



RCRW NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

TFRW Region #5 Senate District #2



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to November!

Where does one begin after such an incredibly emotional month? From the beginning of the horrific tragedy that took place and continues to occur in Israel to the Anti-Israel protests that are happening here in the United States! It is so hard to understand such evil and how people can continue to advocate for more of it. We are heart broken by the pain and loss that so many families are enduring. I ask that you lift Israel, the military and her people up in prayer as they combat this evil that has spread throughout the world. On a lighter note, several of our ladies attended the Texas Federation Republican Women's Convention held in Irving and had an amazing time. I would first like to congratulate our very own Debra Harper, who was elected as the 1st VP of TFRW and Tiffany Miller, who was elected as the VP of Bylaws. We are so proud of you both and look forward to all the great work you both will do.

Convention attendees had the opportunity to hear from our State elected officials, attend sessions and best of all win a few awards. RCRW won 2 awards for the 2022-2023 cycle: Best Newsletter and Club Achievement. We are honored to have won these awards and look forward to continuing the great work that helped us achieve these accolades.

If you haven't attended a Convention or Leadership Training session, you will want to plan on attending



the next one with us. It is a great learning experience and opportunity to bring home knowledge that we can all use to help in keeping Rockwall and Texas RED!

We are in the middle of Early Voting for the 14 State Constitutional Amendments, I hope you have gone out and voted. If not, please plan on doing so. It is important that we have a say in the direction of our state's future.

We are excited to co-host with RCRM, RCHRC, and YR's this year's Veteran's Day event. Major General Gary Bunch, US Army, Retired, will be the guest speaker. We will have more information provided as the time gets closer.

As 2023 comes to a close, I would like to invite you to join us for the RCRW Ugly Sweater Holiday party that we will be hosting December 11, 2023 at the Rockwall Rotary Hall. We will have a DJ, catered dinner and a few special surprises instore for you. Be sure to RSVP for this exciting end of the year event.

G-d Bless You, Alma McClintock



V.P. Programs

RCRW Executive Committee 2023-2024

PRESIDENT

Alma McClintock president@rcrw.org
972-333-4847

V.P. PROGRAMS/ PARLIMENTARIAN

Lea Carlson
214-507-4482

V.P. MEMBERSHIP

Lisa Seligman-Kearby
membership@rcrw.org
214-476-9612

V.P. POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

Susan Edwards
610-360-0300

V.P. LEGISLATURE

Sharon Henson
214-674-5374

TREASURER/PAC

Frances White treasurer@rcrw.org
972-771-4044

SECRETARY

Deanna Stinebaugh rcrw@rcrw.org
214-236-1272

PAST PRESIDENT

Tiffany Miller
972-977-3321

COMMITTEE CHAIRS HOSPITALITY

Pam Benedetto
214-280-2088

SOCIAL

Deanna Tucker
619-208-8700

SCHOLARSHIP

Aimee Norton
903-340-4034

Our November meeting will be our last General Meeting of the year.

In honor of Veterans Day, and our Veterans, our guest speakers this month will be Patriot Paws who will give a presentation of their organization and service dogs.

In addition, we will have a performance from Dave Tanner who will be performing America's Patriotic Melodies, The Stories Behind the Songs. America's treasury of heart-stirring patriotic songs grows even more meaningful to audiences who hear Dave's re-telling of the courageous, humorous, and incredible stories behind their composing.

Please come join us for a very special program, you won't want to miss. If you can, we'd love for you to bring a dog toy or treat that we can donate to Patriot Paws for the pups.



RCRW Book Club

We meet once a quarter Rosini's Vineyard to discuss the book selection. Please plan to join us, even if you can't read the book, for a fun time together and to compare ideas.

This quarter's selection is: My Turn The Memoirs of Nancy Reagan with William Novak. We will meet on January 7th, 2024, at Rosini's 2:00 - 4:00p.m.

Liberty Ladies Lunching



Mark your calendars: 4th Monday of each month (November 27, 2023)

Meeting Place: La Madeleine 987 E Interstate 30, Rockwall, TX 75087
Time: 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. It's a great time to meet with friends, like-minded women, catch up on life and have a relaxing time together.



V.P. Membership

Howdy ya'll.

