



# The Tesson Times

A Publication of the  
Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club  
Volume 21 #04 April 2016

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – Election Day**

**April 9<sup>th</sup> – Tesson Ferry Township Republican Caucus**

## **April 2016 Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Place:** Abiding Savior Lutheran Church  
4355 Butler Hill Road , Cafeteria  
**Speaker:** Rick Stream, Candidate for Missouri  
Senate District 15



Our speaker for April is Rick Stream, candidate for Missouri Senate District #15. Our regular meeting will be 7:00 pm on April 14<sup>th</sup> at Abiding Savior Lutheran church, 4355 Butler Hill Road. (North of the Schnucks shopping center at Highway 55 and Butler Hill Road.) Our meeting room is located on the lower level of the church and is accessible by elevator. Park in the back of the church.



## **March Meeting Highlights**

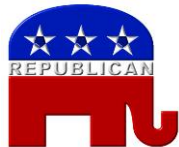
Jeremy Cody from the Missouri Alliance for Freedom was our March speaker. This group's purpose is to protect and grow individual, religious and economic liberty throughout Missouri. Other policy goals include (1) reducing taxes and decreasing the size of government; (2) education reform that focuses on students, parents and teachers rather than special interest groups so that students have equal access to quality education; and (3) judicial reform that selects judges who interpret the Constitution and exercise judicial restraint through a process that increases the Judicial Branch's accountability to citizens of Missouri. They are currently working for passage of the religious liberty amendment which has passed the Missouri senate. This bill protects clergy, religious organizations, churches and small businesses from participating in gay weddings. They are also working for paycheck protection for public

union members so that they have the right to determine: (1) if they pay union dues and (2) where their dues are spent. They are also working against the gas tax. Missouri Alliance for Freedom watches Missouri lawmakers and keeps Freedom Index grades on their voting records. For more information on this group visit their website at: [www.missourifreedom.com](http://www.missourifreedom.com).

Rep. John McCaherty gave the club an update on what is happening in the Missouri legislature. He said that the state has a spending problem rather than a revenue problem. Rep. Cloria Brown and Mehlville Fire District Director Ed Ryan were also in attendance and available for questions.

The club has endorsed a “yes” vote on Proposition S for the Mehlville Fire District. It endorsed a “no” vote on the St. Louis County Tax proposal and took no position with regard to the two MSD propositions.

The township caucus is on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at Concord Church. We will begin setting up at 8:30 am.. Doors open at 9:00 am and attendees must be in line by 10:00 am sharp. The club ROY fundraiser is Sunday April 17<sup>th</sup> at Andre’s South, 4254 Telegraph Road with doors opening at 5:00 pm and dinner served at 6:00 pm. The Missouri governor candidates forum will be Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at Lindenwood University. Doors open at 6:00 pm and the debate begins at 6:30 pm; however, you need to get a free ticket before this event. The auditorium holds 1200, so it would be wise to get there ahead of time for your ticket. Go to the website: [www.GovernorForum.gop](http://www.GovernorForum.gop) for more information.



## **State Committee Meeting- Statewide Lincoln Days 2016**

The following is a report of the State Committee meeting at the St. Louis Lincoln Days. Any errors are solely mine. John Hancock noted there will be changes to the *Executive Committee*. Chairman John Hancock said we’ve erased the inherited debt and are now in the black by raising \$800,000 since he was elected in February 2015. National Committeeman Lance Beshore hosted a fundraiser in Joplin that raised \$25,000. Our party had a fundraiser in D.C. that raised \$50,000. We have \$103,000 on hand. If you want to donate go to [www.mogop.org](http://www.mogop.org)

Joy Gerstein urged all to take a day manning our booth at the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia. It starts August 11, 2016. She can get you a decent room rate. At the January RNC meeting, Lance Beshore was appointed to the *Committee on Arrangements for the Cleveland Convention*. The RNC raised \$105,000,000 in 2015 with the average donation being less than \$200. The RNC has a meeting set for Florida in April.

