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Issue: May 2023

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Presidents Pen - Janet Brown

CTRW (PAC)
P.O. BOX 24
BELTON, TEXAS 76513

www.ctrw-pac.com

SAVE THE DATE

5/4/23 National Day of Prayer
 10:00 am

Bell County Historic Courthouse

- 5/4/23 Executive Board Meeting
- 5/4/23 Pints and Politics 6:00 PM Dead Fish Grill Lake Belton
- 5/8/23 Bell County Republican
 Executive Committee Mtg 6 pm
 Bell County Courthouse
- 5/15/23 CTRW Luncheon Meeting at The Gin Restaurant, Belton, TX 11:00 AM Registration/Networking 11:30 AM Meeting Called to Order The cost is \$20

RSVP Required by 5/12/23

• 5/22/23 BellCountyTXYR 6:00 P.M.



Join us as we kick off May for the annual observance of The National Day of Prayer with CTRW and SARW members on Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 10:00 am on the Northside of the Historic Bell County Courthouse to Pray for America. This year's theme is: "Pray Fervently In Righteousness." We are thankful as our Bell County Sheriff's Color Guard, Vocalist Kathleen Brown, and members read Proclamations and National Prayer during this presentation. We need to Pray for our great country. Please plan to attend and invite your friends!

Our Scholarship Luncheon was fantastic, and I hope these two exceptional Award Recipients inspire you! We thank SBOE Member Tom Maynard for sharing historical inspiration as he dove into how necessary historical & current civic knowledge is for future generations. His presentation was fabulous, and I know our younger quests appreciated hearing from someone so immersed in learning and teaching. We are honored to have our two young Scholarship Recipients their families attend this and presentation.

Another fabulous speaker featuring Dr. Jon Spiers is scheduled for our next luncheon on May 15, our last meeting, as we break for our members to enjoy the summer months and will resume in September. Please plan on joining us for Movie Night, Karaoke Fundraiser, or jump on to ride the Republican Fourth of July parade float. Stand Proud as a Republican, and God Bless! Keep TEXAS RED! Janet Brown

1st VP Programs/Linda Hagler

CTRW was delighted to have our scholarship winners and their parents attend our April luncheon. Many thanks to Zenia Warren and her committee for this great project! Thanks, also, to Tom Maynard, State Board of Education Trustee District 10, for being our guest speaker at this special event.



Be sure to make a reservation and invite guests to our upcoming May luncheon with Dr. Jon Spiers. Jon will present a wealth of pertinent information about what is occurring on our Texas border. You will not want to miss this event! Dr. Jon Spiers is a former surgeon, a veteran, and an attorney. He has served a variety of organizations as a volunteer or board member and was a recent candidate for Land Commissioner. Jon has an amazing BIO that I encourage you to read prior to our luncheon.

DATE: MONDAY - May 15, 2023

RSVP required by THURSDAY, MAY 12th

TIME: 11:00 a.m. - Registration 11:30 a.m. - Call to Order

PLACE: The Gin at Nolan Creek in Belton - 219 S. East Street

COST: RESERVATION REQUIRED \$20 per person

Pre-pay through EventBrite OR - email mabeasley62@gmail.com





Our May Guest Speaker Dr. Jon Spiers



Dr. Jon Spiers is a surgeon, a veteran, and an attorney. He is the principal attorney at the health law firm Spiers Group and serves on the board of directors of Xceed Biopharma. Xceed is a venture group focused on developing and building critical biotechnology and jobs in Texas to ensure the stable, reliable supply of essential medications on American soil.

Dr. Spiers attended Duke University on scholastic and football scholarships. He graduated with Honors from Duke and attended medical school at the University of Tennessee Center for Health Sciences in Memphis, Tennessee. He continued in Memphis to complete his general surgery

residency. The Memphis medical complex was home to one of the nation's busiest training sites for trauma surgery and a regional Veteran's Affairs referral hospital.

