



## CONSERVATIVES CARING FOR COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY



"I think everyone should be celebrating the fact that we have an American president that is seeking to promote peace in the world – not start wars, but END them – in a way that is enduring."

Secretary of State Marco Rubio  
February 16, 2025 on Face the Nation

# SUMMIT UP MAR APR 2025

Join Us

[info@summitGOPwomen.org](mailto:info@summitGOPwomen.org) 

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# **Hope Has Returned to America**



The excitement is palpable! Each morning, patriotic Americans wake up anticipating what President Trump will achieve that day to “Make America Great Again.”

Accomplishing more in his first 30 days in office than Biden did in four years, Trump and his administration have quickly secured our border, begun mass deportations of violent criminal illegal aliens, brought numerous formerly abandoned hostages home, ended DEI in our military and public schools, protected women against men in women’s sports and bathrooms, begun peace talks with world leaders, formed DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) to uncover massive fraud saving billions of taxpayer dollars, and much more.

He has fortified our Republic with some of the most brilliant and competent cabinet members in history, promising to restore a government that honors the U.S. Constitution and answers to “We, the People.” Already, President Trump, Vice President Vance, and Secretary of State Rubio have made major historical addresses on the world stage calling out our allies to stop censorship of its citizens and to assume stronger roles in protecting the values that once defined the free world.

As Jim Nelles wrote on the American Greatness website on February 17, “President Trump is not moving at light speed. He’s not moving at warp speed. He is moving even faster ... he is moving at Trump speed. And the left doesn’t know what to do.”

~ Jini Clare

(For details of the Trump administration, visit [WhiteHouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov). The website contains updated information about presidential actions, cabinet members, news stories, and much more.)



## *A Message from Our President*

Dear Summit County Republican Women,

Of late, I have been reviewing government spending with more interest than ever.

While campaigning for the Colorado legislature, I kept the taxpayer in the forefront. For the majority of families and individuals, the household budget is a constant concern.

We examine our finances, identify income and decide how to budget. We address necessary costs, save for special items and plan for trips. It is our money and we spend wisely.

On the other hand, in the case of government institutions, our taxes and fees become their income. It is impersonal and easier to be frivolous with our money. I compare it to someone winning the lottery who, recklessly, spends it. Until it's gone. Taxpayer revenue, however, is a constant and encourages constant spending.

Minnesota SS 609.456 states that any public employee or public officer must promptly report evidence of theft, embezzlement and unlawful use, or misuse, of public funds or property.

At the state level, Colorado has two statutes that protect whistleblowers. It provides that any employee who reports/discloses illegal policies or actions may not be retaliated against.

The Minnesota statute requires reporting. Colorado has no such statute.

I have been reading complaints and concerns about the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), officially created on January 20, 2025. I believe, regardless of their political views, taxpayers have a vested interest in how their money is being spent.

As we budget and save for our households, we should be encouraged that others are pushing for government transparency and review. Our taxes are not to be squandered.

Gratefully yours,



Debra Irvine





# "COASTAL COMMON SENSE"

by Kim McGahey

Natural disasters have dominated our lives and the news cycle for the past couple years. The blame game rages on from both sides of the aisle about forest management, water policy, fire department budget cuts and insurance coverage withdrawals, but the common theme is how free Americans come together to help our suffering fellow citizens in their time of need.

First, however, we must acknowledge that God is in control of all natural phenomena. They are not caused or calmed by some globalist liberal climate change political worldview coming out of Davos, Switzerland. God's green earth and all its climatic highs and lows has been subjected to hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes, tornadoes, asteroids, eclipses, solar flares and more for millions of years.

These natural disasters are nothing new and hardly man made. Once we see this perennial destruction as events beyond our blame and out of our control, then it becomes our priority on how best to react to them and the damage they cause. This mitigation can happen as a result of public policy as well as individual charity.

A few days spent in Burnsville, Yancey County, North Carolina, with Samaritan's Purse taught me so much about how chainsaws, dump trucks and grateful hearts can cure even the worst of human tragedies and suffering. Those mountain communities were destroyed by the torrential rains and force winds of Hurricane Helene, and all structures within 100 feet of any river, stream, creek, rivulet or drainage ditch were either severely damaged or literally washed away. Thousands of uprooted trees collapsed on roads, rooftops and driveways making access impossible. The list is over 1000 homeowners still waiting for trees to be removed and houses to be made habitable.

Yet in spite of this natural calamity and the financial ruin it places on residents there, those people in the flooded restaurant where we ate dinner insisted on paying for OUR meals because of how grateful they were for the aid and comfort pouring into their ravaged community from all over America. It was indeed a heartfelt meal.



Similarly, the California wildfires have brought unforeseen apocalyptic destruction into a quiet, exclusive hillside neighborhood overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Fourth and fifth generation homes were consumed by a towering inferno that wiped out cherished family mementos and left nothing but ashes for the current generation to rebuild on. And with no insurance to cover the losses, even the wealthy Hollywood types in this area are left bankrupt.

