



Target



“The Voice of the Republican Party of Cascade County”

July 2011

COMING EVENTS

Montana State Fair

July 29– August 7

(Come see us in the Family Living Building)

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Messages from GOP candidates and elected conservatives

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GOP Picnic

KOA Campground

August 20th, 11 AM-3PM



Welcome to the Montana State Fair

As the sole Republican on the Cascade County Commission, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2011 Montana State Fair.

County Fairs, while not required by law, are certainly a traditional role for county governments in Montana. Montana State Fair and the Expo Park represent the place where Cascade County Government steps out of its classic government role and provides something extra for its citizens. Fairs provide an economic boost to the community, employment opportunities, a chance for a local mini-vacation, exhibits displaying local culture and traditions as well as a tie to our agricultural roots and heritage.

Since taking back control of the Expo Park, the county has concentrated on cleaning up the grounds, repairing the facilities and improving the energy and overall cost efficiency of Expo Park. Through cost control and common sense we are striving to provide you with reasonably priced, quality entertainment for the entire family.

We invite you to look around your fairgrounds to see the fruits of our efforts and the investment of your money. Visit the many booths and displays, enjoy the rodeo action, the free grounds acts and the free night shows in the newly renovated 4 Seasons Arena.

As a citizen and taxpayer of Cascade County, this is your facility and your State Fair; I sincerely hope that you enjoy it. See you on the Midway!

Joe Briggs, Cascade County Commissioner

The City of Great Falls ‘White Elephant’

By Travis Kavulla

After years of being trapped in fixed-rate contracts, this month is the moment when Great Falls’ city government is finally able to set rates of its “public power” at the price which that electricity actually costs.

Needless to say, that price is high—at least 38% higher than energy from NorthWestern, the public utility, and that doesn’t even include repayment of all the debt which taxpayers have acquired to set up this White Elephant.

Electric City Power will go down in history as an example of why govern-

ment-owned services do not always work. It was dreamt up in a hissy-fit of ideology. It was never properly staffed. It signed contracts which no real electric power company would ever dream of signing.



The result of this government-run incompetence has been a public debt of well over \$5 million to city taxpayers, most of whom received absolutely no service from ECP. (Only a handful of large businesses, including a talc mine in Dillon, receive power from our city’s utility!)

ECP is probably the largest travesty in the history of the City of Great Falls, but don’t expect to hear that from the *Tribune’s* editorial board or other society bees, who are frequently too obsessed with milquetoast commentary to tackle the tough issues of our city.

The ECP fiasco should be an omen: Government may feel tempted to cut out the middleman of the electric business, the health-care business, all sorts of businesses. But can it do a better job? Often it cannot.

--Travis Kavulla is the chairman of the Public Service Commission

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Ed Buttrey

Senate District 13

It has been an interesting couple of months since the end of the Legislative session. While we had our share of ups and downs (and comic relief segments by our governor), in the end we did exactly what we promised we would do in Helena. We greatly reduced the size of government, we made it easier to create jobs and to use our natural resources, we drastically lowered Worker's Compensation costs and we protected individual rights and freedoms.

We sent a clear message that government exists to create an environment where entrepreneurs want to spend money, where the regulatory climate is fair and predictable, and where there exists a legal system that does not allow over-suing. We still have a long way to go. My focus in the interim is to complete a comprehensive reform of Unemployment Law, to encourage new technology in Montana and to focus on efficiencies in government.

We have a pivotal election coming up in 2012, one that will not only define the future of our State, but also of our country. I am proud to be part of such a hard working and dedicated group of Republican Legislators in our area. Through perseverance, commitment and hard work to keeping our people elected, we will bring this State back to the people, back to greatness and back to responsible spending and governing.

Senator Ed Buttrey

Jesse O'Hara HD 18

We had a very successful session in spite of what the press sometimes made it appear. We Republicans went to Helena with one main goal in mind and that was jobs. My personal goal was to create a fairer and more predictable business environment that is better able to offer well paying, worthwhile jobs to our citizens. We put in place a number of measures that will help Montana attract new investments & businesses.