Hope you all got a chance to enjoy the State Fair. Please continue to pray for Israel and all their families. I don't know about you all, but I'm ready for the holiday season.

Recently we had the opportunity to attend the Texas Federation Republican Women (TFRW) Convention October 12-14th. I must say, it was one of the best experiences I've ever experienced. If you get the chance to come with us next year, I highly advise.

Remember RENEWAL of membership will begin November 1st. Please either submit by mail or you can pay via: www.rcrw.org. Please print out the RCRW application form as everyone will need to resubmit one with your \$40 payment.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next monthly meeting on November 13, 2023. I will have the applications available for renewals. Bring your friends. Should you have any additional questions, please contact me at rcrwmembership@rcrw.org

See you next month,
Lisa S. Kearby
VP Membership



Treasurer

September 1 - 31, 2023

Balance Forward - \$16,243.62

Income - \$75.00

Expenses - \$86.94

Total - \$16,231.68

Scholarship Fund

Balance Forward - \$2,540.04

Income - \$.29

Total - \$2,540.33



Be sure to follow us on all social media platforms:

Website - <http://www.rcrw.org/>

Facebook - @RCRWTX

Instagram - rockwallcountyrepublicanwomen





V.P. Political Activities

Thank you to everyone who continues to participate in Political Activities and reports on your hours. In the 3rd Quarter our club worked 6,046 hours toward political activities, bringing our year-to-date hours to 22,575.

Congratulations to Sharon Henson, who led the club with 480 calls in the 3rd Quarter and to Alma McClintock who led the club with 665 hours in Q3. Remember all that I need to report each month is your total hours spent on any political activity and the total number of phone calls made. You should include the time spent at any of our meetings or social functions such as the Liberty Ladies Luncheon, Candidate Meet & Greet, our monthly meeting, and our Out & About events. You should even include the driving time to and from these events.

Please continue to send me your hours every month so I can report them in the newsletter. It's important that you also include the number of calls you made and remember every hour counts!

You can either text them to me at 610-360-0300 or email to nasusedwards@icloud.com. No need to submit a form.



Social Chair

I can't believe the Holidays are quickly approaching. This year has been wonderful with all our activities and the relationships we have made.

No Social Time for the month of November due to Thanksgiving. Enjoy this time with your family and friends.

laMadeleine

We will still have our Liberty Ladies on Monday November 27th at La Madeline's beginning at 11.30 am. Hope to see many of you there.

Happy Thanksgiving and may God bless you and your family

Deanna Tucker





Scholarship Chair

Wow, October has come and gone!! I hope everyone enjoyed their trick-or-treaters on Halloween.

I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone that the Republican Women Scholarship Fund has been formed and is a legal non-profit 501c3. This is an exciting time for us and we are so proud of the work put into making this possible. With a 501c3 status, not only will donations be tax deductible, but as I have said before, but worth repeating, creating this new 501c3 opens so many more doors for fundraising capabilities to allow for a larger impact in our community through their scholarships. Please note this new (but old) endeavor will now be a separate entity from RCRW.

As we move through November and the start of the holiday season, we will begin working on promoting the raising of funds for the Republican Women Scholarship Fund. We at RCRW fully support this new non-profit and encourage all those who are able to donate and or participate in their fundraising efforts, to please do so. It is for a great cause!

Listed below are 2 fundraisers RWSF will be having in the month of November. What a great way to get a jump on holiday gifts (or a little something for yourself from your husbands) and holiday attire.

Park Lane Jewelry- November 1-19, 2023

ALL sales will be at regular price per item and 30% of ALL proceeds will go directly to the Republican Women Scholarship Fund 501c3.

Divas and Darlings-Sip and Shop - November 30th, 2023 6pm-8pm



LaSena Hadawi has graciously agreed to let RWSF hold this Sip and Shop at her boutique here in Rockwall. 20% of proceeds from sales during this time will be donated to RWSF. Spread the word to all of your friends and family! This is a fabulous way to spotlight a wonderful woman and her boutique while helping raise funds for RWSF!!

We will be announcing a lot of great opportunities for the Republican Women Scholarship Fund in the future, so stay tuned.

As always donations for our scholarship fund are welcome any time of the year. You can make a direct donation, you do not need to wait for a fundraiser!

