Guest Speaker for May 12th Luncheon
State House Rep. Leader & Rep. Mike McLane
Jackson County District 55

Mike McLane has deep roots in rural Oregon. He grew up in Condon, where he worked summers on local farms and ranches. Mike attended Oregon State University where he received a degree in Agricultural Resource Economics in 1987.

Mike has the work ethic and values rural communities need as they fight to retain jobs and attract new economic opportunities. In addition to serving on the Prineville / Crook County Economic Advisory Board, Mike is a partner in Central Oregon’s oldest law firm – Bryant, Emerson & Fitch, LLP. Mike fights on behalf of small businesses and those in agriculture to make sure that their efforts are rewarded.

A little known fact about Mike is that he is also the co-founder and former CEO of a publishing company that produces educational books for children. One of the company’s book series inspired a highly acclaimed CBS Saturday morning cartoon show called Flying Rhino Junior High. Mike co-authored Wooden Teeth and Jelly Beans, a best-selling children’s book on U.S. history and the presidents.

After graduating magna cum laude from Lewis and Clark Law School, Mike clerked for Justice Michael Gillette at the Oregon Supreme Court. He went on to work at Oregon’s largest law firm, Stoel Rives LLP. He also served several years as a circuit court judge pro tem in Deschutes County.

Mike is a strong supporter of public safety and rural emergency response. Mike has served as a special prosecutor for Multnomah County and worked for the US Attorney’s office where he helped prosecute drug and violent crimes.

Mike is passionate about leveraging our local resources to bring back jobs and promote economic growth. To him, that also means creating more local control over water rights and land use planning.

Mike and his wife of 22 years, Holly, met while she was serving as the FFA state president. Today, Mike and Holly live on a small farm with their three children. Web site http://votemclane.com

SAVE THE DATE
JCRW Reagan BBQ Fundraiser
Saturday Sept. 10th 2016
Eagle Creek Estates
Eagle Point, Oregon

Meet & Greet
All your Candidates
& have a blast of a time
Your Live Auctioneer
U.S. Congressman Greg Walden

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http://jcrw.us
Jackson County Republican Women shared a booth with the Jackson County Central Committee on April 8th and 9th at the Pear Blossom Festival at the Commons in Downtown Medford.

JCRW President Phyllis Fletcher reported that they not only signed up voters but many took home voter registrations to be filled out later. We also solicited new members.

ON TUESDAY MAY 3RD—REPUBLICAN WOMEN WILL ONCE AGAIN HAVE A CALL BANK AT REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS TO GET OUT THE VOTE. PLEASE JOIN US.

BRING YOUR CELL PHONE AND SPEND SOME TIME TO HELP GET OUR THE VOTE.

PLEASE GIVE AN HOUR OR TWO TOWARDS THIS IMPORTANT PRIMARY ELECTION. WE HAVE A LARGE FIELD OF CANDIDATES WHO ARE ALL ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. SEE PAGE 4
President Reagan once said, “Government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.” That is especially apparent on Tax Day. At a whopping four million words, the federal tax code today is over 880 times the length of the Constitution. I strongly believe that Congress must take steps to reform the tax code so we can grow the economy and allow families in Oregon to keep more of their hard-earned income.

And I strongly believe that Congress must do more to rein in the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). This month, the House voted on important bills to do just that. First, the House passed H.R. 1206, the No Hires for the Delinquent IRS Act requiring IRS employees to pay the same taxes they are charged with collecting from the American people. In the past decade, nearly 1,600 IRS employees have been delinquent on their own taxes, according to a report from the agency’s own Inspector General. That’s completely ridiculous. Nobody at the IRS is above the law, and these employees hired for positions of public trust do not get to play by different rules than everyone else.

We’ve also taken an important step to restore Congressional authority over the IRS. The House passed the IRS Oversight While Eliminating Spending (“OWES”) Act, H.R. 4885, requiring that every dollar the IRS raises from charging filing fees on U.S. taxpayers be subject to Congressional approval in order to determine how it should be spent. Every year, the IRS collects about $400 million in filing fees from hardworking taxpayers. The IRS OWES Act gives Congress greater oversight to make sure this money actually goes towards reducing wait times and improving service and responsiveness to the American people.

