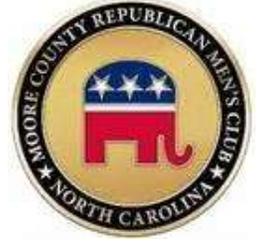




In God We Trust

MOORE COUNTY NC REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB APRIL 2024

Visit www.mcrmc.club



Founded in December, 1996...Celebrating 28 years in 2024

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President's Message by John McLaughlin:



I just finished watching a news clip of Joe Biden dozing off during a one-on-one interview with journalist Johathan Capehart on X. Biden's nap was quite obvious as Capehart attempted to wake him up through vocal response and hand waving gestures. What a pitiful state we're in with an Obama

"puppet government" and a reported 11 million illegal aliens (who knows the correct number) being spread out to strategically targeted states to strengthen/flip the Democrat's ultra-liberal/socialist agenda.

I was asked recently why I spend my time and funds here in Moore County to support our Republican efforts. My response was simple. My lot in life and my three sons' lots (ages 52,45,and 44) are pretty well set but my concern is my three grandchildren (ages 15,13.and 12), who are attending private Christian schools, thank goodness, and hopefully will live in a country in their lifetime where the rule of law and individual rights are present.

I know that we as Republicans must maintain focus and go the extra mile in, (1) Get out the vote efforts, (2) Election integrity efforts and (3) Going the "extra mile personally and financially," to insure that our Conservative Republican candidates win this fall from the Courthouse to the White House, through our UNIFIED individual efforts.

John

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NON-VOTING
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Finance:

Tim Helms*

Fundraising & Candidate

Finance:

John McLaughlin*
EC Members

Golf Tournament 2024:

Bill Demastus*

Nominations:

TBD*

Programs:

Wayne Boyles*

Bylaws:

Bill Scholtes*

Veterans & First Responders:

John Boesch*
& Todd Maness*

***Committee Chair**

New Meeting Day & Dates for 2024



For 2024, club meetings will be on the third Thursday of each month. We will continue to meet at the Whispering Pines Country Club. Watch for email and newsletter information about date confirmation and speaker announcements. See the following Thursday luncheon meeting dates and mark your calendar:

April 18 May 16
June 19 Fundraising Golf at CCNC
July & August Summer Break September 19
October 17 November 21 December 19

Our April Speakers are Michele Morrow, candidate for NC Superintendent of DPI and Jack Clark & Dave Boliek, candidates for NC State Auditor. See the article by VP Programs, Wayne Boyles, for more details. Make your reservations at www.mcrmc.club

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!

2024 Dues News



We are in a NEW YEAR, and it is past time for all members to pay dues for 2024. Dues are past due if not paid by now and you will be dropped from the membership database! Dues are \$30 payable by cash (at the April meeting) or a **PERSONAL**

check (no business checks can be accepted due to NC political donation laws). As noted, pay by cash or check at the April meeting. If you write a check, remember to make it a personal check made out to MCRMC with "2024 dues" in the memo line. Checks can be brought to a meeting or mailed to:

MCRMC
PO Box 1812
Southern Pines NC 28388

Payment of dues must be made now to assure that membership will be continued in 2024, that you will receive the newsletter, and that you will be advised of upcoming Republican events and activities.

If you have any questions about dues or dues payment, please contact the club Treasurer, Tim Helms at (910) 690-7005. Thanks in advance for your payment!

Republican Primary Election News for Moore County in May:

(Editor's Note: Following is the upcoming Republican Primary Election information from the Moore County Board of Elections. There are only two races, as noted. Also, there is a picture of the sample ballot, which may be hard to read, but it is included to illustrate that when you see the Republican primary ballot in May, there will only be the two races.)



