

## MCRC Reconstitutes at February Mass Meeting

Every two years, the Republican Party “reconstitutes” itself, from top to bottom. This is especially important during a Presidential Election year, as is our current situation. At the local level, Unit Committees are organized to represent Republicans who are registered to vote in their respective cities and counties. Middlesex County Republicans were invited to assemble on February 17, 2024, at a Mass Meeting for the purposes of electing a Committee Chair, a Unit Committee and delegates to the Republican First District and State Conventions.

Gail Mitchell was elected as Chair for the 2024-2026 term of office. Gail served as MCRC Treasurer for 2022-2024 and worked as an Operating Room Nurse at a Level 2 Trauma Hospital. She has great ideas and exciting plans for leading MCRC forward through the next two Hugely Important election cycles.

**BIG THANK YOU** to John Hooper and his team for all their accomplishments over the last two years!

During the Mass Meeting we also elected 20 Precinct and At-Large Voting Members along with Associate Members. Then we approved Delegates to attend the District and the State Conventions.



MCRC 2022-2024 Chair John “Hoop” Hooper passes the gavel to MCRC 2024-2026 Chair Gail Mitchell

Immediately after closing the Mass Meeting, Gail convened the first regular business meeting of the newly constituted Committee. She moved directly to nominations and election of MCRC officers for 2024-2026: **Vice Chair** – Ally Ward; **Treasurer** – John Mitchell; **Secretary** – Patti Taylor

Gail had also recruited members to serve as chairs of these Standing Committees: **Membership** – Patti Taylor; **Public Relations** – Alice Luck; **Events & Fundraising** – John Hooper; **Election Operations and Logistics** – John Weidner; **Administration & Governance** – Gail Mitchell

## Republican Primary Election Day is June 18, 2024

Early in-person voting at the Election Office in Saluda begins Friday, May 3 for the Primary Election in June. The main order of business for Republicans in June will be selecting our candidate to run in November for United States Senator against the odious Tim Kaine. On Thursday, April 18 MCRC will host a Dessert-and-Coffee Meet & Greet at the Middlesex Shooting Sports Club in Hartfield at 7 p.m. featuring three potential Republican nominees for US Senate candidate – **Hung Cao, Jonathan Emord and Eddie Garcia**. Tickets may be purchased at [www.eventbrite.com/e/middlesex-gop-presents-va-candidates-for-us-senate-2024-tickets-871367482597](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/middlesex-gop-presents-va-candidates-for-us-senate-2024-tickets-871367482597).

## Election Day is Nov. 5, 2024

Early in-person voting at the Election Office in Saluda begins Friday, September 20, for the General and Special Elections in November. Our goal is to elect President Trump, reelect Rob Wittman and to replace Tim Kaine in the U.S. Senate. We need Huge Turnout to do this. Many of us prefer the experience of casting our ballot in person on Election Day, but the current crisis requires us all to please, *please*, consider **voting in-person in Saluda before Election Day**.

# Republicans Are Winning Elections in Middlesex

Republicans in Middlesex County made a historic statement last November by electing two MCRC members to local office and by returning two stalwart Republicans to the Virginia General Assembly.

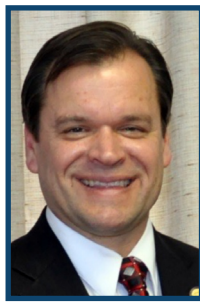
MCRC Member Randy Crittenden was elected Supervisor for Pinetop District. This is the first time in as long as anyone can remember that MCRC nominated a Republican to compete for Supervisor. Randy had the GOP Elephant on his campaign signs and he now sits on the Board of Supervisors.

MCRC Member Tommy Kennedy won his election bid in November and now represents Harmony Grove District on the School Board. Since there is no procedure for political parties to nominate candidates to school board positions, MCRC provided financial and moral support to Tommy’s assisted campaign. Tommy declared in survey materials his Republican affiliation and he clearly had the edge over his opponent during candidate forum appearances.

While winning is sweet, we acknowledge the courageous efforts of MCRC Members Ally Ward in her run for Clerk of Court and Evelyn Beaumont in her bid for School Board in Jamaica District. Ally sought and obtained MCRC’s nomination, despite being advised by an incumbent county official, “We run for public office as Independents in Middlesex County”. We suggest that any candidate for public office who wants to WIN in Middlesex County should run as a Republican.