While a general surgery resident, Jon performed laboratory and clinical research partly funded by the US Army. He studied the efficacy of small volume, easily transportable treatments for traumatic and hypovolemic shock geared towards saving our soldiers while in the arena. Spiers served in the US Army Medical Corps during this time, and then-Captain Spiers was mobilized briefly for the first Gulf War. Spiers followed his general surgery training with a cardiac and thoracic surgery fellowship at the Baylor College of Medicine's Michael E. DeBakey Department of Surgery in the Texas Medical Center.

Just over a year after Hurricane Katrina devastated his community, personal disaster struck. Dr. Spiers sustained an injury to his arm and hand that ended his career in the operating room. Refusing to give up and knowing he had more to do in life, Dr. Spiers attended law school. Spiers graduated from the University of Houston Law Center and established the Spiers Group, focused on many Texas-related issues, including biotechnology, business, and pushing back against federal overreach. Spiers has been named a "Super Lawyer" in his field.

Spiers has served a variety of organizations as a volunteer or board member. During the 2020 COVID pandemic, he built and operated a 3D printing facility that manufactured thousands of pieces of protective gear and provided it free of charge to first responders across Texas and the nation.

He has been an Assistant Scout Master for Troop 55 Boy Scouts of America in Houston. He served on the Advisory Board of the national non-profit HealthCorps, expanding the Texas Two-Step Save A Life simplified CPR campaign across Texas and the Nation. Always attentive to the needs of our men and women who serve our nation, Dr. Spiers worked with the veteran community at Combined Arms. This Houston-based service organization integrates non-profit organizations and government agencies to benefit veterans and their families.

Dr. Spiers is a life member of the NRA. He has served as a precinct chair and former Chair of the Engagement Committee for the Harris County Republican Party. He resides with his wife, Dr. Dana Myers, Vice-Chair of the Republican Party, in Houston. They attend St. John the Divine Episcopal Church.

Dr. Spiers was a candidate for Texas Land Commissioner.

For more information, visit: www.DrJonSpiers.com

CTRW Scholarship Endowment Foundation/ Chairman Zenia Warren

Two very deserving High School students received this year's scholarship awards on Monday, April 17th. Bailey Krcha was awarded the Kitty Pope Scholarship for \$1000.00. Ryan Novotny was awarded the Sonny Pope Scholarship for \$1000.00. Here are their essays:





Being an American can mean something different to everyone. Some may just think of it as simply living in America, others may see it as making sacrifices for your country. I see it as being someone who has the freedom to choose right from wrong, someone who shows respect towards others and appreciates all the things we are able to do each day.

America is a country built around freedom but the people who reside in America are what makes it feel like home. Americans strive to respect the privilege of freedom every day and hold themselves to a high standard. Being an American also implies the importance of shared cultures and values such as individual rights and responsibilities. It is not limited to any particular race, religion, or ethnicity. Living in America means belonging to a country that was founded upon democracy, freedom, and equality.

In America, you are presented with many opportunities including education, a thriving economy, and a protective legal system. Being an American also comes with responsibilities such as respect, following the laws, and contributing to the betterment of our country. Americans are known for living the "American Dream" which refers to achieving success through hard work and determination regardless of your background or social status. When you live in America, people strive to show how proud they are of this country we live in and consistently try to make it a more positive place for everyone. In conclusion, being an American includes many different things. It means embracing the values of freedom, equality, and opportunity, while also celebrating our diversity. It is honoring those who have sacrificed their lives for us. Someone who holds these values and acts on them every day is a true American who can wholeheartedly stand strong for the red, white and blue.

What does it mean to be American? Ryan Novotny



Being an American means we get distinct privileges and characteristics that set us aside from other countries, such as independence, equality before the law, freedom of speech and religion, capitalism, progress, and opportunity. All these attributes form together to make the ideology of what it means to be American. This is why we pride ourselves on being superior to other countries, an accurate representation of Republican Democracy and its people.

Our Founding Fathers sought a nation that would implement these ideals to produce citizens like no other, and they succeeded. However, the true meaning of an American is much more profound.

