Editor Carly French

HCRW HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2024 ISSUE 11

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dinner, Drinks & Discussion April 25th 4:30 -7 PM Hays City Store & Icehouse 8989 FM 150 Driftwood, TX 78619 **Food & drink available to purchase**

<u>Buda Wiener Dog Races</u> April 27th-28th 204 San Antonio St, Buda, TX 78610

Lincoln-Reagan Dinner April 29th Check-in: 5:00pm VIP Recep: 5:15-6:15pm Ballroom Open: 6:30pm Event: 7:00-9:00 pm 1001 E McCarty Ln, San Marcos, TX 78666

<u>May General Meeting</u> Mother's Day High Tea May 7th 6:00 pm See Page 9 for more details!

Check <u>our website</u> for more events & updates!

HAYS COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN



LINCOLN-REAGAN Silent Ruction

MONDAY, APRIL 29, 2024 5:00-8:30 PM EMBASSY SUITES - SPRING LAKE SALONS SAN MARCOS, TEXAS

AUCTION WILL BE IN-PERSON AND ONLINE! STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!

<u> Firing Up In 2024!</u>

April 16th Meeting Recap

On April 16th, the Hays County Republican Women held our Border Security Informational Meeting. We were pleased to host Kinney County Sheriff, Brad Coe, and TFRW SD 19 District Director, Kelly Perry. The two of them provided great insight into the border crisis and shared impactful stories about their experiences of living and working in border counties.

For some background, Sheriff Coe has much experience in working in law enforcement. He is a retired Border Patrol agent, was in the Air Force Special Ops, has worked with the DEA & FBI, has Emergency Command experience, and has worked with the Kinney County Fire & Rescue team. As of 2022, Sheriff Coe & the Kinney County Sheriff's office were housing 40 DPS officers! Sheriff Coe is also involved in his community through his work with children, which he says has been the most rewarding. He has been a coach of various sports teams, helping kids learn valuable life skills and instilling the values of merit, hard work, and fair play.





As the crisis at the border drags on, Sheriff Coe remains an advocate for his border county and others against the influx of illegal crossings. He has appeared on FOX News to share his point of view on the border situation. Sheriff Coe's appearances also bring light to the situation in areas of the border that aren't always covered. We hope that through his exposure of the reality, more light is shed on this serious situation.

Kelly Perry serves as the TFRW SD 19 District Director and hails from Bracketville, Texas. In just her second year in the political world, she was recognized by a National Group as a top activist in Texas. While Kelly was President of the new Kinney County Republican Women chapter, it was one of the fastest growing clubs in Texas. In the clubs first 3 months, they hosted Nick Adams. Following Covid, she traveled to Washington for Election Integrity.

Join Hays County Republican Women

April 16th Meeting Recap

In 2021, the Border became a battle ground and Kelly stepped into the role of "Community Liaison". After fighting to get the county into National Media, she hosted the first Border Awareness Rally. Since then, almost every major Conservative news media outlet has visited Kinney County and has garnered a lot of attention by notable visitors such as Governor Abbott, AG Ken Paxton, and Maria Bartiromo. It's been Kelly's job to schedule the visiting media with different people to get the real stories out across the State, our Country, and the World. Today, she continues the fight as a "Border Warrior". Kelly will be hosting two different noon hour Lunch-N-Learns at the State Convention.

We were also pleased to have Deborah Wall come speak to us about the Border Care Project initiative. This program aims to help the Border Patrol Agents continue to protect our country by gathering donations of medical supplies, non-perishable and non-melting food items, and much more. The agents and community are continually grateful for any support they receive, and we are always happy to help in any way we can. For a list of donation items, see page 6 with Save Our State. Also make sure to view the Border Care Project Facebook page for more information.

We also had a great turnout of members and a full table of candidate information! Seeing the support for our two guest speakers and the work they have been doing to Save Our State was amazing, and we hope that support continues. The nacho bar was also very well received and, as always, Mary's homemade desserts were a hit. Thank you to everyone for coming, and we hope to see y'all at the next meeting!



MEETINGS LIKE THESE KEEP US "FIRED UP" FOR 2024! Be sure to join us at future meetings and Happy Hour events to get involved with the Hays County Republican Women!

Join Hays County Republican Women

SAVE OUR STATE: Border Support Update

The March 8th trip to Bracketville and Del Rio was a major success! There were four cars filled with supplies in the caravan this time. Sheriff Coe of Kinney County was very happy to see the organizers, including our Border Support Chair, Mary Clarkson. Sheriff Coe was a guest speaker the HCRW Meeting on April 16th, which provided great insight to the border crisis.

