



National Federation of Republican Women

Engaging and Empowering Women Since 1938



# JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER

TFRW Region #5

Senate District #2







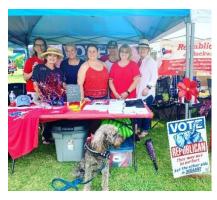
















# RCRW Executive Committee 2021-2022

PRESIDENT Tiffany Miller

V.P. PROGRAMS Alma McClintock

V.P. MEMBERSHIP Karen Myers

V.P. CAMPAIGNS Toni Felts

V.P. LEGISLATURE Pamela Miley

TREASURER
Frances White

PAC TREASURER
Jennifer Fogg

SECRETARY/ PARLIMENTARIAN Lea Carlson

> COMMITTEE CHAIRS

HOSPITALITY
Pam Benedetto

SOCIAL Jessica Metts

SCHOLARSHIP Anna Campbell

# **RCRW Mission Statement**

Promote an informed electorate through political education. Increase the effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through active political participation. Facilitate cooperation among Republican women of Texas. Foster loyalty to the Republican Party and promote its ideals. Work for the election of the Republican Party nominees.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



A HUGE THANK YOU, to all the ladies who helped address and mail out over 1,100 post cards to strong Republican Women in Rockwall County who are not yet members of our club.

Congratulations to all of the May election winners! RCRW looks forward to working with each of you as we continue to support our community and keep Rockwall Red!

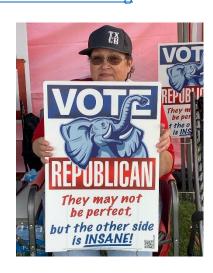
June is here and we are getting ready for a funfilled summer. There are so many things going on the next few months. We have a great meeting planned Monday night at RGAC, the

GOP convention in Houston, Texas (including the TFRW luncheon), RCRW Liberty Ladies Lunch, and Book Club all in the month of June! July brings the parade, another great speaker for our July meeting, TFRW board meeting, and we will be gearing up and getting ready for the November general elections. I hope you will join us and bring a friend.

God Bless,

Tiffany L. Miller, RCRW President 972-977-3321

president@rcrw.org





# **PROGRAMS**



Our June Speaker is Jeff Mateer, the Chief Legal Officer of First Liberty Institute.

Jeff rejoined First Liberty Institute in October 2020 after serving as First Assistant Attorney General of Texas. As First Assistant Attorney General from March 2016 through October 2020, Jeff oversaw all operations of the Texas Attorney General's Office, which included over 30,000 active cases, almost 800 attorneys and 4,200 employees, and a bi-annual budget of over \$1.1 billion.

Date: June 13, 2022

Meeting Place: Rockwall Golf & Athletic Club 2600 Champions Drive Rockwall, TX 75087

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Our July speaker is Bunni Pounds – President

Bunni Pounds is the President of Christians Engaged. This statewide non-partisan ministry awakens, motivates, educates, and empowers believers in Jesus Christ: to pray for their nation and elected officials regularly, to vote in every election to impact their culture, and to engage their hearts in some form of civic education or engagement for the wellbeing of America.

For more information about the organization, check their website - <a href="https://christiansengaged.org/">https://christiansengaged.org/</a>

Water, tea and coffee will be provided. We will be seated in classroom style seating.

# **Liberty Ladies Lunching –**



4th Monday of each month (June 27, 2022)

Meeting Place:
The Bagel Lady
Meet in the back room

Time: 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Love having lunch with your friends? Perfect – that is what we love too. Join us for a fun time to get together with old and new friends. It is a great time to connect with other Republican ladies and spend time together. We look forward to having you join us at our June lunch.

# RCRW Book Club -

Who is excited to meet and discuss our current book - Tony's Wife...