To that end, the agency’s overall shoddy customer service needs to be turned around. In the private sector, we expect timely, polite, responsive customer service. That shouldn’t be any different than the service we expect from the IRS. That’s why the House passed HR 4890, the IRS Bonus Tied to Measurable Metrics Act, to hold employees accountable for the agency’s customer service strategy by withholding bonus payments until measurable progress has been made to improve service to taxpayers.

We simply cannot allow this agency to continue employing people who have betrayed the trust of hardworking Americans. The House passed H.R. 3724, The Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act, who have betrayed the trust of hardworking Americans. The House passed H.R. 3724, The Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act, to hold employees accountable for the agency’s overall shoddy customer service needs to be turned around. In the private sector, we expect timely, polite, responsive customer service. That shouldn’t be any different than the service we expect from the IRS. That’s why the House passed HR 4890, the IRS Bonus Tied to Measurable Metrics Act, to hold employees accountable for the agency’s customer service strategy by withholding bonus payments until measurable progress has been made to improve service to taxpayers.

We simply cannot allow this agency to continue employing people who have betrayed the trust of hardworking Americans. The House passed H.R. 3724, The Ensuring Integrity in the IRS Workforce Act, blocking the IRS from rehiring employees who were fired from the IRS for misconduct or poor performance. If an employee was fired for accessing sensitive taxpayer information without permission or filing false documents, they should not be rehired. That just seems like commonsense, but, according to a report from the agency’s own Inspector General, the IRS has done this hundreds of times.

The House approved HR 4903 prohibiting the IRS from using any funds to target citizens for exercising First Amendment Rights. It also requires the IRS to provide free printed copies of official books on how to file taxes.

It’s time to treat taxpayers fairly and rein in rampant waste, fraud, and abuse. My efforts to get our federal agencies under control will not stop here. I will continue to speak out against this Administration’s executive overreach at every step.

Learn more about these bills at www.congress.gov.

If you are having problems with a federal agency like the IRS, please call my Medford office 541-776-4646. I will do everything I can to get results for you.

It is an honor to represent you in the U.S. Congress.

Greg Walden
U.S. Representative - Oregon's Second District
District #2—Oregon
Greg Walden is the U.S. Representative for Oregon's 2nd congressional district, serving since 1999. He is the only Republican member of Oregon's congressional delegation.

Greg Walden’s staff are members of JCRW and keep us apprised of Greg’s efforts in Washington. Greg is a great supporter of JCRW and attends our fundraisers & has served as our Auctioneer in the past & will be our Auctioneer at our BBQ on Sept.10th 2016

Dennis Richardson is running for the Office of Secretary of State. He was a legislator who served our state for twelve years,

He believes Oregonians deserve a leader who is focused on our future. We need a Secretary of State who understands Oregon, one with the capability, the reputation and the experience to ensure our government is held to the highest ethical standards. we can change the path we’re on and bring back accountability to state government!

Herman Baertschiger is running unopposed. Herman is a long time Oregon resident. With a background that includes forestry, wild land fire management, aviation, ranching and farming he brings practical knowledge and real experience. As your State Senator Herman is addressing many of the most contentious issues our state faces: jobs, land use and natural resources. These are issues he has been involved with all of his life. He will use his experience and deep comprehension of these issues to help the people of Oregon State Senate District 2.

Rep. Mike McLane represents House District 55, which covers portions of Deschutes, Crook, Jackson, Klamath and Lake Counties. He serves as House Republican Leader.

In Central Oregon, he focuses on creating jobs through business, agriculture and natural resource legislation

Please do not hesitate to contact him if he can assist you in any way. You can find updates on the legislative session on Facebook and Twitter, rep.mikemclane@state.or.us.

It is a pleasure to serve you in the Oregon House of Representatives.

Rep. Sal Esquivel District 6 is running unopposed for his 7th term as Representative for his District.

In March of 2003, Sal was chosen to replace Senator Lenn Hannon to represent District 3. Shortly after his appointment, Representative Rob Patridge announced that he would not be running again for his State Representative position. Sal chose to run for the House seat of District 6 because he knows Medford so well after almost eight years on the City Council. He served out the nine months remaining in the Senate, garnering knowledge and experience to take to the House of Representatives.