Official Election Notice County of MOORE

2024 2NDPRIMARY
Election Date: 05/14/2024

Election Notice Of Contests and Referenda
MOORE BOARD OF ELECTIONS (05/14/2024)

MOORE BOARD OF ELECTIONS (05/14/2024)	CANDIDATE NAME	NAME ON BALLOT	PARTY
NC LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR			
	JAMES O'NEILL	Jim O'Neill	REP
	HAROLD WEATHERMAN	Hal Weatherman	REP
NC AUDITOR			
	DAVID BOLIEK	Dave Boliek	REP
	GERARD CLARK	Jack Clark	REP

SAMPLE BALLOT SAMPLE BALLOT SAMPLE BALLOT SAMPLE BALLOT

Sample Ballot - Republican Party Second Primary
Moore County, North Carolina
May 14, 2024

R0001

BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS
A. With the marking device provided or a black ball point pen, completely fill in the oval to the left of each candidate or selection of your choice as shown.
B. If you tear, delace or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to request a replacement.

PARTISAN NOMINATIONS

NC Lieutenant Governor
(You may vote for ONE)

Jim O'Neill

Hal Weatherman

NC Auditor
(You may vote for ONE)

Dave Boliek

Jack Clark

End of Ballot



Early (In Person) Voting Information:

Early Voting (formerly known as "One-Stop") allows any registered voter to cast an absentee ballot in person on select days prior to Election Day. Early voting begins on the third Thursday prior to Election Day (April 25) and ends on the last Saturday before Election Day (May 11). The location for Early Voting is at the Moore County Agricultural Center, 707 Pinehurst Ave, Carthage NC 28327.

March Meeting Report:

The March luncheon meeting was held at the usual location, The Country Club of Whispering Pines with registration beginning at 11:30am, and lunch began being served just before noon. Attendees lined up at



the buffet for delicious servings of arugula salad, pasta Bolognese made with ground beef, pork with rice tomato sauce, sauteed green beans and brownies with caramel nuts. Others remained at their table waiting for the line to diminish such as Moore County Sheriff, Ronnie Fields, and his group of



deputies who are regular attenders of the monthly luncheons.

As the majority of the attendees were served, found their seats and were well into lunch, President John McLaughlin took the lectern and opened the meeting. John first asked John Rowerdink forward to say a few words about the recent passing of long-time member, Walter Bull. John remembered Walter for all the work he had done over the years on behalf of Moore County Republicans, the Men's Club, and conservative causes in general. He mentioned that Bull was one of the forces behind the Holshouser Speaker Series. We will all miss Walter, his sometimes-cantankerous manner, and his contributions to the Republican cause.



President McLaughlin retook the lectern and ask all to stand and together say the Pledge of Allegiance. The members were seated again, and John asked Chaplain Rev. Thyne to come forward. Thyne

offered opening remarks for inspiration and then offered a prayer of thanksgiving including a blessing of the food. Next, McLaughlin introduced officials, dignitaries, and guests.

As attendees were finishing their meals, McLaughlin asked Miriam Chu forward to speak on behalf of the Republican Women. She brought the attendees up to date on everything happening with the Moore Republican Women.



Following her remarks, McLaughlin asked VP Programs, Wayne Boyles, to come forward and introduce the speaker. Wayne first explained that NC State Representative John Sauls, who was scheduled to speak, was unable to attend do to an unexpected personal issue. However, Boyles announced that we were happy to welcome Norvell B (Tex) DeAtkine, Colonel US Army retired, as our speaker for the day. Tex spent much of his 27-year career deployed in Middle East assignments. He then spent post-retirement time on Middle East issues working as a contractor for the CIA.



Tex spoke of the background and issues that led us to the current continuing troubles in the Middle East and his thoughts about the conflict between the IDF and the Hamas fighters. The attendees learned the who, why and how of the trouble there. His message left doubt as to any near solution to the trouble in the Middle East. There may be a possibility that there will not be peace in the



future if there is not major change in the Middle East approach.

Those in attendance listened intently to his remarks.



Following Tex's remarks, there were several questions which he answered, explaining that the Middle Eastern issues are complicated, complex and will be difficult to resolve if they ever will be. After the Q&A session, the meeting was adjourned just before 1:30pm.



June Golf Tournament News:



It's time to think about the June 19th fundraiser golf tournament at CCNC. We will again play on the Dogwood course, the 3rd highest ranked course in North Carolina. The entry fee will stay the same at \$250. The format will be a Texas Scramble, there will be coffee, juice, and pastries available from the 7:00am check-in to the shotgun tee time of 9:00am.

