SEPTEMBER 2024

RWRC NEWS

MEMBER OF THE TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN



SEPTEMBER MEETING INVITE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 6PM

CARRIAGE LANE INN - 337 East Burton Street

You are invited to join us for a delicious dinner and to hear from John DeBerry who represented the 90th House District of Tennessee from 1995 to 2020.

DeBerry is a graduate of Freed-Hardeman University and the University of Memphis and currently preaches at the Coleman Avenue Church of Christ in Memphis, in addition to churches and organizations across the country. He serves as Governor Lee's Senior Advisor and as a member of his Cabinet. Let's welcome John DeBerry to RWRC!

Reservations and meal payments are due by September 12 at 5 pm. You can sign up and prepay by clicking the link below:





RWRC Meeting Reservations

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AUGUST MEETING RECAP

Submitted by Marzee Woodward

Karen Hudson, President and Program Chair, introduced the House Majority Leader William Lamberth as the speaker for the evening. Lamberth is a lawyer from Sumner county representing that area.

Lamberth gave a rousing presentation that encouraged members to get out and vote for Trump. He shared information about bills that passed this year helping us become more informed citizens.

His presentation was encouraging and positive, leaving us all enthusiastic to work for the cause in the next couple of months.











House Majority Leader and speaker for the evening, William Lamberth

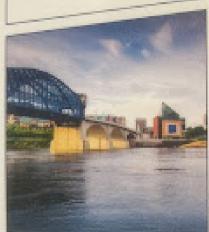


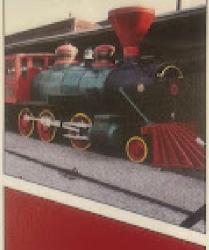




RWRC President, Karen Hudson, Joyce Taylor

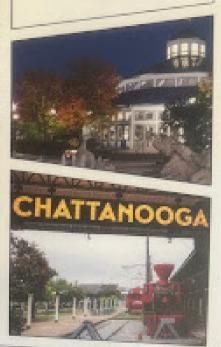






You Are Invited to the 35th Biennial **TFRW** Convention October 17th - 19th 2025

The Marriott Hotel
Two Carter Plaza



ALL ABOARD!

& THROUGH THE WOODS TO CHATTANOOGA





RED SHOE BOOK CLUB

Submitted by Cindy Bjork, Chair

Please join us for our next Red Shoe Book Club meeting to discuss J. D. Vance's memoir, *Hillbilly Elegy*. Donald Trump's running mate tells the story of his chaotic upbringing amidst the backdrop of white poverty in Southern Ohio and the Appalachian hills of Kentucky - and the grandmother who inspired him to overcome his obstacles, becoming a successful Yale Law School graduate, and eventually the Governor of Ohio and the current Republican Vice-Presidential running mate.

An excerpt from Hillbilly Elegy: "There was, and still is, a sense that those who make it are of two varieties. The first are lucky: They come from wealthy families with connections, and their lives were set from the moment they were born. The second are the meritocratic: They were born with brains and couldn't fail if they tried. Because very few in Middletown fall into the former category, people assume that everyone who makes it is just really smart. To the average Middletonian, hard work doesn't matter as much as raw talent. You can walk through a town where 30 percent of the young men work fewer than twenty hours a week and find not a single person aware of his own laziness."

UPCOMING RED SHOE BOOK CLUB DATES:

Monday, September 30, 6:00 p.m. Cindy Bjork's home 2634 English Hill Drive Murfreesboro, TN 37130 RSVP to: (615) 202-5313

Wednesday, October 2, 10:00 a.m. Patricia Hardage's home 4858 Chelanie Circle Murfreesboro, TN 37129

RSVP to: (214) 695-7898 (Patricia's home is a townhouse, so she has asked that you park in the overflow parking and not on the street.)