Rep. Duane Stark is running unopposed for his 2nd term as Representative for District 4.

It is an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of District 4 in the Oregon House of Representatives and I will work hard on behalf of the people of my district to ensure their views are heard at the State Capitol. I hope you will explore the legislative website to look up information on bills, committee hearings, state agencies, and other areas of interest. It is important that my constituents remain in contact with me about the issues and concerns that affect their lives.
C.W. Smith, former Jackson County sheriff and County Commissioner, has launched a write-in campaign for District 28 which includes part of Medford, Central Point, Eagle Point, and all of Klamath County, Lake County, Crook County part of Deschutes & Jackson Counties.

Besides his Jackson County law enforcement career of 12 years, Commissioner Smith served as interim City Manager for Lakeview, Oregon, and as Police Chief for the City of Talent. He was also a radio talk show host, a private insurance business owner, and the manager of a large farming operation. He also served in the United States Air Force and is a Vietnam Veteran.

C.W. is not on the ballot if you are in Senate District 28, please write his name on your ballot.

Businessman Gordon Challstrom said he is running for Jackson County Board of Commissioners Position 2 in order to make government more business-friendly.

Challstrom, who has lived in Medford for 23 years, has served on the Medford School District's Long Range Facilities Planning Committee. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nevada-Reno.

Challstrom is president of Rogue Solutions, a general contracting company, and past president and founder of C.W. Concrete.

Challstrom says in his Voters' Pamphlet statement that the U.S. and Oregon constitutions would be the basis for his decision-making as a commissioner.

Bob Strosser has always served with unwavering honor, commitment, and good judgment. Bob is willing to ask difficult questions and determine the best course of action for our community. His successful police career, business experience, and 16 years of service on the Medford City Council uniquely qualify him to lead Jackson County into a better future."

Bob is a retired police administrator of nearly 24 years, with a thoughtful understanding of the priority of public safety. Bob seeks to maintain and increase what we love about this valley.

Bob is committed to preserving our agriculture and property rights. He wants wise land and water growth policies for Jackson County.

Joe Charter—Justice of the Peace

Charter had 30 years of experience as a trial lawyer before he was elected justice of the peace in 2004.

"What experience gives you is familiarity with the many different kinds of cases," Charter said he attends two judicial conferences a year, double the 12 hours of continuing education required. Charter has been president of the Oregon Justice of the Peace Association and the Jackson County Bar and a member of the Oregon State Bar House of Delegates.

His leadership role helped preserve the court services in 2011 when legislative efforts put them in jeopardy because of budget shortfalls, pacts.

"Being in a leadership role means knowing what’s going on not just in Jackson County but also in the State."

Judge—Position 4—DDA David J. Orr

I am experienced both as a prosecutor and as a defense attorney. I have the perspective a judge needs to ensure that true justice prevails in our courts. At the District Attorney's office, I have vigorously prosecuted a wide range of crimes, including murder, child abuse, and identity theft. I served on the Jackson County Multidisciplinary Team, upholding the rights of Jackson County's abused and neglected children. I believe it is difficult for a judge to be fair after receiving campaign donations, especially from attorneys. This is an ongoing problem. Money and justice do not mix. That's why I do not accept ANY campaign donations, from any source, and will never endorse judges who do. A Judge should be accountable to the voters and not appointed by the Governor as in the case of my opponent.

David is employed as Jackson County Deputy Assessor. He has over 25 years experience as Deputy Assessor.

I have a passion to see fair and accurate valuations not just for home owners but also for the business owner. As assessor I will increase the maximum allowed depreciation on business personal property from 70% to 90%.

I also want dialogue more with property owners. Since entering this campaign I have set up booths at numerous events to dialogue with owners. As assessor I will continue to reach out and dialogue with property owners to educate them on property tax law and to learn from them in return.

County Assessor—David Arrasmith
Jackson County Republican Women sponsored non-partisan voter registration drives at Rogue River and North Medford high schools in April. Jackson County Clerk Chris Walker was the keynote speaker.