There will be on-course opportunities for closest to the pin and hole in one prizes as in the past. Lunch will be provided following the conclusion of the play.

Watch for more details and applications in emails and at the meetings in April and May. Start getting your foursomes together and plan to play this year. Proceeds of the tournament will be used to support Republican candidates and issues in the general election this year.



Treasurer's Report – Tim Helms

We are in a strong financial position with our cash balance growing as 2024 dues continue to trickle in. However, as of now, we have 150+ members who have not paid dues for this year. As noted following:



Dues for 2024 are now PAST DUE. If you wish to pay online visit our home page, [Home | Republican Men's](#) and click on "pay dues now". If you pay online you will be charged \$31.59. The additional \$1.59 covers PayPal processing fees. You can also pay your \$30 dues in person at our luncheon or pay by a PERSONAL check payable to MCRMC and mail it to MCRMC, P.O. Box 1812, Southern Pines, NC 28388.

For those who have not paid as of this newsletter, we have sent notices including an invoice. If you receive this notice and think you have paid, please give me a call so I can check the records. If you get the notice and have not paid, please do so promptly so we can take you off the "unpaid" list and continue your membership for this year. THANKS!

Mike Freidel - Lunch Administration & Secretary



The MCRMC is pleased to announce that for its April 18th luncheon Michele Morrow, candidate for Superintendent of DPI will speak. Also, Dave Boliek and Jack Clark, candidates for State Auditor will also speak.

Michele, who pulled an upset over the incumbent Catherine Truitt in the past primary, was born in [Nashua, New Hampshire](#). She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1993. Her career experience includes working as a nurse, grassroots activist, homeschool educator, and high school biology, chemistry, civics, Spanish, and health teacher. Morrow and her husband were missionaries in Mexico for four years. She has also been the head nurse of a wilderness camp, where she was responsible for training the staff in first aid and CPR.

Jack Clark is a staffer working on budget policy in the General Assembly. Clark is a former auditor in the private sector. Clark says he is the most qualified candidate because he is "the only candidate with a Masters in Accounting, a CPA, and recent audit experience." Clark says the auditor's core responsibility is "to find the objective truth. Whoever is elected to this office must provide the proper 'tone at the top' to inspire the auditors working under them to approach every audit with the right mindset."

Dave Boliek spoke at a previous meeting, and we look forward to hearing from him again.

Attendees will be served Jamaican style chicken, seasoned corn, and mango jasmine rice along with a dessert.

To register, please click the link below.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd50Ah2x7n03FyscfkSTACYCeVJWcJeWm7c8oWMLJX0luHzDg/viewform>

For more information, please contact Mike Freidel at mefreidelsr@gmail.com or at 910-722-6436.

Mike

**Program News – March
By Wayne Boyles – VP Programs**

**MOORE COUNTY
REPUBLICAN MEN'S CLUB
APRIL LUNCHEON SPEAKER
ANNOUNCEMENT**



We will have 3 candidates running for statewide offices as our speakers this month.

Michelle Morrow, our candidate for Superintendent for Public Instruction, will be with us and she will speak about her vision for our public schools. So have your pencils sharpened and your questions ready. It promises to be very enlightening.

Additionally, we will have two candidates running for State Auditor, Dave Boliek and Jack Clark, who will be with us also. They will speak to their vision and policy proposals for the State Auditor's office.

Our April luncheon promises to be very informative with candidates running for these very important offices whose policies affect all North Carolinians.

I hope to see you there.

Wayne

2024 Executive Officer Comments:

(Editor's Note: Starting with this first newsletter issue of 2023 and each issue going forward, we are asking our Executive Committee members to submit an article for publication. The articles can be about the club, current events, opinions, comments on political issues, and, or anything else that they may feel would be of interest to the membership.)

Robert Bortins – VP Membership 2024 Golf Tournament Vice Chair

I hope you are enjoying spring; we can rest easy for a bit and gather our strength for the upcoming general election. But wait, we have a couple run offs to vote for, so don't forget to go vote one last time to finalize our GOP field!