Some of the things we did that I am most proud of are that we reformed Workman's Comp, severely limited Medical Marijuana, made MEPA more workable, & straightened out the eminent domain controversy. We also accomplished a lot in the area of DUI legislation, creating stiffer penalties on repeat abusers. We balanced the budget and left a healthy reserve in case of an unforeseen emergency. Our overall budget is 6% less than the 2009 budget we had in place.



COREY
STAPLETON

Candidate for Governor

I'd like your support to be our next Governor! I was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy, and served 11 years in the navy before returning to Montana and serving 8 years as a state senator. When I was term limited, I was the Republican leader in the senate, and carried some of the most significant legislation of the decade, including: the Otter Creek coal legislation, and shutting down one of the most wasteful spending projects in Montana's history (\$61 million) with the computer named POINTS in the Dept. of Revenue.

My wife and I both grew up in Great Falls---we started dating when we were 16, and graduated together from GFHS in 1986. Her folks (Al and Nancy Getten) still live in town. You may remember that Terry was the unborn child in 1967, when her biological father Terry Casey (All America hockey standout) was killed in a car accident. Great Falls' hockey tournament still bears his name.

We live in Billings now, with our four children 16, 13, 10, 8, where I own Stapleton Financial Group. I am a common-sense conservative, fourth-generation Montanan, and have nearly 20 years of public service. I hope you'll consider sending our Great Falls' roots to Helena, where we can work together to expand our private-sector economy and restrain the growth of government. Join our campaign on Facebook or visit us at www.coreystapleton.com. Thanks for your consideration!

Sincerely, Corey and Terry Stapleton.

I want to thank you for sending 3 Great Falls freshman legislators over to Helena to help us this last session. Rep Cleve Loney, Rep Steve Fitzpatrick and Sen. Ed Buttrey did an outstanding job of representing Great Falls. Rep Brian Hoven & Speaker Mike Milburn had an extremely good session as well. Speaker Mike Milburn did a super job as our leader & it is too bad he is term limited out of the house, so unfortunately we will lose his leadership.

I want to thank my voters in HD 18 for giving me the honor & privilege of serving in the Montana House in the 2011 legislative session. I plan on running for re-election next session, and hope I can count on your support again.

Representative Jesse O'Hara



Representative Cleve Loney HD 25

The Legislative session is over, I think we accomplished many things no one thought could happen. We did hold the line and cut spending by 6.4%, we stopped additional spending of \$195 million and are looking at a reserve of \$200 million. We did get Worker's Compensation reformed, reducing the premiums by about 40% for employers and letting businesses know we are open for business. For the first time, we took a look at statutory spending and found pockets of money that were not designated to a purpose and placed it back into state revenue. We took away the business equipment tax so farmers, ranchers, loggers, miners and small business can move forward and create jobs. We reduced home owner's taxes to help those on fix incomes or those struggling to hold on. We passed bills to get our energy production moving forward so we can expand the state's tax base and not increase taxes on the property owners; they're taxed enough. We took on several controversial issues, such as cyanide leaching, which the news media portrayed completely different than the bill reads. The 2 mines that are allowed to do the processing because they have been grandfathered since the 80's, were the only ones still allowed. The DEQ wanted to haul the tailings from sites they wanted to clean up to these facilities, leach the gold, and pay for the clean up and roads damages. It created trucking jobs.

Eminent Domain was another issue that misled the public. Again the news media muddied the waters so badly that people didn't recognize a law that has been in place since statehood. What HB 198 did was define Public Use, it did not change the law. Without the law, landowners would not get "due process" and "just compensation" required by both the U. S. Constitution and the Montana Constitution. No company can do otherwise. They are authorized by the State through the Fair Siting Act and MEPA permits to start the process. They can negotiate a settlement or be taken to court to establish "just compensation". If Montana is going to produce energy, we have to be able to market it. There are public corridors through State and Federal lands that could be used. The environmentalist have stopped these through continuous lawsuits.

