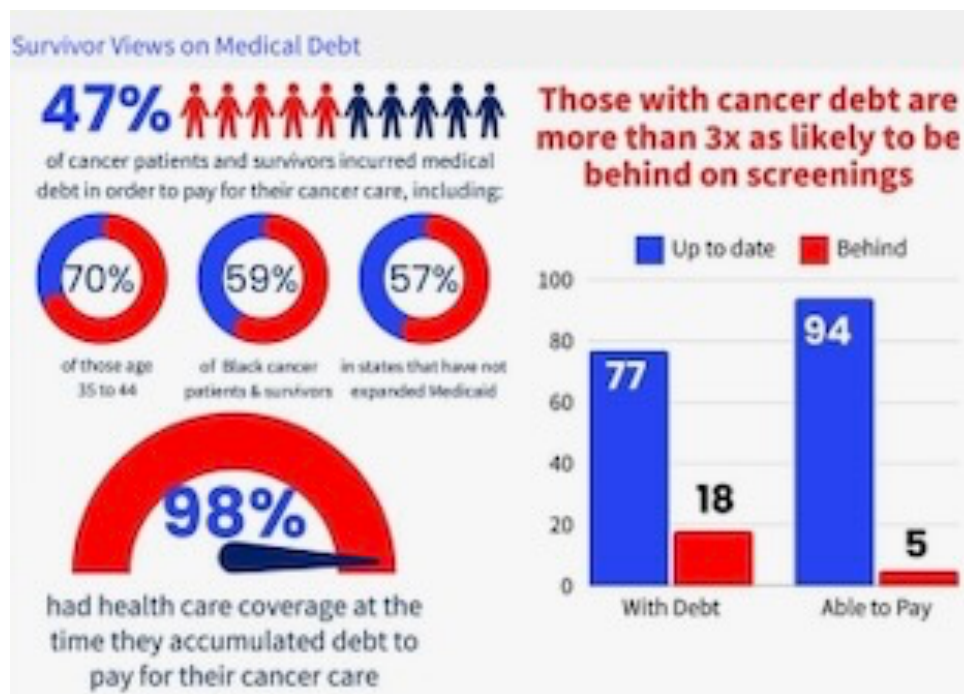
- Spotlight - by DonnaMarie Woodson
- Editorial - by Tarik Kiley
- Announcements
- Happenings Gallery!

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

“Confronting the Cost of Care”



By
DonnaMarie Woodson

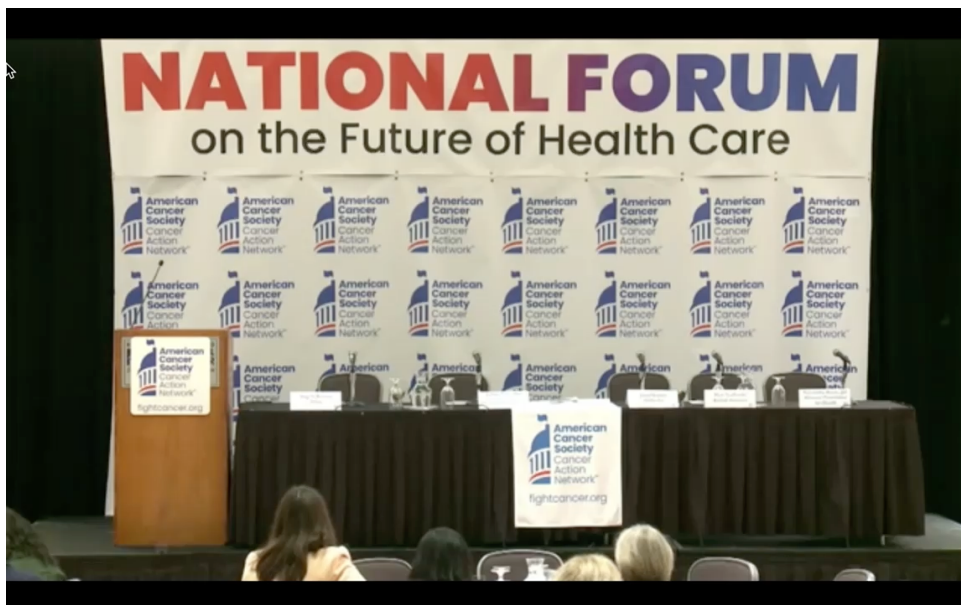


I was honored to be invited by the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACSCAN) to share my cancer journey and experience with medical debt at our 2024 National Forum on the Future of Health held in Washington, D.C on May 9, 2024.

Being a 9-year survivor of two different cancers, colon and breast, I believe my mission is to educate as many people as possible on the lack of health care and the effects of medical debt.

The Forum was such an important conversation to have because it directly addressed the lack of communication between hospitals, insurance companies and the patient.

This is my speech introduced by the President of ACS CAN, Lisa Lacasse. [Click here to start the video.](#)



I'm proud to be a Lead Volunteer for The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network of North Carolina which supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top legislative priority at the local, state, and national level.



We're always looking for new volunteers, especially in District 12, Congresswoman Alma Adams, which I lead. Let me know, I'd be happy to bring you onboard. ❤️

Check out our State Website:

<https://www.fightcancer.org/states/north-carolina>

Work Cited

<https://www.fightcancer.org/states/north-carolina>

Editorial

“No One is Above the Law: Constitutional Democracy and the Rule of Law”

By
Tarik Kiley
5/31/2024



The United States Constitution begins with the following words: “We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic

Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

In a similar manner, the US Declaration of Independence says, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”



These phrases suggest that while we haven't been living in a perfect society, that the United States stands for certain ideals. Among these ideals is the idea of equality. Each person is equal to another. "Equal Justice Under Law" is a concept stemming from our political ideals. Our courts are to hold us to the requirements of said equality.

