

HOPE MILLS ELECTION

FOR YOUR MAYOR AND TOWN COMMISSIONERS

3 GOOD REASONS FOR YOU TO VOTE FOR WHO WILL BE THE NEXT MAYOR AND TOWN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:

1. **Your one vote can make a big difference in who wins a local election.**
How just one person voted – or didn't vote – determined the winners in elections in 39 North Carolina cities in 2019. Your vote matters!
2. **The Town Board makes decisions that affect nearly every part of your life –**
police conduct, new jobs, affordable housing, parks, street repair and possible zoning for a new grocery store (or a landfill). But you decide who wins!
3. **Listen to what other voters say about why they're voting . . .**



"... too many of my ancestors died for me not to be using my right to vote."
- Kristen Marion



"... I want someone in town hall fighting for issues important to our community."
- Robert Dawkins



"... town elections can be very close, so my one vote could have a big impact."
- Angelica Robles



"... it's not just about who's president. Who runs local government also affects me."
- Austin Padilla



"... not voting would be giving my power away; we must use every tool we have to be heard."
- Rena McNeil

VOTE IN THE HOPE MILLS ELECTION

Election Day is November 2

Early Voting is Oct. 14-Oct. 30

See back page for tips for voting

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Pick the Winners!

All Hope Mill voters may vote for 1 candidate for Mayor and up to 5 candidates for Commissioner. The election is nonpartisan, with no party labels. The candidate for Mayor and the 5 candidates for Commissioner with the most votes will win. The winners will serve for 2 years.

The Mayor presides at Town Board meetings. The Town Board of Commissioners appoints the Town Manager, adopts ordinances, and oversees the functions listed in the box below.

CANDIDATES FOR MAYOR

JESSIE BELLFLOWERS

Background: My leadership experience includes a successful 26-year military career, a successful All-American past state commander (VFW), a successful 18-year career at FTCC (current Department Chair for Business Administration), and four successful years as a town commissioner. While commissioner, I've attended every town board meeting, something unheard these days in politics!



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: There are many challenges that face our community that require results-driven leadership, creative thinking, building cooperation and consensus, and a tremendous amount of teamwork. My vision is simple: *"Continuous improvement of quality of life for our community that will naturally grow and progress in an economically sustainable and healthy environment."*

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? Police accountability: Effective police accountability and com-

munity relations starts with strengthening police and community trust. Community policing is a priority as the police department must reach out to citizens who live and work in the community it serves. To accomplish these priorities, we must invest in our police officers' training and equipment.

More info at: facebook.com/Jessie-Bellflowers-Mayoral-Candidate-for-Hope-Mills-683170305880487

JACKIE WARNER

Background: Daughter of 82nd Airborne Veteran of four Vietnam tours. Graduate of Cumberland County schools. Retired school principal. Small business owner. Serving my fifth term as Mayor. Consistent, positive leadership for growing town. Experience with networking to promote Hope Mills. Most important time to be a spokesperson and ambassador full time.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: Strategic planning for growing infrastructure due to our population and commercial growth; maximize funding and resources without raising property taxes; complete identified capital improvements, including street pavings, recreational priorities and public safety building. A shared vision for the future by welcoming citizens' input and partnerships to continue our small-town traditions.

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? Jobs for youth: Surveys indicate that our community needs more services – plumbers, electricians, carpenters, etc. The targeted ages for filling these high-paying, permanent jobs are (but not limited to) high-school graduates and people in their mid-twenties. FTCC, local vocational programs and businesses partnering together can offer training and apprenticeships to fill these positions.

More info at: facebook.com/JackieWarnerforMayor

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN COMMISSIONER

SALLY MICHAEL BAILEY

Background: For 20 years, I volunteered and chaired the Hope Mills Appearance Committee; among other projects, we were responsible for erecting the fountain at Town Hall and landscaping at the lake. I am also chair of the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Joint Appearance Commission.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: Reevaluate the town's landscaping codes and consider how to improve neighborhoods for both appearance and safety, including the historical part of town. Oversee finances of constructing new fire and police building. Monitor growth for its impact on traffic and the types of business that help the town.

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? Affordable housing: We should partner with private developers to build housing units for seniors in safe areas. Instead of just letting developers do what they want and hoping for the best, we should reach out and tell them what we need. We have many retirees who need affordable homes with handicap-accessible features.

ABOUT THIS VOTER GUIDE

THE 2021 VOTER GUIDE FOR HOPE MILLS is produced by Democracy NC and Voting Matters Inc., which are not affiliated with any party or candidate.

This Guide provides responses from the candidates and vital information about the voting process. Candidates had a word limit for responses. A follow-up question asked them to address one of these topics: affordable housing; police accountability and community relations; or jobs for youth. Some candidates did not answer that question.