Medical marijuana was also on the front burner. People all over the halls at the Capitol were even smoking in the building. The Governor vetoed a complete repeal, but accepted SB 439 which put sideboards on its use. Montana was fast becoming an export country, with 1000 new cards a month being applied for. Law enforcement, educators, and businesses were highly concerned about the effects on society as we know it. Businesses that did drug tests were having problems hiring because applicants were testing positive for marijuana. There were concerns about limits because of lawsuits from card holders. I hope this was informative. The Tribune refused to print this article

Representative Cleve Loney HD 25

Cold Hard Facts

I hope you brought your umbrellas because it's going to rain cold hard facts. In Helena, we were told that conservatives would get no help from the news media. I believed that as a Representative that the **Great Falls Tribune would attempt to be journalistic. I bought an e-subscription for the session to keep up with the news.** I wrote 2 press releases and sent them from the Capitol to inform my constituents about the Legislature. They never appeared. Sen. Buttrey and I wrote one jointly; again nothing. I hand delivered my first opinion editorial personally and asked about the releases.



They were spammed. A constituent asked why I wasn't sending information to the paper so I explained the situation. I wrote the same in the first op ed, which the editor removed before printing. Later I wrote a second op ed about the budget which I believed concerned my district, again delivered to the Tribune. I was told they would print in May after the session; however if I limited it to 250 words, they would reconsider. After a 3 week battle the Tribune decided to print. I finished another article about the pay plan vs. \$3 billion unfunded liabilities. The Governor states we have \$300 million in cold hard cash. What he

doesn't say is we have \$3 billion in Pensions we can not pay. Another refusal to print. For the record I resent the bias. The First Amendment guarantees the freedom of the press which is a protection for the public. In this case journalism has failed and become censorship. The voters have a right to know the whole story, not to have the truth censored and only hear a chosen agenda from the editor.

Cleve Loney, Representative HD 25



Find us on FACEBOOK!
Go to
Cascade County Republicans

"Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy.
Its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery."
Winston Churchill



Cyndi Baker Running For City Commission

At a City Commission meeting in July of 2010, the commissioners voted to raise our water rates, sewer rates, garbage rates, citizens recycling center rates, and then voted to increase our taxes two percent, which resulted in five increases in one night! I knew then that I had to draw a line in the sand for the hardworking, as well as retired folks of Great Falls and decided to run for Commissioner. I represent the only candidate who is an alternative to the tax and spend attitude of the current crop of commissioners, who have raised our taxes and fees eight times since last July.

Great Falls needs a commissioner who can look at problems such as Electric City Power with new eyes and who is untainted by past dealings and involvement with this failed project that is costing the city more than \$3800 per day. My goal will be to extract the city from this mess in a way that best protects taxpayer dollars and the assets of the city.

Great Falls is a great place to live but is facing some important challenges. Now more than ever Great Falls needs a commissioner who will bring business and common sense to the table. With tough economic times continuing to batter our region, we will need to make sure that our city government lives within its means. As a fiscal conservative, I will make that task my highest priority.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss issues by phone at 781-4172 or email at cyndiann101@bresnan.net. I appreciate any support that you may be able to offer and humbly ask for your vote in the upcoming election.

*Cyndi Baker,
Candidate for Great Falls City Commissioner*



"The fact that we are here today to debate raising America's debt limit is a sign of leadership failure. It is a sign that the U.S. Government cannot pay its own bills. It is a sign that we now depend on ongoing financial assistance from foreign countries to finance our Government's reckless fiscal policies. Increasing America's debt weakens us domestically and internationally. Leadership means that 'the buck stops here.' Instead, Washington is shifting the burden of bad choices today onto the backs of our children and grandchildren. America has a debt problem and a failure of leadership. Americans deserve better."