**Richard Stuart**  
**Republican Winner**  
**ELECTED**  
Senator  
Virginia Senate



**Keith Hodges**  
**Republican Winner**  
**ELECTED**  
Delegate  
Virginia House  
of Delegates



**Randy Crittenden**  
**Republican Winner**  
**ELECTED**  
Middlesex Country  
Board of Supervisors  
*Pinetop District*



**Thomas Kennedy**  
**Republican Winner**  
**ELECTED**  
Middlesex Country  
School Board  
*Harmony Grove District*

**And THIS guy:**



**Donald J. Trump**  
**Republican Winner**  
Republican Presidential Primary  
March 5, 2024



## 2023 Recap — Red, White and Blue Event

The annual Red, White and Blue event held last summer was a huge success! While pictures don't do the event justice, below we have a few shots from behind-the-scenes and at the event itself.



*American-made red, white and blue Corvettes reinforce the 2023 MCRC fundraiser, Red, White and Blue Meet the Candidates event*



*VA Assembly Delegate Keith Hodges informs the assembled guests of political happenings in Richmond*



*Jamaica Board of Supervisors candidate James Evans with Jamaica constituent Alice Luck*



*Honoree and former MCRC Chair, Lee Davis, reunited with her team of officers:  
L-R Cheryl Prince Teagle, Sandi Lent, Lee Davis, Alice Luck*



*THE Event Team: (L-R) Pat Hooper, Gail Mitchell, Lynda Muller, Monica Sanders  
Not pictured and Photo Credit: Event Chairman Patti Taylor*



## The Honor of Your Presence is Requested on Election Day



*Soon to Be Elected Supervisor Randy Crittenden does some last minute politicking on Election Day morning in Deltaville*

You will be asked to consider casting your vote early and in person at the Election Office in Saluda for the Republican Primary in June and the General and Special Elections in November. It is unfortunate that our elections have recently changed from a special day into a several weeks long activity. We are where we are, and until we recover completely from our current national trauma, we need to play the game by the current set of rules. The Republican Party of Virginia monitors turnout for early voting and that in turn allows for targeting of resources in the final days leading up to Election Day.

Despite all of this emphasis on early in-person voting, a strong Republican presence at the polling places on Election Day has and will continue to be a top priority for MCRC. Please consider joining the Good Republicans captured in these photos from last November's General Election. If you are available to serve as an Election Operation Precinct Captain or for staffing an MCRC table or tent on Election Day, please contact John Weidner, MCRC Operations Chair, at [jaweidner1@verizon.net](mailto:jaweidner1@verizon.net).



*The Republican Ladies of Urbanna at their post on Election Day*

Please also consider serving as an Officer of Election inside a polling place on Election Day. You are all familiar with the Officers of Election who serve as greeters, who check voters against the poll book, pass out ballots and assist with the proper operation of the polling place. You can sign up for a half day or a full day of service, and you will get paid for your time spent on Election Day and for attending the required training.



*Jimmy Blake holding court on Election Day in Deltaville*

**Applications for Officer of Election  
are available at:**

<https://www.co.middlesex.va.us/DocumentCenter/View/1624/APPLICATION-TO-BECOME-AN-OFFICER-OF-ELECTION>



## 2023 Recap — Farewell Trudy and Tom Feigum



Trudy and Tom Feigum came here from the Midwest skies of South Dakota, stalwart Republicans both. Trudy served as MCRC Chair from 2016-2020. Tom embodied the Spirit of Free Enterprise, with his constant reminders that the real world consists of small businessmen making payrolls. They left Middlesex in September 2023 to be closer to family in Missouri.

Trudy sent us the following short note in late October 2023:

*Many, many thanks to Middlesex County Republicans for your encouragement, guidance and support over the years as I helped lead us. We enjoyed many good times together filled with laughter and friendship while working to ensure the tenets of the Republican Creed were part of everything we did to educate and support our voters and elected representatives. May God bless you.*

**Best wishes to the finest couple to come here from South Dakota! We are grateful for your contributions to MCRC and will remember you fondly!**

## A Brilliant Defense of Free Enterprise

Here is an exchange between the great Milton Friedman and the super-liberal host of The Phil Donahue Show from a show that aired in 1979:

**DONAHUE:** When you see around the globe the maldistribution of wealth, the desperate plight of millions of people in underdeveloped countries, when you see so few haves and so many have-nots, when you see the greed and the concentration of power, did you ever have a moment of doubt about capitalism and whether greed's such a good idea to run on?

**FRIEDMAN:** Well, first of all, tell me, is there some society that you know that doesn't run on greed? You think Russia doesn't run on greed? You think China doesn't run on greed? What is greed? Of course, none of us are greedy, it's only the other fellow that's greedy. The world runs on individuals pursuing their separate interests. The great achievements of civilization have not come from government bureaus. Einstein didn't construct his theory under order from a bureaucrat. Henry Ford didn't revolutionize the automobile industry that way. In the only cases in which the masses have escaped from the kind of grinding poverty you're talking about, the only cases in recorded history are where they have had capitalism and largely free trade. If you want to know where the masses are worst off it's exactly in the kinds of societies that depart from that. So that the record of history is absolutely crystal clear that there is no alternative way, so far discovered, of improving the lot of the ordinary people that can hold a candle to the productive activities that are unleashed by a free enterprise.



