



# The Republican

Newsletter of the Macomb County Republican Party



## Message from Chairman Jared Maynard

Dear Fellow Republicans,  
Happy St. Patrick's Day!

We are in full swing at the Macomb GOP and April is shaping up to be a busy month.

Our Lincoln Dinner is set for **April 15, 2009** featuring Governor John Engler as our Keynote Speaker. The event will be at the Palazzo Grand in Shelby Twp. The ticket price will be \$40 for the General Reception and \$100 for a Photo Reception.

Just a reminder that our next Executive Meeting of the Macomb GOP will be on **Thursday, April 2, 2009 at 7 p.m.** The meeting will be held at the Mt. Clemens Public Library located on 150 Cass Ave, Mt. Clemens, MI 48045.

Our first volunteer activity for the year is on **April 4, 2009** with the Kiwanis. The Macomb GOP is helping at two locations in the County (additional details below). We are planning to participate from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please contact Linda Luotonen (Secretary@macombgop.com) if you can participate.

The Democrats are raising taxes on **March 25, 2009**. We are organizing a response and will need significant participation from the Macomb GOP. The meeting will take place some time during the day. Please read the article below for more details. Our County Commissioners need our support to stop the tax increase. Watch for more action emails on the subject.

Jared Maynard  
Chairman, Macomb County Republican Party

## Make a Difference!! Support Kids Against Hunger

The Kiwanis One Day program in association with Kids Against Hunger is supporting an event on **April 4, 2009** to package and ship highly nutritious, life-saving meals to starving and malnourished children in developing countries and around the United States.

The Macomb County Republican Party is urging its membership to support this event and make a difference. The

MCGOP will be assisting at locations in Utica and Warren to make a difference and assist those in need.

See details of the event at:  
[http://macombgop.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/kiwanis\\_one\\_day-kids\\_against\\_hunger.pdf](http://macombgop.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/kiwanis_one_day-kids_against_hunger.pdf)

View the Kids Against Hunger website at:  
<http://feedingchildren.org/index.php>

## Participate at the State Capitol on April 15th - Tax Day!

Come to the State Capitol on **Wednesday, April 15th from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.** to protest wrong-headed economic spending and tax policies from politicians in Lansing and Washington D.C. Let's send a message to both Democrats and Republicans

that the American people are sick of mortgaging our grandchildren's future for their photo ops!

Supported by the Michigan Taxpayer Tea Party Coalition. For more information, contact Ron Babin at 586-871-7147.

## Next Executive Meeting of the Macomb GOP

April 2, 2009 at 7 p.m.  
Mt. Clemens Public Library  
150 Cass Ave  
Mt. Clemens, MI 48045

## Macomb GOP Executive Officers

**Chairman:** Jared Maynard  
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visit [www.MacombGOP.com](http://www.MacombGOP.com)

**Meet Board of Education Candidate Jeffrey Quesnelle**

I am hosting an event on **Sunday, March 29 from 1-3 p.m.** with complimentary coffee, donuts, and bagels at the Dunkin Donuts at 28351 Groesbeck, which is on the west side of Groesbeck between Martin and 12 Mile. It is a meet and greet, to talk to voters for my school board race.

Respectfully yours,  
 Jeffrey Quesnelle -- Candidate for Warren Woods Board of Education Trustee

**Awdey and Meltzer Introduce Transparency Legislation**

MACOMB COUNTY, Mich. (Mar. 17, 2009) — The panel responsible for developing Macomb County’s new charter and home rule statutes will consider a proposal to track the county budget online at tomorrow’s session. The proposal’s introduction coincides with Sunshine Week, a national initiative to open a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information.

Charter Commission member Harry Awdey (R-Armada) authored the proposal which would compel Macomb County departments and officials to put their departments budget and expenses online.

State Representative Kim Meltzer (R-Clinton Twp.) has authored similar legislation which is being released today on the house floor. “I support Commissioner Awdey’s efforts 100%,” remarked Meltzer. “Macomb County taxpayers deserve transparency.”

Awdey, one of four Republicans on the commission, feels the issue is “common sense” and shouldn’t be hindered by partisanship.