About 45 students attended the Rogue River event held April 13 in the library and hosted by Hillary Daves, high school social studies teacher. Chris Walker spoke to the kids about the privilege and duty of voting and then 25 students registered to vote at the Oregon Secretary of State website using classroom Chromebooks. Jackson County Republican Women were on hand to help answer questions.

A highlight of the Rogue River event was Chris Walker showing a commercial featuring NBA player Kyle Singler, a South Medford High School graduate who plays for the Oklahoma City Thunder. Designed to motivate young voters, the commercials were put together by Chris Walker and Nancy Blankenship, Deschutes County Clerk. The ad is being played on TV and Facebook in Southern and Central Oregon.

The students’ favorite part of the voter registration drive may have been the gift of delicious homemade cookies baked by Jackson County Republican Women Sara Coombs, Felicity Clark, Sharon Martin Ruth Brodman, Marcia Weber and Phyllis Fletcher. Many thanks to these fabulous women for baking 128 cookies of all varieties - chocolate, chocolate chip, gluten free sugar cookies and cranberry oatmeal. The students said thank you.

At North Medford High School on April 21, about 20 students attended the non-partisan voter registration event held in Mr. Peter Bollling’s history and government classroom. Chris Walker explained what happens in the elections office when ballots start coming in for the May 17 primary. She said the counting machine is locked down and no results are known until 8pm on election day. She let students know that she hires people to help during election season and she invited them to apply through www.personnelsource.com

At the North Medford High event, Jackson County Republican Women helped serve pizza that was generously donated by Bobbio’s Pizza on Roberts Road in Medford. Jackson County Republican Women also provided water and Costco cookies. The event was organized by Matt Mendenhall as part of his senior project at North Medford High School.

A reporter from KDRV TV attended the North Medford High event and produced a good news clip about getting out the vote. Watch the report here:


Report by JCRW Member Melissa Stiles—Coordinator for Event

Melissa is also JCRW Chaplain and MELP Chair.
Mr. Silva told the annual Security and Counter Terror Expo: “With CBRN, there is a justified concern.” Watch: what does Islamic State want? Dr. Jamie Shea, deputy assistant secretary general for CBRN, there is a justified concern. “We know terrorists are trying to acquire these substances.” Dr. Shea also warned that Isis may be splitting in two, with one part trying to protect the so-called caliphate in Syria and Iraq, which is increasingly losing ground from coalition airstrikes, but a second part focusing on setting up terror cells around Europe to launch attacks in the future.

He said the threat is likely to “get worse before it gets better”.

President Obama speaks out about Islam in Baltimore—The following article written by World Net Daily refutes his position.

If you seek to understand Barack Obama and his views, the best place to go is his speeches. But you have to read them in their entirety, not rely on hearing them or on the media’s summary of them. When you do, you realize how often what Obama says is morally and intellectually confused and even untrue.

The most recent example was his speech at a mosque in Baltimore. In addition to reassuring Muslim Americans that they are as American as Americans of every other faith—President Obama spoke a lot of nonsense, some of it dangerous. President Obama: “So let’s start with this fact: For more than a thousand years, people have been drawn to Islam’s message of peace. And the very word itself, Islam, comes from salam — peace.”

Why did Obama say this? Even Muslim websites acknowledge that “Islam” means “submission” [to Allah], that it comes from the Arabic root “aslama” meaning submission, and that “Islam” is in the command form of that verb. That’s why “Muslim” means “One who submits,” not “One who is peaceful.”

Obama: “Jefferson and John Adams had their own copies of the Quran.” The reason Jefferson had a copy of the Quran was to try to understand it in light of what the Muslim ambassador from Tripoli had told him and John Adams. When asked why Tripoli pirates were attacking American ships and enslaving Americans, the Muslim ambassador explained that Muslims are commanded to do so by the Quran: “It was written in their Quran that all nations which had not acknowledged the Prophet were sinners, whom it was the right and duty of the faithful to plunder and enslave; and that every mussulman [Muslim] who was slain in this warfare was sure to go to Paradise.” That’s why Jefferson and Adams had Quraans.