If you have any questions, please reach out to me at amnorton1@att.net.

Aimee Norton, Scholarship Chair



CAPITOL HILL REPORT

Serving the counties of District 2:

Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Van Zandt and parts of Dallas, Ellis and Collin County

88th Legislative Third Called Special Session Update

Senator Bob Hall

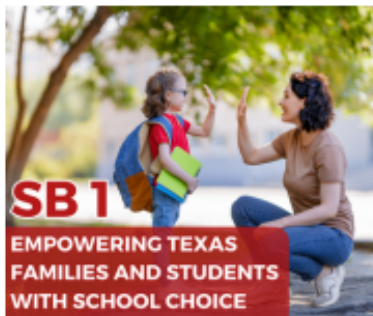
The 88th Legislature began its third special session on October 9, 2023. Governor Abbott's proclamation includes the need for legislation to create education savings accounts for schoolchildren in Texas, improve border security by reducing illegal immigration, and prohibiting COVID-19 vaccine mandates in private businesses. These critical issues are vital to the continued success and security of Texas.

Our work in the Senate began with committee meetings to hear bills that would address these concerns. We were able to hear testimony provided by both experts and constituents who are being affected by these issues. Serving on both the Finance Committee and Health and Human Services Committee allowed me a front row seat to ask important questions about the legislation being considered during this special session.

Each of the five bills that have been brought to the floor have positive aspects. They also contain language that should induce caution. Some of these bills simply do not go far enough in protecting your rights but do take steps in the right direction. It is my belief that the government should be fully transparent to the people it represents. This is why I have provided summaries on each of the five bills that were passed through the Senate below. These summaries will outline the good, the bad, and the legislation that almost got it right.

Education

Senate Bill 1 establishes education savings accounts of \$8,000 for eligible students to use for approved education-related expenses. On receipt of more acceptable applications than open positions, priority shall be given to the educationally disadvantaged (i.e., those who qualify for free or reduced lunch), those whose household income is between 185 and 500 percent of the federal poverty line, and those with a disability. Though \$8,000 might put private school within reach for additional families, it remains to be seen whether actual choice will be achieved. Additionally, this bill could lead to increased costs over time.



With the state providing up to \$8,000, private school tuition and fees are likely to increase in accordance, just as the federal backing of student loans has contributed to the inflation of college tuition. In the Senate Finance Committee, we heard testimony on Senate Bill 2 which provides additional public school funding. Senate Bill 2 increases the basic allotment and creates a new Teacher Retention Allotment.

Specifically, this legislation increases the basic allotment by \$75 and provides pay increases to classroom teachers across the state of Texas who devote their time to enriching young minds. Specifically, teachers in school districts with less than 5,000 students will receive a \$10,000 retention bonus during the 2023-2024 school year and teachers in districts with more than 5,000 students will receive a \$3,000 bonus.



CAPITOL HALL REPORT



Serving the counties of District 2:

Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Van Zandt and parts of Dallas, Ellis and Collin County

The State of Texas has a constitutionally outlined duty to "establish and make suitable provision for the support and maintenance of an efficient system of public free school." ([Texas Constitution, Article VII](#)) In the past year, Texas has made historic investments in the Texas education system by increasing funding 30% (\$94 billion total quoted in Senate Finance Committee on October 9, 2023.). Texas is only able to make such an investment as the result of a healthy economy. Tax dollars do not belong to the state legislature, but rather those funds are entrusted to the state legislature to fulfill its constitutional obligations to the great people of Texas. Senate Bill 2 fulfills this significant duty of maintaining public schools by strengthening its support for classroom teachers who mold the young minds of the children of Texas.

