



Read Week 9 VAT Memo

September 2026 Newsletter

Republican Party of Olmsted County · olmstedgop.org

Elections 2026

The **2026 Minnesota General Election** will be held **November 3**.

Early voting begins September 18. Polling places, deadlines, and how to register are kept up to date at vote.olmstedgop.org. Olmsted County's own elections and voting information is at olmstedcounty.gov.

The Minnesota Secretary of State's calendar of upcoming elections is at sos.mn.gov.

WE NEED YOU!

Every Vote Counts!

GOP Endorsed Candidates for 2026

MN SENATE DISTRICT 20

Steve Jacob

MN HOUSE DISTRICT 20A

Pam Altendorf

MN HOUSE DISTRICT 20B

Sara Bertschinger

MN SENATE DISTRICT 24

Nels Pierson

MN HOUSE DISTRICT 24A
Rep. Duane Quam

MN HOUSE DISTRICT 24B
John Ajouri III

MN SENATE DISTRICT 25
John Howie

MN HOUSE DISTRICT 25A
Brad Trahan

U.S. HOUSE — MN-01
Brad Finstad

U.S. SENATE
Michele Tafoya

MN GOVERNOR
Lisa Demuth

MN ATTORNEY GENERAL
Ron Schutz

MN SECRETARY OF STATE
Tad Jude

MN STATE AUDITOR
Scott Jensen

CD1 Picnic & Rally — Sunday, September 13



Two stops, one afternoon. We walk the **Marigold Days Parade** in Mantorville, and then everyone heads to Owatonna for the **CD1 Picnic & Rally** — the bigger event, and the one to plan your day around. **All Republican candidates have been invited.**

STOP 1 · THE PARADE

Mantorville

Meet **1:00** · steps off **1:30**

Downtown & Riverside Park, MN 55955

Help Rep. Quam and Nels join the Dodge BPOU and turn out a big group.

STOP 2 · THE PICNIC

Brown Park, Owatonna

4:00 p.m.

400 16th Street SW, MN 55060

Pulled pork & sloppy joes, potluck — bring a dish to pass and a lawn chair.
MC: Rep. Patti Anderson.

Families first — kids are welcome at both, and there is some seating at the park.

Sign Up for the Picnic

Or RSVP with a headcount to Casey McGregor — [507-22-CASEY](tel:507-22-CASEY) · cm@olmstedgop.org

Outdoor public event. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. Prepared and paid for by Congressional District One.

Volunteer Action Team



The Volunteer Action Team matches volunteers with activities and time commitments that suit them. Have an hour? An evening? Maybe a week? Want to help a candidate? Door knocking? Phone bank? Parades? Get in contact with the Volunteer Action Team.

Future VAT meetings: beginning **Monday, September 14**, VAT meetings are held at **6:30 PM every Monday** at the new headquarters, until after the November 3 election.

To find out how you can get involved, email jb@olmstedgop.org.

For a log of past VAT activities: olmstedgop.org/vat

Volunteer Action Team Sign-Up

An Evening with Ron Schutz and Nels Pierson

Two of the candidates named above are being hosted together at a reception here in Rochester. **Ron Schutz** is our nominee for Attorney General and **Nels Pierson** is our candidate in Senate District 24.

Tuesday, September 15 · 6:30 to 8:30 PM, with the program at 7:15 PM
Rochester Golf and Country Club, 3100 Country Club Road SW
Hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar.

RSVP by Friday, September 11 to Nels@Nels.com.

Suggested contribution is **\$250 to Ron for A.G. and \$250 to Nels for Senate**. Please bring **separate checks**, one payable to *Ron for MN Attorney General* and one to *Nels for Senate*.

See the Invitation

Our New Office

Our office is at **3518 55th St NW, Rochester, MN 55901** — near the Kwik Trip on 55th St NW, off Hwy 52 and West Circle Dr NW, next door to Coco Nails.

Stop in for yard signs, t-shirts and hoodies — and to talk.

Get Directions to the Office

Candidate Forum Schedule



The League of Women Voters is hosting forums for nearly every race on your ballot. **These are the League's events, not ours** — and that is exactly why our candidates need friendly faces in the room. They have been badly outnumbered in the past.

All forums are at the **Rochester Public Library (Downtown)** unless noted, and every one takes **audience questions submitted online beforehand**. Submitting a fair question is the most useful thing you can do if you cannot attend in person.