SENATOR BARACK H. OBAMA, MARCH, 2006



Steve Fitzpatrick Representative HD 20

For several years, we have experienced some of the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression. During the last Legislative Session, Montana Republicans worked hard to promote economic development and to encourage job growth. We passed legislation to:

- Reform Montana's workers' compensation system;
- Reduce the tax burden on Montana businesses and families;
- Promote natural resource development;
- Make health insurance more affordable
- Eliminate unnecessary regulation; and
- End lawsuit abuse.

In many cases, these reforms were drastically needed. For many years, Montana has had some of the highest workers' compensation premiums in the nation. With the passage of workers' compensation reform, insurance premiums will be reduced by over 20%. This should give businesses more flexibility to grow and hire new employees.

In addition to promoting economic development, Montana Republicans worked hard to restore fiscal responsibility to state government. During the Legislative Session, we passed a balanced budget that reduces general fund expenditures while at the same time preserving funding for important government services like education and health care.

I sponsored legislation to make state government more efficient, reduce frivolous lawsuits against small business owners, and to eliminate unnecessary regulation from Montana's administrative rules. I also co-sponsored legislation that will help develop wind energy in northcentral Montana.

I would like to finish by thanking the residents of House District 20 for the opportunity to serve in the Montana Legislature. Every day, the Legislature is faced with many important policy decisions. I appreciate that you were willing to trust my judgment on these important issues.

Representative Steve Fitzpatrick



You can use your own PayPal account or favorite major credit card to donate to the Cascade County Republicans. Just click on "Donate" button on our web site and follow the instructions.

The Missing Money

By Thomas Sowell 6/21/2011

One of my earliest memories of revulsion against war came from seeing a photograph from the First World War when I was a teenager. It was nothing gory. Just a picture of a military officer, in an impressive uniform, talking to a puzzled and forlorn-looking old peasant woman with a cloth wrapped around her head.

He said simply: "Don't you understand, madam? The village is not there any more."

To many such people of that era, the village was the only world they knew. And to say that it had been destroyed in the carnage of war was to say that there was no way for them to go back home, that their whole world was gone.

Recently that image came back, in a wholly different context, while seeing pictures of American seniors carrying signs that read "Hands off my Social Security" and "Hands off my Medicare."

They want their Social Security and their Medicare to stay the way they are -- and their anger is directed against those who want to change the financial arrangements that pay for these benefits.

Their anger should be directed instead against those politicians who were irresponsible enough to set up these costly programs without putting aside enough money to pay for the promises that were made -- promises that now cannot be kept, regardless of which political party controls the government.

Someone needs to say to those who want Social Security and Medicare to continue on unchanged: "Don't you understand? **The money is not there any more.**"

Many retired people remember the money that was taken out of their paychecks for years and feel that they are now entitled to receive Social Security benefits as a right. But the way Social Security was set up was so financially shaky that anyone who set up a similar retirement scheme in the private sector could be sent to federal prison for fraud.

But you can't send a whole Congress to prison, however much they may deserve it.

This is not some newly discovered problem. Innumerable economists and others pointed out decades ago that Social Security was unsustainable in the long run, including yours truly on "Meet the Press" in 1981.

But the long run doesn't count for most politicians, since elections are held in the short run. Politicians' election prospects are enhanced, the more goodies they can promise and the less taxes they collect to pay for them.

That is why welfare states in Europe as well as here are facing bitter public protests as the chickens come home to roost.

It has been said innumerable times that nobody already on Social Security will lose their benefits. But it needs to be spelled out emphatically, so that political demagogues will not be able to scare retired seniors that they are going to have the rug pulled out from under them.

Retired seniors have the least to fear from a reform of Social Security, since neither political party is about to take away what these retirees already have and are relying on.