SB 2
HISTORIC NEW FUNDS FOR TEXAS EDUCATION

- SCHOOL SAFETY**
\$400,000,000 INCREASED SCHOOL SAFETY FUNDING (DOUBLING THE PER STUDENT AND PER CAMPUS FUNDS PASSED IN HB 3386)
- TEACHER PAY RAISE**
\$3.8 BILLION SPECIFICALLY FOR ACROSS THE BOARD RAISES FOR TEXAS TEACHERS
 - \$1,000 ACROSS THE BOARD PAY RAISES
 - \$7,000 RAISE FOR TEACHERS IN SMALL-MIDSIZE DISTRICTS (SMALL-MIDSIZE DISTRICTS HAVE ENROLLMENT UNDER 5,000 STUDENTS, AND MAKE UP 82% OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE)
 - \$37,500,000 TEACHER INCENTIVE ALLOTMENT ACCELERATION AND GRANTS
- BASIC ALLOTMENT**
\$475,000,000 INVESTMENT IN BASIC ALLOTMENT INCREASES

School safety funding is bolstered in this bill as it doubles the amount school districts will receive per student from \$10 to \$20, and per campus from \$15,000 to \$30,000. While there will never be an appropriate price tag to place upon the safety of Texas children, increasing the funding is a step forward in safeguarding schools throughout Texas.

Border Security

Texas is experiencing a record number of immigrants crossing the border daily, and the Biden Administration has left Texas to address the crisis at the Border. Senate Bill 4 is a response to this crisis; it will provide necessary increases in minimum sentencing for the offense of human smuggling, for operating a stash house, or for evading arrest or detention. A ten-year minimum sentence in this bill makes the offense of human smuggling a felony of the third degree. Human smuggling violations include an individual smuggling a family member of the third degree of affinity or consanguinity. The penalty is increased from a two-year minimum to a five-year minimum. The operation of a stash house will be a five-year minimum sentence and is considered a felony of the third degree. The offense can be increased to a felony of the second degree if it is committed in combination with crimes such as smuggling of persons, trafficking of persons, sexual assault, or bodily injury.

Senate Bill 11 is Texas' answer to the federal government's lack of enforcement of border crossing. Currently, our law enforcement officers are powerless to detain and arrest individuals who are caught entering the state through illegal ports of entry. In an attempt to address this, Senate Bill 11 creates a new offense of Improper Entry from Foreign Nations. This offense would be a Class A misdemeanor if found guilty in court, with the potential to become a state jail felony if the individual is a repeat offender.

While this legislation is necessary to support our law enforcement and the efforts to reduce crossings at illegal ports of entry, costs are associated.



CAPITOL HALL REPORT

Serving the counties of District 2:

Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Van Zandt and parts of Dallas, Ellis and Collin County

According to testimony heard in the Senate Committee on Border Security, only 3,000 Operation Lone Star beds can be utilized for this offense. The bill requires an individual who is arrested on this charge to be detained in a facility established by Operation Lone Star.

However, if those beds run out of space, it could fall on our county jails to fill the gap, which means higher costs. Some counties claimed they would need to increase property tax rates to meet the need for this particular offense.

COVID-19 and Medical Freedom

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, I have been a vocal leader regarding the need to protect the rights of Texans when it comes to healthcare. Senate Bill 7 prohibits employers from adopting or enforcing a mandate that requires an employee, contractor, or applicant to be vaccinated against COVID-19 as a condition of employment. Also, it prohibits adverse actions by employers against employees or applicants for refusal to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

There are no exemptions in Senate Bill 7, the prohibition laid out above would apply to all working Texans. Employees could file complaints with the Texas Workforce Commission and employers found in violation of this law would be fined not more than \$10,000 per violation, unless they proceed with a job offer or reinstate a terminated employee. The bill also grants the attorney general an option to file for injunctive relief to prevent continued violations.



Although, Senate Bill 7 does not include ALL vaccinations as I would rather have seen, this gets us a step in the right direction, closer to medical freedom.

A prohibition on vaccine mandates is needed to curb the government intrusion into the personal, medical decision-making of individuals. While this bill does not include all vaccines, it serves a role in stopping COVID-19 vaccine mandates. No one should have to choose between making a living and taking a vaccine, especially an ineffective, high-risk vaccine. There will be efforts to add an exemption for healthcare workers, however, individual rights are paramount, and we cannot carve out any group of individuals whose rights do not matter.

Other items on the call still to be addressed

As the Senate continues to work into this Third Called Special Legislative Session, we still have legislation concerning the public safety, security, environmental quality, and property ownership in areas like the Colony Ridge development. In Liberty County, just north of Houston, an expansion of a massive residential development is being developed. Local residents have a growing concern over safety, negative and adverse effects locally, as these reportedly new 75,000 residents have had on the system.

