

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE WEEKLY UPDATE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE DNC COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

November 8, 2013

[Congratulations to Our New Democratic Elected Leaders!](#)

On Tuesday, voters went to the polls across the country and took part in electing Democratic leaders up and down the ticket, from city councils to the new Governor-elect of Virginia, Terry McAuliffe.

To celebrate, the DNC released the video below, congratulating the winners in just a few of the important races across the country. For the Democratic Party this is just the beginning and now we are "On to 2014!"



[Virginia Says Yes to Obamacare](#)

Throughout the campaign in Virginia, Republican candidate for Governor Ken Cuccinelli tried to make the race a referendum on Obamacare saying, "If you really like Obamacare, there's a candidate in this race for you, and it's Terry McAuliffe."

On election night, Virginians made their choice.



What The 2013 Elections Meant

On Wednesday, all five Democratic Campaign Committees released a joint memo on the results of the 2013 elections and held a press conference call to discuss the results further. Click on these headlines to read a few examples of the press coverage, and view the memo below: CNN: [DNC: Election day 'a very good day to run as a Democrat'](#) | Washington Post: [Democrats begin effort to negatively define Chris Christie before 2016 campaign](#)

Here are excerpts from the memo:

To: Interested Parties
From: DNC, DSCC, DCCC, DGA, DLCC
Date: November 6, 2013
Re: What last night meant

The 2013 election cycle is now behind us, and two undisputable facts emerged: it was a great year to run as a Democrat, and it was an even worse year to run as a Republican.

- **Virginia:** Virginians elected Governor-elect Terry McAuliffe and Lt. Governor-elect Ralph Northam, and once all votes are counted, we believe Democrats will have swept all three statewide offices for the first time since 1989. As of this morning, Democrats have picked up a net of two seats in the state House of Delegates, eliminating the GOP's veto-proof majority, with several other races undergoing canvasses.
- **New Jersey:** Senator Cory Booker was elected a few weeks ago by a double-digit margin over a Tea Party candidate who supported the government shutdown. Voters passed an increase in the minimum wage that Christie had vetoed, and maintained Democratic control of both houses of the state legislature – losing no seats in the Senate – despite a massive investment of resources by Republicans and the Governor on the other side.
- **New York:** Mayor-elect Bill DeBlasio won by a historic margin, becoming the first Democrat to win the seat since 1989.
- **Mayors:** Democrats saw big wins across the country, from St. Petersburg where the incumbent Republican was unseated to Charlotte, Boston, Houston and Atlanta where Democrats were elected and reelected by wide margins.
- **Florida:** Democrat Amanda Murphy won a special election for a state House seat in Pasco County that had been held by Republicans for nearly twenty years.

SO WHAT HAPPENED, AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN MOVING FORWARD?

With yet another major election defeat, Republicans continue to [play the blame game](#), as they struggle to figure out why they keep losing.

1. **CANDIDATES MATTER**
2. **THE REPUBLICAN BRAND *IS* THE TEA PARTY BRAND – AND PEOPLE DISLIKE BOTH!**
3. **THE ENTHUSIASM GAP FAVORS DEMOCRATS**
4. **OBAMACARE V. TEA PARTY EXTREMISM & SHUTDOWN.**
5. **THE REBRAND FAILED**
6. **REPUBLICANS HAVEN'T LEARNED THEIR LESSON**

SUMMARY

In short, Democratic candidates are well-positioned heading into 2014. Voters make no distinction between the Republican Party and the Tea Party, and appear likely to make next year a referendum on their social extremism and government shutdown. Strong Democratic candidates and incumbents will provide a stark contrast to the Tea Party recklessness.

Read the full memo [here](#).

President Obama Voices Support for the Senate's Passage of ENDA

This week the Senate passed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and the President voiced his support for the bill, urging the House to pass it as well.

ENDA makes it illegal to fire someone based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, and allows millions of Americans to not have to fear losing their jobs. The President released a statement saying supporting ENDA saying, "Just as no one in the United States can lose their job simply because of their race, gender, religion or a disability, no one should ever lose their job simply because of who they are or who they love."

To help Americans understand the importance of ENDA, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney released a video to explain the bill.



