

# ECRW NEWSLETTER



## Prez Release

by Donna Kelm

### 2023 Elected Officers

President	Donna Kelm
VP Programs:	Debi Hays
VP Membership:	Jill Miller
Secretary	Ashleigh Amonett
Treasurer.	Heather Grimes
Past President	Rachel Minor

### Board Members

Legislation	Judy Calloway
Campaign Activities	Sandy Morris
Parliamentarian	Lori Crutcher
Chaplin.	Shaye Lane
VIP Liaison	Traci Gregston
Caring for America	Theresa Edgmon
Corresponding Secretary	Diann McKee

### Standing Committee Chairs

Awards.	Georgia Kirby
Badges.	Tonny Welling
Decorating.	Pam Kimbrell
Hospitality.	Becky Heald
Scholarship.	Dottie Chavez
Public Relations –	Sherry Hurt

The 88th Legislature's regular session began Jan. 10 and runs through May 29. In this newsletter you will see several bills being presented at this year's legislation. Please read over these and many more that you will find at <https://www.texastribune.org/series/texas-legislature-2023/> The last two pages of our newsletter is HB1635. You can pull this bill up and testify or contact any of the Representatives listed.

ECRW will have a forum coming up with different candidates running for hospital board. Coming soon is an evening event at Downtown Homemade Wines, also a VIP/Patron event. If you have any preferences for speakers or events, please reach out to one of us on the board. We bring in speakers so that you can form your own opinion.

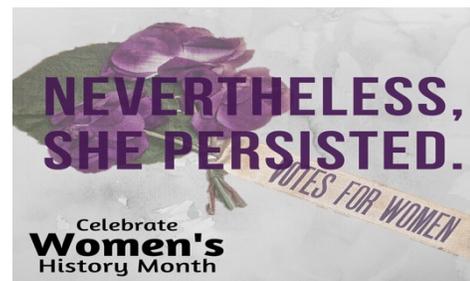
We would love for you to invite someone new to attend our luncheon or event. Word of mouth is the way to spread the news and get involved if desired. Someone shared this week that their co-worker swore they were a Democrat, until they were asked to take a quiz. This person learned their values were more Republican than ever a Democrat. So, just think if you were to invite a friend that was on the fence of a decision, then we might help them come over to the Right-side!

We are a pretty fun group. The one thing I cherish the most is the camaraderie of ladies we have in our group. We don't always agree, but we have great ideas and achievements.

*God Bless you  
and God Bless Texas!*

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*Our February luncheon with Former U.S. Congresswoman Mayra Flores.*



*Tonny Welling in charge of badges*



*Charlie & Richard Pierce*



*Left: Ronnie Lewis, Donna Kelm and Gloria Apolinario.*

*Right: Part of board with Mayra Flores.*



*How many uses come from Petroleum Products*

Solvents	Diesel fuel	Motor Oil	Bearing Grease
Ink	Floor Wax	Ballpoint Pens	Football Cleats
Upholstery	Sweaters	Boats	Insecticides
Bubble Gum	Sports Car Bodies	Nail Polish	Fishing lures
Dresses	Tires (auto/bicycle)	Golf Bags	Perfumes
Cassettes	Dishwasher parts	Tool Boxes	Shoe Polish
Motorcycle Helmet	Caulking	Petroleum Jelly	Transparent Tape
CD Player	Faucet Washers	Antiseptics	Clothesline
Curtains	Food Preservatives	Basketballs	Soap
Vitamin Capsules	Antihistamines	Purses	Shoes
Dashboards	Cortisone	Deodorant	Footballs
Putty	Dyes	Panty Hose	Refrigerant
Percolators	Life Jackets	Rubbing Alcohol	Linings
Skis	TV Cabinets	Shag Rugs	Electrician's Tape
Tool Racks	Car Battery Cases	Epoxy	Paint
Mops	Slacks	Insect Repellent	Oil Filters
Umbrellas	Yarn	Fertilizers	Hair Coloring
Roofing	Toilet Seats	Fishing Rods	Lipstick
Denture Adhesive	Linoleum	Ice Cube Trays	Synthetic Rubber
Speakers	Plastic Wood	Electric Blankets	Glycerin
Tennis Rackets	Rubber Cement	Fishing Boots	Dice
Nylon Rope	Candles	Trash Bags	House Paint
Water Pipes	Hand Lotion	Roller Skates	Surf Boards
Shampoo	Wheels	Paint Rollers	Shower Curtains
Guitar Strings	Luggage	Aspirin	Safety Glasses
Antifreeze	Football Helmets	Awnings	Eyeglasses
Clothes	Toothbrushes	Ice Chests	Footballs
Combs	CD's & DVD's	Paint Brushes	Detergents
Vaporizers	Balloons	Sun Glasses	Tents
Heart Valves	Crayons	Parachutes	Telephones
Enamel	Pillows	Dishes	Cameras
Anesthetics	Artificial Turf	Artificial limbs	Bandages
Dentures	Model Cars	Folding Doors	Hair Curlers
Cold cream	Movie film	Soft Contact lenses	Drinking Cups
Fan Belts	Car Enamel	Shaving Cream	Ammonia
Refrigerators	Golf Balls	Toothpaste	Gasoline

