



ELEPHANT TALES

Fellow Wells County Republicans,

I want to take a quick moment to say thank you to all of our dedicated donors; whether that is through time, talent, or treasure. So many of you participate in making our local party the envy of other counties. Your desire to make our community a better place for all those around you is shown through your hard work and dedication. Thank you for all you do for our party and our community.

God bless each and every one of you,
Zach Rodgers
Wells County GOP Chairman

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

- 2 Central Committee Meets
- 5 Lunch & Listen for elected officials
- 5 Wells Co GOP Women
- 7 Breakfast

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Central Committee Meets
- 11 Breakfast
- 11 Lincoln Day/Reagan Rally
- 14 3rd District Meeting
- 18 Ossian Days Parade
- 21-25 Street Fair GOP HQ Open
- 21 Opening Parade
- 23 Industrial Parade
- 27 Central Committee Meets

OCTOBER

- 2 Breakfast
- 4 Right to Life NE IN Banquet
- 8 Allen County Bean Dinner
- 12 3rd District Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 1 Central Committee Meets
- 4 Lunch & Listen for elected officials
- 6 Breakfast

2021 Club Membership

Join the 2021 Club for only \$20.21

With your membership, you will receive a 2021 Club Membership Card and a special gift.
wells.gop/membership



NEW MEMBERS

- Kelly Herman
- Tony Herman

Students and Teachers,
Have a Great
2021-2022 School Year!




**Breakfast
GOP HQ
August 7, 8 am**

**Whitley Yates, Indiana
GOP Director of Diversity
and Engagement, will be
our guest speaker.**

SAVE THE DATE

COMBINED

**LINCOLN DAY
REAGAN RALLY**

SEPTEMBER 11

WHO ARE WE?

ALL WHO BELIEVE IN THE IDEALS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Zach Rodgers, Chair
Sandy Garcia, Vice-Chair
Preston Wright, Secretary
Colin Andrews, Treasurer

WHERE ARE WE?

Republican Headquarters
125 S. Johnson St,
Bluffton, IN 46714
260-824-4620

Facebook:
Wells County
Republican Party

Instagram: wellscogop

Website: wells.gop

HOW TO REACH US?

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Getting to Know Your Elected Officials



John Whicker
Mayor
City of Bluffton

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I was born and raised on a dairy farm in Central Indiana and was one of seven children. I graduated from Purdue University and served a tour of duty in Germany with the U. S.

Army. Jolin and I were married in 1964. We have three adult children and five grandchildren. We moved to Bluffton in 1976 because of a job transfer. I worked for the Moorman Mfg. Company (later purchased by ADM) for 25 years. I served as plant manager; also being responsible for the distribution of our products to warehouses located in Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky. Upon retirement with Moorman's, I served as President of Bi-County Services, Inc. for 16 years, retiring in 2010. I have been involved in various non-profit organizations in Bluffton and have attended the First Presbyterian Church for 40 years. We live in a great community.

Why did you choose to run for office? After serving four years on Common Council, I felt a need to run for Mayor, due to Mayor Ted Ellis' decision to retire. While the four years on Council helped prepare me for the Mayor's office, it did not prepare any of us for the Covid-19 pandemic. The City of Bluffton has great employees, and they are the ones who should get credit for our City's progress. We have several projects going on and it is great to be a part of planning and execution of these projects.

What do you enjoy most about your elected office? I think my favorite thing about being Mayor is the people I meet and the employees I work with on a regular basis. There is a lot of variety that goes with the job and that is what makes it especially interesting.

Thank you GOP Women for reaching out to the community by providing dinner to those attending Brianna's Hope on July 26th.



Roger Thornton
Bluffton City Council
District 1

Tell us a little bit about yourself. Marge and I will be married for 57 years this August and have lived in Bluffton since 2012. We have three sons, two daughters-in-law and seven

grandchildren. I was a school superintendent for most of my career including stops at Churubusco, Wawasee, Kokomo and the District 211 high school district in Palatine and Schaumburg, Illinois which included five high schools. I also was the executive director of the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents for six years and served on the Teachers Credit Union Board of Directors for twenty years. I taught graduate level classes in school finance, facilities and administration at Ball State, IPFW, and IUPUI. I enjoy fishing, golf and traveling to our grandchildren's games and performances. We are members of Hope Missionary Church.

Why did you choose to run for office? I ran for office to do what I could to foster housing expansion and quality of life opportunities in Bluffton with a specific goal of the development of Lancaster Park. Given my experiences working with state agencies, public finance and facility development, I hoped to bring a knowledge base and expertise that would benefit District 1 and the city. I ran with the hope of serving with John Whicker as Mayor along with a strong slate of Republican Common Council members. Fortunately for Bluffton, my hopes for their election came true.

What do you enjoy most about your elected office? My favorite thing about being a councilman is that many good things are happening in Bluffton. I have appreciated the opportunity to chair the Public Safety Task Force and look forward to the Council's action to improve and advance fire safety for our community and dedicated firefighters.