Join us, even if you haven't read the book, for a fun time to get together and compare thoughts about the book. The second selection is: Tony's Wife by Adriana Trigiani. We will meet in the home of Gail Spann (address to be provided closer to the date), on Sunday, June 26th from 2:00-4:00PM. For something fun, bring a prop or something that you relate the book to, to add to the discussion.

Be sure to follow us on all social media platforms:



Website - <a href="http://www.rcrw.org/">http://www.rcrw.org/</a>

Facebook - @RCRWTX

Instagram – rockwallcountyrepublicanwomen

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting,

Alma McClintock, Vice President, Programs



#### MEMBERSHIP REPORT



Happy June All,

I hope everyone is excited about the summer coming up! Kids are out of school and lots of vacations to be coming up. So, for all of you traveling on vacation, have fun and safe travels! We have also been enjoying the mild weather this spring; could do without the wind but grateful for the temperatures. We had a nice turnout for Happy Hour at Alumni Sports Grill & Bar in Royse City. Thankful for all those businesses that host our event are always so nice and accommodating for our group! We always have such a great time together! We had a couple of new members join us that night; so welcome to RCRW! We look forward to seeing you again next month at both our General Meeting and Happy Hour!

I'm happy to say our membership is continuing to grow and increase in numbers. Our new members and renewals are:

## **NEW MEMBERS**

# Claudia Gonzalez Deanne Taggart

# **RENEWALS**

Jennifer & Tom Alden

Lucille Bell

Terry McBay

Sherry Gillespie Carolyn Wright-Sanders

Laurie James

The new numbers for Member/Associates are:

 Members
 143

 Associates
 41

 Honorary
 5

 189

Best regards,

Karen Myers, Vice President, Membership

# TREASURER'S REPORT



# Treasure Report as of May 31, 2022

Operating AccountBalance Forward\$19,656.38Income\$480.00Expenses\$1,269.57Grand Total\$18,866.81

**Scholarship Account** 

 Opening balance
 \$16,395.64

 Income
 \$0.00

 Expenses
 \$0.00

 Total
 \$16,395.64

Frances White, Treasurer

## **VP POLICITAL ACTIVITIES**



We have new way of reporting our hours and more of your time counts!

# CHANGES TO ITEMS YOU CAN NOW COUNT

- ➤ All of the time at your club meetings counts.
- ➤ Paid hours now count. Only if it is not your main source of income, nor for staff members of the GOP or elected officials. This includes our elected State Reps and Senators time as the pay they get is not their main source of income.
- Any time spent at events you had to purchase a ticket to attend.

# ADDITIONAL TRACKING

We are now being asked to track and report the number of political calls you make, all political calls count; those you do for campaigns, contacting officials, calling people about elections etc.

Go back and look at your 2022 calendar and send me all of your hours!!

Have you signed up with VEP to call Republicans and help them register? The VEP team is looking for more volunteers and asking those who signed up to get trained and make calls. Signing up is step one, we need you to make calls. We had great success last election cycle, let's not drop the ball now. Just commit to register, get your credentials, and call for one hour 2 or 3 times a week and we will complete this project in no time. For more information go to Voter Engagement on the home page of tfrw.org

God Bless!

Toni Felts, Vice President Political Activities

### RCRW SOCIAL TIME



June 21, 2022
RCRW Happy Hour
6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.
Pablo's Restaurant and Cantina
131 E. Fate Main Pace, Fate, Texas 75087

# Heirloom Tomato Watermelon Salad

# **Ingredients:**

4 Heirloom Tomato's cut into 1 inch-dice 1 large seedless watermelon 12 mint leaves sliced thinly 1 large, sweet onion thinly sliced

1 cup crumbled feta cheese

1/4 cup olive oil

2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar

1 pinch coarse salt, or to taste

1 pinch ground black pepper or to taste

# **Directions:**

- 1. Gently mix watermelon, tomatoes, mint, onion, and feta cheese in a large bowl.
- 2. Whisk olive oil, vinegar, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl; drizzle over salad and gently toss to a coat.