*Bill 3147**by Judy Calloway*

## Texas Farm Land & Ranches

SB #147 A bill to protect Texas farm and ranch lands. Prohibiting foreign countries and it's entities from buying Texas lands and any mineral rights. Senator Lois Kolcorst a Republican from Houston introduced this bill in 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Several Chinese American are protesting this bill saying it is depriving them of the American Dream. If a Chinese has an American citizenship this does not apply to them. This is not about buying a house in Houston, Austin, or Amarillo. It is about buying huge tracts of land with all mineral rights for countries such as China, Russia, Iraq, North Korea. Texas is one of 8 states that does not have this type of law on the books. Below is the actual bill as submitted:

*relating to the purchase of or acquisition of title to real property by certain aliens or foreign entities. BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:*

*SECTIONA1.AASection 5.005, Property Code, is amended to read as follows: Sec.A5.005.AAA LIENS. AA Except as provided by Section 5.0051, an [An] alien has the same real and personal property rights as a United States citizen.*

*SECTIONA2.AASubchapter A, Chapter 5, Property Code, is amended by adding Section 5.0051 to read as follows:*

*Sec.A5. 0051.AA PURCHASE OF OR ACQUISITION OF TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY BY CERTAIN FOREIGN INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES PROHIBITED. Notwithstanding any other law, the following may not purchase or otherwise acquire title to real property in this state: (1)AA a governmental entity of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia; (2)AA a company or other entity that is: (A)AA headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia; (B)AA directly or indirectly held or controlled by the government of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia; or (C)AA owned by the majority of stock or other ownership interest of which is held or controlled by individuals who are citizens of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia; (3)AA a company or other entity that is owned by or the majority of stock or other ownership interest of which is held or controlled by a company or entity described by Subdivision (2); or (4)AA an individual who is a citizen of China, Iran, North Korea, or Russia.*

*SECTIONA3.AAThe changes in law made by this Act apply only to the purchase of or other acquisition of title to real property on or after the effective date of this Act. The purchase of or other acquisition of title to real property before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.*

*SECTIONA4.AAThis Act takes effect September 1, 2023.*

# *State sales tax revenue totaled \$3.7B in February*

By Odessa American

March 1, 2023



Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar announced Wednesday state sales tax revenue totaled \$3.68 billion in February, 14.2 percent more than in February 2022.

The majority of February sales tax revenue is based on sales made in January and remitted to the agency in February.

“Propelled by continued strong business spending and a surprising post-holiday surge in consumer spending, growth in February sales tax receipts significantly outpaced inflation, which is still hovering over 6 percent,” Hegar said in the press release. “Robust increases in receipts from all major sectors suggest economic activity in the state is not yet slowing significantly despite high interest rates and fears of recession.

“As has been the case in recent months, receipts from sectors driven primarily by business spending showed the greatest rates of growth, with receipts from the oil and gas mining, manufacturing and construction sectors coming in strongly above February 2022 totals.

“Remittances from the retail trade sector – the sector responsible for the largest portion of state sales tax – grew much faster than the rate of inflation for consumer goods. The retail segments with the fastest growth in tax receipts were general merchandise and clothing stores.

“Receipts from the services sector were up double digits, led by receipts for live entertainment venues. Receipts from restaurants were also up double digits compared with February of last year, significantly outpacing the rate of inflation for food away from home.”

Total sales tax revenue for the three months ending in February 2023 was up 10.2 percent compared with the same period a year ago. Sales tax is the largest source of state funding for the state budget, accounting for 56 percent of all tax collections.

Texas collected the following revenue from other major taxes:

>> Motor vehicle sales and rental taxes — \$542 million, up 14 percent from February 2022.

>> Motor fuel taxes — \$304 million, up 1 percent from February 2022.

>> Oil production tax — \$492 million, up 2 percent from February 2022.

