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The Brief

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Report from the Chairman, Rick Lacey

“Let’s get to work!” has been the message from Senator Rick Scott for years. I believe it needs to be the campaign motto for Brevard Republicans as we prepare for the 2024 elections. For the past decade, Brevard County has become one of the critical battlegrounds in Florida elections. While it is very important that we continue to support our local conservative Republicans in Brevard County, it is even more important that we produce record numbers of votes for our State and National candidates to assure victory. In recent years Brevard County has been the difference between winning and losing for multiple Florida Republican candidates.

Last Saturday, over 400 Republicans were able to attend our 2023 Lincoln Reagan dinner and meet our honored keynote speaker, Lt. General Michael Flynn. He sounded a call to action that needs to be heard by every Brevard Republican. It concentrated on individual responsibility. General Flynn encouraged us to “look in the mirror” and be honest with ourselves regarding our own personal mission to save our country. He reminded us of how centuries ago the mighty nation - state of Athens collapsed from within. Athenians failed to meet the challenge to maintain their greatness.

Today, the United States of America is facing this same test of survival. Can America as a Nation not only withstand the external threats from China, Russia and Iran, but successfully prevail over the internal threats that we face every day? As General Flynn declared we, as individuals need to “look in the mirror”.

Rick Lacey
Chairman, Brevard Republican Party

Editor’s note: In support of the Lincoln Reagan dinner, Brevard Republicans received video messages from our federal elected officials, Senator Scott, Senator Rubio and Congressman Posey. To view them, visit our YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC0Bd8g00RHC5ICXE_0q1tA



The Children’s Hunger Project, BREC Service Events Committee

The Service Events Committee mission is to be out in the community doing good things! Due to the abbreviated BREC meeting schedule we have sought additional volunteers outside of our membership to help us achieve our goals. Our committee members have attended numerous meetings with sign-up sheets in hand for the June event and the 4th of July events. Groups whose members volunteered include: Moms for Liberty, Palm Bay Chamber Of Commerce, Space Coast Republican Club, and Federated Republican Women in Action. We are thankful we could work together for this great cause! Attending club meetings, chamber meetings, & district meetings has been fun, informative and successful. We are enlarging our sphere of influence and doing a little positive P.R. for BREC and SEC.

The Children's Hunger Project lunch packing itself is rewarding and fun. Our goal was to have 30 people sign up but even the day before names were still being added. All in all 40 people including some youngsters came to pack as many lunches as we could. The first time we packed lunches was back in October 2022 and we packed 1300 with fewer people! Unfortunately this time, CHP limited us to 1,000 lunches! It seems that the needs are different when school is not in session; but our enthusiastic team packed those lunches in less than an hour!

It is sad to think that 4,000 children in Brevard County aren't receiving proper nutrition without help from organizations like Children's Hunger Project and the many donations of our treasures (time, money, food, talents). We were very happy to help and are grateful for everyone who participated in spite of the tornadic thunderstorms that were in the area while we were driving to Cocoa!

The Service Events Committee has a couple more events coming up before the end of the year, please watch your BREC emails and newsletter for dates!

If you have a charity or community need that you would like us to consider adding to our line up please contact the committee at any time at serviceevents@brevardrepublicans.org

Christine Wienke, Precinct 507 Committeewoman
Service Events Committee Chair



What Does The Official Republican Party Believe? Russ Pate

Often people ask or wonder what the Republican Party believes, in order to decide whether or not to affiliate as a Republican.

The official beliefs (the platform) of the Republican Party are reflected on the official Republican Party Website (www.gop.com).

In this short article, I have excerpted the "We Believe" statements from the official platform statement.

While the Republican Party platform has changed over the years (in 1854 the party was formed to end slavery), this article will focus on what the Republican Party publishes today as the official platform.

1. We believe in American exceptionalism.
2. We believe the United States of America is unlike any other nation on earth.
3. We believe America is exceptional because of our historic role -- first as refuge, then as defender, and now as exemplar of liberty for the world to see.

4. We affirm -as did the Declaration of Independence: that all are created equal, endowed by their Creator with inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
5. We believe in the Constitution as our founding document.
6. We believe the Constitution was written not as a flexible document, but as our enduring covenant.
7. We believe our constitutional system -- limited government, separation of powers, federalism, and the rights of the people -must be preserved uncompromised for future generations.
8. We believe political freedom and economic freedom are indivisible when political freedom and economic freedom are separated - both are in peril; when united, they are invincible.
9. We believe that people are the ultimate resource-and that the people, not the government, are the best stewards of our country's God-given natural resources.
10. We believe that people are the ultimate resource -and that the people, not the government, are the best stewards of our country's God-given natural resources.

As Americans and as Republicans we wish for peace -so we insist on strength. We will make America safe. We seek friendship with all peoples and all nations, but we recognize and are prepared to deal with evil in the world.

Based on these principles, this platform is an invitation and a roadmap. It invites every American to join us and shows the path to a stronger, safer, and more prosperous America.

Russ Pate, Precinct 508 Committeeman



As Brevard's Supervisor of Elections, I am committed to protecting the integrity of the vote and the voter rolls while also working to ensure every eligible voter has equal access to the election process. Preserving accurate, transparent and fair elections is not only the goal of my office, it should be the goal of every American.

My career in elections began in Hillsborough County in 2009, where I served as the Director of IT. In 2013, I was privileged to accept an offer to be the Director of IT and Election Services for the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections. Upon joining the team in Brevard, I oversaw numerous technology improvements, including implementing a new vote tabulation system, new electronic poll books to replace paper registers, and network and server infrastructure improvements. In 2017 the Department of Homeland Security designated elections as part of the nation's critical infrastructure, which made cybersecurity a more prevalent function of our office.

In 2021 I oversaw the implementation of the Clear Ballot certified automated independent audit system. This system allows a 100% audit of all races and all ballots in every election. This valuable tool was added to help ensure voter confidence in the electoral process in Brevard County and has already been used in 4 elections: 2021 Special District & Municipal Election, 2022 Palm Bay Special Election, 2022 Primary Election, and the 2022 General Election.

For the past 14 years, 10 of which have been in Brevard, I have been privileged to oversee 29 elections and become a Master Florida Certified Election Professional. In 2022, I was honored to have been appointed as the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections by Governor Ron DeSantis. Going forward, my office remains committed to upholding the statutes governing elections and to continue working with members of the Florida Legislature on election related issues, such as election integrity through

improved voter list maintenance. As your Supervisor of Elections, it is the goal of my office to continue Brevard's legacy of conducting accurate, secure, timely, and transparent elections.

In June, Tim accepted an award for the Brevard County Supervisor of Elections Office from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission which honored them for their development of "SigView" a new system which allows people doing signature validation to view ballot envelope signatures and compare them side-by-side with signatures on file with the supervisor's office.

Tim Bobanic, Supervisor of Elections