



# THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



JULY 2014

EDITOR: LOUIS R. AVALLONE

VOLUME 19, EDITION 7



## *Mayor of The People's Will or Mayor of Special Interests?*

### THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, July 1** at the Clarion Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **J. Keith Gates**, conservative candidate for Louisiana Public Service Commission, District 5 who believes in lower rates, better service, and less bull.



Keith was born in Natchitoches, raised in Goldonna, and is proud to call North Louisiana home. Keith is a graduate of Lakeview High School where he was active in the FFA, achieving the American FFA Degree. Keith attended Northwestern State University and the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center in Baton Rouge where he received both a

Juris Doctor degree and a Bachelor of Civil Law degree. After law school Keith clerked as a research attorney for the Hon. Justice Jeffrey P. Victory of the Louisiana Supreme Court in New Orleans, the highest court in Louisiana. Keith worked in all areas of Louisiana law including appellate, constitutional, criminal, election, family, property, sales, workers' compensation and many others.

In the summer of 2011, Keith left for Washington, D.C., where he and three other attorneys founded a non-partisan organization that uses public advocacy and legal reform tools to ensure greater transparency in government, protect taxpayer interests and promote economic freedom. Thereafter, Keith came home to North Louisiana to fulfill his dream and open the Gates Law Firm. Keith represents clients in many different types of matters that run the gamut of Louisiana and Federal law.

Keith is active in his community, teaching Royal Ambassadors at his local church, speaking to local school groups about being an attorney, and holding membership in Goldonna Lodge in Goldonna, Hope Lodge in Lafayette, and O.K. Allen Lodge in Winnfield. Additionally, Keith serves as the Grand Organist of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons.

Keith is an active outdoorsman and is a member of the National Rifle Association (NRA). In his words, "I have a second amendment right to possess a firearm, and I use it."

Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and there is no cost to listen. Parking is free.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

While national politics will continue to command our political willfulness to defeat Mary Landrieu here at home, and preserve the conservative principles that we hold dear throughout this great state, there are other, important threats to our community, that deserve our attention. One such threat is the utter disregard of the people's will, by both the Shreveport Mayor and City Council, last month.

By a vote of 5-2, the City Council allowed the continued development of a subdivision that is directly in the path of the Inner Loop Extension (via 3132) to the Port of Caddo-Bossier, despite the election in 1996 where voters approved spending their property tax dollars, through a 1996 bond issue, for this highway project. There are lots of reasons why 64 percent of the voters back in 1996 chose to spend their tax dollars on the extension: Increase safety for residents and others who travel on East Flournoy Lucas Road, encourage traffic to the Port by offering a more

convenient route with a higher speed limit, encourage future development along the Inner Loop, reduce industrial traffic from Youree Drive and Bert Kouns – and the list could go on and on, of course, to explain the majority vote favoring the extension of the loop.

But let's get something straight here. This is not just about a highway. Or higher property taxes (although we have the highest in the state). It's not about economic development (although our population has declined now to below the 1980 census population). It's not about politics (although every politician from Bossier City to Bogalusa has had some involvement in this matter). It's not about the financial interests of a few landowners (although this perception of Shreveport is partly why so many are moving away, and to communities where they feel ordinary folks, like themselves, can be heard and make a difference).

It's about the will of the people, and according to Thomas Jefferson, the will of the people is the only legitimate foundation for any government. In our Shreveport city government, the will of the people has been lost, however, and so it seems the very foundation of city government itself.

It's plainly about the will of the people, and our community telling the mayor, and the City Council, that we're tired of the old attitude of "give us the money, and we'll tell you what we spent it on later." Now we can't make chicken soup from chicken poop, or otherwise undo all of the knots this matter has been tied up into. But we also don't have to make the same mistakes going forward for our community. Next time, it must be the will of the people — not special interests — that choose the path forward. And that's whatever road you choose.

**Louis R. Avallone**

## CONFOUNDING CONUNDRUMS

The definition of the word Conundrum is: something that is puzzling or confusing. Here are six Conundrums of socialism in the United States of America:

1. America is capitalist and greedy - yet half of the population is subsidized; 2. Half of the population is subsidized - yet they think they are victims; 3. They think they are victims - yet their representatives run the government; 4. Their representatives run the government - yet the poor keep getting poorer; 5. The poor keep getting poorer - yet they have things that people in other countries only dream about; 6. They have things that people in other countries only dream about - yet they want America to be more like those other countries.

Makes you wonder who is doing the math.

