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SHENANDOAH REPUBLICAN



Dear Friend,

As the end of summer approaches, and the 2023 elections are in our sights, I know each of our candidates will be attending the Shenandoah County Fair. I encourage all of you to talk to our candidates as you make your choices on these critically important decisions. I believe we have one of the most talented and experienced groups of Republican candidates that we have ever fielded. We have two candidates for Board of Supervisors, Steve Baker and David Ferguson, looking to serve you in District 2 and District 3, respectively; both are highly qualified and offer a wealth of experience.

Candidate Elizabeth Cooper is a rising star in our Republican party and has the leadership and experience to meet the responsibilities of the Office of the Commonwealth's Attorney. Candidates Melissa ("Missy") Hockman and Karla Ortts have an exceptional amount of experience and are well-prepared for the Offices or Commissioner of the Revenue, and the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

And I will be seeking a 6th term as your County Sheriff. Please talk with us when you and your families attend the Shenandoah County Fair this year. Reminder: Early voting begins Friday, September 22, 2023, and the General Election is on

Thank you so much for your continued support.

In your service,

[Timothy Carter](#)

SCRC-Chairman

<https://www.facebook.com/timothy.c.carter.3>

News from [Mark Dotson](#), SCRC Activities Chair



Mark Dotson (right) with Speaker Todd Gilbert

The "Grass Roots" of Our Committee

The expression "grass roots" is a common figure of speech, technically an idiom, used to describe the membership and related activities of an organization such as the Shenandoah County Republican Committee (SCRC). Many of us are also experienced in the literal meaning of maintaining healthy "grass roots" from caring for our lawns or farm pastures. The highest impact activities in this literal example are those which improve the health and vitality of these tracts of grass.

We have a tremendous list of candidates on the ballot this fall counting on our support and vitality to connect with voters.

the values of the Republican Creed to our fellow citizens.

Here are the primary activities where SCRC members are needed for this upcoming election season, but feel free to reach out if you have suggestions:

- **County Fair**: SCRC will staff a booth at the Shenandoah County Fair the week of August 28 – September 2. This year's Veterans Tribute is on Tuesday, August 29th - veterans are encouraged to attend the tribute event and stop by the SCRC booth after the ceremony. **Fair Schedule**: Each District has an assigned day and volunteers are needed between 5-9pm. Monday-D2; Tuesday-D1; Wednesday-D3; Thursday-D4; Friday-D5; Saturday-D6. **To sign up contact your District Chair or attend our mass meeting on August 15.**
- **Early Voting**: Republicans need to embrace the early voting concept which begins this year on September 22nd. SCRC will staff a tent throughout the early voting period outside the Registrar's Office in Woodstock to demonstrate our commitment to early voters through our presence, pass out the literature of endorsed candidates and provide sample ballots. **Contact me if you're interested in assisting with the early voting engagement.**
- **Get out the Vote**: SCRC will engage in a variety of "Get out the Vote" activities including door-to-door voter canvassing, calling voters, and offering ride assistance. Detailed plans are in the works - **contact me if you're interested in these activities or have suggestions.**
- **Election Day**: Election Day activities on November 7th will include a fully staffed, prominent SCRC presence at each polling site featuring our new SCRC tents, banners, endorsed candidate literature, and sample ballots – **contact your District or Precinct Chair to sign up.**

Contact Mark Dotson by email: SCRCActivities@gmail.com



Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin explains how to secure YOUR vote in the upcoming election.

Click [here](#) to learn more: <https://secureyourvotevirginia.com/> Watch the Governor's video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIdaD4WMO9Q>

Early Voting for the November 7th General and Special Election
...by Denise Doyle, Secretary, [Shenandoah County Electoral Board](#)

- **Deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration: October 16, 2023** (*Voters may register after this date, through Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot*).
- **Deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you: October 27, 2023.**
Your request must be received by **5:00 p.m.**
- **Voter registration offices open for early voting: Saturday, October 28, 2023.**
- **The last day of in-person early voting: Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.**
- One item of note concerning voting by mail: **HB1948** which took effect on July 1st removes the requirement for a witness signature on mailed in ballots. Instead it now requires **those voting by mail to provide the last four digits of their Social Security number** on their ballot. This is a good thing in my opinion.

To vote early in-person, do the following:

- You do not have to have a reason or fill out an application to vote early in person.
- At the registrar's office you must provide your name and address and show an acceptable form of ID.
- Accessible equipment and/or curbside voting is available upon request.