Despite irresponsible political ads showing an old lady in a wheel chair being dumped over a cliff, the people who are really in danger of being dumped over a cliff are the younger generation, who are paying into Social Security but are unlikely to get back anything like what they are paying in.

The money that young workers are paying into Social Security today is not being put aside to pay for their retirement. It is being spent today, paying the pensions of the retired generation -- and it can't even cover that in the years ahead.

What needs to be done is to allow younger workers a choice of staying out of a system that is simply running out of money. The system be saved by simply jacking up taxes on "the rich."

Generations of experience have shown that high tax rates that "the rich" can easily avoid -- through tax shelters at home or by investing their money abroad -- do not bring in as much revenue as lower tax rates that keep the money here and the jobs here.

Since the law does not allow private pension plans to be set up in the financially irresponsible way Social Security is, that is where young people's money should be put, if they ever want to see that money again when they reach retirement age.



Pachyderm Club

The local Pachyderm club meets regularly every Thursday at noon. The meetings are on the 2nd floor of Columbus Center, 1601 2nd Ave North. Community speakers share issues of interest. Meetings are open to the public.

Why do I contribute to the CCRCC?

No doubt you are already getting numerous requests for donations from candidates and political organizations. As you decide how to make the most of any hard-earned dollars you have available for Republican candidates and causes, keep in mind that elections are won at the grass-roots level.

The Cascade County Republican Central Committee is your local grassroots GOP organization. Providing get-out-the-vote and voter registration efforts, equipping and supporting precinct volunteers, raising awareness in the community about the Republican party, and providing resources and information for local Republican candidates are all essential work made possible by your donations. A strong central committee can be the "force multiplier" that puts our Republican candidates and issues over the top here in Cascade County.

That's why the CCRCC is my first priority when it comes to political donations. I challenge you to make it your first priority as well.

Chris Ward, Finance Chairman

NOTE:

You may invest in the Cascade County GOP to help develop local leaders and build an active and effective grassroots organization by mailing your contribution payable to:

Cascade County Republican Central Committee
1116 Central Avenue, Great Falls, MT 59401

Cascade County Republican Women

Cascade County Republican Women invite you to be involved at a grassroots level to elect candidates who support and promote Montanan Republican values and standards.

Our mission statement: "To elect fiscally conservative and constitutionally accountable candidates."

Recent projects have focused on expanding a base of volunteers and building a base of operating expenses. Our future goals include serving our community by offering an educational constitution class, electing Cascade County Republicans on all levels of government, and promoting conservative legislation.

BECOME INVOLVED!!!! We need a strong volunteer base. Many hands make light work! All effort is needed and all effort is appreciated. There is something for everyone!

How would you benefit?

1. You would gain more knowledge of your local community, your state and your nation.
2. You will be considered politically active--it's fun!!!
3. You may be one of our future leaders or help refine the next leader in line.
4. You will be contributing to good choices that effect generations to come.

Our watch is now.....we cannot sit back and wait for someone else to take care of business. Our forefathers and our future generations are counting on us.

Please join us for this exciting journey! Please email the Central Committee at ccrcmt@yahoo.com, or call the office at 761-6086 or mail us your contact information.

*Sheridan Buck, Chairwoman,
Cascade County Republican Women*

Immediate projects sponsored by Cascade County Republican Women coming our way:



Using email keeps mailing costs down and allows us to focus our funding to the election of conservative candidates.

If you would like to receive updates, or need to change your email address, email us at:
ccrcmt@yahoo.com

Q: Which Political Party took Social Security from the independent 'Trust Fund' and put it into the general fund so that Congress could spend it?

A: It was Lyndon Johnson and the democratically controlled House and Senate.



**GOP Meet & Greet Picnic
August 20th from 11 AM to 3 PM
at the KOA Campground,
1500 51st Street South & you
and your family are invited!**

(Food will be available for purchase)



Cascade County
 Republican Central Committee
 1116 Central Avenue
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 10 am to 1 pm Monday & Thursday