Chair of the *Reorganization Committee*, Jen Finch, stated the Reorganization handbook is done. A motion passed to disband her committee. Vice-Chair Valinda Reed and Nick Myers are the *Show Me Votes Committee*. County committee people are registering voters and doing poll challenging on March 15 to identify Republicans.

Executive Director Jon Prouty thanked Janet Engelbach for chairing the Lincoln Days. He anticipates we will make money. Jon introduced Grassroots Director Brittany Wagner and Social Media Director Garrett Poorman. Our platform committee met six times and our conservative platform is on the website. A new turnout tool is going to be [www.myvirtualprecinct.com](http://www.myvirtualprecinct.com). *The Federated Women* will hold five candidate training sessions. He introduced Senators Richard and Kehoe. He announced the caucus training led by Chris Howard. Our county chair Bruce Buwalda passed a motion that our county be allowed to have township-by-township caucuses.

Respectfully ,

*John Judd Tesson Ferry Township Committeeman*



## **Vote Yes for Prop S!**

TFTRC unanimously endorsed a “yes” vote on Proposition S. Proposition S stands for Proposition Simplify. Proposition S was put on the ballot by your Mehlville Fire Protection District. If passed, it would reduce the Alarm tax levy by 5 cents. It would increase the General Revenue tax levy by 5 cents. This will simplify and streamline accounting procedures and will save money. To put it simply, Propositon S will allow your Mehlville Fire District to operate out of one checkbook. Please vote for Proposition S. Thank you.

*John Judd Tesson Ferry Township Committeeman*

## **Vote “No” on Prop B**

**NO**

TFTRC endorsed and we urge you to vote “No” on St. Louis County Proposition B. Here’s the history of this tax. The tax was being collected until 2011 when the Missouri Supreme Court struck down the tax as unconstitutional. In about 2013 the Missouri General Assembly reinstated the tax. The law reviving the tax says that voters should have the final say; so we face the issue on April 5th. If we vote “no” on April 5<sup>th</sup>, the tax goes away. Keep your money, vote “no” on Proposition B.

Thank you. *John Judd Committeeman*



## **Bullet Vote for Conservative Candidates on April 5th**

It is critical that we keep responsible representation on both the Lindbergh School Board and the Mehlville School Board. To that end we are asking you to bullet vote for **Mike Tschlis** for **Lindbergh School Board** and for **Lori Trakas** for **Mehlville School Board**. Bullet voting is defined as voting for fewer than the number to be elected in order to increase your chances of winning. Please vote for Mike and only Mike if you're a Lindbergh voter. Please vote for Lori and only Lori if you're a Mehlville voter. Don't cast a vote for their competitors; you don't want to help them.

Focus and concentrate your vote. This has worked in the past. Use your sphere of influence to get others to bullet vote. To volunteer or request a yard sign call Lori directly at 314-578-7652 or call Mike at 314-265-1961.

## **Missouri Presidential Primary Results**



Here is the way the Missouri delegate count breaks down in the Republican presidential primary. Trump gets the twelve at-large delegates going into the Branson convention because he won the plurality of votes in the state. He also won five congressional districts, thus getting five delegates per district for a total of 25 delegates. Cruz won three congressional districts with five delegates per district for a total of 15 delegates. So Trump's total was 37 delegates to Cruz's 15 delegates. The second congressional district went to Trump.

## **St. Louis County Sales Tax Wording**

*Shall St. Louis County continue applying and collecting the local sales tax on the titling of motor vehicles, trailers, boats and outboard motors that were purchased from a source other than a licensed Missouri dealer? Rejection of this measure will result in a reduction of local revenue to provide vital services for St. Louis County and it will place Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats and trailers at a competitive disadvantage to non-Missouri dealers of motor vehicles, outboard motors, boats and trailers.*

### **Quote of the Month**

Freedom is never more than a generation away from extinction.