Since Governor Abbott's rebuke of government overreach, border traffic has slowed down. There are still high speed chases, but not as many. The SOS representatives were told the same news in Del Rio. As always, our donations are always appreciated. The latest request is Clorox wipes, as hand sanitizer has not been enough alone due to diseases such as Measles, one of the many we thought had been eradicated, coming in with the influx of illegal immigrants. Please see the list of donation items below. Thanks to all who have contributed to the efforts to Save Our State (SOS)!

BORDER CARE PROJECT

Items Needed:

- Any First Aid items
- Powdered Electrolytes (Gatorade, Propel)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Towelettes
- Wound Wash
- Insect Repellant
- Sunscreen
- Clorox Wipes
- Non-Melting Snacks

Please place items in containers with the name of the organization. Photos will be posted to the Border Care Facebook page.



OPERATION LONE STAR

Latest Update - Taken From The Governor's Website The State of Texas recently celebrated the 3rd anniversary of Operation Lone Star. Governor Abbott, the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), and the Texas National Guard continue to work together to secure the border; stop the smuggling of drugs, weapons, and people into Texas; and prevent, detect, and interdict transnational criminal activity between ports of entry.

<u>News on Operation Lone Star</u>

CANDIDATE SPOTLIGHT SREC & LOCAL

On the following pages, HCRW has listed the known candidates for SREC District 25 Committeeman & Committeewoman, as well as received information from local candidates for Dripping Springs school board & Wimberley City Council. Candidates are subject to change or be announced at a later date.

Candidate announcements being shared does not signify endorsement, nor do candidate views necessarily align with those of HCRW.

Candidates are subject to change or be announced at a later date!



SREC DISTRICT 25 CANDIDATES

Committeewoman Candidates



Robbi Hull



Naomi Narvaiz



Lucy Trainor

Committeeman Candidates



Gerry Ward



Michael Wheeler

Candidates are subject to change or be announced at a later date!

Representatvies will be voted on at this year's RPT Convention!

Candidates are in alphabetical order with incumbent name in red print. Publishing this document does not signify an indorsement of any candidate, not do their views necessarily reflect those of HCRW.



LOCAL CANDIDATES

Dripping Springs ISD School Board



Shanda DeLeon Facebook Page

Shanda DeLeon is a 6th generation Texan, former high school teacher, and mom of 3 Tiger daughters (1 at DSMS, 2 at DSE). She has been an active and engaged volunteer since 2016, serving in countless leadership positions at the campus levels and several committees at the district level. Shanda is focused on three priorities for the future of DSISD: Responsible Spending for Growth, Teacher Satisfaction & Retention, and Parent & Community Engagement. Dripping Springs is a growing community with new schools on the horizon. DeLeon is committed to transparency, oversight, and accountability of funds spent of facilities. She also states that teachers are the heart of the school system, and being a former teacher herself, she knows that without a doubt they are here because the teachers are passionate about the subject matter and molding the youth to be successful. According to research, DeLeon notes that parent involvement is essential to student success. She is committed to finding ways to have a more open dialogue between the board and the community.



Dr. Stephani Reinold

Facebook Page

Dr. Stephani Reinold is a licensed psychiatrist with her own private practice and is currently serving as the DSISD Board President. Though not originally from DS, she and her husband ultimately settled here after his separation from active duty. Dr. Reinold has seen how quickly our world can change from small, seemingly benign top-down leadership positions and how these same small changes can transform the mental and emotional well-being of our children today and decades to come. She is running for school board to transform DSISD so that we can see children thrive again. As a Christian, military wife, mother of 3 small children, physician, and education advocate, Dr. Reinold is deeply passionate about the betterment of DSISD for decades to come. She believes that for a district to thrive, its critical to bring a holistic approach to the board: and approach advocating for not only academic excellence, but also the emotional, physical, and environmental enrichment of students, teachers, and staff, as well as the financial and logistical health of the community.

Candidates are subject to change or be announced at a later date!