Click [here](#) to watch Carney's 2-minute explanation.

To recognize the Senate's important step for equality the DNC released the image below:



[Nationwide coverage of how Obamacare is lowering health care costs for millions](#)

[Despite the GOP going to extreme lengths to stop Obamacare's implementation](#), it is going into effect and is working for Americans.

A new Kaiser study found that millions of Americans qualify for a government tax credit that will help reduce the cost of their healthcare policy. See the below clips for local news coverage on these tax credits and those it will benefit.

Iowa:



YouTube: <http://youtu.be/VonfdzJPuLg>

South Carolina:



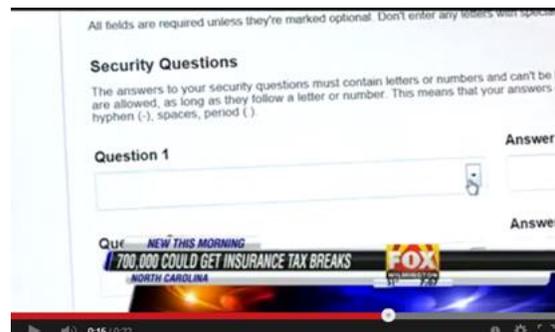
YouTube: http://youtu.be/P3CYc3nC_W4

New Mexico:



YouTube: <http://youtu.be/6jK5f4P7AGU>

North Carolina:



YouTube: <http://youtu.be/4p17mNWUuMA>

West Virginia:



YouTube: <http://youtu.be/BDhwLerys0w>

Illinois:



YouTube: <http://youtu.be/CDwDM-ooEcg>

In the States

- On Monday, State Senator Anna Tovar, State Senator Steve Farley and health care exchange enrollee, Sandy McNabb participated in a press call to discuss the benefits of Obamacare in Arizona. Click on this headline to read about the call and learn about McNabb's story: [Arizona Democrats tout Obamacare benefits, despite problems with rollout.](#)
- On Thursday, the Georgia Democratic Party sent an email in support of State Senator Jason Carter's bid for Governor. This offers a "fresh start" for the state of Georgia to bring in a cohesive team, backing one candidate, ahead of the 2014 election. In the email, Democratic Party Chair of Georgia, DuBose Porter said, "Georgia has an opportunity for a fresh start, and now has fresh ideas for the future at the top of the ticket."
- On Thursday, the Michigan Democratic Party [released a memo](#) on new polling showing that Democrats are in a strong position going into 2014. The bipartisan poll from "[Inside Michigan Politics](#)" shows that Democratic "Gubernatorial challenger Mark Schauer is in a statistical tie, and U.S. Senate candidate Gary Peters is leading by 5 points." The Michigan Party is optimistic about the future and ready for 2014!
- On Thursday, the Wisconsin Democratic Party released a statement on Governor "Scott Walker's Anti-Woman Past, Present, and Future." At a time when the [National Republican party is drifting further and further away from women](#), and women view the [Republican Party more unfavorably](#) than just a year ago, Scott Walker supports legislation that would even further restrict a woman's control of her own health care. Read the state party's full memo [here](#).

President Obama Welcomes Stanley Cup Winners to the White House

On Monday, President Obama welcomed Stanley Cup winners, the Chicago Blackhawks, to the White House. It's the second time the team has visited, securing the Stanley Cup twice under President Obama's presidency. The President spoke highly of his hometown team saying, "Now, since I took office, we've hosted a lot of championship teams -- from Boston and New York; Pittsburgh and Miami," the President said. "But since I've been President, only one team has brought a world championship to my hometown of Chicago. And now the Blackhawks have done it twice."

The Blackhawks won the series in game 6 with a last minute goal during the final 76 seconds of the third period. The President made an appeal to the other professional teams in Chicago, saying he wished to see them in the White House as well. "To the Bulls, Bears, Cubs, White Sox -- I am term-limited, so you guys have got to get moving. I need to see you here soon. Championships belong in Chicago. So, to the Blackhawks, thank you for bringing it back home. Thanks for bringing the Stanley Cup."

Click [here](#) to watch the video of President Obama's remarks at the event.

