



# COLBERT COUNTY REPUBLICAN

May 2019, Vol. 1, Iss. 4

## From the Chairman

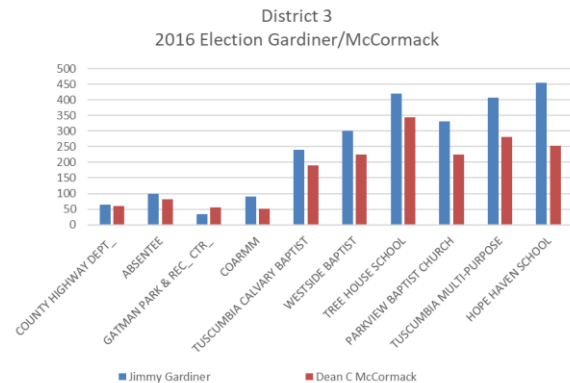
Fellow Members of Our Committee and Friends of Our Party,

I hope this newsletter finds you doing well and looking forward to a great summer of growth and opportunity in our county. As I anticipate publishing the Committee's primary resolution in September, I am looking forward to June, July, and August as the time we'll use to lay the groundwork for a powerful organization to communicate and educate our voters and potential members. Work is happening on the Party website that was funded in February, and plans are coming together for the capstone fall kick-off and fundraising event, the Constitution Day dinner on September 17<sup>th</sup>. There is plenty to do, so take every opportunity now to invite people to meetings and get them acquainted with us so they might join the effort.

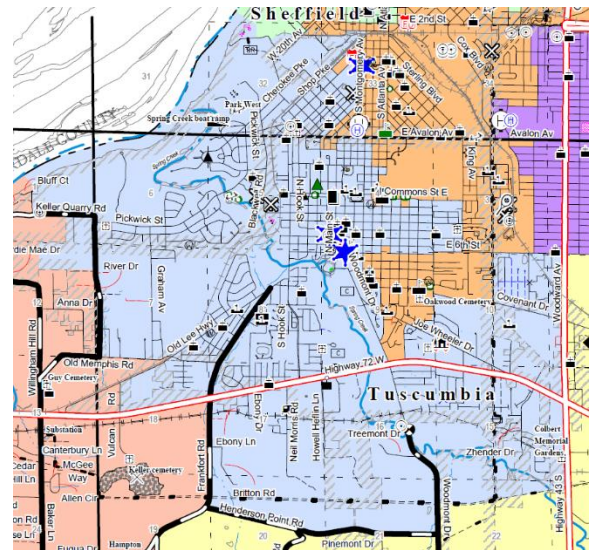
In the coming months I want to focus particularly on two races that will be decided in 2020. These are the races for County Commission, District 3, currently occupied by Democrat Jimmy Gardiner, and County Commission, District 6, held now by Democrat Charles Hovater. Both of these seats were held by close margins in 2016, and are ready to be taken by strong Republican candidates.

In 2016, district 3 commissioner, Jimmy Gardiner, won reelection by a margin of 58.1% versus 41.9% for Republican challenger Dean McCormack. Of the 4225 votes cast, the difference between the candidates was 681, with half of the 10 precincts separated by less than 50 votes each.

Looking at the breakdown by precinct, we see that the only Republican majority was in the Gatman Park&Rec Center, but several others were respectably close.

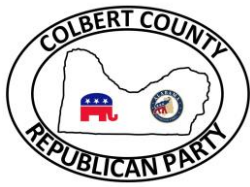


The biggest challenges appear to be the precincts voting at Parkview Baptist, the Tusculumbia Multi-purpose center, and the Hope Haven School, which accounted together for 435 of the 681 vote margin for Democrats in 2016.

