



THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



MARCH 2018

EDITOR: LOUIS R. AVALLONE

VOLUME 24, EDITION 3



Pulling The Trigger on the 2nd Amendment?

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon on Tuesday, March 6, 2018** at the Wyndham Garden Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **Caddo Parish Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lamar Goree**. He will present his "State of the District" report, and respond to Sheriff Prator's recommendation that the CPSB members should vote to allow certain faculty members to take their guns to school.

As you may know, Dr. Goree has served as Superintendent since December 2013 and is a graduate of Huntington High School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Management from Morehouse College, a Master of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Goree believes he has turned the tide for a district he entered amid an academic and financial crisis. In 2013, the new Superintendent faced the threat of looming

state takeover of 10 chronically failing schools and a system with declining finances and staff without a raise in six years. His first task was to establish the Transformation Zone – a model designed to turn around underperforming schools and improve climate and culture.



Additionally, Dr. Goree says he was able to re-allocate current resources to provide not one, but two employee raises, while Caddo also has garnered attention for its growth in ACT performance, students earning National Merit honors and students entering colleges and universities with large numbers of credits under their belts.

Be sure and join us. Reservations not required. Eating is \$13, no cost to just listen, and free parking.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dear Fellow Republicans,

There's a lot of debate over gun control these days, especially after the Parkland, Florida murders. And let's call it "murder" because that's what it is...yes, it was also "shooting" (as the media prefers to put it), but that doesn't adequately describe the unjust, cowardly, selfish, and evil act of taking an innocent life.

And why does the media always characterize these tragedies as mere "shootings?" They did it at the Mandalay Bay concert in Las Vegas last October. They did it at the movie theater in Aurora in 2012, and at the Orlando nightclub in 2016. It was just a "shooting" at Columbine in 1999 (according to the media), as well as when churchgoers were murdered in Charleston in 2015, and then again, just last year, in Sutherland Springs.

To describe it as a "shooting" glosses over the fact that a person was the ultimate cause of the murder and the "shooting" was merely the end of a chain of decisions that started with that person deciding to murder.

Sheriff Prator has recently advocated for arming our teachers, saying "Our schools currently brag of being 'firearm free' zones, literally an invitation for armed evildoers," and while most of our schools have one armed 'guard,' "there are times when that person is distracted or unavailable."

Prator makes a good point, students will leave school and go to the supermarket, the mall, and the movie theater, and people there will have concealed carry permits, he says, "What is the harm with taking a teacher and that you allow them to assist law enforcement in case something happens?"

Those who are calling for Congress and state legislatures to "do something" about gun control are starting with protests and marches. A nationwide school walkout is being organized for March 14, by the same people behind the Women's March (you know, the one where Madonna said she's been thinking about blowing up the White House).

From reading the headlines, and the protesters signs, it seems more gun control legislation is the answer. After all, if the "wrong" people in our country had less accessibility to guns, then these shootings murders would decline, and that's why we just have to "do something," regardless of whether it actually achieves the intended result.

But what if the intended result we're seeking isn't an elementary, cause-and-effect? What if our accessibility to guns was unrelated to the causation of people murdering one another?

What if our murder rate is not a result of a single "cause" (accessibility to guns) but an "accumulation" of factors within a society that increasingly views human life as subjective and revocable? Or that condones and funds abortions, looks the other way on euthanasia, and glorifies violence in movies and video games, while diminishing our ability to empathize with the plight of others, and to choose convenience over preserving and protecting life?

And look, just because a person murders "after" acquiring a gun does not always mean they murdered "because" of the gun. That's like saying where there is punishment, there must have been a crime.

The bottom line here is that whatever you call it, a "murder" or a "shooting" or whatever, pretending that passing another law will somehow make it all better is precisely what got us here, in the first place. More of us need to pray in this country, again, like we really do believe "in God we trust." Our lives, literally, depend on it.

In closing, please help us to continue doing our work in Caddo Parish, and spreading our conservative message, by making a contribution to the Caddo Republican PEC, or to volunteer your time. Contributions of any amount may be made by mailing a check to: Caddo RPEC, 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport, LA 71105 or by clicking the following link to contribute by credit or debit card, <http://new.caddogop.com/>. Thanks, in advance, as always, for any support you can lend.

Louis R. Avallone



WE “LET TRUMP BE TRUMP!”

Yes, we let “Trump Be Trump” and it was GREAT! Many thanks to the volunteers who came together to make a great success of the February 6 event. Photos and videos are available for viewing at caddogop.com and on our Facebook page. We appreciate Louisiana Attorney General **Jeff Landry** for his tireless efforts to assist, as well as co-hosts and sponsors, **Ronnie Remedies and Andrea Remedies, Senator Barrow Peacock, John Atkins, Matt Kay and KDM Digital Solutions, Dwight and Danette Pugh, Larry Bagley, and Ryan E. Gatti and Susan Gatti.**

MEDALLION CLUB...THANK YOU!