Early Voting in Shenandoah County in the June 20, 2023 Republican Primary: Statistics by Precinct

There are 32,260 registered voters in Shenandoah County. We had a turn out of [15.2%](#) for the Republican Primary. Early voting at the registrars office was 1,439 with 166 voting by mail. So early voting was 3.2% of the total votes cast.

Precinct	Number Registered	Number Voted	Total Percent
Orkney Springs	1629 registered	161 voted	9.8%
New Market	3679 registered	329 voted	8.9%
Conicville	2950 registered	388 voted	13.2%
Mt. Jackson	2296 registered	238 voted	10.4%
Edinburg	1964 registered	254 voted	12.9%
St. Luke	2584 registered	402 voted	15.6%
Fort Valley	1180 registered	179 voted	15.2%

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Cedar Creek	220 registered	41 voted	18.6%	
Toms Brook	3227 registered	319 voted	9.9%	
Lebanon Church	2209 registered	271 voted	12.3%	
Strasburg 601	2654 registered	148 voted	5.6%	
Strasburg 602	2719 registered	175 voted	6.4%	

The 45 days of early voting prior to election day gives people many opportunities to stop by the Voter Registration Office (600 North Main Street, #103) between the hours of 8:30 am – 4:30 pm to cast their safe, secure ballot.

We recommend you vote early, then help at the polls on election day, November 7, 2023, working inside or outside – your choice.

**THE SCRC IS UNITED AND STRONG FOR A BETTER
SHENANDOAH COUNTY**

The Republican Creed states:

1. That the free enterprise system is the most productive supplier of human needs and economic justice,
2. That all individuals are entitled to equal rights, justice, and opportunities and should assume their responsibilities as citizens in a free society,
3. That fiscal responsibility and budgetary restraints must be exercised at all levels of government,
4. That the Federal Government must preserve individual liberty by observing Constitutional limitations,
5. That peace is best preserved through a strong national defense,
6. That faith in God, as recognized by our Founding Fathers is essential to the moral fiber of the Nation.

Want to learn more [about us](#)? Or find out how to [get involved](#)?
Visit our website: <https://shenandoahrepublican.com>

SERVING AS AN ELECTION OFFICIAL AND/OR POLL WATCHER. WE CAN ALSO
USE YOUR HELP IN THE FUTURE TO GET OUT THE VOTE!

*For more information on how to get involved, please contact Activities Chair Mark
Dotson, SCRCActivities@gmail.com Get Involved (shenandoahrepublican.com)



[Your Republican Candidates](#)

Republican Todd Gilbert - Re-elect House of Delegates

***** Vote November 7, 2023 *****

Early voting starts September 22, 2023



Republican Todd Gilbert - Re-elect House of Delegates

- Speaker of the House of Delegates
- Unwavering limited government conservative
- Working to increase educational success and opportunity, keep our communities safe, and put more of your money back in your pocket

Thank you,

Todd Gilbert

Visit Todd Gilbert's website and Facebook page

<https://www.delegatetoddgilbert.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/DelegateToddGilbert>

*** Vote November 7, 2023 ***

Early voting starts September 22, 2023



[Timmy French State Senate District 1](#)

- Common sense conservative
- Supports public schools and public safety
- Supports preserving rural values
- Fiscal conservative
- Vast knowledge of agriculture
- Shenandoah County native

I am the youngest of nine children, all born and raised in Shenandoah County by loving, Christian parents. I am fortunate to be part of the third generation of farmers, in my family, to help run French Brothers Dairy, our family farm. I feel blessed to have three sons and a large close-knit family that truly values each other and that spends quality time together often.

running for the State Senate Seat in District 1. I hope to take our rural values to Richmond and use common sense, in a conservative manner, to help create a smaller, smarter government.

Please vote for me, Republican Timmy French, for State Senate, on November 7th.

Thanks,

Timmy French

<https://www.timmyfrench.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/timmyfrenchva>

<https://instagram.com/timmyfrenchva>

Our Local Republican Candidates
***** Vote November 7, 2023 *****
Early voting starts September 22, 2023



Sheriff Tim Carter, Steve Baker, and David Ferguson respond to questions at the



Steve Baker - Re-elect District 2 Supervisor

- 16 years' experience
- Supports agricultural enterprise, public safety, and the school system
- Preserving the rural integrity of Shenandoah County
- Receptive to community input and values

For the past four terms, it has been one of my greatest accomplishments to serve the community in which we live. I have worked hard to support agricultural enterprises, the school systems, and help improve the public safety infrastructure, all while preserving our unique way of life in Shenandoah County. If re-elected as your District 2 Supervisor, I will continue to advocate for our rural culture, and invest in our students' future. I will make sensible business decisions that benefit our community and future. I pledge to remain

Thank you,

Steve Baker



[Re-elect Timothy Carter, Sheriff](#)

- Proven Leadership
- Fiscal Conservative
- Innovation and Technology
- Community Outreach

Twenty years ago, I asked my fellow citizens to entrust this Office to me. I made a commitment if elected to work hard for you and your families, and

County citizens. This experience has been very rewarding and challenging.