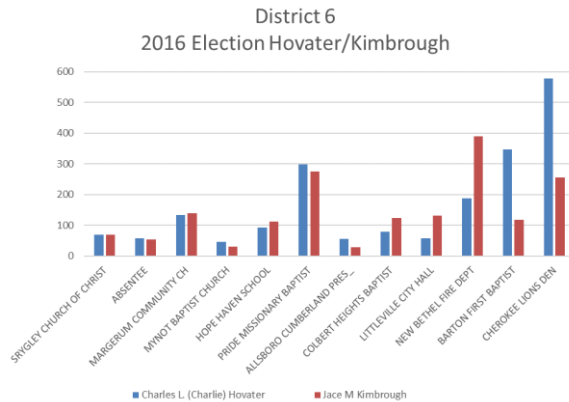


This district can and will be won by a Republican if the right candidate is nominated and supported by our Party.

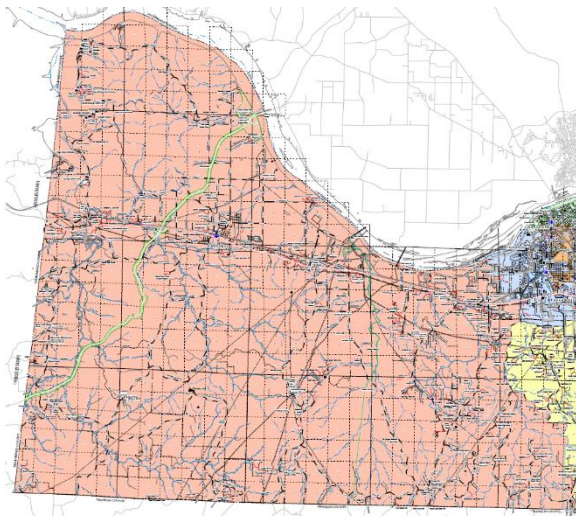
The race for the district 6 county commission seat was much closer in 2016. That year the



race was between incumbent Charlie Hovater (Democrat) and Republican challenger, Jace Kimbrough.



In this race, Kimbrough actually took the majority in over half of the voting precincts, 6 of 11, and held Hovater's winning margin to just 272 out of the 3734 votes cast. Looking at the individual precincts, it is clear that without the large margins for Hovater at Barton First Baptist and the Cherokee Lions Den, the race would have easily gone to Kimbrough.



As in the case of district 3, the race in district 6 was quite competitive for Republicans in 2016 and seems very winnable by a quality hard-working candidate in 2020.

Keep both of these races in mind as we head into the primary season and never hesitate to bring forward ideas for how we can secure these critical positions on our county commission for members of our Party who will exercise leadership with our values as their guiding compass.

I look forward to seeing everyone at this month's meeting on May 20th at 6:30pm at Donna and Friends.

Our next meeting will be June 24<sup>th</sup>, same time, same place. See you then.

### **County Board of Education, District 3, Democrat Mary "Bitsey" Moore Will Meet with the Committee**

I was introduced by fellow Republican, David Yarber, to Mrs. Mary "Bitsey" Moore at the Colbert County board of education meeting in April. Mr. Yarber had explained to me that Mrs. Moore had expressed interest in switching parties and becoming a Republican. We spoke after the board meeting, and I gave Mrs. Moore a copy of our recently passed Committee Creed, as well as the latest edition of the Colbert County Republican, to look over. We exchanged information and agreed to meet again to discuss the process.



Later in April, I met with Mrs. Moore, and her husband, retired Colbert County School Superintendent, Roger Moore. We had a good long discussion about the work our Committee is doing, and the principles of government that we are attempting to promote when we nominate candidates for office. The Moore's explained to me that the Democrat Party had changed in the years since they'd been involved in politics, and that the values it now stood for were no longer theirs.

Mrs. Moore accepted my invitation to come and meet with our Committee, and answer questions from members. I explained to her that her official acceptance into our Party would require a majority vote of a quorum of members of the Committee. I encourage all members to make a special effort to attend the meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> so that we may have a quorum and a broad representation of questions and concerns that Republicans may have to ask Mrs. Moore. I am happy for the opportunity to add to the number of Republican elected officials in our county.

### May Agenda

Following is the agenda for this month's meeting.