>> Natural gas production tax — \$305 million, down 5 percent from February 2022.

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023  
 Odessa Country Club  
 11:30 am – 1:00 pm  
 \$30 in advance; \$40 at the door  
 Ecrwodessa.com



*Mickey Cargile*

PITTSBURGH (KDKA) 1/7/23- Despite a volatile year for crude oil prices, they ended the year similarly to how they began at around \$80 a barrel.

The last time prices were as high as they reached this year was in 2014. U.S. production increased by about 400,000 barrels per day this year, and OPEC's management of oil production helped to stabilize prices by the end of the year.

Although it's almost impossible to predict oil prices, the president of Cargile Investment Management, Mickey Cargile, has his own theory about what could happen in 2023.

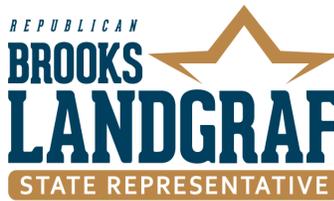
"I think you're going to see prices move higher. OPEC has done an excellent job of managing inventories and keeping the price stable, but I also think the domestic producers have done a wonderful job at managing their capital expenditures to control the amount of oil they're producing so that we don't have these unstable prices," Cargile said. Cargile said there is a high chance we are starting the year at a low for oil and gas prices.

Mickey Cargile, CFP®, is the Founder and Managing Partner of Cargile Investment Management. With 30 years of experience in the financial industry, he is a nationally recognized authority in financial planning, investment management, insurance and estate planning. Since founding the firm in 1984, Mickey has built a reputation as a trusted source of ethics, prudence and foresight.

Mickey has a degree in finance from the University of Texas at Austin. Previously, he served as a senior vice president with Texas National Bank and was a registered representative with Shearson American Express and Paine Webber. Currently, Mickey is an Investment Advisor Representative with Cargile Investment Management, a Registered Representative of Ceros Financial Services, Inc., and an independent licensed insurance agent.

Mickey routinely provides commentary and analysis on investment, economic and financial issues for major national and international news publications including *Bloomberg*, *Businessweek*, *Consumer Reports*, *Fortune*, *Forbes*, *Money*, and *U.S. News & World Report*. Mickey has been quoted as an expert in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Financial Times*, *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Dallas Business Journal*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and *Houston Chronicle*. Locally, he has provided expert advice and commentary published in the *Midland Reporter-Telegram* and the *Odessa American*. Mickey has appeared as a guest expert on national broadcasts of Fox News Channel and CNBC, and is also the financial expert for CBS 7 News, Odessa, Texas.

Mickey is a lifelong member of the Midland/Odessa community. He is a director at Green Tree Country Club, where he serves as Secretary/Treasurer and as Chairman of the Finance Committee.



## **Standing Texas STRONG**

*February 19, 2023*

by State Representative Brooks Landgraf (R-Odessa)

In Texas, we have something called “horse sense,” with thinking being that the best ideas are usually ones that can be explained so easily that even a horse could understand.

This legislative session I have offered an idea to the state legislature that I think makes a whole lot of horse sense. I’ve offered a bill that would re-invest state oil and natural gas production tax (aka “severance tax”) revenue back in the communities responsible for generating the lion’s share of that revenue.

It’s not just about improving quality of life in the oilfield, it’s about doing what is necessary so that Texas can be a global force for good. It’s about defending the Texas energy industry because of its importance to our state budget and economy as well as geopolitics and American freedom. It’s about making Texas strong.

The Texas Severance Tax Revenue and Oil and Natural Gas (STRONG) Defense Fund would keep a portion of state severance tax revenue and invest it in regions of the state significantly affected by energy production. Texas STRONG funds will support transportation infrastructure, workforce and economic development, public education, healthcare, and public safety needs in the regions of the state where oil and natural gas production are the highest.

I filed House Joint Resolution 111 and House Bill 2207 because I believe that what’s best for the Permian Basin is what’s best for the Lone Star State. HJR 111 seeks to amend the Constitution to create the Texas STRONG Defense Fund and HB 2207 sets out how the funds can be used. It’s going to take a lot of work, but it will be worth it if we are able to secure energy independence for future generations of Texans. A plus this time is that you will get the chance to vote on this yourself in November if we are successful.

