



211 S Prospect Suite 9; Bloomington, Illinois

McLean County Republicans

March, 2023

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**What are the real issues with “Critical Race Theory” in our schools?
Heritage Foundation Speaker – Critical Race Theory**

Saturday, March 18, 2023 (registration required)

Doors open 9:00 AM; Program 10:00—11:00 AM

Enjoy the latest updates from the front line as Education Specialist Jonathan Butcher of the Heritage Foundation speaks on the issue of "Critical Race Theory" as it impacts our schools.



Jonathan Butcher (pictured left) is the Will Skillman Fellow in Education at The Heritage Foundation. He is the author of ***Splintered: Critical Race Theory and the Progressive War on Truth*** (Bombardier Books, April 2022). He co-edited and wrote chapters in ***The Critical Classroom*** (The Heritage Foundation, 2022), discussing the racial prejudice that comes from the application of critical race theory in K-12 schools. In 2021, South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster nominated Jonathan to serve on the board of the South Carolina Public Charter School District, a statewide charter school authorizer. He has researched and testified on education policy around the U.S.

The Heritage Foundation is an American conservative think tank based in Washington, D.C. that is primarily geared toward public policy. The foundation took a leading role in the conservative movement during the presidency of Ronald Reagan, whose policies were taken from Heritage's policy study Mandate for Leadership. Free enterprise, limited government, individual freedom, traditional American values, and a strong national defense—these are the values that we fight for every single day. As the nation's largest, most broadly-supported think tank, The Heritage Foundation has long been the bastion of the American conservative movement.

Also speaking will be **Matt Crouch**, Regional Coordinator for Heritage Action for America. He will lay out the field work that this branch of the Heritage Foundation is doing to impact policy across the nation.

This event will be held at [Holiday Inn Express](#), ([Click here for a map.](#)) Doors open at 9:00 AM with a self-serve buffet breakfast. The program running from 10 to 11 AM.

Make your reservations and pay for your ticket through the following link.

Seating is limited, so get your tickets early (no later than noon, Wednesday, March 15th.)

PLEASE, NO WALK INS. https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/march_2023_brunch



The Lincoln Series: Meet the Leadership Class of 2023

This year the 2023 Lincoln Series is fortunate to have two McLean County women as Fellows. The Lincoln Series, founded in 1994, provides leadership and campaign training to increase the number of Illinois Republican women in elected and appointed governmental and political positions at the local, state and federal levels. Fellowship winners are selected into this elite program from a statewide field of applicants who have demonstrated leadership skills in their chosen fields of work or in service to their community. All must display a commitment to the Republican Party. This year two of the eight Fellows are from McLean County. Chelsie Leffelman from Bellflower and serves with Empower Illinois whose efforts expand quality education options through research, policy, and advocacy initiatives. The second is Joanne Knipmeyer who serves as a Precinct Committeeman for Randolph 3 as well as the McLean County Republicans Program Manager working with our Community Outreach, Fundraising, Candidate Relations, Precinct, and Communication Committees.

The Leadership Track that Chelsie and Joanne are Fellows in includes monthly training sessions that gather across the state and equip them in many facets to help in candidate training and leadership. They will have the opportunity to spend a time at the Illinois Capitol as well as Washington DC.

Please join us for a fundraiser for The Lincoln Series on March 19 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM at Rob Dob's in Bloomington. All of the Fellows of the 2023 class will be there and a great time to learn more about The Lincoln Series. See invitation below for important details. Look forward to seeing you!

Please note that MCGOP is not sponsoring or managing this event.

THE LINCOLN SERIES
EMPOWER. LEAD. INSPIRE.

MEET THE LEADERSHIP CLASS OF 2023

*with Special Guests
Jeanne Ives & Kathy Galvi*

Sunday, March 19, 2023
5 to 6:30 p.m.

Rob Dob's Restaurant & Bar
801 N. Hershey Rd., Bloomington 61704

\$35 per person ★ \$50 per couple
\$20 YRs (30 yrs old or younger)

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:
EMPOWER: \$1000 ★ LEAD: \$500 ★ INSPIRE: \$250

Responses appreciated by 3/15/23
lincolnseries.com/donate
questions: lincolnseries@gmail.com

THE REAL STORY with JEANNE IVES
FILM NEGATIVE

FILM NEGATIVE

February 11th School Board Candidate Forum Successful

The MCGOP-sponsored non-partisan School Board Candidate Forum at DoubleTree on Saturday, February 11th turned out to be quite a success. The room was packed with over 80 candidates and voters in attendance.

Candidates for Unit 5 and District 87 gave brief presentations in relation to their candidacy. There were many follow-up questions.