Some say these natural disasters are payback for a hedonistic unbiblical culture that has abandoned God and that more fire and brimstone will rain down on a secular society that does not put God first. Visions of Sodom and Gomorrah come to mind.

Nobody can say for sure what the causes of these horrific events are, but we can certainly identify the cure by watching the outpouring of generosity from fellow citizens. Thousands of individual volunteers, churches, fire departments, hospitals, first responders, and go-fund-me sites from all across America have chipped in across party lines to help restore the victims' lives and property. The love-thy-neighbor response has been overwhelming as private and public resources have immediately and unselfishly donated to assist our suffering neighbors back on their feet.

This is not a Left or Right issue. This is a common-sense love-America issue where the American people are unique in human history for practicing the age-old saying, "Leave no man behind." We set aside our petty bickering when our neighbor needs help and we stand in the gap when Mother Nature unleashes her devastating wrath.

Let us resist the temptation in this dark hour to point fingers, but instead, give us wisdom on implementing public policies and personal philanthropy that help reduce and mitigate the life-changing destructive outcomes of such cataclysmic natural disasters.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Many of us know Kim McGahey as a six-year chair of the Summit County Republican Party, former Republican state legislature candidate, local real estate broker, and author of a weekly column in the *Summit Daily* entitled "Conservative Common Sense." He



currently lives in North Carolina where he remains active in the Republican Party and writes a monthly conservative column in the *Topsail Times* entitled "Coastal Common Sense." Shortly after Hurricane Helene, Kim volunteered with Samaritan's Purse to help disaster victims in Burnsville, North Carolina.

This column was first published in North Carolina's *Topsail Times* in February. Kim McGahey submitted it to the newspaper in January, before the Inauguration of President Trump. We are reprinting the column with the written permission of *Topsail Times*.



# women's history month

## HONORING THE LATE U.N. AMBASSADOR JEANE KIRKPATRICK

Jeane Kirkpatrick was the first woman to serve as United States Ambassador to the United Nations. Described as “a beacon of neoconservative thought” by the *New York Times*, she helped “chart foreign policy from 1981 to 1985.” Appointed to the U.N. post by President Ronald Reagan, she also served in Reagan’s cabinet and was a member of his National Security Council. A brilliant political scientist, her background and experience gave her a deep understanding of communism, totalitarianism, and dictatorships.

Born in the oil-rich town of Duncan, Oklahoma, in 1926, the precocious child grew up with a love of books and learning. She attended Stephens College in Missouri and earned her bachelor’s degree from Barnard College and her master’s and Ph.D. in political science from Columbia University. As a young woman, she was a research analyst with the Office of Intelligence Research at the U.S. State Department and worked at the Paris Institute of Political Science and the U.S. Department of Defense. She also worked on the Communism in Government Project for the think tank, Fund for the Republic. Kirkpatrick joined the faculty of Georgetown University in 1967 and served as a full professor of political science from 1973 until 2002.

A devoted wife, loving mother of three sons, and exceptional academic, Kirkpatrick was a lifelong Democrat. She and her husband, Evron, were strong Hubert Humphrey supporters during his 1972 presidential campaign. Yet eight years later, Kirkpatrick attracted the attention of presidential candidate Ronald Reagan with her essay published in *Commentary* magazine entitled “Dictatorships and Double Standards.” After convincing Kirkpatrick that they could work together since he originally had been a Democrat, too, Reagan hired her to be his campaign’s foreign policy advisor. Following Reagan’s election, he named Kirkpatrick to be ambassador to the United Nations where she served from 1981 to 1985.

According to Wikipedia, Kirkpatrick delivered the keynote address at the 1984 Republican National Convention. Dubbed the “Blame America First” speech, she renominated Reagan by praising his administration’s foreign policy while criticizing the Democrats for moving away from the policies of Harry Truman and John F. Kennedy. It was the first time since 1952 that a non-party member had delivered the Republican Convention’s keynote address.

In 1985 she returned to Georgetown University as a professor of political science. She held many influential positions throughout the remainder of her life, was a popular guest speaker, and wrote numerous articles and books.

Disillusioned by the Democrat Party’s extreme positions, Kirkpatrick registered as a Republican in 1985. Like Ronald Reagan before her, and Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and Tulsi Gabbard more recently, Kirkpatrick believed that the “Democrat Party left me; I didn’t leave the Democrat Party.”

In 1985, Jeane Kirkpatrick was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest civilian honor. This brilliant and influential woman died in 2006 at the age of 80.



“DEMOCRACY NOT  
ONLY REQUIRES  
EQUALITY BUT ALSO  
AN UNSHAKABLE  
CONVICTION IN THE  
VALUE OF EACH  
PERSON, WHO IS  
THEN EQUAL.”