Obama: “And how do we move forward together? ... It can’t be just a burden on the Muslim community — although the Muslim community has to play a role.” Most Americans would say that the American Muslim community has to play “the” role, not “a” role in preventing violent Islam from capturing the minds of American Muslims, and in helping authorities identify extremist Muslims.

Obama: “Second, as Americans, we have to stay true to our core values, and that includes freedom of religion for all faiths.” This is so obviously true that one wonders why the president felt it necessary to mention it.

Obama: “There are Christians who are targeted now in the Middle East, despite having been there for centuries, and there are Jews who’ve lived in places like France for centuries who now feel obliged to leave because they feel themselves under assault — sometimes by Muslims.”

One would have expected that after mentioning “Christians targeted now in the Middle East,” he would have mentioned “Jews targeted in the Middle East.” That, however, would presumably have been too controversial to say. So, the president mentioned the many Jews in France “who now feel obliged to leave” their country because “they feel themselves under assault” – and then came the corkscrew: “sometimes by Muslims.”

Sometimes? French Jews have recently been murdered, tortured and harassed more than at any time since the Holocaust. And virtually every one of those attacks has been perpetrated by Muslims.

Obama: “These are the voices of Muslim scholars, some of whom join us today, who know Islam has a tradition of respect for other faiths.” Another falsehood. Islam has no such tradition. Islam has always demanded that Jews and Christians be treated as humiliated second-class citizens – when not forced to choose between conversion or death.

Now you know what President Obama said at the Islamic Society of Baltimore. But if you just read or listened to the mainstream media, you would have missed it because none of this was reported. It was all about, as the headline in USA Today put it, “At Baltimore mosque, Obama condemns anti-Muslim bigotry.”

Authority—World Net Daily—Edited content to fit space—
"It doesn't get better." To us, that phrase nailed one of the essential truths, maybe even the essential truth, about being stuck at an outpost whose strategic and tactical vulnerabilities were so glaringly obvious to every soldier who had ever set foot in that place that the name itself -- Keating -- had become a kind of backhanded joke.

In 2009, Clinton Romesha of Red Platoon and the rest of the Black Knight Troop were preparing to shut down Command Outpost Keating, the most remote and inaccessible in a string of bases built by the U.S. military in Nuristan and Kunar in the hope of preventing Taliban insurgents from moving freely back and forth between Afghanistan and Pakistan. Three years after its construction, the army was finally ready to concede what the men on the ground had known immediately: it was simply too isolated and too dangerous to defend.

On October 3, 2009, after years of constant smaller attacks, the Taliban finally decided to throw everything they had at Keating. The ensuing 14-hour battle-- and eventual victory-- cost 8 men their lives.

Red Platoon is the riveting first-hand account of the Battle of Keating, told by Romesha, who spearheaded both the defense of the outpost and the counter-attack that drove the Taliban back beyond the wire, and received the Medal of Honor for his actions.

Short Biography of the Author
Clinton LaVor "Clint" Romesha (born August 1981) is a former United States Army staff sergeant. He received the Medal of Honor for actions during the Battle of Kamdesh in 2009 during the war in Afghanistan.

Born into a family with a strong military background, Romesha joined the U.S. Army in 1999, and was posted at various times in Germany, South Korea and Colorado. Trained as an M1 Abrams tank crewman, Romesha had seen four deployments, including to Kosovo, Iraq twice, and Afghanistan. On 3 October 2009, he was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, deployed to Combat Outpost Keating in eastern Afghanistan. When a force of 300 Taliban insurgents attacked the base, Romesha was credited with rallying his comrades and leading the counterattack, directing close air support and providing suppressive fire to help the wounded to an aid station. Despite being wounded, Romesha continued to fight through the 12-hour battle.

Romesha left the Army in 2011 to spend more time with his family. He later took a job in the oil industry in North Dakota. On 11 February 2013, he received the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama.

The Snapping of the American Mind
By David Kupelian

Publisher—WND

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL HAS BECOME AMERICA THE BIZARRE. Government openly defies the law, Christians are prosecuted as criminals, children "transition" to the opposite sex, the president supports our enemies and 130 million Americans depend on mind-altering substances just to get through life.