Topics of especial concern include such things as critical race theory, diversity/equity/inclusion, library holdings, and sex education in the curriculum. Issues also include responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and the question, "Whose children are they anyway?" Of course, out-of-control school district spending and real estate tax increases are also part of the equation.

By all measures, this was a successful forum. McLean County Republicans continue to educate voters and help encourage civic engagement. To keep up to date about our current happenings, be sure to visit our [website](#) and be sure to like and follow us on our [Facebook page](#).

The next state-wide election – the 2023 Consolidated Election – will take place on Tuesday, April 4th. This election will present voters with candidates for city and town councils, school boards, and perhaps a ballot measure or two – such as the Unit 5 proposal for a tax increase (following its defeat on November 8th).

**VOTE
NO** 

Featured Recipe

Chocolate Pistachio Biscotti

(Serves 40, prep time 30 minutes, bake time 30 minutes)



INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup butter (softened)
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 ¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup baking cocoa
- 2 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 cup semisweet chocolate chips
- ½ cup pistachios
- ½ cup dried cranberries
- 1 tablespoon sugar (topping)

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350F. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Mix flour, cocoa, baking powder, and cinnamon; add to creamed mixture and mix well (dough will be sticky). Stir in chocolate chips, pistachios and cranberries.

Divide dough into four portions. On ungreased baking sheets, shape portions into 10x2-1/2 inch rectangles. Sprinkle with remaining sugar. Bake 20-25 minutes or until set. Carefully remove to wire racks; cool 5 minutes.

Transfer to a cutting board; cut each rectangle into 10 slices. Place cut side down on ungreased baking sheets. Bake 5-8 minutes on each side or until lightly browned. Remove to wire racks to cool. Store in an airtight container.

FROM THE KITCHEN OF <https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/chocolate-pistachio-biscotti/>

Your voice is your vote!



We Heard You!

Our SPECIFIC recommendations for which you have been asking and waiting !

Learn how we stand on the candidates and issues. Who we recommend for council and school boards. You can find our advice and reasoning in a new *Election Information* page that is chock full of information through this link: https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/election_info_consolidated_april_2023

The election will take place on April 4 (with early voting beginning February 23.

NO MEANS NO ...

VOTE NO AGAIN

VOTE NO on UNIT 5 TAX INCREASE

Vote NO Again on the Unit 5 Referendum. We defeated that proposal last November 8th, and it's coming around again. We urge others to also vote NO!

The question appears on the ballot as:

Shall the maximum annual tax rate for educational purposes for Normal Community Unit School District Number 5, McLean And Woodford Counties, Illinois, be increased and established at 3.60 percent upon all the taxable property of said School District at the value, as equalized or assessed by the Department of Revenue, instead of 2.72 percent, the present maximum rate otherwise applicable to the next taxes to be extended for said purposes?

Poll Watchers Needed NOW!

McLean County Republicans are needed to serve as poll watchers between now and April 4th when the consolidated election occurs. Early voting stations in Bloomington must also be watched given that early voting has been going on since February 23rd. [Click on this link](#) to sign up as a poll watcher. Training will be provided for those in need.





McLean County Republicans

— 2023 Membership Drive —

Your support is urgently needed!

Did you know the National Republican Party does not send any money to the county parties? Like other county-level parties, McLean County Republicans are on their own to finding funds to help local candidates defeat destructive legislative initiatives such as the 2023 Unit 5 tax increase proposal.

Please join the McLean County Republicans in 2023 by becoming or renewing membership. What will your membership money do in 2023?

- ★ Support the work of recruiting and electing solid conservatives to run for office in city/town councils and school boards within McLean County.
- ★ Provide funds to support the campaign costs of county Republican Candidates.
- ★ Continue recruitment and training of grassroots representatives- our Precinct Committeemen.
- ★ Create practical communication tools to inform and educate voters.

The stronger our party, the more voice you will have in what happens in McLean County!

Join via a monthly reoccurring online payment plan OR an annual payment plan via card or check. You can also make a one-time donation. Here are our giving levels:

- ★ Young Republicans (under 30 years of age): \$5 a month or an annual gift of \$25.
- ★ Grassroots: \$6 a month or an annual/one-time gift of \$50.
- ★ Restore Illinois: \$8 a month or an annual/one-time gift of \$75.
- ★ Trump Circle: \$10 a month or an annual/one-time gift of \$100.
- ★ Eisenhower Circle: \$25 a month or an annual/one-time gift of \$250.
- ★ Teddy Roosevelt Circle: \$45 a month or an annual/one-time gift of \$500.
- ★ Reagan Circle: \$85 a month or an annual gift of \$1,000 annually.
- ★ Lincoln Circle: \$170 a month or an annual gift of \$2,000.

Follow this link to join the party for all of 2023 https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/become_a_2023_member

Thank you for supporting the McLean County Party.