Jessica Metts, Social Chair

### HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE



Below are all links to various Proclamations and Press Releases from June 2022:

Governor Abbott Statement on Legislative Leaders Establishing Special Legislative Committees to Provide Solutions To Protect All Texans June 3, 2022 | Austin, Texas

https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-statement-on-texas-legislative-leaders-establishing-special-legislative-committees-to-provide-solutions-to-protect-all-texans

Governor Abbott Instructs ALERRT To Provide Training Programs To School Districts Across Texas

June 6, 2022 | Austin, Texas

https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-instructs-alerrt-to-provide-training-programs-to-school-districts-across-texas

# **Proclamation Investigative Committee on the Robb Elementary Shooting**

June 3, 2022 | Austin, Texas

https://house.texas.gov/ media/pdf/PROCLAMATION-Robb-Investigative-Cmte.pdf

# Proclamation Amendment to Proclamation creating House Select Committee on Youth Health and Safety

June 2, 2022 | Austin, Texas

https://house.texas.gov/ media/pdf/PROCLAMATION-House-Select-Committee-on-Youth-Health-and-Safety-Amendment.pdf

# Joint Charges on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety

June 3.2022 | Austin. Texas

https://www.house.texas.gov/\_media/pdf/JOINT-CHARGES-ON-MASS-VIOLENCE-PREVENTION-AND-COMMUNITY-SAFETY.pdf

# Republican Party Of Texas Statement On The Tragedy In Uvalde

May 25,2022 | Austin, Texas

https://texasgop.org/uvalde/

# Representative Justin Holland Statement on The Uvalde School Shooting:

"I applaud Governor Abbott for taking swift and prudent steps to address the key issues asked of the special legislative committees. I look forward to seeing the results of the full investigations by DPS, federal and local authorities - so that we may assess what more we can do as a state to find solutions to safer schools in Texas. I am interested in solutions over grandstanding. For now, we mourn with the families of Uvalde as they grieve and find a way to move forward towards healing." - Representative Justin Holland

# **Local News:**

We want to congratulate all of HD 33 graduating seniors. You all should be proud of this milestone in your lives. Wishing everyone the best of luck in all of your future endeavors!

Congratulations to the Heath Hawks Baseball Team who are now advancing to state! Go Hawks!

We would like to also congratulate Dr. James Muns, who was recently appointed to the Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council, by Speaker of the House, Dad Phelan. Dr. Muns, is a Family Medicine Specialist in Rockwall, and has over 38 years of experience in the medical field, who graduated from University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and is currently affiliated with Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Rockwall.

For Texas!

Justin Holland, Texas State Representative HD 33

### SENATE DISTRICT 2



# School Safety - For the Preservation of Life, Liberty, and Property

We are all grieving with the families who lost loved ones in the Uvalde shooting. Such horror does not fade overnight. However, as tragic as this incident is, the legislature has a responsibility to first know all the facts that contributed to the totality of the incident and the actions of all people and organizations that contributed in any way before, during, and after the incident before considering new legislation. A rush to a legislative solution could very well result in making future incidents even worse. We must never forget that not all of society's problems can be solved with legislation.

I am committed to continuing to work within the proper function of government to address these issues in a way that secures the freedom of law-abiding citizens while simultaneously thwarting the attempts of those that choose to break our laws.

However, the answer is not a simple legislative one. Texas does not have a gun problem, we have a "people with mental illness" problem. Mental illness, societal breakdown, and human isolation are not partisan issues, these are issues that affect everyone.

A speeding automobile does not break the law when it kills or injures people, rather it is the person operating the vehicle and exceeding the speed limit that bears the responsibility for the injury to others. In the same way, a gun, a knife, a baseball bat, or a rock, of its own volition, does not kill people, it is the person who misuses those weapons that bears responsibility for the deaths.

