



202 Eldorado Road, Suite B-3; Bloomington, Illinois

McLean County Republicans

September, 2025

Legislative Update Breakfast

In this issue:

Legislative Update Breakfast
Department of Education 2

Critical Training 2

Save the Date 2-4

McLean County Republican Central Committee Executive Board

Chairman

Dennis Grundler

Vice Chair

John Parrott

Secretary

Bruce Hany

Treasurer

Rita Eschmann

Division Chairs

Carol Anderson, Blm South

Lis Hiltabrand, Blm North

Jerry Klinkner, Normal

Annette Thompson, County

West

Chelsie Leffelman, County East

Vice Chairs At Large

David Paul Blumenshine

Jim Snyder

Chad Berck

Pillar Leaders

Community Outreach, Jim

Fisher

Fundraising, Connie Beard

Elections, Kim Miller

Communications, Connie

Beard

A great crowd of voters came out for our 2025 Legislative Update Breakfast. Besides enjoying a great complimentary breakfast, attendees were able to network with fellow Republicans. The main program featured updates from multiple government services. New candidates for the 2026 election were present: Jon Albee, candidate for MC Sheriff, and Tim Ruestman, candidate for State Representative for District 105. Bloomington City Council Member Kent Lee, spoke on the concerning changes being considered by the city regarding zoning in residential areas to allow for multi-family housing. He urged voters to reach out to their council members, as well as the mayor and city manager, to express their concerns.

Four of the eight Republican County Board members were present: Bill Friedrich, Brian Bangert, Geoff Tompkins, and Mark Clauss. All but Mark Clauss are up for reelection. The challenge of working as a minority party on the board was addressed, as well as zoning for solar production and wind production across the county. Kathy Michael, our county clerk, and Rebecca McNeil, our county treasurer, both spoke about their respective departments. Both were open to voters contacting them to ask about any concerns or needs they might be able to address. They are both up for reelection. We were also able to hear from the Regional Education Superintendent and his assistant, Mark Jontry, as well as Molly Able. Mark announced he will not be seeking reelection after 21 years of service and has endorsed Molly Able to run for election in 2026. Both addressed the desire for increased parental involvement in the education process. The final two officials to speak were State Representative Regan Deering and State Senator Sally Turner. They both address the concerns of serving as a super minority in Springfield, as well as how they successfully passed some legislation. Both ladies are up for reelection. The event also drew Judge Sarah Duffy from Pontiac and former gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey.

The morning concluded with Connie Beard from the MCGOP Executive Board challenging those present to help reach the over 15,000 Republicans in McLean County who did not vote in the last election.



It is not a matter of changing minds; we have the numbers to make a difference if we can get these unreliable Republicans to the polls. The county party has a plan to do just that, but it relies on volunteers to make it happen. Interested volunteers can visit the website to learn more at www.McLeanCountyRepublicans.org/TurnMcLeanCountyRed to learn more.

Department Of Education Mandate and Action MCGOP Response

The McLean County Republicans have been supporting the push for changes in how the universities, such as ISU, engage their students in elections. Historically, Republican candidates have faced a significant disadvantage due to policies applied to campus elections. A significant change for the better has begun with the recent announcement by the Department of Education, which will end Federal Work Study funding. This funding had been used primarily for electioneering on campus under the manipulation of the far-left liberal activists. In addition, evidence has been collected to support the use of student data, which should be protected by FERPA law, and given to third-party activists. Additional details can be found in the press release sent out on August 25 and posted on the MCGOP website.

https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/press_releases

September 1 Labor Day

Join us as we celebrate the success of a growing national economy and a 60-year record of wage growth. We line up in the 300 block of Front St. in downtown Bloomington starting at 9am. Free GOP shirts for parade walkers. Parade starts at 10am and ends in Miller Park. Walkers can ride back to start with truck.



Critical Training Being Offered Saturday, September 27

It is critical we get as many PCs and grassroots activists as well as candidates, community leaders and club/organization leaders to this training to get people engaged. This training will assist anyone who is knocking on doors, making phone calls or working to WIN! Please get your people to sign up for this excellent training and spread the word to anyone who may benefit from this training. KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

This training will be followed by Chase the Ballot training from 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. With the election laws in Illinois, it is critical to get every ballot to the ballot box and make the Republican vote count! This training has been well received and will prove to be invaluable in helping turn Illinois RED!

Learn more at https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/catalyst_for_change
And https://www.mcleancountyrepublicans.org/ballot_chase_training

Save the Date

Lincoln Reagan Dinner 2025

On Thursday, September 25, we will fill the banquet rooms of the DoubleTree Hotel with our 2025 Lincoln Reagan Dinner event. Featuring Ty Smith, “The Modern Renaissance Man,” who entertains and enlightens thousands of followers on his YouTube Channel. He speaks around the country and will enliven our evening with his wit and insight. Festivities begin at 6:30, with doors opening at 6:00 p.m. You have three choices for dinner, each accompanied by dessert, plus a cash bar is available. We will have a silent auction, 50/50 raffle, and door prizes. Add to the program meeting the candidates vying for your vote in March. Tickets are \$75 for one, \$140 for two, and a table of 8 for \$550. Plus, sponsorships are available. Learn the details at www.McLeanCountyRepublicans.org/2025_Lincoln_Reagan_Dinner

Thursday, September 25
6:30pm

Lincoln
Reagan

Dinner

2025

FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY CANDIDATES
SILENT AUCTION / SHOPPING
DOOR PRIZES
50/50 RAFFLE

Featuring
Ty Smith
“The Modern
Renaissance Man”



His sharp wit and insight
have been enjoyed by
hundreds of thousands on
YouTube and beyond.



PC Day of Action September 27

We return for the 7th year to be part of the popular “Day of Play” event hosted by the Children’s Discovery Museum in Uptown Normal. The uptown streets of Normal are blocked out for the day to accommodate all the vendors that come to connect with young families.

The event starts at 10:00 a.m. and lasts until 3:00 p.m. Join us for a great time of connecting with young families in our area. We will offer a variety of learning activities for children, including voting for their favorite cartoon, playing a matching game of famous national historic sites, taking an interactive quiz on American History, dressing up as Abraham Lincoln or Betsy Ross, winning prizes, and receiving free goodies. This is an ideal opportunity to connect with young voters and introduce them to the Republican Party. We are reinforcing the importance of history and civics with fun activities.

Volunteers for the 8:00-10:00 Slot will help set up our tent and are welcome to stay and assist with working the tent as well. Those who sign up for the 2:00-4:00 slot will help pack up when the event ends at 3 pm. We will be on Beaufort St., usually near the Coffee House, so look for our red GOP tent.

Help us set up, take down or play around with the kids. Here’s the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4FAFAB2DA7F5C25-58204654-2025>



PIZZA, PUTTS, AND POLITICS

HOSTED BY:



DILLAN VANCIL
For Congress



REGAN DEERING
For State Rep-
88th District



SALLY TURNER
For State Senate



JON ALBEE
For McLean County
Sheriff



**THURS,
SEPT. 18**



6-8 PM



BLONO PIZZA CO
1304 CROSS CREEK DR,
NORMAL, IL 61761

PIZZA AND GOLF INCLUDED!

JOIN US

Every Tuesday Morning



FREE - FUN- INFORMATIVE

10:00am - 12:00pm

McLean County Republican Headquarters
202 S. Eldorado Suite B3, Bloomington



Restore Illinois Shop

Our office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am – 1 pm and features great choices in shirts, hats and flags. Stop in and pick up a new way to “express yourself”.

