



Elephant Tracks



Newsletter of the Middlesex County Republican Committee
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First Congressional District Congressman Rob Wittman

With the changes in the House of Representatives following the mid-term elections we're glad Republican Congressman Rob Wittman held onto his seat! Rob is now the ranking Republican member of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee. He was required to step down as subcommittee chair due to the Democrats taking control of the House. Rob's extensive knowledge about and support for this country's naval fleet are extremely important to our national security.

Congressman Wittman received 55.3% of the vote in the First Congressional District in November 2018 for a strong showing over Democrat challenger Vangie Williams. Middlesex County delivered 64.85% of the county's votes in Rob's favor.

Speaking of national security and votes, it's impossible not to reflect on *THE WALL*. We can talk about the illegals and the consequences of their origins, caravans, identities and ages, behaviors, etc., and why the Democrats want their votes. In fact, this is all we've heard and seen for way too long.

MCRC member Alyx Knapp gave committee members something else to consider when she spoke at the January 17th meeting, "Follow the money!"

Alyx is writing an investigative blog report about her findings when she began looking at why Democrats and some Republicans are now opposed to building a security wall along our Southern border. This, after both sides supported border security in years previous (we've seen numerous videos and reports substantiating this). Without telling you what Alyx has in her report (she gives names and makes connections), she asked all of us, "Who stands to lose money if a wall is built?" Think about the revenues (legal or illegal) that illegal aliens provide for many in the United States. Just one example: private prisons. Need another? Illegal drugs. If only this country's media (FOX included) were interested in real news, this would be investigated and reported. Go, Alyx!

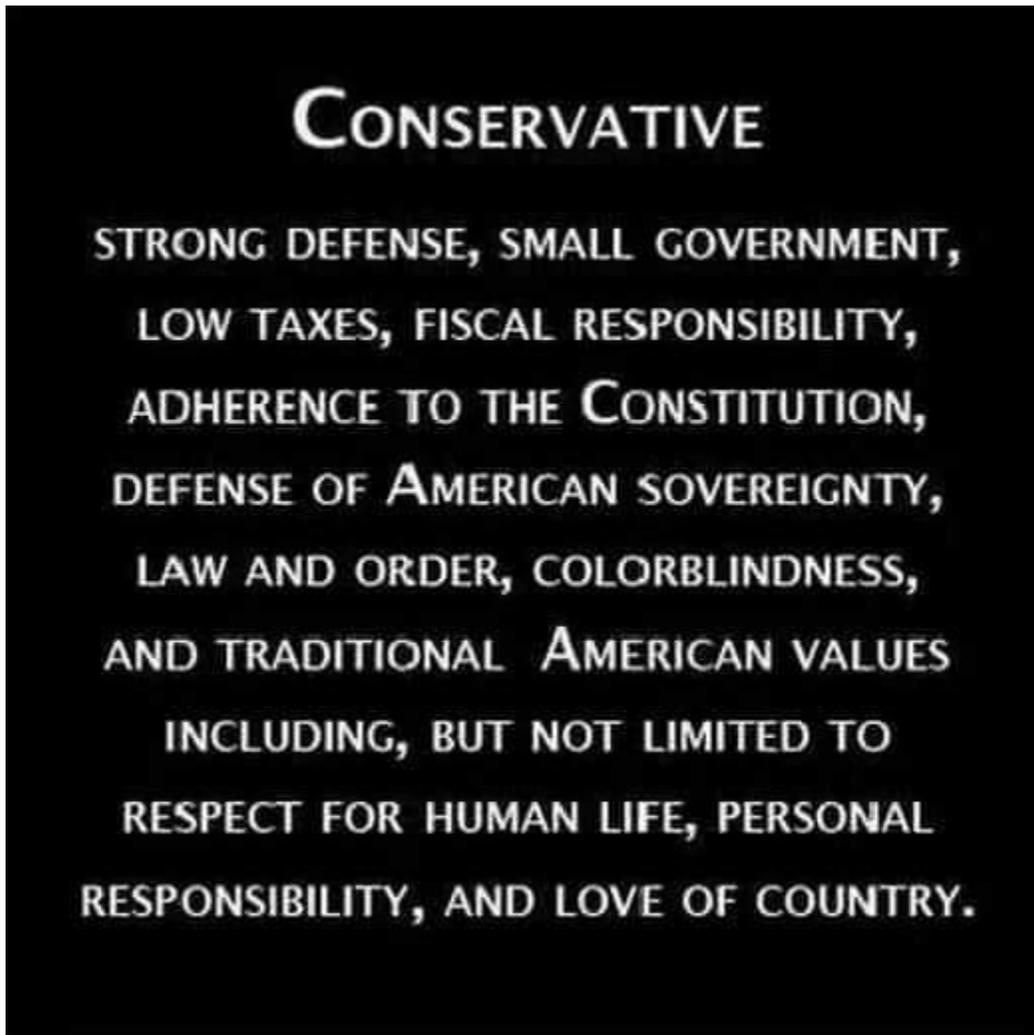
About Millennials—Alyx Knapp is placed in that category due to her age— she is a stunning example that Millennials are not all liberal. When Alyx spoke to the MCRC, January 17, she quickly made it known she is definitely a conservative. What's more, she assured us she's seeing the generation behind her as far more conservative than what we're being led to believe. While this is music to our ears, it doesn't provide comfort when looking at these statistics I recently came across regarding Millennials:

- 40% have never heard of Mao Zedong
- 33% believe George W. Bush killed more people than Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin.
- 40% are unfamiliar with Vladimir Lenin
- 30% are unfamiliar with Che Guevara
- 67% cannot identify Auschwitz
- 22% have never heard of the Holocaust (2x the average percent of American adults in general)
- 32% can define Socialism

This helps explain somewhat why people like Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez are praised and promoted by the media to extol her unabashed love for Communism (you call it Socialism—let's be honest here, they *are* the same). It doesn't explain why so many Democrats in Congress and all the useful idiots around the country who are not Millennials are encouraging, urging, and outrightly supporting full-blown Communism in our country. Total ignorance? Stupidity? Dreams of grandeur?