But this revolution is also causing a fundamental transformation of Americans in profoundly negative ways. In The Snapping of the American Mind, veteran journalist and bestselling author David Kupelian shows how the progressive Left which today dominates America’s key institutions, from the news and entertainment media, to education, to government itself is accomplishing much more than just enlarging government, redistributing wealth, and de-Christianizing the culture. With the Left’s wild celebration of sexual anarchy, its intimidating culture of political correctness, and its incomprehension of the fundamental sacredness of human life, it is also, whether intentionally or not, promoting widespread dependency, debauchery, family breakdown, crime, corruption, addiction, despair, and suicide.

Surveying this growing chaos in American society, Kupelian exposes both the utopian revolutionaries and their extraordinary methods that have turned America’s most cherished values literally upside down to the point that madness is celebrated and normality demonized.

Top conservative luminaries are speaking out about the author and his latest book:

“David Kupelian is one of the most thought-provoking and iconoclastic writers I know.” – Sean Hannity, top-rated radio and TV host and author

David Kupelian’s ‘The Snapping of the American Mind’ chronicles the decline and fall of America and shows that it is no accident, but rather a direct result of progressive misrule – an eye-opening, scary and galvanizing book.” – Dinesh D’Souza, author and filmmaker

“In ‘The Snapping of the American Mind,’ David Kupelian makes it crystal clear that the Left’s first and ultimate target is none other than the American mind itself. In an era when our nation’s Judeo-Christian foundation is coming under increasingly open and brutal attack, Kupelian’s powerful and redemptive book couldn’t have come at a better time.” – David Barton, historian and author

“As David Kupelian documents, this transformation, which includes de-Christianizing our culture, indoctrinating our children, and forcing acceptance of all sorts of bizarre sexual and social behavior, is taking a terrible toll on the American people’s mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Fortunately, Kupelian also points the way to national and personal renewal.” – Phyllis Schlafly, WND columnist and conservative icon.

Schools are Not Teaching They are Preaching and it isn't the gospel.

Florida parents are livid at a Spanish teacher who assigned middle-school students a form titled “How privileged are you?” during class. Seventh- and eighth-grade students at Monroe Middle School in Tampa were asked questions about race, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, and religion during a Spanish lesson. The teacher, who has been pulled from the classroom while officials investigate, allegedly used the form as a way to promote “diversity.”

“Her sexuality and all that has nothing to do with the school,” parent Regina Stiles told WTSP-10 on Tuesday. “You’re here to teach my child a foreign language – not anything else.”

Stiles’ daughter revealed her ADHD in the form’s “mentality disability” box due to the teacher’s opinion on the condition. The child was also asked to consider boxes labeled “genderqueer” and “pansexual.”

Our children are not reading at grade level.

The literacy rates among fourth grade students in America are sobering. Sixty percent of all U.S. fourth graders scored “below proficient” on the 2013 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) reading test, meaning that they are not reading at grade level.1 Even more alarming is the fact that among students from low-income backgrounds, 80 percent score below grade level in reading.

Reading proficiency among middle school students isn’t much better. On the 2013 NAEP reading test, about 22 percent of eighth graders scored below the “basic” level, and only 36 percent of eighth graders were at or above grade level.

Compared to other Countries, We Fail in Math and Science.

In the growing global marketplace, students will need to excel in both math and science to compete internationally as engineers, scientists, physicians, and creative entrepreneurs. Yet, in a 2012 analysis of student performance on the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA), the U.S. placed 27th out of 34 countries in math performance and 20th in science performance.

According to the 2012 Nation’s Report Card, average math and reading scores for 17-year-olds have remained relatively stagnant since the 1970s. If you believe that something must be done to change this, continue exploring our site to learn more about how you can make a difference.

Our education system is meant to give all Americans a chance to succeed. It should allow individuals to achieve their dreams while building a better future for our country. But today our system is falling short.

Rather than helping level the playing field, our education system promotes inequality. Our schools are twice as likely to pair poor and minority students with brand new teachers and almost four times more likely to suspend black students than white students.