## MEDALLION CLUB

The 2014 Medallion Club membership drive will begin shortly. The Medallion Club effort raises the necessary funds to run the office, pay for the newsletter, and conduct other Party activities. Gold Medallion members level is \$200 and above, Medallion membership is \$100-199 and Supporter level membership is up to \$99. Checks may be dropped off to the HQ's Office at 1941-C

East 70th Street, Shreveport 71105. Contributions are not tax deductible. **Gold**

**Medallion Members:** Max Edwards, Austin Robertson, and The Professional Republican Women's Club. **Medallion**

**Members:** Jim and Martha Allen, Harold and Margaret Coates, Jack Daniel, Elmo Norton, Barrow Peacock, and Olive G. Stuart.



## GEORGE BURTON, SR.

Most of the younger generation will not know or remember Republican George A. Burton, Jr., who passed away on June 10 at the age of 88. George was involved in numerous civic activities and brought considerable prestige and respect to the Republican Party at a time when, as the saying goes, Republicans were meeting in a phone booth. (Some of our younger folks will not know what a phone booth was). George was the first Republican in Louisiana to be elected to a major full time office when he was elected Shreveport Commissioner of Finance. He served as Chairman of the Caddo PEC from 1960-1980 and was elected to the Republican State Central Committee 1972-1980 and served as Secretary during that time. He was appointed Chairman of the Caddo Board of Election Supervisors in 1978 by Democrat Governor Edwin Edwards and served in this capacity until his retirement in 2008.

## LA. GOP ENDORSES CASSIDY

In announcing the endorsement, Villere noted that it's rare for the state GOP to get involved in a race involving multiple Republicans – the last time it was done was the 2007 governor's race when the party endorsed Bobby Jindal – but a majority of the members of the state central committee voiced support for a Cassidy endorsement in writing, and therefore the executive committee voted to execute the endorsement per party rules. Because they've made it official, the LAGOP is now empowered to bring some resources to the table in the race because Mary Landrieu has the full support and might of the Democrat establishment machine behind her, and they will make it their top priority to save her. We need our strongest team on the field, with every possible advantage behind them.



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1941-C East 70th Street  
Shreveport, LA 71105



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If you are an email subscriber to the newsletter, please don't forget to advise the editor ([louisavallone@mac.com](mailto:louisavallone@mac.com)) when you change your email address. If you are not, subscribe via **full-color** email by emailing the editor today!

The **Women's Republican Club of Shreveport (WRC)** meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:45 a.m. at **East Ridge Country Club**. Lunch is \$18.00. Reservations can be made by emailing [rsvp.wrc@gmail.com](mailto:rsvp.wrc@gmail.com) or calling 795-0870 and leave a message. Men are invited to attend and join as associates.

The **Professional Republican Women (PRWC)** meets at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's The Catering Place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Email [PRWC1989@gmail.com](mailto:PRWC1989@gmail.com) or contact Pam Gutekunst

([pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net](mailto:pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net), 797-0802) for reservations (menu is fried catfish, unless chef salad is requested in advance). Men are welcome to attend and join as associates. Meals at \$12.00.

The **Republican Women of Bossier (RWB)** meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2171 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$20.00. Listening is free. Call Robin Rue-Graves (965-5001), [robinsbirdnest@yahoo.com](mailto:robinsbirdnest@yahoo.com) for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). Men are welcome as associates.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July 1** - GOP Luncheon, Keith Gates
- July 4** - Independence Day
- July 15** - PRWC dinner
- July 16** - WRC luncheon
- July 17** - PEC meeting, 6:30  
Piccadilly Cafeteria
- July 22** - RWB dinner

**THE CADDO REPUBLICAN** is the monthly newsletter of the Caddo Republican Party. Mail articles, suggestions, recommendations, and complaints to the Editor at **1941-C E. 70th St., Shreveport, LA 71105** or via email at [louisavallone@mac.com](mailto:louisavallone@mac.com). This newsletter is designed to provide information regarding the subject matter covered. The editors are NOT engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional services. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, please seek the services of a competent professional. The opinions expressed are those of the Editors and contributors and not necessarily those of the Party.

## OFFICERS AND KEY OFFICIALS

- |                                   |                   |          |                                      |                 |              |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| • Chairman                        | Louis R. Avallone | 841-1277 | • Professional Republican Women      | Dottie Mazariaz | 797-4549     |
| • Vice Chairman                   | Barry Rachal      | 469-2277 | • Women's Republican Club of S'port  | Linda Brooks    | 294-3775     |
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| • Secretary                       | Nancy Adcock      | 458-1637 | • Parliamentarian/Publicity Chairman | Betsy Malone    | 868-3464     |
| • Committee Attorney              | Louis R. Avallone | 841-1277 | • Louisiana State Republican Party   |                 | 225-928-2998 |
| • Caddo/Bossier Republican Office |                   | 797-1777 | • Webmaster                          | Allen Marsalis  | 841-0199     |

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