Written by Angela Leonard | PDA Western North Carolina
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The Western North Carolina chapter of PDA is based in Asheville, NC and was just recently formed in December. Most members of the chapter have been long time activists in local, state, and national politics and in many progressive causes. The group was eager to get started in a big way so they recently endorsed the Congressional candidacy of Asheville city councilman, Cecil Bothwell.

Cecil is seeking the Congressional seat in the NC 11th district. He will be challenging the incumbent, Blue Dog Democrat, Heath Shuler, in the May 8th Democratic primary.

Self employed as a building contractor, Cecil has long been interested in sustainable design, building techniques, and alternative energy. He has also owned the micro-publishing firm Brave Ulysses Books since 2000.

From the outset, Cecil opposed the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and has most recently participated in Washington DC protests against the Keystone Pipeline. Cecil supports many PDA positions including federal job programs, protecting and strengthening Social Security and Medicare, single payer health insurance, campaign finance reform, and a Constitutional Amendment to nullify the Citizens United decision.

Cecil's campaign is people powered, and he has pledged that he will not accept corporate or PAC money. His campaign website contains detailed information about his positions on many political issues. Visit Bothwell2012.com to learn more about Cecil.

Photo: (Left to right) Linda Brown, Cecil Bothwell and Angela Leonard