Instead of focusing on the weapon used, I offer that we, as a society, must look at what compounding events took place in this young man's life that would bring him to the point where he decided that killing innocent children and teachers was a better solution than addressing his own internal conflict. We need to look, not just at this young man's life, but look for the root cause of the increase in mental illness as a whole.

Mental health issues have been a rapidly growing problem, especially for young people, for several years. Why? What has happened in the past few generations to drive so many of our youth to the point that killing others is a solution to their personal problems?

In situations like this, it is natural to want a swift change, something that is tangible, to rectify within our own selves that "we have done something," but often, the more lasting solution is more difficult, requires more effort, and is one that comes about slowly.

Frederic Bastiat says, "Life, liberty, and property do not exist because men have made laws. On the contrary, it was the fact that life, liberty, and property existed beforehand that caused men to make laws in the first place."

It is for the preservation of life, liberty, and property that the Texas Legislature has enacted numerous laws over recent years that have added safety measures to schools, including mandatory drills, emergency operations plan, and behavioral threat assessments, hardening, as well as, provided ample funding to school districts to implement these measures. In addition, state agencies and other organizations have compiled many great resources such as digital threat assessment training, personnel training, and many other resources to help train and equip school administrators and teachers. Too few school districts have taken advantage of the resources available to counter the actions of a mentally unstable person intending to harm students within a school.

As the investigation continues and more is revealed about what took place that day, it will become apparent how Uvalde ISD utilized these provisions to enforce the proper safeguards. That knowledge will allow us to see more clearly what legislative actions should be taken to strengthen these measures.



WHICH SCHOOL
WOULD YOU PREFER
YOUR CHILD ATTEND?

In the meantime, there is at least one current federal law that actually helps a perpetrator harm child in schools. The Gun Free Schools Act, originally enacted in 1994, contains a requirement that each state receiving ESEA funds expel a student from school for a period of not less than one year if they bring a weapon to school. This law precipitated the use of signs that say, "THIS FACILITY IS A GUN FREE ZONE." This is an open invitation which tells a perpetrator, "Come on in do your evil deed. No one in this building is prepared or allowed to defend themselves. You will encounter no opposition."

The one positive thing is that this federal law does not apply to state-licensed gun holders. It is a Texas state law that prevents most licensed gun holders from carrying within school buildings. We could move to make the state law mirror the federal law, thus allowing licensed gun holders to legally carry within a school building. This would give school districts the option to allow teachers and school administrators, as well as parents, the ability to carry on campus and would create a differentiation between a school that is ready to defend students against a perpetrator and a school that offers a "safe haven" to someone with intent to do harm to the students.

We must focus on the root cause of the explosive growth in mental illness, especially among young people, if we want to prevent further gun violence in our schools. Because, at the end of the day, no amount of legislation will change a young person's heart and keep them from attempting to kill others.

It will take the entire community; parents, families, churches, social networks, schools, addressing the cause of mental illness in youth today to make a difference. And part of addressing those issues should include looking at the policy decisions we have made in the past that are contributing to the problem.

It will not be easy, but my prayer is that we all do our part to build community and care for those around us.

Senator Bob Hall, SD 2

### TFRW REPORT





May was a difficult month for many reasons but the runoffs are over, summer is here, and it is an exciting time to be a Republican woman in Texas. Pictures from your postcard parties and reports of women excited to receive your cards warm my heart and encourage me. Thank you to all the clubs that embraced this project. You sent cards to over 95,000 women, many of whom did not know about TFRW. They won't all become members, but your cards planted

seeds and raised awareness about TFRW. Seeing clubs working together showed that in addition to increasing our membership, this project also provided an opportunity for members to have fun working together and strengthened relationships within clubs.

