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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021

"This Thanksgiving we're all in a very different circumstance, things are a hell of a lot better," - Joe Biden

We agree with Joe Biden! So much has happened since Thanksgiving 2020 and we have so much to be thankful for in Cumberland County, our Commonwealth, and the Country.

Many of us missed celebrating Thanksgiving 2020 with family due to the rising cases and deaths from Covid-19 and the Delta variant. The first Covid vaccines were administered in December 2020 and we now have the benefit of a widely available and effective vaccine. Late last month, the FDA approved that vaccine for children 5-11, a real game-changer for working families across this country.

In 2021, we saw a welcome return to in-person learning for most students and significant job growth with the unemployment rate slipping from 5.2 percent to 4.8 percent in September.

Democrats alone passed the [American Rescue Plan Act](#) which provided much-needed relief to hard-working families, struggling businesses, and strapped municipalities dealing with Covid-19. In the past month, the Biden administration passed the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) and the House recently got the [Build Back Better Act](#) across the finish line. Both bills represent a once-in-a-generation investment that will transform our crumbling infrastructure and put people first. We now need to hold our legislators' feet to the fire to actually fight for all of these funds and use them for their

intended purpose.

In 2021, Cumberland County Democrats embarked on some much-needed infrastructure improvements too! We rolled out a new [website](#) right before the May primary and are consistently communicating with the voters of our county via [Facebook](#) and [Email](#). Our Democratic headquarters is undergoing a renovation project to transform our meeting space and put our best foot forward in 2022. None of these things would be possible without **YOU** our dedicated members, volunteers, and donors.

We truly **THANK YOU** for every bit of time, energy, and money you have given this past year and in others. We hope you will stay engaged and join us on our journey to protect our Democracy, expand our electorate, and get Dems elected.

We wish you and your family a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with all the trimmings! Pace yourself and stay safe!



Judge Lori Dumas has won a statewide recount! She is the only PA candidate of either party to flip a statewide seat this year - netting one more judge for Dems in 2021.

Congratulations to Judge Dumas, and thank you to every single voter, donor, and volunteer who made her victory possible!



Commissioner Corner

Happy Thanksgiving! Wishing you and your families a peaceful holiday season!

Great to see so many of you on Zoom at our county meeting last week.

Here's a few issues I'm paying attention to in Cumberland County...

1. The potential tolling of the I-83 bridge. The bridge has reached the end of its useful life; it has to be replaced. At this writing, PennDot plans to toll the bridge to pay for the replacement. I've attended many meetings with PennDot, local stakeholders (Camp Hill, Lemoyne, Wormleysburg, and Cumberland County planning and public safety to express our collective disapproval of the current plan. Local traffic will divert to avoid the toll and our municipalities, businesses, children, schools, local roadways, safety, pocketbooks, etc. will be negatively impacted. Here's more information about the plan as well as some local news coverage.

- <https://www.penndot.gov/RegionalOffices/district-8/ConstructionsProjectsAndRoadwork/DauphinCty/Pages/I-83-South-Bridge-Project.aspx>
- <https://www.pennlive.com/news/2021/09/tolls-on-i-83-south-bridge-west-shore-leaders-want-to-hit-the-brakes-as-study-continues.html>
- <https://www.pennlive.com/news/2021/11/house-votes-to-void-penndots-bridge-tolling-plan-but-a-roadblock-looms-up-the-road.html>

2. The prioritized focus areas set forth on The I-81 Improvement Strategy include Carlisle Area Exits 44-52. It appears we may get a fix to some of the I-81 safety issues Carlisle suffers. Check out the plan here <https://www.i81southcentralpa.com>

Cumberland County is in desperate need of infrastructure dollars. Decades of underfunding leave our roads and bridges overworked, damaged and in many areas unsafe. Our air is polluted and our water quality is compromised. Our first responders (many volunteers) and public safety officials are taxed with responding to accidents created by congestion and out-of-state traffic. The bi-partisan infrastructure bill just signed into law by President Biden should bring significant dollars to Cumberland County. Our federal and state delegation will have to fight for us to bring funds to Pennsylvania and Cumberland County. There's no time like the present to call or write your representative this reminder.

3. Our constitutional right to vote is precious and once again under attack. PA House Bill 1800 and its 11 amendments could potentially do more harm than good as attempts are made to "fix" PA's antiquated election code. Last week the House State Government Committee reached out to me asking for feedback on the bill. I generally opposed the legislation and found that much of it was designed to suppress votes. One of the proposed amendments would do away with mail-in voting. Please take the time to contact your state representative/senator to let them know what you want as election law in PA.