If you missed last meeting you missed a bunch of important announcements about Golf Fundraiser, Baseball and outreach. Our Golf Fundraiser is June 19th at CCNC. Registration is coming soon. Start thinking about putting a team together, sponsoring a first responder, or even sponsoring a hole. If you have any questions or leads to sponsors please reach out to me and I'll be happy to talk to them. This is our **BIGGEST FUNDRAISER**, and we know the Democrats are going to be pouring 100s of millions into "Battle Ground" North Carolina. We can't fail, it is our sacred duty to succeed.

We are sponsoring the Sandhills Boogey's baseball team, and as part of that sponsorship we will have an ad in their summer programs, and we will get to register new voters at 4 select baseball games as well as have a MCRMC night where we will have 300 tickets to give away to our members to attend. You can WIN 4 tickets to an available game of your choice when you bring a GUEST to our LUNCH in April or May! Your guest also gets 4 Tickets! If you volunteer to work the voter registration table you'll get 4 tickets to an upcoming game. We are also donating tickets to the local boys and girls clubs to give out to their members. More details to follow but let me

know if you are interested in volunteering.

We also sponsored the Optimus Club, and you'll see this sign on the baseball fields in Memorial Park off Morganton Road in front of the Southern Pines Boys and Girls club. This is a strategic location where thousands of families go each year, and it is a voting location.

The men's club has also purchased our own speaker/sound system, so that we are not at the mercy of whatever venue we may be using. It was very clear, and everyone heard the speakers at this last meeting. You didn't have to strain to listen! I heard from many of the attendees that the new system made it much more enjoyable!

We are not sitting idle, waiting for others, we are the people we've been waiting for, and we need you to double down on your commitment to electing conservative republicans to all offices. Then we need to hold them accountable to conservative values.

Invite your friends to the next lunch, volunteer to register voters, let's do it!!!

Sincerely,
Robert Bortins (864) 506-5277

rbortins@gmail.com

Tom Adams – Past President



A postscript to the 2024 Primary Election series of past President's Messages:

First, as Editor Paul shared with you last month, in the end I was successful in my race for County Commissioner in District Four (Southern Pines) with 61.19% of the vote. I thank my opponent for running an issues-based campaign and not tearing down my yard signs (nor did my supporters molest his). That, as other candidates will tell you, was not always the case. I also want to thank all of my friends both within the club and without. I felt your support through words, volunteers (helping with those damn yard signs), contributors and especially to those of you who helped by manning the early voting period polls in cold, windy, and sometimes wet conditions. More on that in a moment.

Here are my take aways:

- You develop a real comradery in early voting with others who are manning the polls.

Thank you for those who did, no matter who you were there for.

- 17 days of early voting are ridiculous! Tom, Neal, John and Ben, can you help? The rest of us can certainly help by working for Mark Robinson who will appoint the State BOE going forward. The cost in money, time and effort do not justify casting only 1000 votes. And in a presidential year!!!! A week of early voting is plenty.
- If our party is going to endorse in non-partisan elections, we have to do more than give candidates a thousand dollars and a warm “go girl/boy.” They need candidate training and volunteer help. We need to provide that help in the general election to our current candidates along with money and volunteers. They are great people but need our help in getting known and elected.

Who knows whether this fall will be a Republican year? The issues are ours at both the Presidential and Gubernatorial level. That does not mean we necessarily will win. As a party we will need to do more in the general than we exhibited in the primaries. Don't read this as a knock on the leadership. They will do their part. Read this as a call to arms for the rest of us to do more than show up at Thursday Tank or our clubs. We must work to win. As I've written before, the only way we are going to reach President Reagan's "Shinning City on a Hill," is if we build the road. Be a player, volunteer, contribute and talk to your unaffiliated friends.

Thank you for your support. I will work hard not to let you down!

Charles Webb – EC Member at Large:



DEI

What was the framework that created DEI? According to a number of so-called experts, it originated from the founders of Critical Race Theory. Critical Race Theory, as we understand, is an academic discipline formulated in the 1990's built on the intellectual framework of identity-based Marxism. There are a series of euphemisms deployed by the supporters of critical race theory to describe it in other softer tones. These are social justice, diversity, equity and inclusion, and culturally responsive teaching. This allows those that teach critical race

theory to soften the hard sell of Marxism. They use the word equity hoping to make it sound non-threatening like another definition of equality.