*President, Ronald Reagan.*

## **Proposition “A” – Mehlville Sales Tax**

Mehlville School District voters will decide whether to continue a 4-cent sales tax that was due to expire. The key word is **increase**. Here is the wording you will find on your ballot.

### **PROPOSITION A**

Shall the Board of Education of the Mehlville R-9 School District, St. Louis County, Missouri, be authorized to increase the operating tax levy of the District by \$0.04 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the next ten years (10 year period of 2016 through 2025) for the purpose of paying costs of the repair and replacement of roofs and HVAC systems resulting in the estimated total tax levy of the District remaining unchanged due to an expected reduction of \$0.04 per \$100 of assessed valuation to the debt service levy of the District? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the District is estimated to be \$4.2288 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

## **Prop “S” - Mehlville Fire District Tax Change**

### **PROPOSITION S**

Shall the Board of Directors of the Mehlville Fire Protection District be authorized to abolish the Alarm levy, reducing the authorized tax levy five cents (5 cents), while increasing the General Revenue authorized tax levy by five cents (5 cents) per one hundred dollars assessed valuation as a cost saving measure to simplify and streamline accounting procedures of the District? If this proposition is approved by a majority of the voters, the overall authorized tax levy will remain the same and there will be no reduction in service.

## **MSD Bond Election and Tax Hike**

### **Proposals for April 5<sup>th</sup> Ballot**

The following are St. Louis County-wide ballot propositions.

#### **Tax Proposition.**

Shall the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) impose a Storm water Operations and Maintenance property tax upon all real and tangible personal property within the district at a rate of not more than Ten Cents (\$0.10) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation for the purpose of providing revenue for the operations of the

district's storm water utility, including storm water system operation and maintenance, rehabilitation and limited construction of infrastructure and other capital improvements and an operating reserve?

If this proposition is approved, MSD will repeal (a) the existing storm water operations and maintenance property tax of approximately Seven Cents (\$0.07) per One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) assessed valuation that is imposed on property within the original boundaries of MSD, as defined in the MSD Charter, and within the annexed areas described in MSD Ordinance No. 3753, and (b) the existing monthly 24-Cent or 18-Cent storm water service charge that is imposed on each MSD customer account. As a result, a uniform district-wide storm water revenue system for operations, maintenance, and limited capital improvements will be in place.

### **Bond Proposition.**

To comply with federal and state clean water requirements, shall The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) issue its sewer revenue bonds in the amount of Nine Hundred Million Dollars (\$900,000,000) for the purpose of designing, constructing, improving, renovating, repairing, replacing and equipping new and existing MSD sewer and drainage facilities and systems, including sewage treatment and disposal plants, sanitary sewers, and acquisition of easements and real property related thereto, the cost of operation and maintenance of said facilities and systems and the principal of and interest on said revenue bonds to be payable solely from the revenues derived by MSD from the operation of its wastewater sewer system, including all future extensions and improvements thereto?

## **Coming Events**

- **Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, Election Day – Get out and vote!**
- **Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 9:00 am**, Tesson Ferry Township Caucus, Concord Church, 13775 Tesson Ferry Road.
- **Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**, TFTRC meeting, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church.
- **Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. ROY fundraiser banquet, Andre's South Banquet Center.
- **Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**, Missouri Republican governor candidates debate at Lindenwood University.
- **Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm**, TFTRC board meeting.
- **Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional Caucus, Parkway West High School.
- **Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm.**, TFTRC meeting, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church
- **Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-5:00 pm**, Kurt & Celeste Witzel home, see flyer.
- **Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**, State Convention, Branson, Missouri.