Being an American means we have the freedom to do anything and dream of becoming something spectacular. This opportunity is given to us through our Constitution, which guarantees our natural rights to every citizen. These rights permit us to express ourselves through the freedom of speech and choose to follow any religion we please. Such freedoms similar to these are the basis of an "American."

Americans also provide the most foreign aid; in 2022, we donated over twelve billion dollars to distressed countries. This was nearly four times as much as any other nation. This is another critical component of being an American: always lending a helping hand to someone in need.

So, it is evident that the accurate definition of an American is much more complex than a basic explanation from the internet. Being American makes the United States what it is our unalienable rights, our dedication to help others, and our chance to do whatever we want to and make the world a better place. In simple terms, the United States would not be "America" without Americans.

2nd VP Membership/Marilyn Beasley





We are happy to report three new or renewed members who joined our club and one associate. Welcome to Hilary Hickland and Katie Lidia Belle, our new members.

Chaplain/Rebecca Tong

Spring has arrived! Do a happy dance! There are flowers popping up everywhere, trees budding, baby calves and lambs being born and of course that dreadful pollen. Hopefully you aren't an allergy sufferer but if you are have no fear, hot weather is right around the corner and then you will have the heat to contend with.

With every season comes joy or sadness. We have no control over the seasons but just know that whichever season you are in, nothing has taken Jesus by surprise.

The Word tells us in Ecclesiastes 3 (NASB) that there is an appointed time for everything; there is a time for every event under heaven; a time to give birth and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to tear down and a time to build up; a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance; a time to throw stones and a time to gather them; a time to embrace and a time to shun embracing; a time to search and a time to give up as lost; a time to keep and a time to throw away; a time to tear apart and a time to sew together; a time to speak and a time to be silent. Whichever season you are in our Lord is with us. Don't despair. Rejoice in Him. I say rejoice!



Caring for America Chair/Kathy Ruiz

Hello CTRW family. It was so good to see so many of you at our April scholarship awards luncheon. Thanks so much to everyone who brought food items to donate to the Killeen Food Care Center. A special thank you to Marlene DiLillo for her generous monetary donation. The Food Care Center always welcomes monetary donations as well as food items. Their food requests for May are peanut butter and/or macaroni and cheese. As always, I am proud to serve our community with you, and to continue working with you to KEEP TEXAS RED!

PEANUT

Saturday, 10 JUNE, 7:00-10:00 pm

I am getting so excited about our upcoming KARAOKE fundraiser.



We have 2 door prizes you can win.

If you purchase the winning "GOLDEN CUPCAKE."

We have a great DJ (Terrell Simmons) with over 7000 songs. Our beautiful event center is Mililana Woods in Nolanville.

Our menu is set with lots of delicious food.

Even if you don't sing, watch and listen to others, and cheer them on. Plan to attend to have fun and fellowship and help raise funds for our club.

Karaoke Tickets are on sale at \$25 per person.

(Eventbrite or from a CTRW Member)

(Limited) Golden Cupcakes are on sale for \$10 each
Prizes are a lady's diamond ring & 2 rounds of golf with cart





2023 CTRW Officers

PRESIDENT - Janet Brown (254-541-2307) janetlynbrown@amail.com **1ST VP- LINDA HAGLER** 2ND VP - MARILYN BEASLEY CO-CHAIR - KAREN SMITH 3RD VP - SANDRA MCCLENEY SECRETARY - LINDA ATKINS TREASURER/PAC - WANITA REEDER PARLIAMENTARIAN - ELLIE CHITWOOD AMERICANISM - JANET GRYZBOWSKI CO-CHAIR - MICHELLE KIRSCH **AWARDS - ZENIA WARREN** CHAPLAIN - REBECCA TONG POLITICAL ACTIVITIES - CHRISTY WILBANKS **LEGISLATIVE - JOYCE DAMON** LITERACY - MARLENE DILILLO CARING FOR AMERICA - KATHY RUIZ HOSPITALITY - BETTY MURDOCK SOCIAL MEDIA - MARLEAN DRUCE **NEWSLETTER - MARLEAN DRUCE** PAST PRESIDENT - ZENIA WARREN



Share your gifts & talents.