Currently, severance taxes are deposited in the state general revenue fund, state highway fund and rainy day fund with part of the deposits in general revenue earmarked for public education. Since 2014, severance taxes have contributed \$9 billion to public education, \$13.3 billion to the state highway fund and \$13.3 billion to the rainy day fund. Over that same timespan, a small portion (32 out of 254) of Texas counties generated 80% of the severance tax revenue for a total of nearly \$40 billion. As you can imagine, the majority of those counties are located right here in the Permian Basin.

With HJR 111 and HB 2207, a portion of the severance tax revenue that would otherwise be deposited in the now overflowing rainy day fund would instead go towards the Texas STRONG Defense Fund. Texas STRONG funds would help address everything from teacher and nursing shortages to potholes. Our streets would be made safer not just with repairs, but with additional boots and badges, ready and trained to enforce CMV laws.

HJR 111 caps deposits in the Texas STRONG Fund at \$500 million per year, with anything in excess of \$500 million going to the state’s property tax relief fund. Yes, you read that right, we’re going to use oil and natural gas to lower property taxes statewide. Current projections show that deposits in the property tax relief fund could be as high as \$250 million in 2025 if my Texas STRONG proposal passes. HJR 111 would also dedicate some severance tax revenue to plug orphaned wells and clean up Texas air and groundwater contamination. This is all possible without touching any of the severance tax revenue that



goes towards public education and the state highway fund.

I was elected by the hard-working people of House District 81 to be their voice in the Texas House of Representatives. It's impossible to articulate how proud I am to serve such incredible people. You elected me to fight for what's right, to do the hard work for the results, not the credit. That is why I am going to fight tooth and nail to pass Texas STRONG this session. Horse sense or not, it's the right thing to do for Texas.

God bless Texas,  
Brooks Landgraf

*Ector County Republican Women's Club Website*



Check out ECRW website. Our site is updated. We have links to TFRW, NFRW, City Offices, our email addresses and more. Hopefully this will make it easier to find information. If you have any question or have any ideas of how to better the site please forward to Donna Kelm at [ecrwtexas@gmail.com](mailto:ecrwtexas@gmail.com).

<https://www.ecrwodessa.com/>

**Contact US!**

We welcome your feedback and want to hear from you.

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*Texas 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session in Full Swing**by Judy Calloway*

Legislative Session convened on Tuesday January 10, 2023.

November 14<sup>th</sup> was the first day that legislators could file bills for the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature, so before they even convened there were 100's of bills already filed. It is a mad rush to get bills into committee hearings and so many never make it past the committee hearing.

On February 16<sup>th</sup> Governor Abbott delivered his 2023 State of Texas Address. In this address, he focused on seven emergency items which are his priorities for the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative session.

1. Reducing property taxes
2. Ending COVID-19 restrictions forever in Texas
3. School Safety
4. Educational freedom, specifically for parents
5. Ending the "revolving door bail"
6. Securing the U.S-Mexico border
7. Fighting the fentanyl crisis

**Property Tax Relief:** Will use \$15 billion of the largest budget surplus in state history to cut property tax. Accomplish by lowering school districts M&O tax rate by increasing the tax rate compression, providing relief for ALL property owners. Provide relief to small businesses by increasing the business property tax exception. Require local government debt to be passed by two-thirds supermajority of the local governing body. Require local bond issues not included in on the November ballot be passed by a majority two-thirds majority of voters. Has already increased the homestead exemption from \$25,000 to \$40,000 that was approved by voter in the November 22 ballot

Working with Texas Legislature in this session will prohibit.

: Any **COVID-19** vaccine mandates

: Any **COVID-19** mask mandates through disaster declaration, ordinance, or any other action

: Any government from closing any business or school because of **COVID-19**

He has already banned vaccine passports (87R SB698), prevented local governments from shutting down religious activities during a pandemic (87HR HB1992) prohibited local governments from shutting down certain business activities (87R SB968)

**School Safety** has had many significant actions taken in 2022 to increase safety standards and practices on school campuses across Texas. Including the creation of Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium (TCMHCC), provided over \$1 billion in school safety funding since 2019, directed Texas Education Agency (TEA) to create a new Chief of School Safety and Security to collaborate with state agencies for a safer environment by October 2022. Directed the Texas School Safety Center (TxSSC) to conduct comprehensive school safety reviews by June 2022, Instructed the Advance Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERTT) programs to provide training to all school districts statewide, prioritizing school based law enforcement (June 2022)

This session the Governor will work with Texas Legislature to add.  
Funding for every school campus to make necessary school safety improvement.  
Expand and enhance the capabilities of *iWatchTexas* in school districts.  
Require school campus maps to be provided to local law enforcement for enhanced response to disaster, Codify the intruder detection audit process & require facilities to use those standards  
Increase funds for TCHAT to ensure Texas Students are connected to mental health services they need.