SENATE AND LEGISLATURE

Tue Sept 8 6:30 pm	MN State Senate District 20 Steve Jacob
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Wed Sept 9 6:30 pm	MN State Senate District 24 Nels Pierson
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Thu Sept 10 6:30 pm	MN State Senate District 25 John Howie
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Mon Sept 14 6:30 pm	MN State House District 20B Sara Bertschinger
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Tue Sept 15 6:30 pm	MN State House District 24A Rep. Duane Quam
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Wed Sept 16 6:30 pm	MN State House District 24B John Ajouri III
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Thu Sept 17 6:30 pm	MN State House District 25A Brad Trahan
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ROCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD

Thu Oct 1 6:30 pm	Rochester (ISD 535) School Board NOT THE LIBRARY — RCTC Heintz Center Commons Enter via the doors on the OMC / west side - Door H15 or H16.
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OLMSTED COUNTY OFFICES

Wed Sept 23 6:30 pm	Olmsted County Attorney
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Thu Sept 24
6:00 pm

Olmsted Co Commissioner District 6

Mon Sept 28
6:00 pm

Olmsted Co Soil & Water District 1
Jesse O'Driscoll

Mon Sept 28
7:00 pm

Olmsted Co Commissioner District 2

ROCHESTER CITY OFFICES

Tue Sept 29
6:00 pm

Rochester City Council Ward 5

Tue Sept 29
7:00 pm

Rochester City Council Ward 3

Wed Sept 30
6:00 pm

Rochester City Council Ward 1

Wed Sept 30
7:00 pm

Rochester Mayor

Every forum is livestreamed on the Rochester Public Library's YouTube channel, so you can watch from home — and recordings of the primary-season forums are posted on our schedule page.

[Full Schedule & Question Forms](#)

[LWV Livestream Link](#)

Also on the calendar

Wed Oct 7, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm — Election 2026: What Minnesota Voters Need to Know

Cascade Meadow Center. Free Lunch & Learn with AARP Minnesota, featuring the League and Olmsted County Elections. Registration required.

Tue Oct 13, 6:00 pm — KAAL debate: Finstad vs Johnson
TBD. Televised debate, not an LWV forum.

Minnesota Election Law

Minnesota election law allows “**vouching**” on Election Day. A voter registered in a precinct may vouch for another person as known to them and a legal resident — up to **eight** others, who may then vote that day.

Votes cast this way are totaled in with all other votes. If a voter is later found to have been ineligible, there is no way to identify those votes. **This law needs to be changed.**

Alpha News on vouching in the 2024 election: [nearly 19,000 people used vouching to register on Election Day 2024.](#)

Fraud, Fraud & More Fraud

On August 27, Alpha News reported another Minnesota fraud case — this one for **\$38 million**: [Medicaid fraud probe.](#)

Alpha News also reported that a [Minnesota State University diversity official was convicted in a \\$1 million tax fraud scheme.](#) The scope of the fraud reaches beyond state government.

It can be depressing, but here is a running list: [Minnesota fraud coverage at FOX 9.](#) We think there is more.

Quotation

The most effective way to destroy a people is to deny and obliterate their own understanding of their history.

— Abraham Lincoln

Lincoln believed internal divisions and misunderstandings can be as dangerous as external threats.

How to Track MN Legislature Activity

Tired of sitting on the sidelines? Want to know what is happening? Is it time to get involved? [Find out how to follow the 2026 Legislature.](#)

Read the [Constitution of the State of Minnesota.](#)

Great Information Sources

[Alpha News](#) · [American Experiment](#) · [The Epoch Times](#)

Get involved in the local Republican Party:

- Visit a Central Committee meeting
- Become a Chair or a Vice-Chair of your precinct, and/or a Delegate
- Call your legislators and set up a meeting to express your concern
- Donate to win
- Become an election judge
- Work or attend caucuses and the convention
- Vote in November 2026

Donate to Win

Please donate to the Republicans of Olmsted County. Use Minnesota's **Political Contribution Refund Program** by making your check payable to Olmsted County GOP — **\$75.00 (single)** or **\$150.00 (married couple)**. Send your check to:

Olmsted County GOP
PO Box 6201
Rochester, MN 55903-6201

We will send you a receipt and a claim form to get that money returned to you from the state. The process usually takes less than a month.

Learn more and donate online: [**pcr.olmstedgop.org**](http://pcr.olmstedgop.org)

Thank you for your kindness. Together we stand.

Newsletter Editor,
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