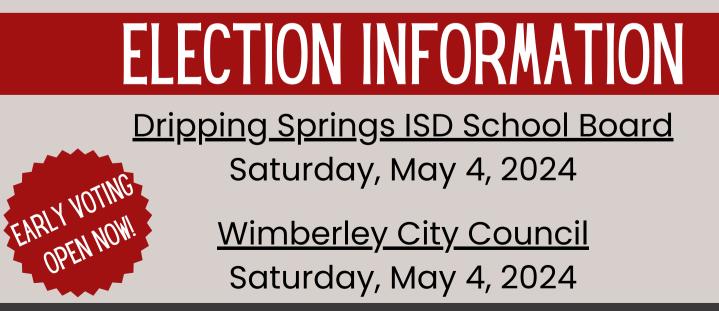
LOCAL CANDIDATES

Wimberley City Council



Jim Jones Place 4

Jim Jones is a native Texan who has lived in Wimberley for about 25 years. He has recently retired from the US Army where he served for 38 years and has a BS in Multidisciplinary Studies and a MBA, both from Liberty University. The two top challenges in Wimberley that Jones sees today are growth and water, which he says are intertwined. He believes that all council decisions should be unbiased and support the needs and demands of the community without overwhelming existing infrastructure. The water supply is limited, and new developments increase the strain on this resource. For this issue, Jones would encourage rainwater collection where possible and ask new development proposals to present a sustainable water usage plan. His primary focus as a council member would be a limited government, commonsense approach to city issues and trying to mitigate council decisions that could be construed as favoritism or corruption. Jones says there is no place for these things in a truly representative body, and it is the interests of the people that he intends to represent. Jones has no special interests other than the overall welfare of the community. Jones welcomes any questions and concerns that citizens may have which can be posted on my official Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557416516208. Thank you!



Candidates are subject to change or be announced at a later date!



Political Organization Ad made for the Hays County Republican Women. Having a candidate or elected official at a meeting does not signify endorsement.

bout the Speaker

COMMISSIONER CHRISTI CRADDICK

Christi Craddick is in the forefront of the newest wave of conservatives in leadership roles in Texas. Raised in a strong conservative household, retained as legal counsel by prominent Texas firms, and shaped by more than a decade as a trusted political adviser, Craddick has set a clear standard of integrity, self-reliance and innovation in her position of commissioner at the Railroad Commission.

Since her tenure on the Commission began in November 2012, Craddick has pushed to maximize the effectiveness and efficiency of an energy industry that is driving the state's unparalleled economic success. In the process, she has repeatedly proven that sensible regulations, careful listening and plain talk can foster innovation that has solidified Texas leadership in the energy sector.

Making it a top priority, Craddick has worked to educate the public about the oil and gas industry and its impact in Texas. She has fought against Washington's one-size-fits-all environmental policies that would kill jobs and stifle energy production growth. Craddick has advocated for recycling in the oilfields, helping to drive the percentage of reclaimed water upwards, an essential achievement in a state enduring a multi-year drought.

As part of her efforts to modernize the agency, Craddick has championed an Information Technology overhaul at the Commission, seeking improvements that would upgrade the Geographic Information System, increase public access to the agency's data, and speed up inspections and permitting times.

A native of Midland, the heart of the Permian Basin, Craddick earned both her Bachelor's Degree as a Plan II graduate and her Doctorate of Jurisprudence from The University of Texas at Austin. During her career as an attorney, she specialized in oil and gas, water, tax issues, electric deregulation and environmental policy.

Following the example of her father and mother, Craddick has been drawn to public service and politics. As president of a grassroots advocacy firm, she took the lead on work in coalition building in the public policy arena and development and implementation of issue strategies. Craddick serves her community as an active member of organizations including the State Bar of Texas, University of Texas Liberal Arts Alumni Advisory Council, and Dell Children's Medical Center Foundation. Christi resides in Austin with her daughter, Catherine, and is an active member of St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

X @CHRISTICRADDICK | CHRISTICRADDICK.COM | FB.COM/CHRISTI CRADDICK

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GSAC LUNCHEON

By: Becky E. Hites

At the April lunch meeting of the Greater San Antonio Council (GSAC), held the first Wednesday of each month except March and November, guest speaker San Antonio Councilman Marc Whyte reminded the audience that governing is a team sport and we must find ways to work together with others not always of like mind. As a new council member ten months into his first term, he shared that he considered it his responsibility to reach out and build relationships with his ten fellow council members to identify shared values rather than allowing their differences to derail problem solving. He confirmed that as one would expect, San Antonio has a bloated bureaucracy and no transparency; thus, in order to effect change, creative effort is required. During his short tenure, he's raised a number of novel concepts that, while not successful so far, have caused pause to consider; one such concept is zero base budgeting requiring a reset and rebuild of expenses not just a dead head incremental cost increase on prior expenses. He also discussed the proposed "charter" which includes no new council districts, whether the city manager's compensation should be increased, removing the city manager's term limit of 8 years, and extending his service indefinitely, whether city council pay should be increased, and, unbelievably, a most important discussion on the use of pronouns.

Half a dozen candidates spoke at the lunch about their platforms with one stressing the need to come together countered by SD 25 committeewoman Naomi Narvaiz pointing out that sometimes a stand needs to be taken when members of our party defy the rules.TFRW Region XIV SD 24 and SD 25 Deputy Regional President Sally Thiel reminded those in attendance, mostly club presidents and other club representatives, that the club bylaws need to be current, that materials distributed must include the proper disclaimers and that club presidents much approve everything the club does.

The next meeting will be May 1 and will feature TFRW president Zenia Warren as the speaker.