## **Larry Connors Keynote Speaker at ROY Dinner April 17<sup>th</sup>,2016**



St. Louis broadcast celebrity Larry Connors will be the featured speaker at the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club's annual spring fundraiser. Connors is currently executive producer and host of Larry Connors USA, a three-hour talk show on KTRS-550. He is best known as a news anchor on local TV from 1975 to 2014 where he covered every major story in the St. Louis region. He has received numerous awards from a wide variety of groups and has given back to the community through various charities, foundations and fund-raisers for veterans and first responders. He also served his country in the Marine Corps.

Christy Hessel will be recognized as the 2016 "Republican of the Year". Hessel has been newsletter editor for the club since 2013. She been a computer programmer most of her career and has served as a volunteer for her church and the Republican club.

This year's event will be held at the Andre's South Banquet Center, 4254 Telegraph Road, on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Doors open at 5:00 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m., to be followed by the program. Cost per person is only \$30.00, which includes a buffet dinner and cash bar. There also will be a silent auction. Checks for the event should be made payable to the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club and mailed to 4769 Cactus Wren Court, St. Louis, MO 63128. For more information, contact program chair Earlene Judd at 314-416-4605.

## **April 9<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 am Caucus at Concord Church**



You won't want to miss the April 9<sup>th</sup> Tesson Ferry Township Republican caucus to be held at Concord Church, 13775 Tesson Ferry Road. Doors open at 9:00 am and will be closed at exactly 10:00 am. That means that you must be in line by 10:00 in order to be admitted. There are a number of important issues to be decided regarding the 2016 presidential election as well as the Republican Party platform.

### **Voting for Club Sergeant-at-Arms**

The TFTRC will be voting for a club sergeant-at-arms in its March meeting. If you would like to be considered for this position, please contact Dan Ried at 845-2762.

# Republican Governor Candidates Debate – April 24th



The St. Louis and St. Charles County Central Committees are hosting a debate for our gubernatorial candidates on April 24, 2016 at Lindenwood University's auditorium, 2300 W. Clay, St. Charles MO 63301. Plan to arrive well before the 6:30 pm starting time. Our candidates are: Eric Greitens, Catherine Hanaway, John Brunner and Peter Kinder. You can get your free ticket after March 1st at the FM Newstalk 97.1 website or at Lindenwood University's website. Plan to get your ticket early as we hope to fill the place. The website for more information is [www.GovernorForum.gop](http://www.GovernorForum.gop). We hope to see you there.

*John Judd – Committeeman*



## Good Book to Read

Dan Bongino's second book *The Fight* provides an inside view of the workings of national security and government - and the failings of both. Bongino was a Secret Service agent during the Clinton, Bush and Obama administrations. He resigned to run for political office as a Republican candidate in Maryland: a Democrat-controlled state, and lost by one percentage point. He covers a wide range of topics in this thoughtful and very readable book and he presents a clear analysis of the problems we face along with common-sense solutions. Bongino has guest-hosted on the Sean Hannity and Mark Levin radio shows and has been a commentator for a number of major TV news networks. Check this out at the St. Louis County Library.