Use the newly created Chief of School Safety & Security to ensure compliance with all mandated safety standards.

**EDUCATION FREEDOM** Governor Abbott has already provided more funding for public education and funding for teacher pay increases ( see 2022 TEA Annual Report) Achieved an all time high for statewide per-student funding through landmark school finance . Established the Teacher Incentive Allotment which award over \$55 million in pay raise for more than 6200 exemplary teachers.

**Abbott will work with the Texas Legislature this session to:**

Expand school choice options available thru FSAs to all students.  
Amend the Texas Constitution to bolster a parents right as the primary decision maker in all matters involving their child.  
Require school to inform parents of their right.  
Expand Parent succession to curriculum, school libraries, and what their children are taught.  
Allow a parent to decide if their child should repeat a grade.  
Strengthen consent requirements for health services.  
Protect students from unnecessary personal data collection and ensure schools are not sharing or selling student data outside the Texas public education system.

**END REVOLVING DOOR BAIL**

Governor Abbott made reforming. Texas broken bail system in the 87<sup>th</sup> Legislature to include:

Prohibited criminals charged with a violent offense to be released on personal bond (87R SB6)  
Required bail be set or denied within 48 hours of arrest and that criminal history be considered before setting bail (87 R SB6)  
Require bond conditions be reported to give law enforcement the ability to apprehend offenders out on bail that are violating court orders (87R SB6)

Texas had made great strides to protect our cities and Governor Abbott will work with 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature to strengthen our bail system by

Propose a constitutional amendment allowing judges to deny bail for the most offenders. Pass legislation to hold judges and is district attorneys accountable of reckless decisions compromising the safety and security of Texans.

**SECURE THE BORDER-** Texas has done more than any state ever to secure our border including:

Secured over \$4 Billion in funding for Texas border efforts thru (87 SB1, HB2 :87(2), January 2022, April 2022, October 2022

Deployed thousands of Texas National Guard soldiers and Texas Department of Public Safety troopers to the border.

Seized enough Fentanyl to kill every man, woman, and child in the United States.

Arrested and jailed criminal for committing state crimes along the border.

Since launching Operation Lone Star Governor Abbott has taken unprecedented action to secure the border and provide support to local border officials including:

Designated Mexican Drug Cartels as terrorist organizations (September 2022)

Bused immigrants to Washington DC, New York City, Chicago, and Philadelphia

Hired the first ever Texas Border Czar (January 2023)

Abbott will work with the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature to:

Secure an additional \$4.6 Billion to bolster border security.

Pass legislation making it at least a ten year mandatory jail sentence for anyone caught smuggling in Texas.

Enhance maximum penalty for operating a stash house to a third-degree felony.

Enhance criminal penalties for foreign terrorist organizations and increase intelligence operations against such organizations.

Increase penalties for smuggling and stash house operations when committed in a disaster area.

**Fight the Fentanyl Crisis** This is the leading killer of Americans between ages of 18-45.

Governor Abbott has taken unprecedented action to protect our communities from fentanyl including the following.

: Signed a law enhancing penalties for the manufacture and distribution of fentanyl (87R SB768)

: Designated Mexican drug cartels as terrorist organizations to keep Texas safe.

: Directed state agency leaders to ramp up efforts to respond to the fentanyl crisis (Sept. 2022)

: Launched the statewide "One Pill Kills" campaign to raise awareness of the deadly fentanyl plaguing Texas and United States (October 2022)

The governor will continue to combat the growing Fentanyl Crisis with help of 88<sup>th</sup> Legislature with the following :

- : Classify fentanyl "overdose" as poisoning.
- : Prosecute an individual for murder if they distribute fentanyl or drugs laced with fentanyl that kills someone.
- : Increase the supply of lifesaving NARCAN and make it more readily available to Texans exposed to Fentanyl across the state.



# Night at Legends

SATURDAY, MAY 20TH

6:30 PM - MIDNIGHT

Home of Karla Milson

6900 Sleepy Hollow

Odessa, TX 79762

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

JERRY DUGAN, JERRY DUGAN JR, BRIAN MILSON

KERRY FISHER, AUCTIONEER

FOOD PROVIDED BY ELEGANTE

\*COUNTRY MUSIC

\*DANCING

\*SILENT/LIVE AUCTION

\*WINE PULL



TABLE RESERVATIONS  
 WTGOH (432) 614-9284  
 ODESSA.HOPEHOUSE@GMAIL.COM



Caring For America

By: Theresa Edgmon



Our Caring for America project is set for May 20<sup>th</sup> to help West Texas Gifts of Hope with their fundraiser. The ladies from WTGH will be at our March meeting to explain.