Texas Federation of Republican Women

Introductory Article: County Chair - Elect Dr. Michelle López

Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well. - St. Joan of Arc

I am honored to introduce myself as the incoming Chair for the Hays County Republican Party, and I am looking forward to partnering with the Hays County Republican Women during my term. As a leader, I am grateful for my faith, which guides me in my daily actions, and the above quote from St. Joan of Arc resonates with me as I begin this important leadership role.



Deciding to run for elected office is never something I take lightly. The first question of myself, and any others who ask me about running for office, is: Are you clear on your values and the line you will not cross? My answer is "yes". I am clear and bringing that clarity to my leadership role as Chair. The values of Honesty, Integrity and Transparency are among those values I am bringing to this new leadership role.

Since 1998, Hays County has been my home. As a passionate leader, I am dedicated to empowering and developing others. I believe in the power of collaboration, innovation and vision as a leader. The future of our county is dependent upon each of us to unite our strengths with action. I am inviting you to join my team these next two years, as we bring our message of hope, faith, family and freedom to every corner of Hays County. We **WIN** if we: **W**rap our arms around this goal, **I**nvite new voices to the table, **I**nvigorate our party's base, **I**nnovate our strategies and reach out across the county, **N**eighbor-to-**N**eighbor.

Join Hays County Republican Party Team

Introductory Article: County Chair - Elect Dr. Michelle López

Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well. - St. Joan of Arc

I am excited to begin my term on Monday, June 17, 2024, and look forward to working together to build a strong and united Republican Party in Hays County. I will be following St. Joan of Arc's words: Go forward bravely. Fear nothing. Trust in God; all will be well.

Let's rally together, support our candidates, and bring positive change to our community – *let's WIN together!*

Michelle M. López Chair-Elect Hays County Republican Party

e: chellelopez@gmail.com p: (512) 750-0630



Join Hays County Republican Party Team

CONGRATULATIONS!

On April 15th our HCRW Events Chair, Olivia Alexander, was sworn in as the 60th President of the Texas State University Student Body along with her Vice-President, Donovan Brown!

We are continuously proud of her drive, accomplishments, and passion to serve her community. We look forward to seeing the amazing things she and her administration accomplish during their year of service!



HCRW Executive Board Spotlight



KELLI WHIGHAM Vice-President

Kelli Whigham is a proud native Texan, born in San Antonio and raised in Midland, Texas. She is a graduate of Midland Lee High School and attended Midland College where she received an Associate Degree in Applied Science. She continued her education at Texas State University where she received a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences.

A member of HCRW since 2016, Kelli has served as Legislative Chair, and Campaign Activities Chair and is currently serving her 2nd term as Fundraising Chair. Kelli is also a member of the Wimberley Area Republicans and is active in many other local activities. She is an active member of the San Marcos Kiwanis Club, holding the position of President three times and serving as the chair of many committees. She is a past member and Treasurer of the Bluebonnet Lions Club, former member of the Main Street Advisory Board in San Marcos and served on the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce Special Events Committee for many years.

Kelli has worked for MVBA Law Firm for 28 years. She is married to Steven and has one daughter, Lauren. In Kelli's spare time, she and her husband attend sporting events at Texas State University as Bobcat Club members and season ticket holders for all sports.

Join Hays County Republican Women

TEXAS STATE EDITORIAL



Did you know that Texas State College Republicans is the largest College Republican Club in Texas?



The Importance of Involvement By: Austin Quintana

As we navigate through the chaos of this spring semester, I'm struck by the nearness of the upcoming fall election season. The campus pulsates with unfledged political emotion, with each group and candidate vying for our attention. Arriving at Texas State, I hadn't fully grasped the extent to which political entities target us students for our votes. It's a testament to our growing autonomy in shaping our political beliefs.

As I observe the bustling activity on campus, I can't help but notice a conspicuous absence of Republican presence. When I arrived, it was amidst a flurry of campaigning, dominated mainly by Democratic and Moderate voices. Yet, I believe a stronger Republican presence would invigorate our political landscape, offering a much-needed diversity of perspectives.

It's crucial to amplify Republican ideals among the student body to ensure that our values are adequately represented. As a party, we must adopt a more proactive approach to engaging and mobilizing younger voters who wield unprecedented political influence. We require Republican candidates and their groups on campus to champion our cause and counter any misinformation perpetuated by opposing factions.

As we approach what may be the most pivotal election of our generation, it's imperative that we capture the attention and support of student voters. Republican candidates must immerse themselves in campus life, engaging in candid discussions with students, addressing their concerns, and fostering a deeper connection with our community. Moving forward, it's essential for the Republican candidates to establish a more enduring presence on campus, ensuring that our voices are heard, and our interests represented.

<u>Texas State University Presidential Debate Link</u>

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoint of Hays County Republican Women