Literacy and Education Committee Project
On August 5, Elaine Alexander and Cindy Bjork
delivered library books (including patriotic books)

delivered library books (including patriotic books) and literacy supplies to Courtney Mobley, Media Specialist at Hobgood Elementary (totaling \$434.83 plus a few individual members' donations). Courtney was thrilled to get the donations and looks forward to using them to inspire her students to be readers and writers!



The purpose of a Red
Shoe Book Club:
"To increase our
knowledge, and share
understanding of
important Republican
issues and our
American heritage."



Literacy and Education Committee Project. Pictured L ro R: Cindy Bjork, Courtney Mobley, Elaine Alexander

CAMPAIGNS AND VOLUNTEERING

Ms. Alden Haun, a field representative for the House Republican Caucus races in Rutherford County is working with the campaigns of **Mike Sparks and Robert Stevens**.

She is looking for volunteers interested in door-knocking. She needs volunteers available between now and early November. Members who want to door-knock will be added to her i360 app, giving them access to different walk books for each campaign and a script to follow when talking to voters. She will also give volunteers candidate information cards to leave at each house.

Each vote counts in these races. The grassroots campaign is essential to securing our candidates' seats.

Please contact Alden to volunteer and with any questions: Kataldenh@gmail.com or 865.963.5941

LIBRARY BOARD OPENINGS!

The Library Board has four positions available: one for Murfreesboro, one for Eagleville, and two for Smyrna.

This is not a paid position, but a great opportunity for community service. *applicants must reside in the area for which they apply

Tell your friends and check out the <u>Rutherford County Library</u> system site to submit an application.

We want to have conservative voices in our community, serving on civic boards and commissions. As we learn of openings, we will pass these along!

VOLUNTEERS

The NFRW Homeland Security Committee and TexasFRW have compiled a list of items that our Border Patrol Agents need to make their difficult jobs easier.

All you need to do is click <u>HERE</u> and you will be directed to Amazon where you can pick from a wide range of items that are desperately needed and they will be shipped directly to the processing team.

- 1. Select the items you wish to purchase
- 2. Add them to your cart
- 3. Click "Proceed to Check Out"
- 4. Make sure the shipping address selected is "Deborah Wall-Border Care Project" (this should come up automatically)
- 5. Select your payment method
- 6. Then click "Place your order"
- 7. Items will be shipped directly to the processing team.

If you have any questions, please email Deborah Wall at Debmwall@gmail.com.



Pictured are L to R: Marzee Woodward, Judy Houchens, Betsy Murfree. (Back row) Marcia Jones and Susan Quesenberry

HQ fundraiser

LIBRARY

Things were really hopping on Saturday, August 24th at the Republican Headquarters as they will be most Saturdays until Election Day. Republican women from our club are actively working at HQ every Saturday to meet the people of our county, sell merchandise, and answer questions. It is a service our members provide. Sign up today to work on a Saturday → SIGN UP GENIUS

MARSHA BLACKBURN LUNCHEON

Come join us on Friday September 13th at 11:30AM to 1:30PM at the Fountains in Murfreesboro for a Luncheon with United States Senator Marsha Blackburn.

Tickets are \$25 and are available via Ticket Tailor https://buytickets.at/rutherfordcountyrepublicans/1370235



Interested in Phone Banking and Helping President Trump Get Elected? Click the link below and join "Trump Force 47." This is a great opportunity to help make calls in the swing states and save America! https://trumpforce47.com/



Yard Signs are Available at the GOP HQ!

Hours will vary depending upon volunteers, but HQ is always open on Saturdays from 9-12 PM.

Cost is \$10 for Yard Sign, \$25 for 4 X 4, and \$50 for 4 X 8.







Early voting volunteers are needed!
Early voting is October 16-31 and help is needed weekdays from 10-6 and Saturdays from 8-12. Pay is \$11 per hour. Contact Rhonda McFerrin with the Rutherford County Election Commission to sign up for the volunteer training on October 8.