Bottom line: When you haven't been educated to understand Communism and its consequences and you believe YOU are what makes this universe function and you have no moral standards whatsoever, the results are being made clear for those of us who are fighting to keep this country free as a Democratic Republic. We believe in individual freedom!

Do you know what *you* believe? Are you telling others?



These aren't the exact words of the Republican Creed, but "traditional American values" means having faith in God, and recognizing that respecting human life and taking personal responsibility are essential to ensuring the moral fiber of this country.

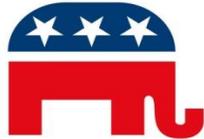
We know our conservative principles work. They are what this country was founded on and why our form of government has lasted so long. As we face each day, let's remember what we believe and support. And, let's vow to do what is required to keep this country free. Most of all, let's not lose hope!

It's the beginning of a new membership year for the Middlesex County Republican Committee. You are invited to join this dynamic group! If you are already a member, it's time to renew. Membership is \$15 per single person/\$25 per couple. Checks, made payable to MCRC, should be mailed to MCRC, PO Box 396, Hartfield, VA 23071. If you can't or don't wish to attend meetings, that's o.k. The support and encouragement your membership provides helps keep MCRC operating and effective!

Sausage-making is once again underway at the General Assembly in Richmond. No doubt, you've heard this analogy to legislation being made—what goes into the “grinder” at one end comes out totally different at the other end. I hope you're making your voice heard to our elected delegates and senators about legislative bills that are important to you. Among the bills that may be of interest:

- **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA):** After sometimes contentious efforts by advocates this issue appears dead in Virginia for 2019. Even if Virginia became the 38th state to adopt the ERA, it would require Congress to begin anew the process for ratification in the United States Constitution since the original deadline set by Congress was 1982. I hope you had opportunity to hear Delegate Margaret Ransone (R-99) address the Virginia House about the ERA. Her passionate presentation is available on YouTube.
- **Gun Control:** Governor Ralph Northam's proposed package of gun control bills is dead.
- **Pro-Gun:** SB 1158, sponsored by Black (R-13) would have ensured that law-abiding adults could conceal carry handguns to defend themselves without first having to go through government red tape. Defeated by Senate 19-18, 1-25-2019. HB 2253, sponsored by Pogge (R-96), requiring that state police issue nonresident concealed carry permits in same timeframe that counties currently follow with resident permits was referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety; passed House in amended version; in Senate Committee for Courts of Justice, 1/29/19.
- **Voter Photo Identification Requirement Repeal:** House Bill 2565, sponsored by Kory (D-38) and Simon (D-53) has been referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections, then assigned to Sub-committee #1. From all reports this appears to be dead.
- **Minimum Wage:** House Bill 1850, sponsored by Simon (D-53) would increase Minimum Wage to \$9 per hour 7/1/19; to \$10 per hour 1/1/20; and by scheduled increments thereafter. Assigned to Committee on Commerce and Labor; assigned to Sub-Committee #2 on C&L 1/15/19; failed to be reported from committee.
- **Article V Convention of States, Selecting Delegates to COS:** Senate Joint Resolution 268, sponsored by Peake (R-22), Cosgrove (R-14), Cole (R-88), Peace (R-97), Pogge (R-96), Thomas (R-28), to adopt procedures for selecting and replacing commissioners to represent Virginia General Assembly at interstate conventions, etc., has been referred to the Senate Committee on Rules. House Joint Resolution 685, sponsored by Peach (R-97), Cole (R-88), Pogge (R-96), Ruch (R-7), Ware (R-65), to apply to Congress for an amendment convention pursuant to Article V of the U.S. Constitution is referred to House Committee on Rules.

Candidates are beginning efforts to run for office locally. There are three seats on the Board of Supervisors and School Board: Pinetop District, Jamaica District and Harmony Village District. Chip Holt, Wayne Jessie, and Kathy Swinehart, respectively, are seeking re-election to the Board of Supervisors. School Board incumbents from the three districts, Garland Harrow, Elliott Reed, and Claudia Soucek, respectively, are expected to seek re-election. Additionally, the Commonwealth Attorney, Commissioner of the Revenue, Sheriff, and Treasurer will be up for election.



--UPCOMING EVENTS--

MCRC Monthly Meeting – Thursday, February 21, 2019
Cooks Corner Public Conference Room, 2693 General Puller Highway, Saluda
Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.
SPEAKER: Benjamin Hagar
Chairman, New Kent High School Republican Club
[Middlesex County High School students are invited to hear Ben!]

Political Party Primary (if needed) – June 11, 2019
Voter Registration Deadline – May 20, 2019
Deadline to apply for Absentee Ballot by mail – June 4, 2019, 5:00 p.m.

General Election – November 5, 2019
Voter Registration Deadline – October 15, 2019
Deadline to apply for Absentee Ballot by mail – October 29, 2019, 5:00 p.m.



County Meetings

Board of Supervisors – First Tuesday of each month, 3:00 p.m.
Note: BOS Budget Work Session, Tuesday, February 5, 9:30 a.m.

School Board – Second Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission – Second Thursday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

(Historic Courthouse in Saluda unless otherwise noted)

Check county website for updates, committee, and Authority meetings
www.co.middlesex.va.us/



PARTING THOUGHT: “Patriotism is easy to understand in America. It means looking out for yourself by looking out for your country.”

--Calvin Coolidge

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