Through the years, the idea of equality has been tested. It was tested with the existence of slavery and the events leading up to and surrounding the Civil War. It was tested during the Civil Rights era. It has been tested and tested again, against the hateful doctrines of white nationalism, and during other instances of national intolerance, such as the Red Scare. It has also been tested and is currently being tested by former President Donald Trump's anti-immigrant, MAGA fanatics.



Former President Donald Trump is one who has worked to trample on the ideals found in the US Constitution and those, upon which this nation has been founded. He has actively worked to overthrow our system of government, has worked to bring about dictatorship, and has considered himself to be above the law. Of course, his most recent 34 felony charges show that

even he is not above the law. In this country, the rule of law stands. No one personage or celebrity, or aspiring dictator, is in a position to thwart the rule of law, or to build a cult of personality to overthrow our system of laws.

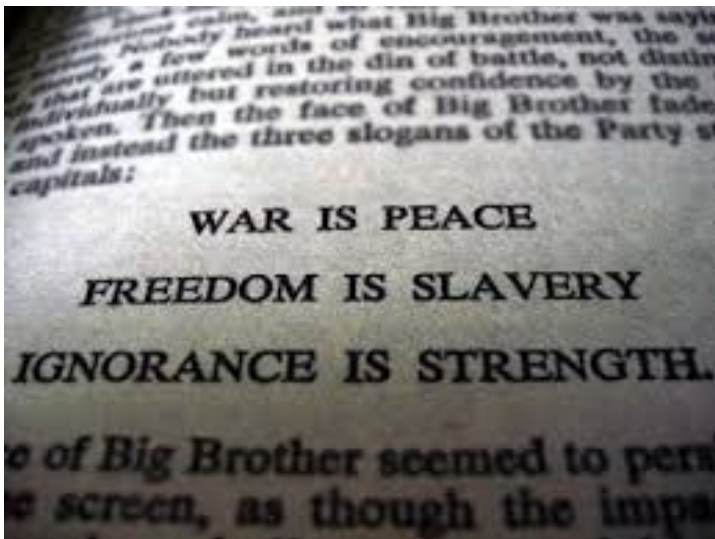


Abraham Lincoln once said, during his Temperance Address at Springfield, on February 22, 1842, “Of our political revolution of ’76, we all are justly proud. It has given us a degree of political freedom, far exceeding that of any other nation of the earth. In it the world has found a solution of the long mooted problem, as to the capability of man to govern himself. In it was the germ which has vegetated, and still is to grow and expand into the universal liberty of mankind.”

The thought here is that political freedom and equality go hand in hand. Each of us has rights and should be free to think for ourselves. At the same time, there are those who would establish hierarchies of dominance over others, and who would work to take others’ freedom away. The January 6th US Capitol Attack is a very evident example of Donald Trump encouraging his followers to overthrow our system of laws, and to ignore the evidence that he had lost the national election for the President of the United States in 2020.

We can't allow any one person to work to take away the freedom of the American people. Americans who think critically know when our freedom is under threat. Instances such as the Jan 6th insurrection perpetuated by former President Trump, exemplify the need to stay informed and to stay diligent concerning our freedom as Americans.

Power-hungry persons such as Donald Trump will play on the ignorance of Americans towards knowing our own freedom and understanding that our founding documents outline our freedom clearly. The Constitution isn't only a document, but a codification of living American ideals. Ideals are based on ideas, and the United States of America is essentially an idea based on the concept of self-government.



When ignorance rules, freedom is threatened, because those who are ignorant don't or choose not to understand the system of laws, the ideals, and the concept of freedom that we use to govern ourselves. The hope is that the majority of Americans will stand

with reason, will continue to understand our founding documents such as the US Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, and will think critically about the future of our representative democracy.

Works Cited

<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution-transcript>

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<https://www.history.com/topics/cold-war/red-scare>

<https://abrahamlincoln.org/features/speeches-writings/abraham-lincoln-quotes/>

<https://www.supremecourt.gov/about/constitutional.aspx>

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Announcements



Democrats of North Mecklenburg

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, June 6th, 6:30 pm

**North Regional Rec Center on Old Statesville Road,
south of Bailey Road, in Cornelius.**

Democratic Women of North Mecklenburg County

Monthly Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Caldwell Presbyterian Church

Hope Community Center

1609 E. Fifth St. Charlotte 28204

Meet & Greet – 6:30 pm

Program - 7:00 pm

Announcements



Volunteer for Josh Stein:

Please share [our volunteer sign-up link](#) with your friends and family. Volunteers are the backbone of our campaign, and each door-knocker or phone-caller plays a huge role in our story.

You can also join one of our constituency groups: [Women for Stein](#), [Farmers for Stein](#), [Faith Leaders for Stein](#), and [Students for Stein](#) are kicking off their efforts for the election.



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

Happenings!



The Executive Corner:

Rev Rodney Sadler, Joel Segal, DonnaMarie Woodson

Rev Glencie Rhedrick

Coalition of United Progressives-CharMeck Chronicle

Editor: DonnaMarie Woodson

Contributor: Tarik Kiley