

Simms named Chairman of Alex Republican Party

Jack Simms, of Taylorsville, was voted unanimously to be Chairman of the Alexander County Republican Party on July 11, 2017.

Simms was chosen after 2017 Chairman, J. Robert Austin, stepped down due to moving his residence outside Alexander County in June.

Rounding out the Executive Committee are: Vice Chairman, Steven Seaford; Treasurer, Butch Sharpe; and Secretary, Jeri Perry.

Simms outlined goals of the local party, includ-

ing fundraising and youth involvement.

There is an upcoming Steak Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, September 16, beginning at 6:30 p.m. This will be held in Davis Hall, at First Baptist Church, Taylorsville.

For a donation of \$100, each ticket holder will be entitled to a steak dinner for two and the opportunity to be in the drawing for \$100 for the first ticket pulled, \$250 for the half-way ticket pulled, or \$1,000 for the last ticket. The ticket holder does not have to be present to win. There will be unannounced prizes, some very nice gifts and a few "gag" gifts, too. Simms has set a goal of selling 200 tickets for the fundraiser.

A Fall Bingo Night is being planned as well.

On the membership front, local women are "the

horsepower in this county" for the Republicans, Simms noted. They have a special group, the Alexander County Republican Women's Club, which meets the third Monday each month at 7 p.m., at the Alexander County Republican Party Headquarters, located at 9 South Center Street (one block east of the Alexander Courthouse). The group is led by President Shari Wetherspoon.

The general Alexander County Republican Party meetings are held there on the second Tuesday each month, at 7 p.m.

Simms also mentioned the Alexander Teen Age Republicans (TAR) Club, which recently formed to promote conservative values among local youth. The TARs meet at the Alexander County Republican Party

Headquarters on the second Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. They are led by Chairman Dakota Charles.

To purchase tickets, contact Jack Simms at 828-312-2575.

For more information on the Alexander County GOP, visit www.alexandercountyrepublicanparty.com.



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JACOB LAIL

Lail named Assistant Principal at East Middle

Jacob Lail was named assistant principal of East Alexander Middle School effective July 2017. Lail has five years of experience in public education as social studies teacher at the middle school and high school levels. He most recently taught Advanced Placement (AP) United States History at Alexander Central High School.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to serve as assistant principal of East Alexander Middle School. I began my career teaching 8th grade Social Studies at Gamewell Middle School and most recently served as the AP United States History teacher at Alexander Central High School. I am currently earning my Master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington and have a Bachelor's degree in History, Secondary Education from Appalachian State University," stated Lail.

Mr. Lail and his wife, Lindy, live in the Bethlehem Community.

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