CAMPAIGN CORNER

Submitted by Rhonda Wiser, Campaign Chair



The General Election (US ELECTION DAY) is on November 5, 2024.

Voter Registration Deadline Monday, October 7, 2024 Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Tuesday, October 29, 2024 Early Voting Wednesday, October 16 – Thursday, October 31, 2024

Lara Trump and The Republican National Convention recommend voting early to "Bank your vote: Vote early!"

The following Republicans are running in our local General Election with Democrat opponents:

- Senator Shane Reeves
- Representative Charlie Baum
- Representative Tim Rudd
- Representative Mike Sparks
- Representative Robert Stevens
- Representative Bryan Terry



RWRC has made campaign donations to these candidates now that the primary is over. Legally our club can donate a total combined amount of \$1000 to candidates since we are not a PAC (Political Action Committee). Each candidate received \$100 and Senator Shane Reeves received \$200. Senator Reeves generously donated four seats to the Reagan Day dinner for the county in June to four RWRC members (worth \$300 total) and two seats to the Statesmen's Dinner (the Tennessee Republican Party annual fundraiser) also in June (worth \$600 total)

The following Republicans are running in the Federal Election:

- Representative Scott DesJarlais
- Senator Marsha Blackburn
- President Donald J. Trump

VOTER INTEGRITY

The Trump campaign and the Republican National Committee's (RNC) plan is to have more than 100,000 attorneys and volunteers in battleground states to monitor vote counts.

The Trump campaign will offer training sessions and attorneys will be prepared to address any concerns.

Source: The Hill.com



POLITICAL AND CAMPAIGN HOURS

RWRC WILL FOLLOW THE BELOW REMINDERS FROM THE TENNESSEE FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN (TNFRW) ON RECORDING VOLUNTEER HOURS:

Examples of Volunteer Calls:

- Scheduling Meetings, Events, or Speakers
- Ballot Questions or Initiatives
- Calls to Action for Issues and/or Legislative Activities
- · Campaign Calls
- Polling Calls

Political and Campaign Volunteer Hours Include (where applicable):

- 1. Travel time to and from the activity
- 2. Research and development of the activity (example: social media posts / letters to the editor)
- 3. Preparation and breakdown of activity

Hours collected are on a best estimate basis. Round up to the closest whole hour.

Primary and Associate member hours should be counted. When in doubt count the hour.

Examples of Volunteer Activities:

- Attending, preparing for, or volunteering at NRW club meetings, attending all Republican events such as Reagan Day Dinner, GOP Nashville monthly breakfasts, and Region, State, and National Federation meetings and conventions
- Running for office
- Serving on committees
- Working at a Local, County, State, National Republican office
- Working at a Local, County, State, National Republican candidate or elected official's office
- Working as an Election Officer, Poll Watcher, Challenger, or Election Integrity worker
- Organizing, teaching, or attending a Campaign Management School
- All campaign activities benefiting our Republican Party, candidates, and/or the Federation
- Time spent making political and campaign calls

Thank you to Rhonda Wiser RWRC Campaign Chair for sharing this important information.



RWRC Volunteer Hours Link

MY FAITH VOTES



My Faith Votes (MFV) is a non-partisan movement of FAITH in Action that motivates, equips, and activates Christians to vote. It's a multi-channel approach that encourages Christians to vote through a combination of digital ads and personalized handwritten letters. These efforts have shown a 57% lift in voter turnout!

Encouraging someone to vote is easier than you might think. MFV has done the research, all you have to do is write! They have identified Christians who are pro-life and pro-traditional family but who are unlikely to vote. We need your help to contact them before Election Day on November 5!



All members of RWRC are invited to meet at HQ to write letters together!

Saturday, September 14 at 11:00am

If you'd like to get started writing letters right away, here are the instructions to sign up!

