



THE CADDO REPUBLICAN



Volume 19, Edition 3

Editor: Louis R. Avallone

March 2014

This Month's Meeting

Speaker for this month's luncheon at **12 noon** on **Tuesday, March 4** at the Clarion Hotel on E. 70th Street will be **State Rep. Thomas Carmody, Jr.**, who is a real estate broker from Shreveport, and who has been a Republican member of the Louisiana House of Representatives from District 6 in Caddo and Bossier parishes since 2008.



He graduated from Jesuit High School in Shreveport, and later graduated from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Prior to his election to the legislature, Carmody served two terms (1998 - 2002 and 2002 -2006) as the District C member of the Shreveport City Council, which covers much of the same territory as House District 6, including the communities of Broadmoor, South Highlands and Pierremont, which are situated along Youree Drive, Kings Highway, and Line Avenue. In 2003, councilman Carmody pushed for an independent review of the police-related shooting death of Marquise Hudspeth, which at the time attracted national headlines.

Carmody serves on the House Commerce, Education, and the Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural Development committees, as well as the House Committee on Enrollment. He ran for the House as a fiscal conservative and successfully worked to repeal the Stelly Plan, which had increased progressive state income taxes,

along with a decrease in regressive sales taxes. He has worked to fund public education and to protect youth from abuse. He secured passage in 2009 of a bill that strengthened penalties involving the crime of indecent behavior with juveniles. He has pushed to fund completion of Interstate 49 from Shreveport to the Arkansas border.

Thomas and his wife, Wendy, are parents to Rose Marie, and they are members of St. Josephs Church in Shreveport.

Reservations not required. Eating is \$13 and there is no cost to listen. Parking is free.

From the Chairman

Dear Friends,



*I wanted to take this opportunity to invite you to the Americans for Prosperity event on **March 4, at 6:00 p.m.**, titled **“Stop Medicaid Expansion Tour”**. It will be held at the Bistineau Room of the Bossier Civic Center. It will feature an in-depth discussion about stopping Medicaid expansion in Louisiana, and how we can work together to stop this part of Obamacare implementation in our state.*



AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY®
LOUISIANA

Also: If you know anyone who is not currently a Republican but might be interested in changing parties, we have a simple change card prepared and ready for mailing. Please call the Caddo Republican office number 318-797-1777 or email hcoates@haroldcoates.net.

Harold

Medallion Club

The 2014 Medallion Club membership drive will begin shortly. The Medallion Club effort raises the necessary funds to run the office, pay for the newsletter and conduct other Party activities. Gold Medallion members level is \$200 and above, Medallion membership level is \$100-\$199 and Supporter level membership is up to \$99. Checks made payable to the Caddo Republican Party can be sent to the Headquarters' Office at 1941-C East 70th Street, Shreveport, 71105. Contributions are not tax deductible.



Gold Medallion Members: Max Edwards, Austin Robertson. **Medallion Members:** Jim and Martha Allen, Harold and Margaret Coates, **Jack Daniel**, Barrow Peacock, and Olive G. Stuart.

PEC-n-Order

The Caddo Republican Parish Executive Committee met February 20, 2014. **Attending:** Louis R. Avallone, Nancy Adcock, Jim Allen, Harold Coates, Micheal Collins, and Creighton Light. **Absent:** Neil Carlisle, Steve Gibson, and Barry Rachal, Betsy Malone. The meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in St. Vincent Mall.

PRWC November Meeting

The Professional Republican Women of Caddo regularly meet on the 3rd Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's Catering Place at 2441 East 70th Street. Meal price is \$12.00. For reservations, email PRWCI989@gmail.com or contact Pam Gutekunst at pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net, or phone 797-0802.

Bossier Republican Women Meeting

Regular meetings are held on the 4th Tuesdays of every month at the Azalea Room of Good Eats, 2177 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m., followed by the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Reservations are to be made to Babb Dockall at 318-949-8558, or traveller38@suddenlink.net. If you don't plan to eat, there is no charge to come and listen. Men are welcome to attend and join as associates.