If you weren't at our April Board Meeting, you missed a wonderful protocol/decorum presentation by Patti Johnson and Belinda Frisk, our Hospitality/Protocol Chairs. Belinda said the following, "One of the strengths of TFRW is that with all we have to do – saving the family, the state, the country – we have fun together! We make new and cherished friendships, we learn from one another, we teach one another. Sometimes we just feel frustration and sometimes we have an amazing moment of needed breathless laughter. And we always have someone who will listen, or someone who needs to talk – and we are always ready."

I doubt Patti and Belinda realize just how important they are to TFRW. They are always a breath of fresh air and take such good care of us at our meetings. More importantly, they are role models for how we should treat others. It saddens me to see the anger and criticism that is prevalent in our world and in our party. I encourage every member to focus on our mission of working together to elect Republicans and not on differences that can divide us

As I write this article, I could not be more thankful for you, my TFRW sisters. The tragedy in Uvalde, skyrocketing inflation, pain at the gas pump and supply chain shortages are impacting more of us than we know. I pray TFRW women continue to stand together, be there for one another, and remain focused on our mission.

Texas and our country need us, and we need each other. As the most powerful women's political organization in Texas, let us lead the way to victory in November!

**Prayer:** Father God, we come to you with heavy hearts asking for your tender care to comfort the families and children of Uvalde. We pray they feel your presence as you surround them with your love. We pray for healing to the injured and help for those dealing with images they can never unsee. Father, we pray your protection for all children and wisdom for parents on how to keep them safe. We pray for Your peace and blessing to be poured out upon our nation according to Your mercy.

Amen.

Kit Whitehill TFRW President

#### **VDR TRAINING**

#### VOTER REGISTRATION DEPUTY TRAINING

Anyone wanting to become a VDR can study the information online through the SOS website at: https://www.sos.state.tx.us/elections/forms/volunteer-deputy-registrar-training.pdf

Print and take the test from SOS as well:

https://www.sos.texas.gov/elections/forms/exam-volunteer-deputy-registrars.pdf#search=volunteer%20deputy%20registrar

(If you do not have a printer, you can take the exam at the Election's Office)

Once you complete the exam, call the Elections office to set up an appointment to bring in the test and complete the required paperwork.

#### RCRW UPDATES

# STAY UDATED WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM RCRW



It is finally here!!

Rockwall County Republican Women now has the ability to text by using Remind. Many of you may be familiar with this program.

To receive e-mail and text reminders, follow the instructions below to send a request to be allowed in the RCRW texting. Once accepted, you will begin to receive text messages from RCRW.

Text the message @2474cb to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @2474cb to (205) 703-2109

\* Standard text message rates apply.

Don't have a mobile phone? Go to www.rmd.at/2474cb on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

# **UPCOMING EVENT**



Join us for night out at the Rodeo! We are working on setting up a date for us all to go out and enjoy a fun night with our family and friends and support our neighboring county.

Once we have more details and ticket pricing, we will be sure to let you know so you are able to reserve your tickets.

#### **CALENDAR**

Please see our website for updated event information.

# Republican Events:

June 9, 2022 – Rockwall County Republican Hispanic Club Meeting: 6:30 P.M. at Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087, speakers are Senator Bob Hall and Rev. Stephen Grays. Also, we will be presenting Ashley Potts of Selah Creek RCRHC's check from the proceeds of the 2022 United for Life Banquet.

June 9, 2022 – Rockwall GOP Delegate and Alternate Training: 6:30 P.M., GOP Headquarters, 112 Kenway, Rockwall, Texas 75087, registered delegates and alternates are invited to a Pre-Convention meeting and training that will give us all a change to gather as a delegation meet our fellow delegates and get updates and training from SD@ SREC Jerry Fisher.

June 11, 2022 - Republican Men's Club Meeting: 8:00 A.M., at the Center At Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087, for more information go to https://www.facebook.com/rockwallgopmen.

June 13, 2022 – RCRW General Meeting: 6:30 P.M., at Rockwall Golf and Athletic Club, 2600 Champions Drive, Rockwall, Texas 75087, guest speaker is Jeff Mateer, chief Legal Officer of First Liberty Institute.