- 1. Click the QR code at the website, click "Start Write Now"
- 2. On the next page click the "Start Writing" box
- 3. Fill out your personal information and the number of letters you'd like to write. Complete next step: click box to send login link to your email
- 4. Click login link in your email to access the 'dashboard'
- 5. Enter your mailing address to complete the 'dashboard' set up
- 6. Choose 'TNFRW' as partner organization, confirm letter quantity, and click 'complete commitment'; download recipient list and instructions
- 7. Download letter: add salutation and a personalized comment if you choose, and your name under "May God Bless You"
- 8. Address and stamp envelopes from your downloaded list
- 9. Mail after October 1 and before October 25.



IMPORTANT COMMENTARY FROM A FELLOW CHRISTIAN

This November, Christians have an incredible opportunity to set our country on the right path. It is imperative for each of us to vote. The issues we face are serious. Transgender ideology has infected our children's schools. Grocery bills are painfully high. Violent criminals are being allowed into our country daily, victimizing so many innocent Americans--especially women and girls. Christian values are being silenced and slandered.

People of faith are outraged, and they should be. But the sad reality is that 1 in 3 Christians doesn't vote regularly. And when Christians don't show up at the ballot box – the secular world will. Jesus told us, "You are the light of the world." Our culture seems to be growing darker and darker. But our light can dispel the darkness and push back against the evil. Voting is one way to bring light into this world.

I'm not going to tell you who to vote for. That's up to you. But I will ask you to pray over this election, and to show up and vote. Show up as a Christian and as an American.

More than anything, please be in prayer, as I am, that Christians will stand up, vote in record numbers, and elect leaders who will defend biblical truth and the families who live by it. I encourage you to review a Christian Voter Guide at www.myfaithvotes.org.



IMPORTANT INFO, DATES, AND UPDATES

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Sept. 8, 3:15pm - Reagan Movie at AMC16 on Cason Lane

Sept. 10, 6pm - Debate watch party at AJ Hall (see info on page 4)

Sept. 13, 11:30am - Senator Marsha Blackburn luncheon at the Fountains. Prepaid ticket required (see link on page 7)

Sept, 14, 11:00am-1:30pm - MyFaithVotes event at HQ (see info on page 10)

Sept. 17, 6pm - RWRC monthly meeting with speaker John DeBerry. (Also Constitution Day!)

Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 - Red Shoe Book Club (see info on page 5)

Oct. 11, 5pm-7pm - Membership Celebration at the home of Donna Barrett (page 13)

Oct. 15, 6pm - RWRC monthly meeting with Tennessee Department of Education commissioner Lizette Reynolds

Oct. 16-31, Early voting!

TNFRW IRIS LUNCHEON ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Our club was asked to arrive early and assist with check in. Speaker for the luncheon was Beth Harwell, former Speaker of the House for the Tennessee General Assembly. Ms. Harwell has also been a past program speaker at a RWRC meeting a couple of years ago. Thank you RWRC ladies for showing up and serving!



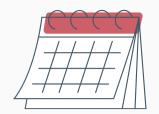
L to R: Brenda Baggett, Lisa Dickinson, Frances Rosales, Andrea Johnson, Tammy Rettig, Theresa Cole, Marcia Jones.



Winner of RWRC Patriotic Books for All Ages Basket at Iris Luncheon, donated by RWRC for the Silent Auction, August 10









Cindy Richter counting the proceeds from jewelry sales at HQ's on Saturday, August 17.

AMERICANISM COMMITTEE:

Here's the RWRC group at the Reagan movie. It's a must see! Join the group for another outing on Sunday September 8 at 3:15, AMC16 on Cason Lane.



L to R: Marcia Jones, Theresa Cole, Angela Bell, Elizabeth Constantinescu, Cindy Bjork. Karen Hudson, Brenda Baggett, Angie Kleinau, Marla St. Clair, Lora Wright, Cindi Maher, Betsy Murfree.

LETTER FROM NATIONAL FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Dear President Hudson,

CONGRATULATIONS!