Join The Ranks!

The 2018 Medallion Club membership drive beginning! We are grateful for the tremendous support, and unwavering commitment of our Caddo Parish Republican supporters. As many of you know, 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. **You can contribute online by visiting <http://bit.ly/CaddoRPEC> or checks may be dropped off to the office at 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport 71105.** Contributions are not tax deductible. Gold Medallion: **Harold and Margaret Coates.** Medallion Club: Mike Thibodaux.

TAX RENEWAL OR NEW TAXES?

Is Mayor Tyler’s claim true that the six (6) property taxes on the ballot for April 28th are *renewals*? Or

are they *new* taxes? The dictionary defines “renewal” as “an instance of resuming an activity or state after an interruption.” Using that definition, technically, yes, perhaps those taxes on the April ballot are *renewals*. But Elliott Stonecipher believes that “the proposed millages would be NEW-on-the-books property taxes if we pass them...and a reward from our pocketbooks to this mayor’s way of doing our business.” Without these *new* (or renewed) taxes, however, property owners will receive a tax-cut for 2018. Stonecipher also points out that, “The combination of City of Shreveport, Caddo Parish School Board and Caddo Parish Commission property taxes remains at/near the highest in Louisiana.” These taxes, if passed in April, would be in effect for five (5) years. Tyler has announced that she will seek a second term as mayor and that any formal announcement will be after the April 28 tax vote. Tyler’s 2017 candidate’s report indicates a fund balance at year end of \$33,386.62.

NEW LAGOP CHAIR ELECTED

On February 24, 2018, members of the Republican State Central Committee, the governing body of the party, gathered together in Baton Rouge to elect new officers. The room was full of excitement and energy, and **Louis Gurvich** of New Orleans was elected Chairman from a field of four candidates. **Beryl Amedee** of Terrebonne Parish was re-elected without opposition as Vice Chair. **Michael Bayham** of St. Bernard Parish was elected as Secretary from a field of two candidates. **Dexter Duhon** of Vermillion Parish was re-elected without opposition as Treasurer.

“This truly is an important day for the LAGOP. But it is also a poignant day for us as we close a profoundly important fourteen year chapter in our party’s history, the record term of Roger Villere, to whom we owe so much,” said newly elected Chairman Louis Gurvich.

“With Republicans controlling the national agenda, we have an incredible opportunity for Louisiana Republicans to take our message to communities all over the state so that we can expand our party,” said Gurvich. The responsibilities of the Chairman of the LAGOP include raising money for the party, recruiting candidates to run for office, chairing meetings, appointing committee members and unelected officers, serving as the party spokesman and serving as the state party’s liaison with the Republican National Committee. Chairmen are elected for two-year terms.

THE CADDO REPUBLICAN

1941-C East 70th Street
Shreveport, LA 71105

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Shreveport, LA
Permit No. 350



If you are an email subscriber to the newsletter, please don't forget to advise the editor (louisavallone@caddogop.com) when you change your email address. If you are not, subscribe via **full-color**.

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 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 or contact Pam Gutekunst

(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 are \$12.00.

The **Republican Women of Bossier (RWB)** meet on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Stonebridge Country Club. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$18.00. Listening is free. Email Gail Bradley at rwbmeal@gmail.com or by calling her at 572-5853, for reservations (RSVP, please, by the Monday before). Men are welcome as associates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar. 6 - Caddo GOP luncheon
- Mar. 11 - Daylight Savings Time
- Mar. 15 - Caddo PEC Meeting
- Mar. 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- Mar. 20 - PRWC Dinner
- Mar. 21 - WRC Luncheon
- Mar. 25 - Palm Sunday
- Mar. 27 - RWB Dinner
- Mar. 30 - Good Friday

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 louisavallone@caddogop.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 | Susan Taylor | 869-2975 |
| • Vice Chairman | Barry Rachal | 469-2277 | • Women's Republican Club of S'port | Danette Pugh | 225-362-1800 |
| • Treasurer | Micheal Collins | 207-0405 | • Candidate Assistance Co-Chairs | Betsy/Max Malone | 868-3464 |
| • Secretary | Nancy Adcock | 458-1637 | • Parliamentarian/Publicity Chair | Betsy Malone | 868-3464 |
| • Committee Attorney | Louis R. Avallone | 841-1277 | • Louisiana State Republican Party | | 225-389-4495 |
| • Caddo/Bossier Republican Office | | 797-1777 | • Republican Women of Bossier | Ali Feaster-Smith | 716-7532 |