June 16 – 18, 2022 Texas Republican Convention: Houston Texas.

June 21, 2022 – RCRW Happy Hour: 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M Pablo's Restaurant and Cantina 131 E. Fate Main Pace, Fate, Texas 75087.

June 26, 2022 – RCRW Book Club: 2:00 P.M. until 4:00 P.M. at Gail Spann's house, address to be provided, our book to discuss is Tony's Wife by Adriana Trigiani.

June 27, 2022 – RCRW Liberty Ladies Lunching: 11:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M., at The Bagel Lady, 316 S. Goliad, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

June 29, 2022 – Rockwall Young Republicans Meeting: 6:00 P.M. for dinner, meeting begins at 7:00 P.M at Luigi's Italian Cafe, 2002 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087.

July 6, 2022 - GOP Lunch Bunch: 11:45 A.M., at Luigi's Italian Cafe, 2002 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087 cost is \$13.00.

July 9, 2022 - Republican Men's Club Meeting: 8:00 A.M., at the Center At Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087, for more information go to https://www.facebook.com/rockwallgopmen.

July 11, 2022 – RCRW General Meeting: 6:30 P.M., at Rockwall Golf and Athletic Club, 2600 Champions Drive, Rockwall, Texas 75087, guest speaker is Bunni Pounds, the President of Christians Engaged.

July 19, 2022 – RCRW Happy Hour: 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M., more details coming soon.

#### **Community**

Fridays thru September 23, 2022 – Music on Main at Cookston Court, 111 E. Main Street, Royse City, Texas, every Friday evening there will be artists of various genres on the outdoor stage, feel free to bring lawn chairs for seating.

May 7- 2022 thru September 24, 2022 - Rockwall Farmer's Market: 8:00 A.M. until Noon downtown Rockwall.

May 12, 2022, thru July 28, 2022 – Concert by the Lake: 7:30 P.M. until 9:00 P.M., free concert series, every Thursday night at the Harbor.

June 22, 2021 – Walk the Bridge: 6:00 P.M., at the Rowlett/Rockwall 66 Bridge, purpose is to draw attention to the approximately 22 Veterans and First Responders who take their own lives each and every day.

June 25, 2022 – Empower 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run: 7:30 A.M. at Wilkerson-Sanders memorial Stadium, 1215 T L Townsend, Rockwall, Texas 75087, for more information and tickets go to https://www.empoer7.org/5krun.

June 25, 2022— Royse City's Celebrating Freedom: 6:00 P.M. until 10:00 P.M., Royse City ISD Stadium, 700 FM 2642, Royse City, Texas, admission is free, with a variety of food available for purchase.

July 2, 2022 – Heath Independence Day Parade: Parade begins at 9:00 A.M.

God Bless Texas!!!

July 4, 2022 – Rockwall Independence Day Parade and Firework Show: Parade begins at 11:00 A.M. and evening festivities begin at 7:00 P.M., price is free.

July 9, 2022 – Watermelon Toss: 1:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M., In-Sync Exotics Wildlife Rescue, 3430 Skyview Drive, Wylie, Texas 75098, watch the big cats enjoy watermelons, for information go to www.insyncexotics.org.

# **Our Government Meetings:**

Rockwall City Council – Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

Heath City Council – Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 P.M.

McClendon-Chisholm City Council – Meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M.

Fate City Council - Meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.

Royse City City Council – Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Rockwall Commissioners Court – Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 9:00 A.M.

Rockwall County Independent School District – Meets 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:00 P.M.



#### PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG

"Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

Political advertisements paid for by Rockwall County Republican Women (RCRW),
P.O. Box 1354, Rockwall, Texas 75087
Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions.
Corporate Contributions ARE NOT PERMITTED.
Website: http://www.rcrw.org - Facebook and Instagram: Rockwall County Republican Women