Nothing could be further from the truth. The distinction is great and significant. Equality, the principle proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, codified into law with the 14th and 15th amendments, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Right Act of 1965 are all rejected by critical race theorists. To them, equality represents “mere non-discrimination” and provides “camouflage” for white supremacy and oppression.

In contrast to equality, equity, as defined and promoted by critical race theorists, is little more than reformulated Marxism. In the name of equity, UCLA Law Professor and radical race theorist Cheryl Harris has proposed suspending private property rights, seizing land and wealth, and redistributing them along racial lines.

It has to be recognized that an equity-based form of government would mean the end to not only private property, but also of individual rights, equality under the law, federalism and free speech.

Undoubtedly, the worst and most dangerous to democracy of the three factors of DEI is “E”quity.

(Editor's Note: See the following information that Charles called me about after submitting the previous article. It concerns “equity” efforts in the Seattle, Washington public schools.)

Excerpt from the Seattle Times article on actions of the Seattle Public Schools, March 31:

“Katie McAllister's son spoke in full sentences when he was 18 months old, recited the Gettysburg Address at age 2 and learned to read at age 4. By 5, he was sitting in the corner of his classroom reading “Harry Potter” books.

So when his kindergarten teacher suggested McAllister consider one of Seattle Public Schools' highly capable cohort schools — programs and sometimes entire schools reserved for kids who can skip ahead — McAllister jumped at the opportunity.

“It was a real lifesaver,” said McAllister, whose son has ADHD and spent five years at Decatur Elementary. “I don't know what would've happened if he was in a neighborhood school” — one that doesn't offer a program for highly capable kids — “because he can be really frustrating (to the teachers around him) if he's not challenged.”

But now, in an effort to make the program more equitable and to better serve all students, the district is phasing out highly capable cohort schools. In their place, SPS is offering a whole-classroom model where all students are in the same classroom and the teacher individualizes learning plans for each student. Teachers won't necessarily have additional staff in the classroom; the district is working to provide teachers with curriculum and instruction on how to make it work."

Newsletter Information:



This, and future issues of the newsletter are being posted on the Club Website, www.MCRMC.club. Those having an email address will get notice that the newsletter is available and a copy by email. Those who do not have an email address will get a paper copy by US mail. If you have an email address but also want a paper copy, just send an email to me, and request one: paulshaffer1943@gmail.com

Elected Officials Contact Information:

To get the most recent elected officials contact information, visit the Moore Count Board of Elections Website:



<https://www.moorecountync.gov/DocumentCenter/View/903/Current-List-of-Elected-Officials-PDF?bidId=>

Moore County GOP News



Tom Beddow – Chair Moore County GOP:



This is a busy year that will be concluding with the November general election. We in Moore County will stay busy with Republican events leading up to the general election. You can see all of the events by going to our website and clicking on the **Upcoming**

Events tab at the top of the home page. Here are a couple to illustrate:



Academy Award® winning documentary "20 Days in Mariupol" Movie Night

Apr 18, 2024, 5:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Carolina Cinemas

Sandhills 10, 104 Brucewood Rd, Southern Pines, NC 28387, USA

War and Commerce in Ukraine with guest speaker Vitaliy Skotsyk is a Ukrainian economist and ex-Candidate for President of Ukraine.



Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Speaker Series (L. Brent Bozell III, Founder and President of Media Research Center)

Apr 30, 2024, 5:00 PM – 7:20 PM

Bradshaw Performing Arts Center, Pinehurst, NC

28374, USA



Before these and other events, we cannot forget to vote in the May 14th Republican runoff primary. In Moore County, there are two candidates for Lt. Governor and two candidates for State Auditor on the ballot. Both State Auditor candidates will be at the MCRMC April meeting to speak about their candidacy.