During the past twenty years, the staff and I have continued to serve the community in a positive manner. Through my administration, this Office has improved services, technology, school safety, crime scene and investigation abilities, leadership and specialized training, community outreach, and specialized units. It is a privilege to serve as your Sheriff. If re-elected as Sheriff of Shenandoah County, I will continue to listen and do everything I can to respond to the needs of the county.

Thank you.

Tim Carter



Steve Baker (left) and David Ferguson (right) field questions at the Seven Bends Republican Women's Club candidates forum.



David Ferguson - Re-elect District 3 Supervisor

- Integrity
- Experience
- Common sense

Shenandoah County has been my home for many years. I graduated from Strasburg High School where I started my career advocating for my fellow classmates. I joined the United States Army after high school and served in Korea and Vietnam. While commissioned there, I was responsible for the installation and maintenance of rapid deployment communication systems. After the Army, I returned home and worked at Shentel for 43 years – starting as a lineman and retiring as Vice President of Customer Service. I previously served on the Board of Supervisor as District 3 Supervisor for 12 years. Currently, I reside in Edinburg with Janet, my wife of 53 years. We have two children, Kimberly Hitt and David Ferguson, and five grandchildren.

During my 12 years serving as your District 3 Supervisor, I remained fiscally conservative, worked hard to remain true to myself, straightforward and honest,

resources and tools in place to live a wonderful life. If re-elected as your District 3 Supervisor, I will continue to serve as your faithful servant in a civil and respectful manner.

Thank you,

David Ferguson



Elizabeth COOPER

For Commonwealth Attorney



Elizabeth Cooper: Experienced Advocate

Elizabeth Cooper is a committed public servant, mother and foster parent who has lived in Woodstock nearly her entire life. Cooper is a native of Shenandoah County and a graduate of Widener University School of Law in Pennsylvania with over a decade of experience as a courtroom litigator. She has served as an assistant commonwealth attorney and has prosecuted general district court cases as well as felonies in circuit court. Most recently she has fought for a better quality of life for children and families as an advocate in Custody and Visitation cases and has learned the ins and outs of our legal system through her work in juvenile justice. She is active in her faith as a member of the Woodstock United Methodist Church.

FIGHTING FOR SHENANDOAH

- ★ Prosecuting dangerous criminals and keeping them behind bars
- ★ Keeping drugs off the street and away from our children

Elect Elizabeth Cooper for
Commonwealth Attorney

VOTE NOVEMBER 7th
VOTE EARLY SEPTEMBER 22nd

 [CooperforCommonWealth.com](https://www.facebook.com/CooperforCommonWealth.com)

Elizabeth
COOPER
For Commonwealth Attorney

**FIGHTING FOR
SHENANDOAH COUNTY**

"I have worked tirelessly as an advocate my entire life, and now is the time to stand up for Shenandoah County.

We need to bring accountability back to our community, maintain law and order and fight the fentanyl crisis poisoning our streets. **As an experienced prosecutor, I will fight to make our**





[Elizabeth Cooper,](#) [Commonwealth Attorney](#)

FIGHTING FOR SHENANDOAH

- Prosecuting dangerous criminals and keeping them behind bars
- Keeping drugs off the street and away from our children
- Prioritizing victims and survivors of crime

Elizabeth Cooper is a committed public servant, mother and foster parent who has lived in Woodstock nearly her entire life. Cooper is a native of Shenandoah County and a graduate of Widener University School of Law in Pennsylvania with over a decade of experience as a courtroom litigator. She has served as an assistant commonwealth attorney and has prosecuted general district court cases as well as felonies in circuit court. Most recently she has fought for a better quality of life for children and families as an advocate in Custody and Visitation cases

Church.