Be involved and learn more about Central Texas RW by volunteering to help on one of our Teams like Fundraising, Hospitality, Membership, Armed Forces, Website, or Caring for America,

Literacy Chair/Marlene Dilillo



This year's CTRW literacy project has been completed. The three books in the photo were presented on April 3, 2023, to Barbara Kelly, librarian at Chaparral High School, Killeen. She was very appreciative of the donation.

Legislative Chair/Joyce Damon

Before I get started on what's been happening this session, it was suggested that I write a little "refresher" about the legislation process here in Texas.

The House has 150 members – 86 Republicans/64 Democrats

The Senate has 31 members – 19 Republicans/12 Democrats

There is no supermajority in either house.

We are in the 88th biennial session which began on January 10th and runs for 140 days until May 29th.

Bills are filed for the first 60 days of session, the last day to file bills was March 10th. The remainder of the session is spent acting on the bills and resolutions and any other emergency matters.

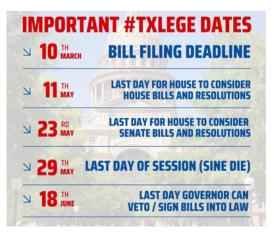
Some of the Bills that have passed the Senate so far are:

- -SB3, SB4, and SB5 regarding Property Tax passed unanimously.
- -SB14 Ending Child Gender Modification
- -SB 12 Banning Children's Exposure to Drag Shows, and SB 1601 Banning Drag Queen Story Hour in Texas libraries.
- -SB 20 and SB21 Removing District Attorneys and Judges who Refuse to follow Texas Law.
- -SB 23 Creating a Mandatory 10-year Prison Sentence to Criminals Committing Gun Crimes.
- -SB 29 Banning Local Covid-19 Mandates.
- -SB 298, SB302, and SB 305 addressing an individuals' freedom to make their own decisions regarding vaccines.
- -SB 8 Education Savings Plan giving parents \$8,000 per child for private tuition.
- -SB 15 would require that participation in intercollegiate sports competitors be based on the student's biological sex.

Bills passed in the House are:

- -HB 1635 would prohibit a party official (for example a County Chair) from denying a candidate a place on the ballot who has otherwise complied with the requirements set for in the Texas Election Code.
- -HB 900 relating to the regulation of "sexually explicit material" sold to, or included in, public school libraries.

To follow Texas Bills, Support, and watch Hearings.
Go to Texas Legislature Online (TLO) at: www.capitol.texas.gov
Be sure to set up a personal account in order to testify on a Bill.





First 100 Days Update By: Representative John Carter

April 17th marked 100 days of the new Republican majority in the U.S. House. A majority that was won, in large part, by the hard work of grassroots conservatives like you, Central Texas Republican Women. Thank you for your advocacy, devotion and work ethic that helps keep Texas red.

In just the first 100 days, House Republicans have already gotten more done than the entire two years of Democrat leadership during the last Congress. Our first order of business was voting to repeal the 87,000 IRS agents that the Biden administration wants to sick on the American people. Then, we repealed the military COVID-19 vaccine mandate, passed a parents' bill of rights, nullified Washington Democrats' soft on crime bill, and went to work on lowering energy costs.

We are just getting started. House Republicans will continue fulfilling the commitment we made to America.

At the time of this writing, I am voting to protect women and girls' sports against the brazen takeover by biological men. While this may seem like a small issue to some, the left is devoted to undoing all of America's values in the name of "wokeness." We must put a stop to this lunacy that is taking away opportunities from talented female athletes and protect little girls love of sports. If Democrats are allowed to continue their assault on basic biology and science, spaces for women to compete fairly will cease.

This woke ideology is fueling many issues that Americans are facing.

The Biden administration's green energy obsession is costing hardworking Americans more and more when they visit the pump or pay their bills. Their out-of-control spending policies is fueling inflation that is squeezing families' budgets, and their soft-on-crime policies are putting our communities at risk.

