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SHENANDOAH REPUBLICAN





In this edition of our Shenandoah County Republican Committee (SCRC) newsletter, we take time introducing you to your Republican Candidates for local offices in Shenandoah County. As you can see, we have a very experienced and talented group of local Republicans. I know that each candidate is working hard and preparing for the Fall 2023 General Election on the 7th of November 2023

The SCRC is continually trying to build and improve our outreach and communication with local voters and county citizens

through this newsletter and other media. Early voting for the Republican Primary for State Senate District 1 seat is ongoing at the Shenandoah County Voter Registrar's Office in Woodstock. Please don't forget to vote early or on the actual Primary day, Tuesday, 06/20/2023.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

In your service,

Timothy Carter
SCRC-Chairman

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

Tents and Banners to be delivered to Precincts!



Mark Dotson (right) with Speaker Todd Gilbert

- We need to staff the tents, and display our banners, on Voting Day, which is **Tuesday, June 20th, from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.**
- We also need to staff the tents and display our banners during Early Voting on **Saturday, June 10th and Saturday, June 17th from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.**
- We will be handing out a Palm Card with information about the candidates we have running for Constitutional (local) Shenandoah County offices.

Mark will be contacting District and Precinct Chairs about staffing the tents on those dates. Please contact your Precinct Chair if you want to help. Visit the "[About Us](#)" page on the SCRC website for names and contact information about your Precinct Chairs, or click <https://shenandoahrepublican.com/about-us.html>

Regarding **Senate District 1 Republican Primary Early Voting In-Person:** You can vote early at the Shenandoah County General Registrar's office (600 North Main, Suite 103, Woodstock) beginning 45 days before Election Day (May 5) and ending the Saturday before Election Day (June 17). Voting hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Saturday, June 10 voting from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm and June 17 voting hours 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Mark urges that **Shenandoah County Republicans EMBRACE early voting.**

Questions? Email Mark Dotson at SCRCActivities@gmail.com



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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.

IF YOU HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS THAT HAVE NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE (see below)

IF YOU NEED TO UPDATE AN EXISTING REGISTRATION (see below)

Deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration, May 30, 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 June 9, 2023. Your request must be received by your local voter registration office by 5:00 pm.

Why Vote Early – Points to Consider

A growing chorus of Republicans are pleading with the GOP to rebuild its once-robust early and mail voting programs, blaming the party's reluctance to embrace such efforts for a lackluster showing in the 2022 midterm elections.

But after the so-called red wave that Republicans had predicted ahead of the midterms failed to materialize, a growing number of influential GOP leaders and operatives say the party needs to more aggressively compete with Democrats when it comes to early and mail voting, fearing that a failure to do so could cost the GOP in future elections.

mail-in voting,” said [Saul Anuzis](#), a Republican strategist and former Michigan GOP chair. “I think there’s a lot of tactical things that we have to take a look at,” he added.

But some Republicans say that one of the biggest takeaways from the 2022 midterm elections is that the GOP should take advantage of expanded access to voting rather than fight it.

“You can bitch about the game as much as you want, but you gotta find a way to play the game, because the game’s not going to change right now,” said Ford O’Connell, a Republican strategist and former congressional candidate.

A survey from Harvard CAPS-Harris Poll highlighted Democrats’ early and absentee voting advantage. Fifty-two percent of Democrats said they voted before Election Day compared to 45 percent of Republicans.

With the midterms now in the rearview mirror, even some Republicans who once criticized pre- Election Day voting have begun to take another look at the practice. Charlie Kirk, the conservative activist and commentator, tweeted that “one of the first lessons we have to take from the midterms is the power of early voting.”

“Telling everyone to vote in-person on [Election Day] opens you to traffic jams and machine malfunctions,” he tweeted. “If and when that happens, there’s no rewinding time to change your strategy. You’re at the mercy of the courts and voters’ own schedules.”

Nikki Haley, the former United Nations ambassador and South Carolina governor, said that Republicans were being outdone by Democrats when it comes to early and absentee voting and called on the GOP to “play the same game.” “We were completely outplayed electorally. The Democrats did a full-court press to vote early. We sat on our hands. Early and absentee voting are here to stay. We need to play the same game and turn out the maximum number of voters. The left does it, and we don’t.” There’s no indication that pre-Election Day voting is going away anytime soon. Since 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic first pummeled the United States, a number of states have moved to expand early voting and no-excuse mail voting.

laws remain in place. House speaker Todd Gilbert, R-Shenandoah said, “We did not change those rules. But we certainly tried to abide by them, and had a lot more success than we ever could have imagined.”

Virginia Republicans seemed to embrace early voting last year, telling supporters casting early ballots was the best way to ensure their vote would count.

Early Voting in Shenandoah County

Voter turnout in Shenandoah County increased last year. While some precincts (Strasburg and Woodstock) were down, all the others saw an average increase of almost 5%.

Much of this increase is attributed to early voting. **However an average of 32 people cast ballots during the first six days of early voting, this only represents 192 voters – not enough to sustain the overall voter increase.**

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 – 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

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>

*VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED IN ELECTIONS. PLEASE CONSIDER 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

Local Candidates for Shenandoah County

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

Early voting starts September 22, 2023



Steve Baker - Re-elect District 2 Supervisor

- 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 respectful and prudent as your elected District 2 Supervisor as we continue to move our county forward.

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



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

- Shenandoah County Native
- Experienced Courtroom Litigator
- Available to Victims
- Strong Communication Skills
- Conscientious and Ethical Values
- Committed to Justice

Elizabeth Cooper is a native of Shenandoah County with over a decade of experience as a courtroom litigator. She is a strong advocate for the needs and interests of victims of crime and is dedicated to seeking justice on behalf of the citizens of Shenandoah County. Elizabeth strives to stay well-informed in the

serve as your next Commonwealth Attorney.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Cooper



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, and dedicated to the citizens of Shenandoah County. I worked on projects for the betterment of the community to ensure our future generations have 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

Thank you,

David Ferguson



[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 Compliance Officer. Previously, she served almost three decades as an agent for the Virginia Department of Taxation. Missy is a life-long Republican with 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

Twenty-six years ago, I began working in the Clerk's Office as a Deputy Clerk. At that time, I knew some of what the Clerk's Office was responsible for, recording real estate transactions, issuing marriage licenses, and probating estates. Since that time, I have become aware of the other responsibilities of the Clerk's Office and have at one time, or another handled those responsibilities. Some of those include notary oaths, oaths for all the constitutional officers and their employees, helping the general public to find their documents, process concealed handgun permits, civil suits, which include divorces, motor vehicle torts, partition suits, recording judgments and financing statements, handling appeals and certified cases that have originated in General District Court, as well as various other matters.

I have come to realize how detailed the Clerk's Office truly is and how it affects every citizen in Shenandoah County in one way or another. I have enjoyed working in the Clerk's Office and it is my sincere hope to become your next Circuit Court Clerk and would appreciate your support on November 7, 2023.

Thank you,

Karla Orttis
Candidate for Circuit Court Clerk



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



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: <https://shenandoahrepublican.com/events-calendar.html>

Links to all our social media sites and web page here



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