As part of NFRW's 2024 membership outreach program "Empowering 70k Voices," NFRW challenged our clubs to grow their membership by 25% over their 2023 total, and your club has met the challenge. We applaud your efforts and ask you to share with us what method(s) your club used to increase membership. You can email the membership-increasing ideas you used to membership@nfrw.org. When you do, please indicate if we can share your ideas in NFRW's Capital Connection.

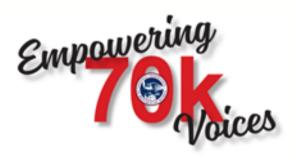
Now for the fun part – all club members can show off their achievement! Every member in your club qualifies to purchase our custom-designed 70k pin/pendant (see picture below).

The pin's focal point features a flower, surrounded by 7 simulated pearls to represent your success towards reaching the NFRW goal of 70,000 members in 2024. The pearls are adorned with sparkling red stones, representing our unified Republican voices. It can be worn as a pendant or as a brooch. It truly is beautiful and something you will be proud to wear for years to come.

We are now taking pre-orders from qualifying members, with shipping of the pins to be in late August. Share this link with all your members so they can reserve their pins today! https://www.nfrw.org/store-70k-pin

This is an outstanding achievement, and we look forward to celebrating it with you by sharing your membership-increasing ideas with others.





MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION INFO!

When: Friday October 11th, 5:00-7:00pm Location: Donna Barrett's home, 1750 Twelve Oaks Ln, Murfreesboro What to bring: A plate of finger foods

This will be a fun night of community, celebrating our club's accomplishments. We surpassed our goal of 100 members!



Thank you to Donna and Ronnie Barrett for opening their home for this event!

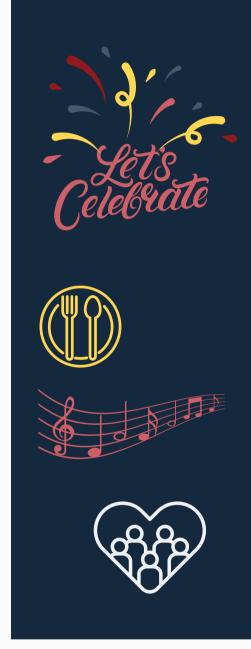
- There will be live music by the Skeleton Crew (a trio of professional musicians who are also young republicans).
- A wine bar and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided.
- TNFRW President and Area Vice-President will be in attendance.

A formal invite will be sent soon. Please RSVP to that invite so we know how many to expect.

Here are some food ideas:

- Chicken strips/tenders/chicken biscuits and sauces
- Ham rolls
- Veggie and fruit trays
- Pettit Fours, cupcakes
- Cookies
- Fudge, candy

Contact Brenda Baggett, Deborah Arvin, or Rhonda Wiser with questions.





The membership directories have been printed and are ready for pick up at the next monthly meeting! Thank you Cindi Maher and Benita Carpenter for all your

hard work leading this effort!

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER NEWS

RWRC WILL HAVE A SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER AT OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 5.

We need ALL RWRC members' participation to make it a success!

Please review the following opportunities to see how you can help:

- 1) Share ideas for fundraising
- 2) Donate empty baskets for silent auction baskets
- 3) Donate items (new or slightly used) for silent auction baskets
- 4) Assemble basket(s) for silent auction
- 5) Help with the auction at the party on December 5

Baskets and items for the auction can be dropped off at Judy Houchens' home or brought to RWRC meetings by November 7, 2004.

Please contact a committee member for more information or to share other ideas.

Committee members (contact info listed in new membership directories!)

Deborah Arvin Brenda Baggett Liz Bouma Judy Houchens Marcia Jones Suzanne Kramer Betsy Murfree Rhonda Wiser Marzee Woodward





Ideas for themed baskets:

Elephant

Conservative party

Tennessee

Libations (Various liquors)

Spa Day

Christmas

Movie Night

Trump

Reagan

Baked goods

Canned goods

Books (conservative books for

adults & children)

Country cooking

Titans

Predators

UT

Vanderbilt

MTSU

Gift wrapping



Members of the fundraising committee are hard at work planning for the December Christmas party. This picture shows a few members who met at Chairwoman Marzee Woodward's home to plan the silent and live auctions for December 5th.