House Republicans won't let any of this stand. Every day we are chipping away at the left's policies that harm Americans. We are devoted to fulfilling the four pillars that we ran on last year; an economy that is strong, a nation that's safe, a future that's built on freedom and a government that's accountable to the People.

Americanism Chair – Janet Grzybowski and Michelle Kirsch

There are well over 100 festivals in Texas to celebrate Spring in our great state, per Google.

Just a few we found in Central Texas.

- -Marble Falls Mayfest
- -Copperas Cove Rabbit Fest
- -Salado Armed Services Day
- -Killeen Killeen Rodeo



May 1852 The first Lone Star State faire in Corpus Christi
May 1888 The dedication of our State Capital in Austin
May 29th, 1849: President Lincoln famously spoke. You can fool some of
the people all time, all the people some of the time, but you can't fool
all the people all the time.

In 1901 Texas legislators name the Bluebonnet the State flower. The blue bonnet in history was named after a women's sun bonnet.

The words renew, revive and redo are found throughout scripture. May we all take a moment to reflect on what Spring in Texas means.

Act 3:21

Isaiah 40:31

John 3:16

Psalm 23

John 8:12



CONTACT

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Volunteers (3-hour shifts) are needed to help at the Bell County GOP Headquarters weekly, Monday through Saturday. This is a great entry point to learn more about the workings of the Republican Party from the grassroots ground level, meet people, and discover how your valuable talents can help Bell County.

Volunteering involves greeting, answering phones, answering questions, and learning new skills. And volunteering is lots of fun as you support your local Republican Party.







Texas Federation of Republican Women

34th Biennial Convention

October 12-14, 2023 Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas Irving, Texas

For more info & Tentative Schedule https://www.tfrw.org/events/convention/

Central Texas RW Primary Member

OPGING THE FUT

Are you interested in attending the upcoming TFRW Convention – from October 12 to 14th in Irving, Texas? If you are interested in attending as a Delegate or Alternate, please contact me no later than May 26, 2023, to receive an application.

Early Bird Registration will begin in June, and registration will be sent for all attendees in one payment. CTRW will pay for registration. Attendees are responsible for their transportation, hotel, and food expenses. If CTRW does pay for your registration and you cannot attend, you must reimburse CTRW for the registration fee. The early Bird fee will be \$195.00 per person.

Our present membership allows for 12 Delegates and 12 Alternates. Registration Fees will increase after the deadline, so I encourage you to contact me as soon as possible. Janet Brown, President

Upcoming May Events

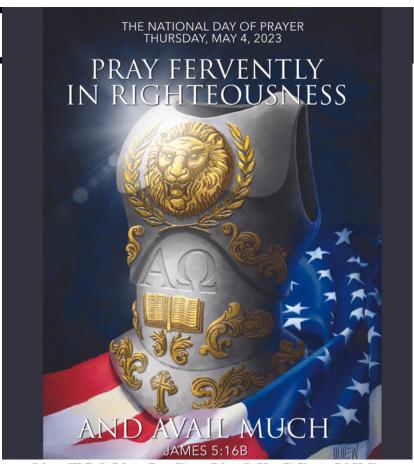
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

May 4, 2023 - 10:00 am **Northside Steps Bell County Courthouse**

featuring Bell County Sheriff Honor Guard Governor of Texas Proclamation Praver Vocalist: Kathleen Brown

Central Texas RW & Salado Area RW

FREE Commemorative Prayer Guide and Book Marker for attendees.



NATIONAL

May 4, 2023 - 10 a.m Northside Steps of the Bell County Courthouse

Sponsored by: Central Texas Republican Women & Salado Area Republican Women



\$15 includes a movie, fountain drink & popcorn. "The Young Victoria"

DATE Night!

A "FUN" draiser Night Out When: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 Where: The Beltonian Theatre 219 E. Central Ave, Belton, TX

Girls Night Out!

Time: Doors open at 6 p.m. Movie starts at 6:30 pm Price: \$15 per person (includes a movie, Fountain Drink & Popcorn)





Additional items for purchase at Concessions include wine, mixed beverages, snacks, candy, and Margaritas Purchase tickets on Eventbrite or at the door.