See more in a letter addressed to Governor Greg Abbott from some of the Texas Congressional Delegation [here](#):



CAPITOL HALL REPORT

Serving the counties of District 2:

Kaufman, Navarro, Rockwall, Van Zandt and parts of Dallas, Ellis and Collin County

Some Must Haves - Grid Security and Election Integrity

A Special Legislative Session can be granted for up to 30 days. Given we are only a week into the current 30 day Special Session, there is still plenty of time to add some much necessary priorities for Texans.

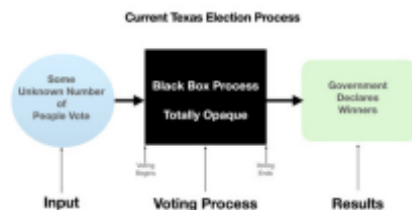
Grid Security

If we look at current events, Israel's electric grid is under the worst kind of attack. Although Israel took measures to harden infrastructure and limit vulnerabilities, it is yet to be seen if these measures were sufficient to withstand the onslaught seen in recent days. While it is a world away, the threat of physical and cyber attacks to the Texas electric grid is also a very real possibility. Although both types of attacks have been on the rise in recent years, state and federal agencies have done little to address these threats in a meaningful way.

One could say the industry and your government is continuing to play Russian roulette with the grid while cashing in on taxpayers' hard-earned money. The decisions made with regards to hardening standards are not in the best interest of the people, it makes you question who is behind the scenes pulling the strings. We must have the opportunity to address this. It is not a matter of if, but a matter of when.

Election Integrity

The lack of accuracy, transparency, and accountability in the current Texas election process means it would be impossible to present sufficient evidence in a court of law to prove that anyone elected to public office was actually the intent of the majority of those who voted in their election.



The current Texas election process is a true "BLACK-BOX" operation. Why? Because there is no TRANSPARENCY, no ACCOUNTABILITY, and the ACCURACY is unknowable. There are only three things we know for sure at the conclusion of a Texas election:

1. Some unknown number of people cast votes,
2. The voting period began and ended; and
3. Winners were declared by a governing body.

Texas elections are too complicated. There is no transparency, almost no accountability, and the true accuracy of the published results is unknowable. Texans deserve to have an election process that is easy, inexpensive, and secure.

Handful of points could help move Texas in the right direction.

- Handmarked Paper Ballots
- Precinct Voting Only
- Mandatory Zero/Results Tape
- Single In-Person Voting Period
- Paper Poll Books
- Precinct to County Verification

We must not let this special legislative session opportunity pass us by.

Gain additional information you may have missed on important issues to Texans.

Topics include COVID, Grid Security, Election Integrity, and other important major issues.

Find them by scanning this QR code

Senator Bob Hall

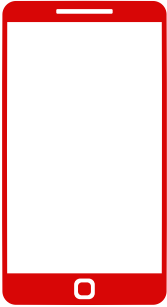
Senate District 2

www.SenatorBobHall.com





RCRW UPDATES



STAY UPDATED WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION FROM RCRW
To receive e-mail and text reminders, follow the instructions below. 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.

Please check out our Facebook page for updated event information



Republican Events:

Nov. 1, 2023 - GOP Lunch Bunch: 11:30 A.M., at Luigi's Italian Cafe, 2002 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087 cost is \$13.00.

Nov. 13, 2023 - RCRW General Meeting: 6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M., Harry Myers Community Center, 815 E. Washington Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087. The potluck meal to be shared, water and tea are provided.

Nov. 27, 2023 - Liberty Ladies Lunch - 11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., at La Madeleine, 987 East 1-30, Rockwall, TX 75087

Dec 2, 2023 - Rockwall Kwanis Christmas Parade, 7:30 A.M., Sign-up link to be sent with more information.

Dec. 6, 2023 - GOP Lunch Bunch: 11:30 A.M., at Luigi's Italian Cafe, 2002 S. Goliad Street, Rockwall, Texas 75087 cost is \$13.00

Dec. 11, 2023 - RCRW Holiday Party: 6:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M., Rockwall Rotary Hall, 408 S Goliad St, Rockwall, Texas 75087

Dec. 15, 2023 - GOP Christmas Party - more details to come.





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 1st and 3rd 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."

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.