If you have a question about voting, call 910-678-7733 or 888-687-8683 or go to NCVoter.org and NCVoterGuide.org.

What's the Town Board Do?

The Mayor and Commissioners make a wide range of decisions affecting your life. They oversee the town's finances; they hire and supervise the town manager, who hires the police chief and many department heads. The Town Board sets policies and priorities and oversees the many functions of local government, including:

- The Police & Fire Departments
- Zoning & Building Code Enforcement
- Tax Rates & the City Budget
- Economic & Community Development
- Affordable Housing
- Anti-Discrimination Ordinances
- Parks, Recreation & Arts
- Waste Disposal & Recycling
- City Govt. Employee Wages & Benefits
- Appointments to Boards & Committees

CANDIDATES FOR TOWN COMMISSIONER *continued*

JERRY LEGGE

Background: I have been a Hope Mills Commissioner for 20 years. I retired from the business my wife and I owned, Better Built Builders. I am also president of the Hope Mills Youth Association, which works closely with the park and recreation department.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: My top priority is finish the golf course recreational complex, with multiple baseball fields (later adding gyms, etc.) so we can host tournaments and possibly a World Series. We need to finish the public safety building and hire a new police chief and new police officers because they are retiring.

BRYAN MARLEY

Background: I have spent 25 years employed in local government. Fifteen of those years employed by the Town of Hope Mills. I am very familiar with local government operations and have six years of service as a Commissioner with Hope Mills.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: Completion of the Public Safety Building, Splash Pad and Inclusive Playground. Improve the levels of service and infrastructure to our citizens while working with Board Members to maintain the tax rate as it stands.

KENJUANA McCRAY

Background: In 2019, I was elected as Mayor Pro Tem for the Town of Hope Mills. I am the Board liaison for The Parks and Recreation Committee, Air Quality Stakeholders, Hope Mills Tier 1 Committee, Nominating Committee, and a committee that I created, The Hope Mills Prime Movers, a millennial committee.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: 1: Continue to work on creating workforce

opportunities like a trades academy to ensure our citizens can earn a living wage. 2: Countywide transportation to include Hope Mills. 3: Continue to engage the younger population who are our future leaders.

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? *Jobs for youth:* We're creating a trades academy within South View High School designed for young adults. It would help them become qualified in a trade and, we hope, then place them in paid internships after the training is complete. We're in the final stages of this, so it is a priority for me.

GRILLEY MITCHELL

Background: I'm a retired military veteran of 20 years; Community Service Project Coordinator, ALMS House; Chairman, Hope Mills Veterans Affairs Committee; and President, Cumberland County Veterans Council. I have a multi-functional background with over 40 years of civilian and military leadership and management experience in logistics, security, retail and support operations.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: Effective communications between the town staff and the citizens of Hope Mills. Citizens of Hope Mills deserve to be represented by someone who cares about their issues. Road maintenance. Improved Safety. Affordable housing for special needs individuals, families and the elderly. Improved quality of life for many.

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? *Police accountability:* All law enforcement personnel should be held to the highest standards. To reduce the abuse of force, pay will be suspended until cleared of all charges. Hold leadership accountable. Establish zero tolerance police for all ethical violations. Adapt some of the same rules as the military. Diversity hiring.

WHERE TO VOTE EARLY

Hope Mills voters may go to one place for early voting:

Cumberland County Board of Elections, 227 Fountainhead Lane, Fayetteville.

When: Weekdays, Oct. 14 - Oct. 29, 8 am-5 pm and Saturday, Oct. 30, 8 am-3 pm.

JIM MORRIS

Background: I was the Command Chief Master Sergeant for 4+ years and Senior Enlisted Advisor on all matters pertaining the quality of life in the community, including the Operations, Safety, Utilities, Hospitals, Schools, Budget, Roads and Infrastructure and Businesses operating in a community greater than 50,000 people.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: 1: With the 295 Loop nearing completion, we need to embrace our growth without destroying the charm that attracts people here. 2: We should attract non-profit organizations to serve our large military population. 3: The 12u girls World Series victory shows the potential for improving our facilities to attract tournaments here.

What steps would you take to improve or address one issue? *Jobs for youth:* I would work with all town organizations, businesses, churches and non-profits to promote summer hires or, at the very least, internships supporting managerial/executive positions so that our youth can gain valuable experiences that will help them after they finish school and enter the job market.

JOANNE SCAROLA

Background: Retired US Army Staff Sergeant with 20 years; deployed six times, including three tours to Iraq and one to Afghanistan. Associates degree in automotive systems technology. Certified welder. Active in the VFW, Cape Fear Friends of the NRA, Hope Mills Veterans Affairs committee and Board of Adjustments.



My top 2 or 3 priorities if elected: Infrastructure needs, to include roads and to get the wasteful spending under control. Example would be constant half-done road repairs (dip in the road in front of Hope Mills Lake); do it right the first time and we won't have to repair it as frequently.