## What Have You Been Reading Lately? — *Balanced and Hopeful*

Here are two offerings that treat their respective topics in a balanced and fair manner. Both authors are authoritative and persuasive and leave the reader with some small sense of hope for a better future.



### Land of Hope: An Invitation to The Great American Story

by Wilfred M. McClay

*Recommended by Your Humble Editor, John Weidner*

This book is a wonderfully written, sweeping narrative history of the United States that will help Americans of all ages discover the land they call home. For too long we've lacked a compact, inexpensive, authoritative, and compulsively readable book that offers American readers a clear, informative, and inspiring narrative account of their country.

We've long needed a readable text that truly tells the American story, neither hiding the serious injustices in our history nor soft-pedaling our nation's extraordinary achievements. Such a fresh retelling of the American story is especially needed today, to shape and deepen young Americans' sense of the land they inhabit, help them to understand its roots and share in its memories, all the while equipping them for the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship in American society.

This book is paperback and is recommended reading for Hillsdale College's free online course, "The Great American Story: The Land of Hope", which is available at [online.hillsdale.edu/landing/the-great-american-story](https://online.hillsdale.edu/landing/the-great-american-story).

Your Humble Editor and two of his granddaughters (home schooled, 8th grade and 11th grade) are currently taking the course. Every lecture offers something new, even for this aging Patriot that thinks he knows something about American History.

"In a time when America seems pulled in opposite directions, Wilfred McClay has written a necessary book — the most **balanced**, nuanced history of the United States I have read in the past fifty years."

— Daniel Henninger, deputy editor, editorial page,  
*The Wall Street Journal*



### Unsettled: What Climate Science Tells Us, What It Doesn't, and Why It Matters

by Steven E. Koonin

*Recommended by Your Humble Editor, John Weidner*

When it comes to climate change, the media, politicians, and other prominent voices have declared "the science is settled." In reality, core questions — about the way the climate is responding to our influence and what the impacts will be — remain largely unanswered. The author draws upon his decades of experience, including as a top science advisor to the Obama Administration, to provide up-to-date insights and expert perspective free from political agendas. Koonin takes readers behind the headlines to the more nuanced science itself, dispelling popular myths and unveiling little known truths: despite a dramatic rise in greenhouse gas emissions, global temperatures actually decreased from 1940 to 1970. What's more, the models we use to predict the future aren't able to accurately describe the climate of the past, suggesting they are deeply flawed. *Unsettled* is a reality check buoyed by **hope**, offering truth about climate science that you aren't getting elsewhere — what we know, what we don't, and what it all means for our future.

#### Excerpt from pages 1 and 2:

*Here are three climate facts you haven't heard, drawn directly from recent published research or from the latest assessments of climate science published by the US government or the UN:*

- *Humans have had no detectable impact on hurricanes over the past century.*
- *Greenland's ice sheet isn't shrinking any more rapidly today than it was eighty years ago.*
- *The net economic impact of human-induced climate change will be minimal through at least the end of this century.*

*So, what gives?*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MCRC Monthly Meetings

**April 11, 2024 • May 16, 2024 • June 20, 2024**

Cooks Corner Public Conference Room, 2693 General Puller Highway, Saluda, VA 23149

Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

### MCRC Dessert-and-Coffee Meet & Greet

**April 18, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Middlesex Shooting Sports Club, 1860 Twiggs Ferry Rd, Hartfield, VA 23071

[CLICK HERE TO BUY TICKETS](#)

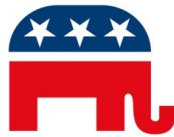
### County Meetings

**Board of Supervisors: First Tuesday of each month, 3:00 p.m.**

*(Historic Courthouse in Saluda unless otherwise noted)*

**School Board: Second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.**

*(St. Clare Walker Middle School Auditorium unless otherwise noted)*



## Thank you for joining the Middlesex County Republican Committee!

Your support makes our educational efforts possible. Your membership helps buy campaign and yard message signs, campaign hats, banners, t-shirts, lapel pins, tents, stationery, postage, website domain and presence, American flags, U.S. Constitutions and so much more.

***Let's work together to MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!***

Annual membership is \$15

Make your check payable to MCRC and send to P.O. Box 396, Hartfield, VA 23071

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