



# ELEPHANT TALES

Fellow Republicans,

I am truly proud of the way we work together as a party. While we go through trials and tribulations, one thing is clear; we are united in our love for this community. Our group is comprised of different voices that speak to each issue. These differing voices make our party stronger and we should be proud of this and not let others tell us differently.

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

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- MARCH**  
 1 Central Committee  
 6 Breakfast - Hunt Club  
 6 Reorganization Caucus - Closed Caucus
- APRIL**  
 5 Central Committee  
 10 Breakfast  
 26 Central Committee
- MAY**  
 1 Breakfast  
 6 Lunch & Listen for office holders
- JUNE**  
 5 Breakfast

### PLEASE TAKE NOTE

**The March Breakfast will be held at the Hunt Club (formerly Sassafras on Main), 218 South Main Street, Bluffton, at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 6th.**



### ATTENTION ELIGIBLE

**PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN AND VICE COMMITTEEMEN**  
**WELLS COUNTY REPUBLICAN REORGANIZATION CAUCUS**  
**MARCH 6, 9:00 A.M. @ GOP HQ**  
**This will be a closed caucus: only voting members, qualified candidates, candidate's watchers and people introducing candidates will be in the building during the caucus.**

**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.gov/membership](https://wells.gov/membership)



### NEW MEMBERS

- Colin Andrews
- Rick Elwell
- Bonnie Fisher
- Monte Fisher
- Robert Johnson
- Scott Mentzer
- Kathy Peeper
- Glenna Plummer
- Rodger Popplewell
- Susan Popplewell
- Kerry Roberts
- Laura Roberts
- Zach Rodgers
- John Senac
- Marge Thornton
- Roger Thornton
- Jennifer Whicker
- John Whicker
- Jolin Whicker

### 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:** wellsagogop

**Website:** wells.gov

### HOW TO REACH US?

ZACH RODGERS  
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 PRESTON WRIGHT  
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 COLIN ANDREWS  
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# Getting to Know Your Elected Officials

## Kent Kiracofe

### Wells County Circuit Court Judge

**Tell us a little bit about yourself.** I grew up east of New Haven. I spent most summers working on my grandparents farm. We eventually moved to New Haven where I graduated high school.

I went to IPFW and was initially interested in a career in law enforcement. During my senior year I was accepted into an internship program at the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington D.C. I then decided to pursue a law degree and work as a prosecutor. I attended Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis, graduating in May 2002. I married my wife Theresa after my first year of law school.

Anxious to start my career and be closer to family, I accepted a job from Wells County Prosecutor Mike Lautzenheiser. Working for Mike allowed me to work both as a prosecutor but also in his private practice, Lautzenheiser, Myers, and Holdman.

In late 2010 Judge David Hanselman retired as the Judge of the Circuit Court. I was appointed by Gov. Mitch Daniels in March of 2011 to replace Judge Hanselman as the Judge of the Wells Circuit Court.

Theresa and I have three children, Henry, Abigail, and Benjamin. Henry, 17, is a Junior at Bishop Luers High School, Abigail, 15, is a Freshman also at Luers. Benjamin, 14, is in 8th grade at Saint Aloysius Catholic School, where Theresa is a Kindergarten teacher.

**Why did you choose to run for office?** I ran for Circuit Court Judge because I thought it would be a great opportunity to make a difference in our community.

**What is your favorite thing, or your passion, about your office?** I enjoy the positive impact I can make on the community, especially regarding the safety and wellbeing of children. I strive to follow the law and apply it properly to the facts I have in front of me. Obviously there are two parties to every litigation action, so someone is going to be disappointed by my decisions, but hopefully they feel I've given them a fair opportunity to present their case.



## Hilarie Gaskill

### Wells County Coroner

**Tell us a little bit about yourself.** I am a wife and mother. I have been married almost 9 years and have two children, Caden 16 and

Brynlee 8. I'm a full time paramedic in Adams County through Adams Memorial Hospital and also a part time medic in Wells County. I have been working EMS for 16 years. I have been the Coroner for Wells County for the last 4 years and a deputy for a year prior. I'm looking forward to my second term as your Wells County Coroner.

**Why did you choose to run for office?** I chose to run for office because I have a true passion for working with people on their worst day. Having been a mother who lost a child and other family members, I believe I have a true understanding for the pain and shock that comes with death. As I always tell people, regardless of whether death is expected, it is not easy. I want to make sure families have the closure they need.

**What is your favorite thing, or your passion, about your office?** My favorite thing or passion about my office is working with my deputies. We attend trainings together to learn how to better serve the community and get to spend some time together. In this line of work you have to make sure you check on one another. I also enjoy working with the different agencies in the county along with our funeral homes. Everyone works together for the families and I couldn't ask for a better team!