CONTROL STREET

We would like to invite our members to submit designs for our new

T-shirts. The theme,

"REPUBLICAN WOMEN ARE THE
LIFE OF THE PARTY."

Send your submissions to Sandra McCleney at pappyanddoll2018@gmail.com <u>by 30 June.</u>

The winner will receive a free T-shirt and bragging rights.

We are looking forward to receiving your designs. Let's put some "bling" in it. After all, Republican Women have "BLING!"

Political Activities Chair/Christy Wilbanks

The First Quarter of 2023 CTRW Political Activity Hours are IN!!





Total Reported Hours to TFRW
14,113
Total Reported Calls to TFRW
2.239

CTRW Members: with the most hours and calls for the First Quarter of 2023 is:

Zenia Warren with 587 Hours
Zenia Warren with 365 Calls
~CONGRATULATIONS~



Thank you to all Members and Associate Members for all the hard work you have done! I know you all have been working hard on different projects and making phone calls, so please make sure you make a note of your Political Activities and how much time you put into it. You can report Activity hours and calls to me by email either monthly or quarterly.

Just a reminder - Don't forget to count the hours that you put into travel.

Email me your Political Activities christywb@yahoo.com





July 14-15 3rd Qtr Board Meeting - Courtyard, Pflugerville 2023 NFRW Convention - Oklahoma City, OK September 28-30

October 12-14 2023 TFRW Convention - Irving, TX

WEB RESOURCES

NFRW: www.nfrw.org

Bell County Texas GOP: www.belltxgop.org

CTRW: <u>www.ctrw-pac.com</u>

CTRW Facebook: www.facebook.com/ctrwpac

TFRW: www.tfrw.org

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Michele Weisman 11 Karen Appleberry 14 Paula Rickey 14 **Jackeline Fountain 14** Aida Riddle 20 **Leticia Ford 21** Lynda Schumann 27 **Zenia Warren 29**

Rita Kelley 31



http://

CTRW Member Club Activities

Empowered & Engaged Texas Women
What a fun weekend catching up with Texas Federation of Republican Women at
the 2nd Quarter Board Meeting.







A fabulous day testifying in front of the Texas Public Education Committee on School Choice. Am very grateful to catch up with so many friends ...and had a * special opportunity to meet, "the big guy", Governor Greg Abbott. A very gracious and insightful man who gave of his time to meet us as he genuinely cares about Texas.















Congratulations!

Our 2023 CTRW
Scholarship
Winners
Bailey Krcha
Ryan Novotny





What a wonderful April Luncheon with

guest speaker

Tom Maynard
State Board of
Education
Trustee District 10

















Always fun to catch up with others at the TFRW 2nd Quarter Board Meeting



July 4th Parade Float

Want to ride on the Bell County
Republican Party Float in the Parade?
This is open to all members and their
families. Wear patriotic attire and
your winning smile.
Join US!

Email: Janet Gryzbowski at jamesgryzbowski@gmail.com or Michelle Kirsch at kirsch68@gmail.com





Deadfish Grill overlooking beautiful Belton Lake

MACK LATIMER CHAIR

204 N. East Street, Suite A-1 Belton, TX 76513

(361) 834-1380 mack@macklatimer.com

BELL COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Executive Committee Meeting Bell County
Republican Party

Monday, May 8, 2023 Commissioner's Courtroom Historic Belton Courthouse 101 East Central Avenue Belton, TX 76513

Registration: 5:00 - 6:00 PM Meeting: 6:00 PM All Patriots invited to attend





Bell County Young Republicans

´ Social Meeting May 22, 2023, 6 p.m.

Johnny's Steaks and Barbecue Come and join us for a great conversation and delicious food! Join us in talking politics and learn how to get more involved in how your government is run! We hope to see you there!



SALADO AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN

No May Regular Meeting
June 6, 2023
Fine China Luncheon for the Annual
Scholarship Fund Raiser
See you in September

DISCLAIMER:

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