Over the last decade, the problem has gotten worse. The achievement gap between low-income and wealthy students has grown significantly. Just as alarming, we still see large achievement gaps by race and ethnicity. Fewer than one in five African-American fourth graders is proficient in reading and Latino eighth graders are less than half as likely to be proficient in math as their white peers. The failure of our system does not stop with inequality. Even our strongest schools are unable to compete globally. Our top students rank below even average students in Shanghai and our best performing state, Massachusetts, ranks lower than 16 other developed nations in math. The education crisis is real and it puts our kids’ futures at risk.

Kasich in Medford

It was a quiet meeting, no cheering, no excitement. Quiet and calm. Not a rally by any means. The above picture is C.W. Smith posing a question about the controversy of our lands to the east. Below is a picture of the crowd and as you can see there is little or no enthusiasm. According to the Newspaper accounts there was 250 people in the room who had seats another hundred or so standing.

John Kasich spoke from a 8 foot platform in the middle of the room, surrounded by an audience. He spoke about his ability to solve problems in Ohio. He spoke about his role in Congress in the 90’s. And his role as Ohio Governor. There were campaign signs on the wall but this was not a campaign rally.

The Kasich Campaign failed to place his credentials in the Voters Pamphlet but is on the ballot. There are 3 Republicans running for the office. Everyone has his favorite candidate already selected. The main thing is to VOTE. Republicans have a habit if they are unhappy with the field they fail to cast their vote in the Primary or the General Election. This cannot happen this election cycle. No matter who the winner of our primary is, we must Support and Vote in the General Election. Failure to do this, will bring in Hillary or Sanders. Either one is a disaster and those who do not vote will be responsible for the demise of our Country.

We are not the majority party so every vote counts. We need all of the Republican votes and the Independent and the Reagan Democrat’s votes. Please remember this. This is not just for us. This is for our children and grandchildren. The ballots are in your hands now. So lets vote. No writing in Mickey Mouse or Donald Duck this time around.
COMMON CORE—HUGE FAILURE

The following is the findings by the National Center for Education Statistics. Our Education System is failing—The future of our Children and Grandchildren is at stake—We need to fight back.

Much like their 4th and 8th grade peers, high school seniors have lost ground in math over the last two years, according to the most recent scores on a national achievement test. In reading, 12th grade scores remained flat, continuing a trend since 2009.

Perhaps the most striking detail in the test data, though, is that the lowest achievers showed large score drops in both math and reading. Between 2013 and 2015, students at or below the 10th percentile in reading went down an average of 6 points on the National Assessment of Educational Progress—the largest drop in a two-year period since 1994. The high achievers, on the other hand—those at or above the 90th percentile—did significantly better in reading, gaining two points, on average, while staying stagnant in math.

"In the case of reading... students at the top of the distribution are going up and students at the bottom of the distribution are going down," said Peggy G. Carr, the acting commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics, which administers NAEP, during an April 26 media call. "I think that's something we need to think about. ... This is a pattern we're seeing in other data." As for the mathematics average score, "I think the decline is real," she added.

A nationally representative group of 13,200 12th graders took the NAEP math test in 2015, and 18,700 took the reading test. NAEP, which is administered periodically to different grades and in different subjects by the National Center for Education Statistics, is considered a barometer of U.S. students' achievement. This year's 12th grade results do not include state-level data. Carr explained, due to funding constraints.

In math, the average score was 152 on a 300-point scale, which was nearly two points lower than the 2013 average and constituted a statistically significant decrease. In reading, the average score was 287 on a 500-point scale—statistically similar to the average score two years ago. Looking longitudinally, math scores are statistically similar to those in 2005, the first year that's valid for comparison. Reading scores have declined since 1992, when the test was first administered.

When the scores are disaggregated by low, middle, and high performers, it's clear that the low-performers—those at the 10th and 25th percentile—are scoring much lower than they did two years ago. That may be in part due rising graduation rates, said Carr. (The national on-time graduation rate hit an all-time high of 82 percent in 2014.) "The dropout rate for all students has improved," she said. "That means we have students who normally would not be there who are there."