Pictured are L to R: Rhonda Wiser, Brenda Baggett, Marcia Jones, Liz Bouma, Suzanne Kramer and Judy Houchens

REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY

THE MISSION OF THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY IS TO SPREAD CONSERVATIVE VALUES THROUGH COMMUNITY OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND POLICY.

As Republicans who want to make a difference for this country, visit and save as a favorite www.rutherfordgop.org.

Here you can join, sign up for the monthly newsletter, and find resources for voting and other important Republican party information.

CHECK THESE OTHER SITES TO INCREASE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND TO SHARE WITH OTHERS SO THE REPUBLICANS WIN IN 2024!

tn.bankyourvote.com:

Vote early to Bank Your Vote which will help beat Joe Biden, stop the Democrats, hold the house, take back the senate and take the White House.

SOS.tn.gov:

Tennessee Secretary of State, Tre Hargett, provides the easiest way for Tennessee voters to find all info needed for voting (such as when and where to vote, Election Day polling locations, sample ballots to view and mark, elected officials, districts and more) and encourages downloading the GoVoteTN app through the App Store or Google Play.

WHAT ARE OUR CLUB GOALS?

- Increase women's effectiveness in the cause of good Government
- Promote an informed public through Political Education Activity
- Loyalty to the Republican
 Party

Donations or gifts to RWRC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. RWRC does not accept contributions earmarked for any candidate or other committee. Contributions are used to fund all RWRC programs and will be spent as RWRC determines, within its sole discretion, unless otherwise stated by donor.



A special thank you to Murfreesboro Flower Shop and Copper Ridge event venue for their support of many organizations in our county including your local Republican Party of Rutherford County, and the Republican Women of Rutherford County. Please consider Murfreesboro Flower Shoppe for your floral needs.

2024-2026 OFFICERS AND CHAIRS

OFFICERS:

Karen Hudson, President Deborah Arvin, First Vice-President Brenda Baggett, Second Vice-President Marzee Woodward, Secretary Theresa Cole, Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

AMERICANISM, Marcia Jones ARMED SERVICES, Melody Holton BYLAWS, Tammy Rettig BUDGET, Cindi Maher CAMPAIGN, Rhonda Wiser CARING FOR AMERICA, Lisa Dickinson CHAPLAIN, Deborah Arvin FUNDRAISING CHAIR, Marzee Woodward HISTORIAN, Benita Carpenter LEGISLATIVE, Lisa Elder LITERACY AND EDUCATION, Cindy Bjork MEMBERSHIP, Judy Houchens PARLIAMENTARIAN, Joyce Taylor PROGRAM, Karen Hudson PUBLIC RELATIONS, Suzie Schulenberg AND Karen Ferguson (newsletter editor) WEBMASTER, Suzie Schulenberg

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Lisa Ahern
Kelly Baum
Amanda Clark
Fay Golczynski
Sara Hardman
Jill Smythe Lumsden
Andrea Robinson
Felicia Sparks
Kim White
Kimberly Woodson

WE ARE 109 MEMBERS STRONG AND GROWING!



membership or join as a new member

Time to renew your

Here is a link for a quick and easy way to complete your application online!

RWRC

If you prefer to send by mail, please print membership application and mail to:

RWRC

Attn: Theresa Cole
1935 Ivy Glen Drive,
Murfreesboro, TN 37128

RWRC Historian, Benita Carpenter said "I was Republican when Republican wasn't cool "" Benita worked on Lamar Alexander's first campaign. Here she is in the local news working on food bank donations in Rutherford County (second from the left).