
Mason County District Library

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

On February 1, 7:00-8:30 pm Mason County District Library (MCDL), Abondia Center, and partner libraries throughout Michigan, will host Sheila Genter, Chair, Mason County Republican Party, presenting her ideas on what's ahead for the Republican Party. Part of the *Cairns & Beacons: Finding Our Way in a Post-Pandemic World* series, this presentation is free and available on Zoom from anywhere, and in person at Ludington Library, 217 E Ludington Ave.

Sheila Genter currently serves her third year as Chair of the Mason County Republican Committee. Genter noted that while she served 34 years with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC), retiring December 2021, "it wasn't until the outcome of the 2020 election that [she] became fully awakened" to the role of politics and her need to get involved once she retired.

"I started attending local GOP meetings in 2021, mostly observing and figuring out how people's voices were being heard," Genter continued. "In January 2022, I was nominated and elected to the Chair position, which was "quite a learning experience." I also became a precinct delegate in 2022. In 2023, I was re-elected to Chair of our local Republican party and continue in that capacity to date."

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When asked how she got into politics, she commented that her parents were Democrats, but noted it wasn't the kind of family that talked about politics at the dinner table and she respected her parents.

It was during her career, "especially in the later years," as a Supervisor for MDOC, that Genter said she "started paying attention to our budget cuts, our reduction in workforce per the ratio of supervised offenders" and related matters. "Our policies," she noted, "all stated that the number one priority for field agents was public safety yet we didn't have adequate resources to help us accomplish this."

Genter continued, "It wasn't until the outcome of the 2020 election that I became fully awakened. My values and beliefs are conservative, in that I believe in liberty, economic prosperity, individual freedom, rights and responsibilities as defended and supported in our US Constitution."

"What's Ahead for the Republican Party" will be presented live and online on Thursday, February 1, 7-8:30 PM. A discussion will be held on Thursday February 8, 7-8:30 pm, for attendees to continue to examine more closely the ideas presented on February 1.

For more information see bit.ly/cairnsandbeacons and for those wanting to attend online, via Zoom, use the case-sensitive link: bit.ly/CairnsAndBeacons

On Tuesday, March 5, Cairns & Beacons will host What's Ahead for the Democratic Party? (Note: this presentation will be held on a Tuesday, rather than the series' regular day, Thursday.)

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