I encourage each registered Moore County Republican to learn about the events leading up to the November election and attend as many as possible. As important, and likely more important, is for all of us to get engaged in the campaign heading toward the general election in November. Be sure your Republican, in fact all your conservative, friends and neighbors are registered to vote and turn out for the general election. We cannot allow this country to elect the Dem candidate and suffer another four years of mass illegal immigration, economic turmoil and WOKE indoctrination of our youth and others.

Come to our Moore County GOP events, watch and attend GOP rallies, get your friends and neighbors involved and help us take our country back this fall.

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To see all things Moore County GOP and learn more, go to our website: <https://www.mooregop.com/>

Moore County Republican Women News:



Charli
Thyne
President
2024



Dear Patriots,

While this is still the greatest country on the planet, we face huge and unparalleled challenges. Our borders, both Northern and Southern, are being overwhelmed by illegal aliens from across the world. They're coming from Venezuela, Syria, Afghanistan, Iran and many other hostile nations; many of them are military age Chinese men.

According to Sen. Marco Rubio, Isis is operating a trafficking network smuggling illegals into America. The Washington Examiner reports that due to Biden's open borders scheme, there are now more legal and illegal immigrants in our country than any other time in history. These numbers are placing unsustainable hardships on our availability of housing, jobs, energy and food supplies. And even Dems are starting to complain about crime and cost.

What do we do?

The first obvious step is to oust Biden in favor of the Republican nominee, Donald J. Trump, as well as elect conservative members to both houses of Congress. We need to fight to regain our nation as it was under the former administration. Remember those days when affordable housing, gas and groceries were the norm?

This election will determine not only our future, but the futures of our children and grandchildren and beyond. So we must work harder than ever to ensure that the principles of freedom, equality and justice are preserved.

Join Carol Wheldon and her Voter Integrity Project team in cleaning up the voter rolls. Get out and knock on doors, work the phones and support conservative Republican candidates up and down the ballot. We can and we must.

There's no place for despair and surrender in today's

crisis. We need prayers. We need pushback against the liberal agenda. We need ACTION in support of MRW, NC GOP, and the national Republican Party!

Light the candle that will return our country to its Judeo-Christian origin, ethics and values!

Charli

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MCRMC members are always welcome as guests at the MRW meetings, so register to attend when you see the announcement.

For the most recent updated MRW information go to their website: www.mrwnc.org

Tom Schroeder

Tom's News

Conservative News for Moore County NC And Beyond



Tom's Thoughts

Rate of Sexual Assault

This is what we are leaving our children and likely their children. We need to figure out how to fix this and at least part of that fix is getting someone elected that can this situation.

Consider setting aside your personal tastes and starting to consider outcomes. Then, put as much effort as you can into helping get that person elected. A lot is riding on this election.

One side will continue or even increase things like this, while the other will likely be able to do something to improve things. Do you want improvement or more of the same?

Just my thoughts.

See the Article Below for More Details.

Emphasis added by **Highlight / Bold**

Article



@ GOP

According to Texas records, illegal aliens are convicted of homicide 32% more frequently than the rest of the Texas population.



The Rate for sexual assault is 91% Higher.

If you would like to get “Toms News” by email on a regular basis, send him an email and request to be added to his mailing list.

email: tom@tschroeder.info

Tom's News
Pinehurst NC
Thomas Schroeder

Reslove Blog:

(Editor's Note: Several newsletters back, we started including an article from the blog: RESOLVE. To see all the most recent articles, go to the following: www.resolvenc.blog (If reading this in the paper newsletter, type the link address in your web browser.)

RESOLVE

Archenemy Digest

By Steve Woodward

Donald J. Trump's social media platform, Truth Social, is a dominant news story this week. One of the truths Trump articulated a few years ago is as true now as then.



“Everything woke,” he said, “turns to (crap).”

The Left is intent on ruining everything. Miserable tyrants, they are determined to destroy every sacred tradition, every norm. The Left is committed to vilifying anyone who does not comply with or embrace its new rules for living. Living has little to do with the Leftist agenda.

In fact, there is likely more dying to be expected. Woke / Diversity, Equity and Inclusion compromise U.S. armed forces and law enforcement, deprioritizing homeland security. The presumption of law and order is racist.

