



P.O. Box 11014
Fort Wayne, IN 46855

Steven R. Shine
Chairman

Lana R. Keesling
Vice Chairwoman

Sofia Rosales-Scatena
Secretary

Robert W. Lee
Treasurer

Republican Headquarters
135 West Main Street
Fort Wayne, IN 46802
260-422-1554

allencountygop.com

NEWS RELEASE

SPEAKER OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONGRESSMAN MIKE JOHNSON TO BE KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT ALLEN COUNTY GOP LINCOLN DAY DINNER

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**Contact: Steven R. Shine
(260) 745-1970**

(FORT WAYNE, IN) - Continuing its tradition of bringing nationally prominent speakers to its semi-annual fundraising dinners, Allen County Republican Party Chairman Steve Shine announced today that Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, Congressman Mike Johnson, will be the keynote speaker at the Allen County GOP's Lincoln Day Dinner on April 26, 2024. The dinner will be held at Ceruti's Summit Park, 6601 Innovation Boulevard, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Shine stated that, "Speaker Johnson's upcoming visit to Fort Wayne and Allen County shows, once again, that Allen County is the home of the State's premier Republican Party organization and has earned the respect of national Republican leaders. Allen County is the epicenter of Republican strength in Indiana, and we are honored and humbled by having a keynote speaker at our Lincoln Day Dinner of the caliber of the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives."

Speaker Johnson was elected unanimously by his House Republican colleagues to serve as the 56th Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives on October 25, 2023. Speaker Johnson represents areas of northwest and west Louisiana, having been first elected to the U.S. House on December 10, 2016, by the largest margin of victory in the region in more than 50 years. Prior to becoming Speaker, Congressman Johnson was elected by his Congressional colleagues to serve as Vice Chairman of the House Republican Conference, one of the seven elected leadership positions for Republicans in the House of Representatives, as well as Deputy Whip. He was also previously honored to serve as Chairman of the Republican Study Committee, the largest caucus of conservatives in congress, known as the "intellectual arsenal of conservatism in the House."

In making the announcement, Shine indicated that Speaker Johnson's message will no doubt resonate with the conservative core of the Allen County GOP. Shine said that, "Speaker Johnson has devoted his life and career to fighting for the fundamental freedoms and traditional values that have made America the greatest nation in the history of the world."

Shine also said that, “Speaker Johnson’s willingness to come to Allen County is a recognition, in part, of the Allen County Republican Party’s notoriety of hosting events of a national caliber and that both Fort Wayne and Allen County are must-see venues for prominent GOP leaders.” Shine thanked GOP stalwart Bill Bean for his assistance in securing Speaker Johnson’s appearance. Shine indicated that Bean is one of the country’s most prolific Republican fundraisers and is respected coast to coast as one of the GOP’s most ardent supporters.

Shine said the Lincoln Day Dinner includes a VIP Reception for Speaker Johnson beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the Lincoln Day Dinner itself at 7:00 p.m., all of which will be held at Ceruti’s Summit Park, 6601 Innovation Boulevard, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Ticket prices for the VIP Reception, which includes a photo opportunity, complimentary hors d’oeuvres and beverages and dinner, are \$300.00 per person, while tickets for the dinner only event are \$150.00 per person. Reservations can be made online at allencountygop.com or by calling (260) 745-1970.