Results for NAEP, known as the Nation's Report Card, are also reported at three achievement levels: basic, proficient, and advanced. "Proficient" indicates students are successful with challenging, grade-level content. Twenty-five percent of 12th graders scored at or above the proficient level in math. That includes the 3 percent of students who scored at the advanced level. In reading, 37 percent of seniors scored at or above the proficient level, with 6 percent scoring at the advanced level.

The percentage of students scoring below the "basic" level was significantly higher in both reading and math than it was two years ago. It went from 35 to 38 percent in math, and 25 to 28 percent in reading.

Starting in 2013, NAEP also began reporting on the percentage of students who are considered academically prepared for college, meaning they should be able to do first-year college work without needing remedial courses. To reach that threshold, students had to score at least a 163 in math and a 302 in reading.

In both reading and math, just 37 percent of high school seniors scored at the college-ready level.

"The governing board is pleased that graduation rates are increasing across the country, but at the same time we are not making the progress we need to for post-secondary, work, and military participation," said William J. Bushaw, executive director of the National Assessment Governing Board, which sets policy for NAEP. "We have to redouble our efforts to prepare our students and to close opportunity gaps."

No Change in Racial Achievement Gaps

The data also show that large racial and ethnic achievement gaps have persisted. White and Asian students continue to significantly outperform their black, Hispanic, and American Indian/Alaska Native peers.

While 47 percent of Asian students and 32 percent of white students scored at or above proficient in math, just 7 percent of black students and 12 percent of Hispanic students did the same.

There were no changes in the black-white and white-Hispanic score gaps for math or reading between 2013 and 2015. In fact, none of the racial and ethnic subgroups performed significantly differently than they had in 2013.

Girls continue to outperform boys in reading, and boys continue to outperform girls in math.

In a bright spot, the average math scores for English-language learners went up by 6 points over two years. Carr explained that this was primarily due to an increase in the number of Asian students identified as English learners. "We weren't surprised once we got a good sense of those demographics," she said.

Mirroring Other Grades' Scores

The 2015 NAEP results for 4th and 8th grade students, released in October, showed math scores had declined for those grades as well. Reading scores were steady for 4th graders but declined for 8th graders since 2013.

On seeing those scores, advocates placed blame in a variety of places—the Common Core State Standards, frequent testing, the economy, and demographic changes were among the targets. Those contentions are likely to resurface with the 12th grade results.

However, it's important to note that NAEP scores cannot point to causation, and that education researchers say such explanations should be viewed with skepticism.

When asked whether high school seniors take the test seriously, Carr said motivation isn't much of a concern. The number of answers students omitted and other data, she said, showed that "students are not interacting with this assessment any differently than they have in the past."

Students can choose to opt out of the test, though, and this year participation rates did drop a bit, she said. "But it was nothing that concerned us [or made] us think that the students we have in the sample today are any different from what we had in the sample in previous years."

Opinion: Common Core does not work and in fact our Education System is much worse today then before this was implemented by our lame Government. RB
Hi Members

Thank you to all the members that have paid their dues. There are some members that have not paid dues. Please remit ASAP so you are not dropped from the roles.

Many thanks—Pat Tracy—Membership Chair
Email address: wimergarden1@charter.net

Please Cut out and Mail

Jackson County Republican Women

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All Renewals are due Jan 1st

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Get Well Soon

For those who were born in the month of May the Emerald is the traditional birthstone. The May birthstone poem reflects some of the properties with which the Emerald is associated—loyalty, faithfulness and friendship. The Traditional Metaphysical Properties for the May Birthstone Emerald are memory, clairvoyance and faith.

Happy Birthday Members

Anna Chaffe
County Commissioner  Colleen Roberts

Members: if you are not on the list than we do not have your Birth Month. Please e-mail jcrw@charter.net with your special date so We can Wish you a HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Please all say a prayer for our members and family members who are suffering with serious ailments and others who have been down with flu & assorted other ailments. We ask the Lord our Father to Nourish their Spirit and Soul in this time of suffering and comfort them with his presence.

If you know of a member who is ailing and in need of cheer, Please send an e-mail to:
Melissa Stiles our JCRW Chaplain melissamstiles@gmail.com
Melissa will send a greeting card.