A must read is the [March 24, 2024, op-ed](#) by Andy Kessler published by *The Wall Street Journal*, “The Lost Era of Reliability”.

“Our electricity used to be so steady that plugged-in wall clocks rarely needed adjusting,” Kessler

writes. “That’s funny now because power outages are so commonplace. Heck, we now schedule rolling blackouts in California — forced failure.

“Back then, the electric grid and phone system were designed for “five 9s” or 99.999% reliability—five minutes of unscheduled downtime a year. Last month, AT&T’s cellular network went down for around 11 hours. No TikTok? The horror. AT&T provided \$5 credits to customers. Thanks for nothing. Today’s reality is that we’re preconditioned to accept failure.”

If it’s not failure it’s folly. We learned recently that organizers of the Paris Olympic Games deliberately constructed an athletes’ village in which housing units are not air conditioned. Vive la planet!



The agenda driven media and woke professional leagues have been at work for many years to erode the enjoyment once derived from participating in and consuming sports. ESPN does not defend on-air personalities who are lambasted for rejecting the insane notion of men legitimately competing in women’s sports. *Sports Illustrated* essentially put itself out of business by sacrificing journalism at the woke altar. *USA Today* pays a sports department staffer, Mike Freeman (photo nearby), whose title is “race and inequality editor”. Yes, but can he read a box score? Does he know golf’s Rule 9.1? Does he know the role of a nickel defensive back? He’s fine with the latter, as long as the back is black.

Now along comes the April 2024 edition of *Architectural Digest* (AD). AD always has been a favorite guilty pleasure. I’ve enjoyed the indulgence of it, the brilliant photography, stunning designs, intricate patterns, and luxurious fabrics. The architects and their clients made for captivating reading, too. What must life be like when it’s lived in a parallel universe? When priorities are finding the perfect end table, a precisely curated hue from a pallet of color, wooden beams from a wrecked ship, or creating the most obnoxious man cave money can buy?

That said, AD began to annoy me years ago, long before the April issue dedicated to Earth Month. At some point in time, the editorial decision was handed down that homes featured in the magazine must be owned, predominantly, by gay

couples. “His husband insisted on marble over granite in the mid-19th century kitchen.”

The latest introductory letter by the AD editor-in-chief confirms my fear that I am actually subscribing to *Archenemy Digest*. To wit:

“In the face of climate change and the myriad obstacles to living an individually and collectively earth-friendly lifestyle, it’s understandable to feel overwhelmed and even defeated, but I found this month’s (issue) ... full of hope and encouragement.”

Conversely, I found this month’s issue to be an unbearable combination of virtue signaling and self-righteousness.

A profile of climate change activist and eco-chic homeowner Amber Valletta fails to note that during a long career as a supermodel she burned millions of miles of jet fuel traversing the globe aboard private jets. AD focuses instead of her stellar record of arrests when protesting alongside Jane Fonda in Washington, D.C.



Valletta’s [hilltop Los Angeles home](#) is “a model of sustainability” with its thermal-insulated, double-glazed windows (required by California law), clay plastered, naturally pigmented interior walls (because paint emits volatile, cancer-causing compounds), natural fiber carpets and a desert garden that requires little water.

The owner says her home feels like “a sanctuary”. But do not expect breaking news that Valletta is planning to take in any of the 75,000-plus [homeless](#) in Los Angeles County. Remember, it’s the planet that must be saved. Actual human beings? Not so much.

The Valletta eco-vault sounds more like an asylum, or a minimum security prison. Thankfully, were are spared details as to what is stored in the refrigerator, if there is one. Nothing from the garden, obviously.

Your Newsletter Editor – Paul Shaffer

Well here we are about a week away from our April meeting and it seems like “cool” spring weather is

about to go away. By our meeting date of April 18, we should be in “summer” temps, with highs in the upper 70s or low 80s. I don’t know about you, but I am ready!



Our meeting in April will truly start the “meetings of elections” theme with two state office candidates speaking as previously noted. After the May meeting, the June Golf outing and the summer break, we expect to have a general election frenzy of candidates and election speakers leading up to the election. Watch for more information in meeting notices and newsletter articles.