**ECRW is collecting all types of wine and alcohol.** You can bring to our luncheons or contact Theresa Edgmon, Jill Miller or Donna Kelm for drop offs.

There will be a Carnival Toss game at the fundraiser. We would love your help in helping out this great cause.

### WTGH - THE MISSION

To improve the quality of life for patients during cancer treatment by offering lodging and services.

## Swedish Pound Cake Recipe

*Submitted by: Candy Thompson*

### Ingredients:

1 c. butter  
2 c. sugar  
5 eggs  
2 c. sifted flour  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 sm. Bag chocolate chips  
1 c. flaked coconut  
1 c. chopped nuts (pecans or walnuts)



### GLAZE:

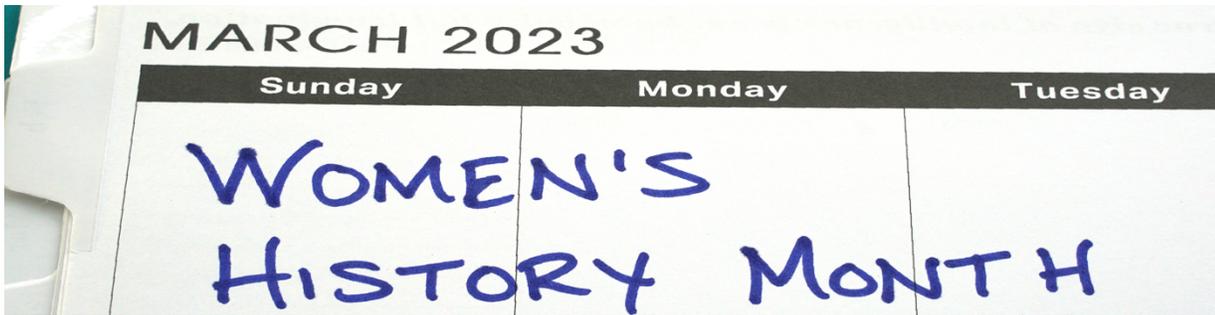
½-¾ c. sugar  
½ - ¾ c. water  
½ stick butter  
1 tsp. almond extract

### Instructions:

Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs and beat well. Stir in 2 cups of flour. Add vanilla, chocolate chips, coconut and nuts. Pour into greased and floured Bundt pan. Bake at 325 degrees at least 1 hour. Cool and remove from pan.

Glaze: Boil sugar and water 3 minutes and remove. Add butter and almond extract. Spread glaze with a pastry brush.

Suggestion: Pour ½ of glaze on before you dump it out of the pan. Then put the remainder on glaze on top.



**Mark Your Calendar**

March 13-17.	Springbreak	June-	no meeting
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	St. Patricks Day	July-	no meeting
March 22 <sup>nd</sup> -	Luncheon	August 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Luncheon
April .	Wine Gathering	September 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Luncheon
April 19 <sup>th</sup>	Luncheon	October 18 <sup>th</sup>	Luncheon
April 29 <sup>th</sup>	Nuts & Bolts – Lubbock, TX	November 15 <sup>th</sup>	Luncheon
May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Luncheon	December -	TBA
May 20 <sup>th</sup> .	Fundraiser for WTGH		



**NEWSLETTER**

If you are interested in submitting information to be placed in our newsletter please email to:

[ecrwtxas@gmail.com](mailto:ecrwtxas@gmail.com)

ECRW allows all Republican candidates to place articles as well. ***ECRW Club does not support one Republican candidate over another.*** We just support Republicans as a whole! If you have any questions, please contact

Donna Kelm cell: 432-413-8894.

< Ector County Republican Women  



Ector County Republican  
Women

## Participate in ECRW's Social Media

Post your comments, photos and videos on the ECRW FaceBook page (pictured left), and perhaps on the NEW TruthSocial.



Find us on:  
**facebook**®

Use the hashtags #ecrwleads, #ecrwbuilds, #supportlocal  
It's a great way to market our action-packed organization and

bring in new members!

## *Prayer, Worth Repeating*

Our most precious Lord and eternal God

When you spoke the world into existence, our great country was part of your great plan.  
As the songwriter wrote. You created spacious skies, amber waves of grain,  
purple mountains majesty across the fruited plains.