WRC Meeting

The Women's Republican Club meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the East Ridge Country Club. Price of the meal is \$18. Call 795-0870 or email RSVP.WRC@gmail.com.

"I'm a Corner Cutting Politician"



You may have heard that Edwin Edwards is planning to run for Congress. The seat that he's targeting is a central Louisiana district that includes Baton Rouge and stretches down to grab both parts of Acadiana and some New Orleans suburbs. It is a deeply Republican district currently held by Bill Cassidy who is giving up the seat to run for Senate against incumbent Democrat Mary Landrieu.

Edwards acknowledged he faces obstacles -- he is 86 and spent eight years in a federal penitentiary after a conviction for racketeering. But Edwards insisted, "I'm the only hope the Democrats have here." Voters who wouldn't support him because of his criminal background, he added, "wouldn't have voted for me anyway." As for the age issue, Edwards said: "I hope that's all they talk about." There are currently 11 members of Congress who are 80 or older. Edwards is the longest-serving governor in the state's history. Judging by total votes, he is the most popular Democrat in modern Louisiana history.

He is also a free-wheeling, fun-loving, self-described "corner-cutting" politician who seems to relish his controversies. In one of his trials, the sequestered jury was accused of stealing towels from the hotel they were in. Edwards concluded that he was truly judged by a jury of his peers.

Free Japanese Lessons Offered

By Louis R. Avallone



In the 1980s, the Japanese changed American culture in many different and significant ways. Now, they look poised to do it all over again, but this time, by teaching us a history lesson. Here's what I mean:

In the late 1980s, Japan was the world's second largest economy. Japanese automakers entered the U.S. market with small economy cars and pickup trucks that Detroit simply wasn't interested in making (at the time, at least). Japanese companies, such as Sony and Toshiba, developed the transistor radio and the Walkman. The Japanese were so resourceful that they even took products developed by U.S. companies, such as VCRs, camcorders, and microwave ovens, and made them affordable to the masses.

But oh how the mighty can fall. And Japan certainly did. Over the past 20 years, Japan's annual rate of economic growth has averaged a mere 1% and last year their population reached its lowest number since the 1950s. And their population is getting older, as well. There are 30 million Japanese who are 65 or older (which is 25% of their population).

Their birth rate is still below their death rate, and that just signals more trouble ahead, as the Japanese face rising welfare and medical care cost for an aging population, while coping with a rapidly dropping workforce due to fewer births.

Around 1990, though, when the Japanese economy began its spiraling descent and unemployment rose, Japanese young people welcomed the chance to "find themselves", or the liberty "to not be job-locked, but to follow their passion," as Nancy Pelosi, and other Democrats would say. But now, 20 years later, being "job-locked" doesn't sound so bad, after all.

Why? Well, almost one-third of those Japanese young people, now in their late 30s and early 40s, do not hold regular jobs, and some never have.

Only half of working 15-to-24-year-olds in Japan have regular jobs. And if you can't find a good job, then you don't learn new skills, and that generally means you can't earn or spend enough to get the economy moving again.

If all of this sounds similar to the United States, you'd be right on the money. The unemployment rate for 18-29-year-olds in our country, including those who have given up looking for work, is almost 16%. Among African-Americans in this same age bracket, the unemployment rate is almost a whopping 25%.

It's so bad that even the Obama administration admitted last month that there are 3 unemployed people for every job opening in our country today.

And our country's economic growth rate is expected to remain stagnant again this year (just like Japan's), and our population continues to shrink (just like Japan's). In fact, population growth is so low right now in the U.S. that you have to go back to the Great Depression in the 1930s to find a lower growth rate.

So when Democrats, like Nancy Pelosi, start making ridiculous claims, such as how Obamacare will "shift how people make a living and reach their aspirations," it's time to tell this Japanese history lesson, and have a come-to-Jesus meeting with Democrats.