Local, Republican candidates for Shenandoah County: Elizabeth Cooper, Missy Hockman, and Karla Ortt at the Republican Float in the 2023 Strasburg Mayfest Parade



[Missy Hockman, Commissioner of Revenue](#)

- 33 Years Proven Experience
- Shenandoah County native
- Community Focused
- Trusted and Personable

Missy brought her 31 years of tax experience to the Shenandoah County Commission of the Revenue Office in 2022 when she began her position as Tax

deep roots in Shenandoah County; like many generations of her family, she was born, raised, and educated in Shenandoah County. Currently, she lives in Lebanon Church with her husband, Tom, and raised her daughter, Kathryn, in Shenandoah County. Missy is looking forward to serving Shenandoah County as the next Commissioner of the Revenue.

Thank you,

Missy Hockman





[Karla Orttis, Clerk of the Circuit Court](#)

- Experience and Proven Leadership
- 26 years' experience in the Clerk's Office
- Shenandoah County native
- Providing quality and efficient service to Shenandoah County

I would like to take this opportunity to tell for you to get to know me. My name is Karla Orttis and I am running for Clerk of Court. For those of you who don't know me, let me tell a little bit about myself. I have been a lifetime resident of Shenandoah County. I graduated from Central High School and Lord Fairfax Community College (now Laurel Ridge). After college graduation, I work for the law firm of Grabill & Grabill (now Grabill & Cook) for 10 ½ years. I was a legal secretary and loved my job. I learned many things from both Phillip Grabill, Sr. and Phi Grabill, Jr., as well as from the secretaries employed there.

Upon the death of Mr. Grabill, Jr., I was offered a job at the Circuit Court by Denise Barb, the Clerk of the Court at that time. So, twenty-six years ago, I began working in the Clerk's Office as a Deputy Clerk. One of the best things

Clerk's Office. I enjoy helping to locate records that are requested on a daily basis, whether they are deeds, marriage licenses or wills. Our records start in 1772, and while some are fragile, they are all public record. It has always been my goal to find you the document you request and have you leave the courthouse with a sense of satisfaction.

Now, on a personal note, I am married to Charlie Ortts and we have a son, Kyle. Charlie has his own business, Ortts Electric, a company started by his father, Bill Ortts. Kyle works for Ortts Electric doing plumbing, electric and HVAC work. Charlie and I have lived in Edinburg since we were married. Prior to that, I resided in Woodstock with my parents, both of whom have passed. I have often been told "you know everyone" but when you have lived in Shenandoah County all your life, worked for the Grabills and your husband has his own business, and you have worked at the courthouse for as many years as I have, it seems as though you come in contact with everyone in some way or another.

There have been significant changes in the last 26 years both in the Clerk's Office and downtown Woodstock where several buildings are vacant, but the Courthouse at 112 South Main Street is still in use every day. Almost every resident of Shenandoah County has a reason to come to the Circuit Court for one thing or another, whether it be to get a marriage license, record a deed, probate a will, apply for a concealed handgun permit, file a law suit, genealogy research, jury duty, take an oath, pay a fine, or various other reasons.

I have truly enjoyed working in the Clerk's Office and would appreciate your support on November 7, 2023, to serve as the next Circuit Court Clerk. I believe we can make your stop at the courthouse one that will make you want to visit again.

Karla Ortts, Candidate

Candidate for Circuit Court Clerk







Republican Candidates and SCRC members, along with friends and family, showed up to support Elizabeth Cooper ("Cooper for Commonwealth") at the River Bandit's Game at the high school in Woodstock. A few nights earlier, they marched in the Conicville Parade.



All candidates were provided an opportunity to submit a bio for the SCRC newsletter and website. Bios reflected on website and newsletter were received by the newspaper press date.



Submit Letters to the Editor -

Northern Virginia Daily will consider two submissions per writer per month. Letters: 250 or fewer words. Commentaries: 400-500 words. The paper will not accept submissions containing too much personal information, name-calling, attacks, allegations, insinuations, hate language, potentially libelous statements or statements that are not factual, direct endorsements, solicitations, URLs, phone numbers, addresses, or material pulled from other sources without attribution. Email submissions to news@nvdaily.com, post online at nvdaily.com/opinion, or mail to 152 N. Holliday St., Strasburg, VA.

Get Involved! Visit: <https://www.shenandoahrepublican.com/get-involved.html>

Feel free to forward this newsletter to potential voters.



Reminder: Visit our [SCRC Events Calendar page](#)! Take a look! [Here](#) you will find SCRC events and other scheduled activities in the county.

Visit the [SCRC Events Calendar page](#) on the [SCRC website](#) for details. Check the [SCRC Events Calendar page](#) for updates. Visit:

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