You continued by sending explorers, then pilgrims, followed by pioneers.  
Who brought the Word of God.

You encouraged people of many lands and cultures to bring their  
hopes and dreams to this wonderful land we call America.

As they worked and worshipped You, You blest their country. Honor, respect  
Kindness and care for others along with many other virtues were hallmarks  
of the American way. You, Lord God were honored.

But Father God, much has changed. WE are no longer a nation of Godliness, but rather  
just plain sin.

Tolerance has turned us into a nation of acceptance of ungodliness under the guise of  
equality. God's words have replaced with situational ethics.

We are in a downward spiral.

We desperately need Your help.

We know we must be the agents of change, but we need the guidance and wisdom of the  
Holy Spirit in our quest to find Godly men and women to assist us in reclaiming our  
country for our great God

Fill us with Godly courage to speak against the laws and behaviors which are destroying  
our youth and the future of our country. We are in great need of repentance Lord God.

We pray for repentance for we know that only then will You bring the  
healing to our land that you have promised.

In Your Most Holy Name, we pray.

Linda Hernandez, State Chaplain  
*Illinois Federation Republican Women*  
*NFRW National Book of Prayers*

## Enquiring Minds Want to Know

### Local TFRW Republican Clubs

How often do they meet?

ECRW once a month, except June and July. Normally the third Wednesday. In December ECRW has a membership/Christmas event.

### County Republican Party

How often do they meet?

The Executive Committee shall meet once a quarter. Per RPT Rules, organizational meetings are to be called a minimum 14 days' notice by the Party Chairman. Please check local by-laws.

### Qualifications for Local Club President

Any woman believing in the philosophy of the Republican Party and of this organization. She shall be a registered voter. Be in good standing with TFRW and NFRW by having paid the required dues for the current calendar year.

### Qualifications to be a County Chair

Be a qualified voter of the county. Not be a County, state, or federal public officeholder or candidate for such office, and in a general election year, be affiliated with the republican primary election or runoff or by oath of affiliation.

### Methods for becoming a club President

A nominating committee of not less than 3 and not more than 5, at least one of whom shall not be a member of the Executive Committee. The nominating Committee shall elect its chairman for one of its own members. The Nominating Committee shall report one nominee for each office at the September meeting at least 30 days ahead of the election.

### Methods for becoming a County Chair

Candidates for county chair run for office in Primary Election each even-numbered year. A one-page notarized application must be submitted to the County Chair within a one month filing period. Individuals wanting to challenge the incumbent are required to complete GOP form Nominating Petition for Republican Party County Chair at least 10% of the incumbent precinct chairs serving on the County Executive Committee or two (2) whichever is greater, using a form promulgated by RPT.



Rep. August Pfluger

# PFLUGER FLY-BY

Proudly serving The 11th District of Texas



March 10, 2023

## **President Biden Releases Woke and Broke Budget**

Driving the news this week was the release of President Biden's FY2024 budget. The presidential budget demonstrates the priorities that the administration deems most important to the country. In fact, President Biden himself has often quipped: "Don't tell me what you value. Show me your budget, and I'll tell you what you value."

Unfortunately, this budget indicates another year of misplaced values and priorities.

His budget disregards the mounting debt crisis facing our nation and includes funding for woke policies that will bankrupt our country and change our society for the worse.

He is determined to attack the oil and gas industry while disregarding policies to enhance border security and end the crisis at the southern border. He even proposes quadrupling the United States' financing of foreign climate initiatives while continuing to demonize American energy producers.

Thankfully, House Republicans stand in the way of the President and his radical agenda. We are committed to putting America back on a path of fiscal sanity, standing up for energy security, and securing the border.

## **American Citizens Murdered by Mexican Drug Cartel**

The kidnapping and murder of American citizens in Matamoros proves that Mexico is a narco-state. President Biden must make it clear that this horrible violence will not go unpunished.

If Mexico can't stop the cartels, then our nation will use any tool in our arsenal to solve it for them.

## **First Hearing as Subcommittee Chairman**

As the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence, I was proud to host my first hearing this week. We examined the numerous threats the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) poses to the U.S. homeland and discussed the actions that must be taken to mitigate the threat to U.S. homeland equities.

We will meet CCP aggression with strength, its deception with unflinching truth, and its attempts at exploitation with justice. I hope to encourage bipartisan cooperation this Congress as we all seek effective solutions to combat the pervasive threats posed by the CCP to U.S. homeland security. We are taking the threat of China seriously, and we will not back down.

Read more about the hearing here: [Beyond the balloon: Congress holds hearing on threats from China \(NBC\)](#).