Christy Hessel – Newsletter Editor

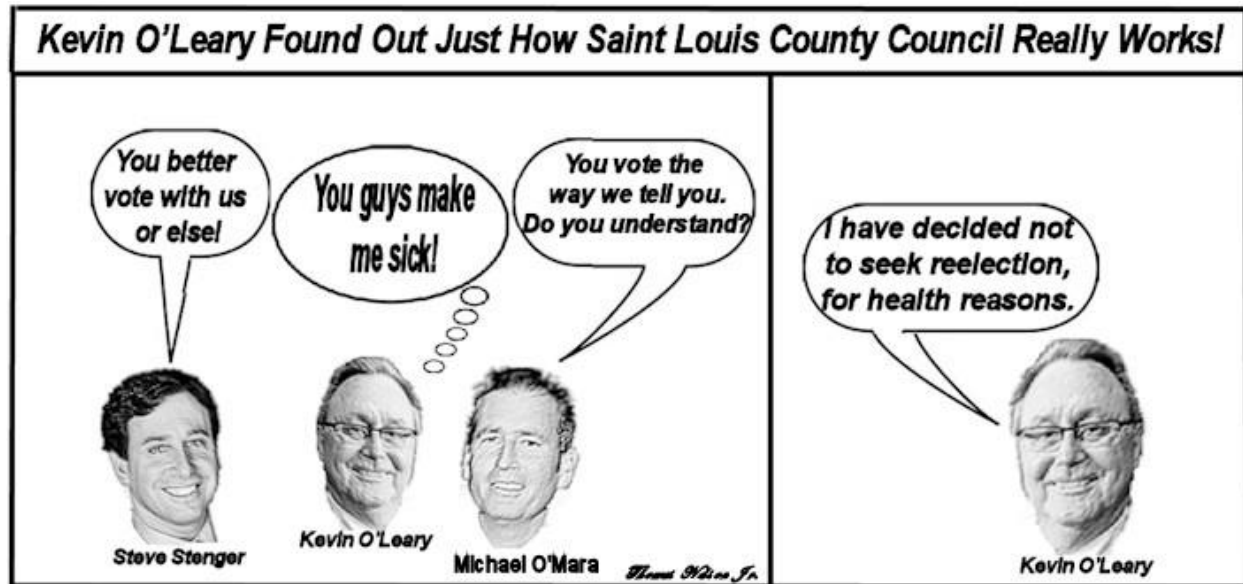
## Silent Auction Items Needed



You can help the April 17<sup>th</sup> Spring Fundraiser by donating items to the silent auction. Use your creativity in thinking of things people might be interested in bidding on. Some favorite items are gift certificates to restaurants or tickets to ball games. If you have items to donate to the auction, please contact Jim Murphy at 314-603-9253.



# Door Richard's Alternative Almanac



Our latest vignette shows County Executive Steve Stenger and County Council Chairman Michael O'Mara twisting Councilman Kevin O'Leary's arm into changing his vote on the landlord bill and then O'Leary announcing he would not run again due to health reasons. Funny how that works.

## Renew Your Memberships

If you haven't done so already, please renew your membership for 2016. A single membership is still only \$20/year and a family membership remains \$30/year. A membership form is attached. Send your completed membership form and check to Joe Garavaglia, 4352 Honeydew Lane, STL, 63128. Make the check out to *TFTRC*.

**The Tesson Times will be mailed by US Postal Service only to TFTRC members who requested it and whose dues are paid.** After you read this newsletter, please pass it on to a neighbor or friend. The opinions printed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club, but those of individual writers. Paid for the Tesson Ferry Township Republican Club, John Judd, Treasurer and not authorized by any candidate or candidate committee



*Annual Oakville Township Republican Club  
 Wine and Cheese Party  
 Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 2:00-5:00 pm  
 At the home of Kurt and Celeste Witzel  
 3116 Southridge Park Drive  
 Oakville, MO 63129  
 \$30 per person with advance reservation  
 \$40 per person without advance reservation*

Reservations and payment must reach us by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Make checks payable and mail by May 1<sup>st</sup> to:

Oakville Township Republican Club  
 c/o Kurt Witzel  
 3116 Southridge Park Drive  
 St. Louis, MO 63129  
 Call 892-2812 with questions.

**Some Observations ...**

- The people who want the government to provide “free” education, healthcare, housing and food are generally unhappier than folks who don’t expect any of this.
- The people who would like the government to do a few limited functions well such as national defense and secure borders are unhappy because the government is too busy providing all the social programs for the people who can’t be pleased with all the handouts.

**Visit us at the following sites:**

 : <http://www.tfrepUBLICanclub.com/>



**tessonferrygop on Twitter**



: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tesson-Ferry-Republican-Club/135472113275926>

**Officers:**

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Treas Joe Garavaglia	416-4720	Comm. Zina Hackworth	882-5373
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