Farms, Food, and Hunger: A Conversation with Candidates

Wednesday, September 9, 2020
7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.
WELCOME

Calvin Allen
Moderator & Director of Rural Forward NC
Translation Services
Servicios de Traducción

If you are not bilingual, follow these instructions to listen to interpreting:

**Windows or MacOS:** 1) Click on globe, 2) Click on the language you would like to listen to (English / Spanish / etc.)

**Android or iOS:** 1) In your control panel, click on the 3 dots ("more") 2) Choose "Language Interpretation"; 3) Indicate what language you would like to listen to (English / Spanish); 4) Click on "Done"

Si no es bilingüe, siga estas instrucciones para escuchar interpretación:

**Windows o MacOS:** 1) Haga clic en el globo, 2) Haga clic en el idioma que quisiera escuchar (English / Spanish / etc.)

**Android o iOS:** 1) En sus controles, haga clic en los 3 puntos ("more") 2) Elija "Language Interpretation"; 3) Indique el idioma que quiere escuchar (English / Spanish); 4) Haga clic en "Done"
## Event Organizers

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<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Burroughs</td>
<td>MomsRising</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Jones</td>
<td>Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brandy Bynum Dawson</td>
<td>NC Rural Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earline Middleton</td>
<td>Food Bank of Central &amp; Eastern North Carolina</td>
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<td>Jared Cates</td>
<td>Carolina Farm Stewardship Association</td>
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<td>Lisa Misch</td>
<td>Rural Advancement Foundation International- USA</td>
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<td>Mike Darrow</td>
<td>Feeding the Carolinas</td>
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<td>Michelle Osborne</td>
<td>Rural Advancement Foundation International- USA</td>
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<td>Tiffany Gladney</td>
<td>NC Rural Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morgan Whitman Gramman</td>
<td>North Carolina Alliance for Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marianne Hedrick Weant</td>
<td>North Carolina Alliance for Health</td>
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<td>Nick Wood</td>
<td>Carolina Farm Stewardship Association</td>
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AGENDA

- Welcome
- Candidate Introductions
- Moderated Q&A
- Closing Candidate Statements
- Polling & Closing
Forum Guidelines

1. The moderator will seek responses to five questions on farms, food, and hunger from each candidates. They will have 90 seconds to respond.
2. Prior to the event, the order in which candidates would receive and respond to questions was randomly selected and sent to the candidates.
3. Candidates will not have the opportunity for rebuttal.
4. Candidates are asked to limit their responses to the subject matter of the questions asked and refrain from personal attacks against other candidates. If necessary, the moderator will remind candidates of this rule if responses are not civil or germane.
5. A time-keeper, my colleague, Phillip Sheldon, will alert individual candidates directly through the Zoom chat when their response time is at an end.
6. Due to the limits of the format, live questions from the audience were not possible, but you submitted questions when registering for the event. Those submissions were considered by the event co-hosts when developing the final list of questions.
7. Each candidate will have 1 minute for a closing statement.
8. The event will be recorded through Zoom and shared on social media and in follow up email communications.
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Jenna Wadsworth
for Commissioner of Agriculture
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Josh Dobson
for Labor Commissioner
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Jen Mangrum
for Superintendent of Public Education
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Jessica Holmes
for Labor Commissioner
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Steve Troxler
for Commissioner of Agriculture
MEET THE CANDIDATES

Yvonne Holley
for Lieutenant Governor
MODERATED Q&A

Josh Dobson
for Commissioner of Labor

Jessica Holmes
for Commissioner of Labor

Steve Troxler
for Commissioner of Agriculture

Jenna Wadsworth
for Commissioner of Agriculture

Jen Mangrum
for Superintendent of Public Instruction

Yvonne Holley
for Lieutenant Governor
North Carolina is the 10th most food insecure state in the country, while at the same time being the 10th most agriculturally productive state in the nation.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted weaknesses in our food systems, which we have also seen with natural disasters, such as hurricanes, in the past.

What solutions will you offer to create a resilient food system that nourishes all North Carolinians in the face of future emergencies?

Response Order: Dobson, Holmes, Troxler, Wadsworth, Mangrum, & Holley
Before COVID-19, one in five North Carolina children lived in food insecure households.

Feeding America now estimates that nearly 30% of our children are food insecure, lacking consistent access to healthy, affordable foods.

What actions will you take in your respective office to better support child nutrition programs in serving fresh, nutritious meals to all children in the state?

Response Order: Holmes, Mangrum, Troxler, Holley, Wadsworth, & Dobson
According to 2018 data, over 42% of SNAP participants in North Carolina are in working families-- in other words, even though the adults work, they do not make enough money to make ends meet and cover all of their food needs.

**How will you address this disparity?**

Response Order: Mangrum, Troxler, Dobson, Holley, Holmes, & Wadsworth
Food systems workers, and specifically the Latinx community, have been disparately impacted by COVID-19 due to work environments, lack of access to healthcare, and job loss.

What steps will you take to address the short-term and long-term needs of food system workers and the Latinx community in particular?

Response Order: Holmes, Wadsworth, Troxler, Dobson, Mangrum, & Holley
North Carolina has a long legacy of farms owned and run by African Americans. There is also a long history of discrimination against Black farmers, to the point that today, only 4% of farm operations in the state are African American-owned. If elected, what will you do in the role of your respective office to support Black farmers and other underserved farming populations such as beginning, female, or small scale farmers, in North Carolina?

Response Order: Wadsworth, Holley, Holmes, Troxler, Mangrum, & Dobson
CLOSING STATEMENTS

Jenna Wadsworth
for Commissioner of Agriculture

Josh Dobson
for Commissioner of Labor

Jen Mangrum
for Superintendent of Public Instruction

Jessica Holmes
for Commissioner of Labor

Steve Troxler
for Commissioner of Agriculture

Yvonne Holley
for Lieutenant Governor
Poll #1: Top Issues

- Food insecurity and hunger?
- Child nutrition?
- Issues facing Black farmers?
- Farmworkers, food processing, and issues facing Latin X populations?
- The COVID-19 pandemic?
- Climate change?
Remember to Complete Your Census!

How to Respond to the Census

**Online:** The 2020 Census is the first time that households can complete the census online. Online completion available at: [https://my2020census.gov/](https://my2020census.gov/)

**By Phone:** You can also complete the Census questionnaire by calling: 844-330-2020 (English); 844-468-2020 (Spanish). (Customer Service Representatives are available every day from 7 am to 2 am Eastern Time)

**By Mail:** Mail your completed, paper census form to: U.S. Census Bureau National Processing Center at 1201 E 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132

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Everyone Must Count Before Sept 30th – my2020census.gov or 844-330-2020
2020: Plan Your Vote

Voting by Mail:
- Request a mail-in ballot no later than **5 p.m. Tuesday, October 27**
- Absentee ballots must be submitted no later than **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3**

Early Voting:
- Early voting, also known as one-stop absentee voting allows any registered voter to cast an absentee ballot in person on select days prior to Election Day.
- Unlike on Election Day, when registered voters can only vote at their specific precinct, one-stop voting allows registered voters to vote at any one-stop absentee voting site in the county.
- One-stop sites will have all the ballot styles for a given election at each site.

Important Dates:
- **October 15-31** - Early Voting
- **October 16** - Last day to register to vote
- **October 27** - Last day to request absentee ballot
- **November 3** - Election Day
- **November 3** - Absentee ballots due at must be postmarked by 5 p.m.
Thank You
Complete your evaluation