More info at: facebook.com/JoanneScarolaForCommissioner



**“When we all vote, we determine our future.”
- Michelle Obama**

Have Your Say!

The ballot box is the one place where we are all equal: *One person, One vote.* Your vote is a powerful way to express yourself. Vote in every election because your future matters!

3 WAYS TO VOTE

1. DURING EARLY VOTING

Hope Mills voters may vote early at one location: the Cumberland County Board of Elections office; see the address and hours in the box on the previous page. (Hope Mills would have to pay to open another site.) Voting early is a good option if you have moved or have not voted in several years because your registration may need updating.

You can update a registration or register as a new voter during Early Voting by using **same-day registration**. Show the poll worker one of these with your name and current address: a NC driver’s license or other government photo ID; or a utility bill, a bank or payroll statement; or any document from a government agency (bill, letter, permit, etc.). The document may be a digital image on your cellphone.

2. ON ELECTION DAY, AT YOUR PRECINCT

Election Day is Tuesday, November 2, 2021. On Election Day, go to polling place assigned to **your** precinct between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm. See the list below; in some cases, multiple precincts are combined to vote at one location this year. If you’re in line by 7:30 pm, you will be able to vote. If you go to the wrong polling place in Hope Mills and don’t have time to go to the correct poll, ask to use a *provisional ballot*. If you are properly registered, it will count.

3. MAIL-IN ABSENTEE VOTING

Any registered voter may vote by mail. First, submit a request for the absentee ballot, either by using the online form at demnc.co/mail or by completing and returning a paper form so it arrives at the board of elections at least 7 days before Election Day. The paper form is at demnc.co/request. Vote the ballot sent to you in the presence of two witnesses or a notary. Fill out and sign the envelope sent to you with the ballot and return to the elections office by Election Day at 5 pm. See demnc.co/mail for details. Follow the directions carefully.

7 TIPS FOR VOTING

1. **No photo ID** is needed to vote in 2021. The poll worker will ask you to state your name and address and sign in.
2. If you are not registered to vote or have moved, **register at your current address at least 25 days before the election**. See demnc.co/reg to register to vote online or to download a registration form. If you miss that deadline, you can use **same-day registration** to register and vote on the same day during Early Voting (but not on Election Day) – see #1 at left under “3 Ways To Vote” for how to use same-day registration.
3. **Newly registered voters** may need to show a form of ID if there was a problem verifying their registration; they will need to show one of the non-photo IDs listed in #1 at left or any photo ID.
4. Any voter may **get help inside the poll** from a near family member (not a cousin). Voters with a disability (including reading difficulty) may get help from anyone except their employer or union agent. Voters with a physical, mental or medical disability may vote in a vehicle at the polling location’s curb (“curbside voting”).
5. You don’t lose your right to vote if you have an **outstanding warrant, traffic ticket, bankruptcy, civil fine, or misdemeanor**. No elections official will ask you about outstanding fines, tickets, etc.
6. You may **take a list of your choices** inside the polling place to help you remember, but do not show the list to others or leave it. You may view a list on your cellphone but don’t use the phone as a **camera**; taking pictures inside the poll is prohibited.
7. If you mark the **wrong choice by mistake**, ask the elections official for a new ballot to replace a “spoiled” one.

**Questions? Call 888-OUR-VOTE or 910-678-7733
or visit NCVoter.org**

Where to Vote on Election Day, Nov. 2

Vote at the polling place for your precinct on Election Day, November 2. Voters living in several precincts are directed to vote in another polling place for 2021. See list below. If you don’t know your precinct, look it up at demnc.co/poll or call the elections office at 910-678-7733.

YOUR PRECINCT	YOUR POLLING PLACE FOR NOV. 2021	YOUR POLLING PLACE ADDRESS
CUMBERLAND 1A CUMBERLAND 03 CUMBERLAND 04	E. MELVIN HONEYCUTT ELEM. SCHOOL	4655 LAKEWOOD DR., FAYETTEVILLE 28306
HOPE MILLS 1A	HOPE MILLS RECREATION CENTER	5766 ROCKFISH RD, HOPE MILLS 28348
HOPE MILLS 2A HOPE MILLS 2B	COTTON FIRE DEPARTMENT	4618 CALICO ST, HOPE MILLS 28348
HOPE MILLS 3 PEARCES MILL 2A PEARCES MILL 2B	HOPE MILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL	4975 CAMERON RD, HOPE MILLS 28348
HOPE MILLS 4	C. WAYNE COLLIER ELEM. SCHOOL	3522 STURBRIDGE DR, HOPE MILLS 28348
STONEY POINT 1 STONEY POINT 2	LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH	5991 ROCKFISH RD, HOPE MILLS 28348