# CLUB *up* DATES



## February Luncheon



*Debre Irvine, SCRW president, making the donation presentation to guest speakers Ellen McAleese and Shawna Gauss, Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center (BOEC).*



*We had a great turnout for our luncheon.*



At the February luncheon at The UpTown in Frisco, we presented a donation to Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center for its Heroic Military Program. Our guest speakers, Development Manager Ellen McAleese and Development Director Shawna Gauss, told us about this impactful and innovative program.

BOEC's Heroic Military Program is open to veterans, active-duty military and members of the Guard and Reserve. Programs are designed to suit the unique needs of those who have been injured while serving our country and are faced with new challenges associated with recovery. For more information, please visit <https://boec.org/veterans-program/#wintervets>.

## Summit County Republican Women's 2025 Constitutional Scholar Award

Summit County Republican Women received applications for our annual \$1,000 Constitutional Scholar Award and scholarship, including a required essay, from 19 graduating seniors. The scholarship committee has reviewed the applications and selected the 2025 winner. Our Constitutional Scholar will be announced on April 2 at a special gathering at Summit High School.

The topic of this year's essay was, "What threats exist today to our Bill of Rights, and why is it important to protect these rights?" We are pleased that 19 students thought about, researched this important topic, and wrote an essay concerning the Bill of Rights.



### Summit County Republicans Elect New Officers

New Summit County Republican officers were elected at the organization's February 13 meeting.

The newly elected officers are:

- Chair Lori Cutunilli
- Vice Chair Tom Day
- Secretary CJ Milmoie
- Treasurer Mike Tabb



# BOOK CLUB

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

## SOCIAL JUSTICE *Fallacies*

THOMAS  
SOWELL

## March

**Book:** *Social Justice Fallacies*

**Author:** Thomas Sowell

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, March 5, 2025 at 5:30 P.M.

**Hosts:** Nancy and Sandy Gunow, Silverthorne

**Moderator:** Scott Silver

Please bring an appetizer and/or beverage to share.  
All are welcome to attend; spouses, friends, family  
members!

RSVP to [GunownN@aol.com](mailto:GunownN@aol.com) or [248-568-6415](tel:248-568-6415)



Photos from  
January Book Club



## April Book Club

**Date:** Tuesday, April 1, 5:30 pm

**Book:** *Trump, The Art of the Deal*, by Donald J. Trump with  
Tony Schwartz

**Hosts:** Theresa and Dan Eckert, Silverthorne

**Moderator:** Maarten Meinders

**RSVP:** [GunownN@aol.com](mailto:GunownN@aol.com)/248-568-6415 or  
[riedmaneckert@gmail.com](mailto:riedmaneckert@gmail.com)



# MAR - APR 2025

# CALENDAR 2025

## MARCH 5 | 5:30 PM MARCH BOOK CLUB

Please bring an appetizer and/or beverage to share. All are welcome to attend - spouses friends, family members! RSVP to [GunowN@aol.com](mailto:GunowN@aol.com) or 248-568-6415

## MARCH 6 | 5:30 – 7:30 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING

Social time prior to business meeting. Colorado Mountain College, Rm 146, Breckenridge

## MARCH 17 | ST PATRICK'S DAY

## MARCH 17 | 5:30 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONSERVATIVE COCKTAILS

The location varies. Please contact officer or signup for emails.  
Send your question or request to [news@thesummitgop.org](mailto:news@thesummitgop.org)

## MARCH 19 | 4 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN ZOOM

Members are invited to a zoom meeting to discuss upcoming business.

## MARCH 23 | 9 AM - 12 PM ELK'S CLUB, SILVERTHORNE - BREAKFAST AND SILENT AUCTION

The Summit County Republican Central Committee will be holding a breakfast and fundraising opportunity. Contact Penny TerHaar at 847-269-0568 or [phaar@hotmail.com](mailto:phaar@hotmail.com)

## APRIL 2 | 7 PM PRESENTATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL SCHOLAR AWARD

Summit High School Auditorium. We'd love to have you join us for this important event.

## APRIL 1 | 5:30 PM APRIL BOOK CLUB

Host: Theresa and Dan Eckert, Silverthorne. RSVP: [GunowN@aol.com](mailto:GunowN@aol.com)/248-568-6415 or [riedmaneckert@gmail.com](mailto:riedmaneckert@gmail.com)

## APRIL 3 | 5:30 – 7:30 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING

Colorado Mountain College, Rm 146, Breckenridge

## APRIL 12 - 20 | PASSOVER



## APRIL 16 | 1:30 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN LUNCHEON

The Uptown on Main, Frisco. Guest Speaker: Amy Oliveira, Executive Director TreeTop Child Advocacy Center. RSVP to Debra Irvine [irvineforcolorado@gmail.com](mailto:irvineforcolorado@gmail.com) or 719-238-1462

## APRIL 20 | EASTER

## APRIL 21 | 5:30 PM SUMMIT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE CONSERVATIVE COCKTAILS

The location varies. Please contact officer or signup for emails.  
Send your question or request to [news@thesummitgop.org](mailto:news@thesummitgop.org)