I hope to see you at our April 18th meeting.

From Outside The Club

Sandhills Sentinel
News in the Sandhills

Mini golf swings into Moore County

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Local News | March 27, 2024

A new, fun, family-friendly activity has come to Moore County. It may be small, but Wee Pines Mini Golf is big fun.



The Olmsted Village Company unveiled Wee Pines Mini Golf on March 2. Located at 265 Central Park Ave, Wee Pines is right in the heart of Taylortown.

The course boasts two 16-hole courses: Calamity Jane and Bullseye. Soft drinks and ice cream are sold in vending machines, and guests are welcome to enjoy snacks at the tables in the courtyard.

Wee Pines strives to capture the golfer’s paradise aesthetic of Pinehurst. Flowers, fountains, and even boulders straight from the mountains of North Carolina decorate the scene. Nicole Dunstan, marketing director for the Olmsted Village

Company, said, "You don't realize you're in a busy area because of our water features. They're so peaceful and calming."

In 2022, the Olmsted Village Company commissioned the Florida-based company Mini Golf Solutions. The Olmsted Village Company worked closely with Mini Golf Solutions to bring the course to life.

"We wanted to do it right. And as you look around, have you ever seen a mini golf course like this? It's very Pinehurst," said Nicole Dunstan.

Wee Pines went out of its way to satisfy every possible customer with its presentation and accessibility – locals and visitors, golf-extraordinaries and total newbies. "We were inspired to build Wee Pines by the people of Pinehurst: the families that live here and the tourists. People are always looking for more fun things to do," said Dunstan.

And since opening its doors, Wee Pines has been pleased. "We've been blown away by the opening It's been a mix of all people: from teenagers to grandparents to young children. It's exceeded our expectations as far as the amount of people that have come out."

Wee Pines hopes to cater to everyone by hosting children's parties, company team-building outings, and group golf tournaments. Dunstan encourages visitors to patronize Olmsted Village's other tenants during their mini golf outings: "Have Pizza Cafe deliver you pizza to Wee Pines; have some Southern Angel donuts. It's all right here."

The U.S. Open is sure to bring droves of golf fans to the area, and Wee Pines is glad to be open for the big summer season. "It will definitely be busy, but in a good way. I think it's going to be a great, fun atmosphere. It's exciting," said Dunstan. "We'd love to get some golfers here that are playing in the U.S. Open."

Wee Pines is open Monday through Saturday, noon to 8 p.m. Follow Facebook and Instagram for all the latest Wee Pines news.



~Article, photo, and video by Sandhills Sentinel reporter Andrew Sellers.

For Your Consideration!

A 'Republican' is Sitting in a Bar

A union boss walks in from the factory next door and is about to order a beer when he sees a guy at the far end of the bar wearing a TRUMP "Make America Great Again" cap with two beers sitting in front of him.

The union boss doesn't need to be an Einstein to know that this guy is a Republican, so he shouts over to the bartender so loudly that everyone can hear, "Drinks for everyone in here, bartender.... but not for the 'Republican'."

Soon after the drinks have been passed out, the Republican gives him a big smile, waves at him then says, "Thank you!" in an equally loud voice.

This infuriates the 'Union Boss'.

After a few minutes, the union boss once again loudly orders drinks for everyone except the Republican. As before, this doesn't seem to bother the Republican. He nods and smiles, and again yells, "Thank you!"

A few more minutes pass and the union boss orders another round of drinks for everyone except the Republican.

Just as before, this STILL doesn't seem to faze the Republican who continues smiling and again yells out, "Thank you!!"

Frustrated that he can't seem to get the guy angered, the union boss asks the bartender, "What is wrong with that Republican? I've ordered three rounds of drinks for everyone in the bar but him, and all the dummy does is smile and thank me. Is he nuts...?"

"Nope," replies the bartender. "He owns the place."

ADVICE TO DEMOCRATS, LIBERALS AND ALL LEFTIES:

WHEN YOUR HORSE DIES, IT'S TIME TO DISMOUNT.

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