- Call to Order (Chairman), Prayer and Pledge
- Roll Call /Establish Quorum
- Recognize Guests
- Approve Past Meeting Minutes
- Approve Treasurer's Report

Business:

- Chairman's Remarks
- New Business
  - Consider by-laws amendment to create "associate membership" program to support the Committee
  - Consider allocation of \$450 to reserve space for Constitution Day dinner.
  - Interview with Mary "Bitsey" Moore, Member of Colbert County Board of Education, District 3, seeking to switch to the Republican Party
- Adjourn, Next Meeting June 24, 2019
- Open Discussion:
- Updates:
  - Republican Women of the Shoals Report
  - County Commission Report
  - Colbert School Board Updates
  - 2020 Candidates – Update

### From the Finance Chairman

From our finance chairman, Mr. Waylon Huguley:

It's an exciting time to be a Republican in Colbert County! I watched with great





enthusiasm the last election cycle produce a great "Red Wave" in our county. Now it is time to use that momentum to focus on the 2020 Primary and General Elections.

With a directive from our Chairman we will be organizing a dinner to be held on September 17th, 2019. We are in the beginning stages of laying the groundwork for this event. Our tentative plan is to have our Constitution Day Dinner at the Cypress Lakes Golf Course Event Room located in



Muscle Shoals. Mark your calendars now and stay tuned for more information and possible ways you can help make this event a success!

### **ALGOP Chairman Terry Lathan** **Statement on the Passage of the Pro-Life** **Abortion Ban**

Included here is a message from our state Republican Party chairman, Terry Lathan, sent on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

*Alabama Republican Party (ALGOP) Chairman Terry Lathan issued the following statement following the passing of Alabama's Pro-Life Abortion Ban legislation:*

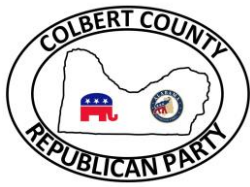
*"The legislation passed by the Alabama House of Representatives and State Senate, and now signed into law by Governor Kay Ivey, is a positive step forward in protecting the lives of the unborn, millions of which have been ended since the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v Wade decision in 1973.*

*"Our legislators have worked tirelessly on this measure in hopes it will be a 'test case' that will ultimately lead to SCOTUS reviewing the Roe decision, one which even the lead plaintiff now wants overturned.*

*"Alabama is a pro-life state. Whenever the issue of ending abortion is put before the voters, it receives overwhelming support. Just this past November when Amendment Two was on the ballot, Alabama spoke up strongly and voted to affirm the sanctity of life.*

*"The Alabama Republican Party thanks our Legislators and Governor for hearing the will of the people and acting upon it.*

*"Our nation is a republic. Alabama is standing up for ourselves; as our state motto says 'We Dare Defend Our Rights'. Our state is willing to have this fight in the Supreme Court of the United States for the 60-plus*



*million aborted Americans, including Alabama babies."*

*Terry Lathan*

*Chairman, Alabama Republican Party*

## **Upcoming Events**

The following events are all happening on the first day of June. Clear your schedules and get ready for some politics!

## **ALL DAY** **REPUBLICAN EVENTS**

### **Saturday, June 1st** **Shoals Republican Club** **Breakfast**

8:00-10:00am

TVA Credit Union

1405 Wilson Dam Rd, Muscle Shoals

### **Senate Candidate Bradley** **Byrne Town Hall**

11:30am

Shoals Chamber of Commerce (Right beside  
Marriot in Florence)

### **Republican Women of The** **Shoals Summer Soirée**

4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

The Home of Alice and Louis Martin  
214 North Shore Drive, Florence

## **New Colbert County Republican Party** **Website Coming Soon**

The Party's website that was authorized by the Committee in February is taking shape. The address will be:

[www.colbertcountygop.com](http://www.colbertcountygop.com)

Some of the pages are already coming together, but I am still checking out other county websites in Alabama and beyond, and I'm always open for suggestions for form and function. This will always be a work in progress.