“Billions in stimulus money are going to be flowing into our county and the people deserve to see how it’s being spent,” said Awdey. “This proposal ensures that the people have access to see where their tax dollars are being used.”

The proposal reads: “Not Later than December 31 of Each Year, the county shall post on its website a report containing detailed expenditures of all departments for the immediately preceding fiscal year.”

The general session of the Charter Commission begins at 7 p.m.

For more information, contact:

- County Commissioner Harry Awdey, 586-453-4677
- State Representative Kim Meltzer 517-373-0820

**Write to The Republican:**  
 P.O. Box 182245 • Shelby Twp., MI 48318  
 newsletter@macombgop.com

**Welcome the Newest Members of the MCGOP**

- Adrian & Denise Balinski (Warren)
- Mark Bateman (Clinton Twp.)
- Margaret Beattie (Sterling Heights)
- Grace Capruscio (Macomb Twp.)
- Maria Grot (Sterling Heights)
- Arnold Kirsch (Eastpointe)
- Simon Haddad (Clinton Twp.)
- Scott Hedges (Utica)
- Robert Montilla (Macomb Twp.)
- Jack & Lia Murphy (Washington Twp.)
- Thad Opiola (Macomb Twp.)
- Jed Pratt (Warren)
- Harvey Sainsbury (Chesterfield Twp.)
- Sam Trentacosta (Clinton Twp.)
- David Viar (Shelby Twp.)
- Patricia Wiegand (Lenox Twp.)



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# Rep. Miller Applauds Passage of Water Quality Measure

## Congresswoman's Clean Water Amendment Included in Bill

WASHINGTON – U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (MI-10) today praised the Water Quality Investment Act, which passed in the House of Representatives 317-101. The measure authorizes \$18.7 billion over five years for wastewater infrastructure projects as well as other programs to improve water quality around the country.

Miller was especially pleased with the portion of the measure that provides \$13.8 billion over five years in federal grants to the Clean Water State Revolving Funds, the primary mechanism for local governments to improve their wastewater systems.

"In Michigan, we have a number of projects that are ready to go," said the Congresswoman. "This funding is necessary for our localities to finish necessary wastewater projects that will improve and upgrade antiquated systems."

The measure also authorizes \$750 million for projects to clean up contaminated sediments in the Great Lakes. This has been an ongoing effort, having thus far seen 800,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments removed; however, there are large areas that remain to be improved.

"While some great work has been done to clean up the Great Lakes so far, we have only seen one spot delisted as an Area of Concern," said Miller, referring to thirty-one Areas of Concern that remain to be remediated in the United States. "For these Areas

to be dealt with, it will take an incredible investment at the Federal level."

The Congresswoman also achieved a legislative victory when her amendment to the bill was passed in the House and included in the larger measure. The Miller Amendment would direct the Environmental Protection Agency to convene a task force to develop recommendations on the proper disposal of unused pharmaceuticals.

Currently, there is no uniform standard for health clinics, hospitals, and other medical facilities for disposing unused medicine in a responsible manner. Facilities are required by law to get rid of the medications, and have been doing so by flushing them down toilets, thus introducing levels of pollutants into waterways. The issue has garnered national attention in recent years because there is no way to completely filter out the pharmaceuticals from the water supply, and states have looked to the federal government for a solution. The Miller Amendment would be an important first step in addressing states' concerns and correcting an ineffective and possibly hazardous method of pharmaceutical disposal.

Miller came up with the idea for her amendment after a constituent named Gail St. Laurent brought the issue to her attention. The Congresswoman learned that after assisting her mother

through a long, unsuccessful battle with cancer, Mrs. St. Laurent had to sign papers stating that she watched federal officials take her mother's remaining medicine and flush them down the toilet.

"I want to thank my friend Gail St. Laurent, not only for the loving care she gave to her mother, but also for bringing this serious issue to my attention. Losing a loved one is a terrible situation, but Gail endeavored to make something good happen from that instance in her life," said Miller. "As it is now, medical facilities are required to dispose of unused medications, and the methods they must use unfortunately pollute our waterways. We can do better than that, but we have to work together to find a solution."

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