They may be interested in learning that 20 years later, the once young and unemployed Japanese, who were seeking their "aspirations" as 20-something year olds, have remained unemployed as 40-something year olds, as well.

And although these folks never got "job-locked" from pursuing their passion, they also never learned new skills that would earn them enough to boost their country's economic growth beyond a paltry 1%.

We need an economy that encourages job creation and personal responsibility, not "finding yourself" when you have bills to pay. Without more jobs, we'll end up just like Japan, where our unemployed 20-something year olds, will become 40-something year olds, still looking for work.

There's nothing wrong with hard work, even when it's not your "passion". Or being "job locked", or whatever that really means to the growing number of Democrats using that term. You see, and what

they don't get, it's not so much what you get from working hard, but it's what you become by working hard.

This is how Japan is poised to change American culture again, if we will only heed the lessons they have learned over the past 20 years. Our country's future may literally depend on it.

The **Women's Republican Club of Shreveport (WRC)** every third Wednesday of the month at 11:45 a.m. at **East Ridge Country Club**. Lunch is \$18.00. Reservations can be made by emailing rsvp.wrc@gmail.com or calling 795-0870 and leave message. Men are invited to attend and join as associates.

The **Professional Republican Women (PRWC)** meet at 6:00 p.m. at Savoie's The Catering Place on the third Tuesday of each month. Email PRWC1989@gmail.com or contact Pam Gutekunst (pamgutekunst@bellsouth.net, 797-0802) for reservations (menu is fried catfish, unless chef salad requested in advance). Men are welcome to attend and join as associates. Meals are \$12.00.

The **Republican Women of Bossier (RWB)** meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at Azalea Room of Good Eats,

2177 Airline Drive. "Meet and Greet" starts at 5:30 p.m. Meals are \$15.00. Listening is free. Call Barb Dockall (949-8558, traveller38@suddenlink.net) for reservations (RSVPs, please, by Wednesdays prior to meeting). If you don't plan to eat, there is no charge to listen. Men are welcome to attend and join as associates.

Calendar of Events



March 4	– GOP Luncheon, State Rep. Thomas G. Carmody ,
March 18	– PRWC dinner
March 19	– WRC luncheon
March 20	– PEC meeting, 6:30 Piccadilly Cafeteria
March 25	– RWB dinner



Allen Marsalis
President

Office: 318.841.0199
Cell: 318.347.0289
Toll Free: 888.694.6161
Email: am@bandwise.com
www.bandwise.com
333 Texas Street, Suite 505 • Shreveport, Louisiana 71101

THE CADDO REPUBLICAN is the monthly newsletter of the Caddo Republican Party. Mail articles, suggestions, recommendations, and complaints to the Editor at **1941-C E. 70th St., Shreveport, LA 71105** or via email at louisavallone@mac.com. This newsletter is designed to provide information regarding the subject matter covered. The Editors are NOT engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional services. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, please seek the services of a competent professional. The opinions expressed are those of the Editors and contributors and not necessarily those of the Party.

Officers and Key Officials

• Chairman	Harold Coates	868-1212	• Professional Republican Women	Dottie Maziarz	797-4549
• Vice Chairman	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Women's Republican Club of S'port	Linda Brooks	294-3775
• Treasurer	Micheal Collins	207-0405	• Candidate Assistance Chairman	Mike Thibodeaux	393-2996
• Secretary			• Parliamentarian/Publicity Chairman	Betsy Malone	868-3464
• Committee Attorney	Louis R. Avallone	841-1277	• Louisiana State Republican Party		225-928-2998
• Caddo/Bossier Republican Office		797-1777	• Webmaster	Allen Marsalis	841-0199

THE CADDO REPUBLICAN 1941-C EAST 70TH STREET
SHREVEPORT, LA 71105

PRSR STD
US Postage
PAID
Shreveport, LA
Permit No. 350