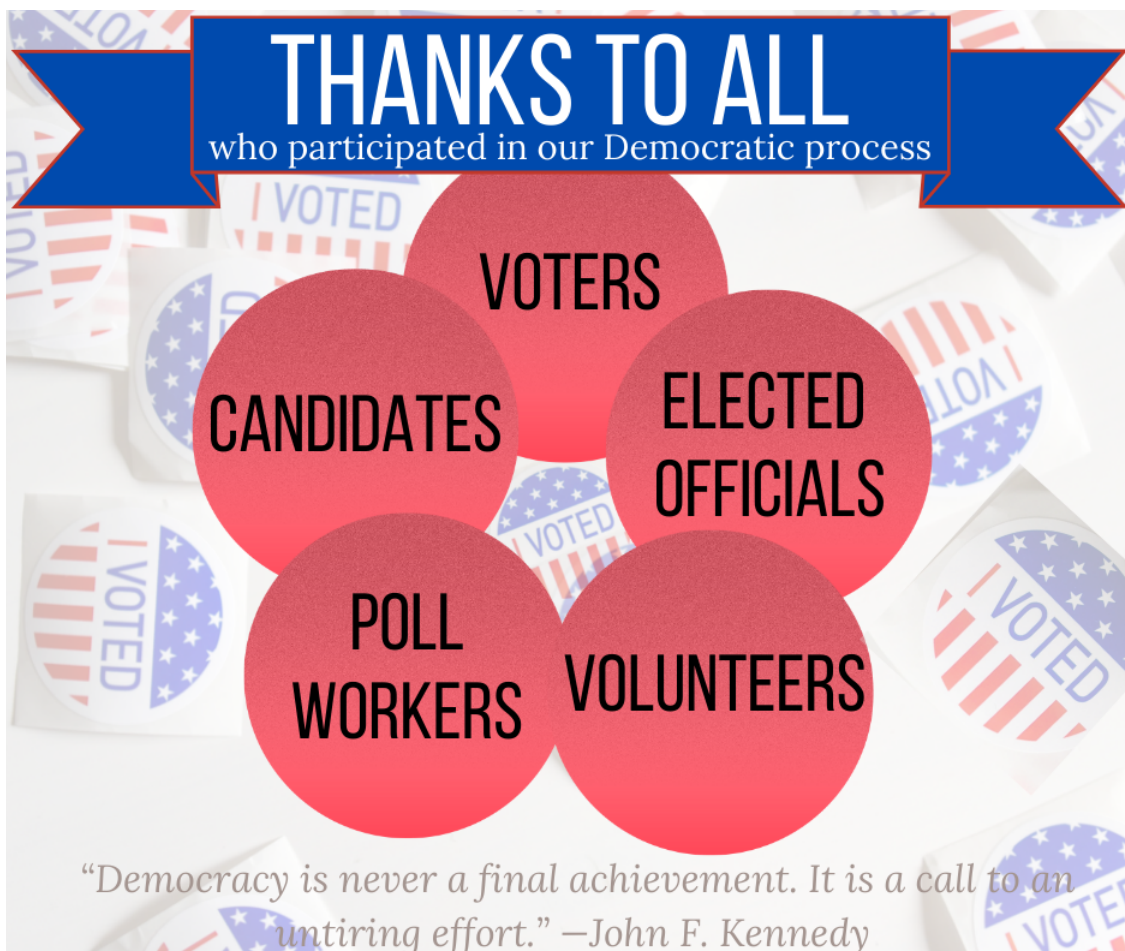
Thank you for the opportunity to serve and I'll see you next year.



And the winners are...

The PA recount is over and the results for the 2021 Election are final. Congratulations to all the candidates who won their races. ALL CANDIDATES are winners in our book and we thank every candidate for their efforts and hope they will run again!

Please click [here](#) to see a list of winners from across the county. If we missed someone, we apologize. Please reach out and let us know and we will add your name. Contact CCDC [here](#).



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We are the Democratic Party of Cumberland County.

We are working year round to elect Democrats to positions of power at every level of government. Your contributions help us organize, train and mobilize the 56,000 Democrats in Cumberland County from Shippensburg to Camp Hill and everywhere in between!

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