



Salem Communications CEO Edward Atsinger and California insurance executive John Nelson are hosting a March fundraiser for Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

Atsinger's support for McConnell is notable because one of Salem's properties, RedState.com, is home to some of the minority leader's most ardent critics. RedState.com's editor in chief, Erick Erickson, is backing businessman Matt Bevin over McConnell in Kentucky's May 20 GOP primary. However, two conservative talk radio hosts who are nationally syndicated by Salem,

## **Dennis Prager and Hugh Hewitt, are headlining the March 19 luncheon event** in Camarillo, Calif.

An invitation to the fundraiser was obtained by the Washington Examiner. Salem Communications is based in Camarillo, a community in Ventura County 50 miles north of Los Angeles.

The event is officially being held for **“McConnell Victory Kentucky,” a joint fundraising committee of the McConnell campaign and the Kentucky GOP. Donors are invited to contribute as much as \$30,400 per couple or \$15,200 per individual. The fundraiser is collecting money for McConnell’s primary and general election campaigns.**

McConnell is set to face Kentucky Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, a Democrat, in the November general election. This week, former President Bill Clinton is in Kentucky to raise money for Grimes.

## **Mitch McConnell Is Vowing To 'Crush' The Tea Party Everywhere**

Hunter Walker

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<http://www.businessinsider.com/mitch-mcconnell-crush-conservative-insurgents-2014-3>

AP

Republican Senate Minority Leader **Mitch McConnell predicted the GOP establishment will destroy conservative insurgents** attempting to unseat a trio of incumbents in an interview with The New York Times published Sunday.

**"I think we are going to crush them everywhere," McConnell said.** "I don't think they are going to have a single nominee anywhere in the country."

McConnell is one of three establishment Republicans who are facing primary challengers backed by Tea Party conservative groups. The Senate Conservatives Fund, The Madison Project, and FreedomWorks are supporting Matt Bevin, McConnell's rival, in Kentucky. All three groups as well as the anti-tax Club For Growth are also throwing their fundraising weight behind Chris McDaniel's run against Republican Mississippi Senator Thad Cochran. The Madison

Project and the Senate Conservatives Fund are also spending to support Milton Wolf, who is challenging Kansas Senator Pat Roberts.

This right flank rebellion is occurring just as the GOP is attempting to take a majority in the Senate. While the seats in Kansas and Mississippi are unlikely to fall into Democratic hands even after a vicious primary, McConnell is facing a close race against Democrat Alison Lundergran Grimes. Though polls show McConnell well ahead of Bevin, a tough primary fight can't help McConnell's standing in a hypothetical general election matchup against Grimes.

McConnell told the Times he's confident the challenge from the conservative base will fade out after its first few losses. "I know this: Politics doesn't like losers," McConnell said. "If you don't have anything to point to, it is kind of hard to keep it going."

Find this information on TipOfTheSpear.net <http://www.tipofthespear.net/2014.htm#PragerHewitt>