### **Declassifying Information Related to COVID-19**

For nearly three years now, the truth about COVID-19 and its origins has been hidden from the American people.

Big-Government bureaucrats like Dr. Anthony Fauci abused their positions of power to disguise and distort the facts to further their tyrannical takeover of our country.

Those who dared question the origins of COVID—or chose to make independent healthcare decisions for their own families—were silenced, censored, and ostracized as conspiracy theorists.

We now know many of these so-called “conspiracy theories” have proven to be true. Republicans made a Commitment to America to deliver accountability for the lives lost, livelihoods destroyed, and years together that families were robbed of.

We are following through on our promises.

Today, we passed a bill to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID-19. The legislation already passed the Senate and now heads to the President's desk, where I hope he will sign it so we can reveal the truth to the American people.

Watch my speech in favor of declassifying COVID-19 information [here](#) or below.



### **Credit Card Companies Drop Efforts to Track Firearm and Ammunition Purchases**

I wanted to update you on a huge win for the Second Amendment.

Visa, Mastercard, and Discover this week announced a PAUSE on their plan to create codes for firearm and ammunition sales—which could be used to track law-abiding gun owners or infringe on their constitutional rights.

I was proud to [join](#) the concerted pushback from state and federal lawmakers that led to this reversal, and it is an important conservative success as we work to preserve our Second Amendment Rights.

## Town Halls in Junction, Menard, Winters, and Bronte

It was wonderful to be home in Texas-11 and host four Town Halls across the district in Menard, Junction, Winters, and Bronte.

I was honored to present Congressional Award Certificates to several well-deserving leaders in our communities:

- The Area Champion Menard Lady Jacket Basketball team
- Jeff Whitson, Menard FD Fireman of the Year
- Shep Silvers, who showed a Champion Commercial Ewe and Champion Commercial Doe at the San Antonio Stockshow
- Baylee Plumlee, who showed a Champion Angora Doe at the San Antonio Stockshow
- Members of the Runnels County Historical Commission, who have written six books about Runnels County and its military heroes
- The Bronte Education Enrichment Foundation that helps provide grants and scholarships for teachers and students in Bronte ISD

Thank you all for the incredible work you are doing in our communities, and to all who came out to our town halls! If you weren't able to make it, keep an eye on my [Facebook page](#) for future event announcements.







### **Marine Sgt. Tyler Vargas-Andrews Recalls Kabul Airport Suicide Bombing**

House Republicans made a Commitment to America to pursue answers and accountability for the crises the Biden Administration has driven us into over the last two years.

This week we heard from Marine Sgt. Tyler Vargas-Andrews, a 25-year-old who was caught in the bombing at the Kabul airport as his sniper team assisted in the chaotic evacuation in Afghanistan. He delivered an emotional recounting of the tragic day, saying:

"I opened my eyes to Marines dead or unconscious lying around me. ... My body was overwhelmed from the trauma of the blast. My abdomen had been ripped open, every inch of my exposed body except for my face took ball bearings and shrapnel. ... Our military members and veterans deserve our best because that is what we give to America. The withdrawal was a catastrophe in my opinion, and there was an inexcusable lack of accountability and negligence. The 11 Marines, one sailor and one soldier that were murdered that day have not been answered for."

He hasn't forgotten about the tragic consequences of President Biden's disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan, and House Republicans join him in demanding answers for the 13 heroes who lost their lives.

Click [here](#) or below to watch his emotional, heartbreaking testimony.



### **DC City Council Caves on Crime Bill**

The D.C. City Council caved and withdrew their dangerous crime bill that, among other things, would lower the maximum penalties for burglary, carjacking, and robbery in Washington, D.C.

Their decision to withdraw comes after House Republicans voted to nullify the crime bill last week. Our Nation's Capital should be a safe place for all Americans, not a haven for violent crime.

### **Happy International Women's Day to TX-11**

This week we celebrated International Women's Day by honoring our stellar team of women in TX-11. These ladies run six offices across the district to advocate for their communities and provide excellent constituent services.

# INTERNATIONAL *Women's Day*



CORBETTE PADILLA  
MIDLAND OFFICE



KARIN KUYKENDALL  
SAN ANGELO OFFICE



CAYSSIA DAVID  
KILLEEN OFFICE



CAROL CUNNINGHAM  
LLANO OFFICE



MONICA GONZALES-MAULDIN  
ODESSA OFFICE



HILARY STEGEMOLLER  
BROWNWOOD OFFICE

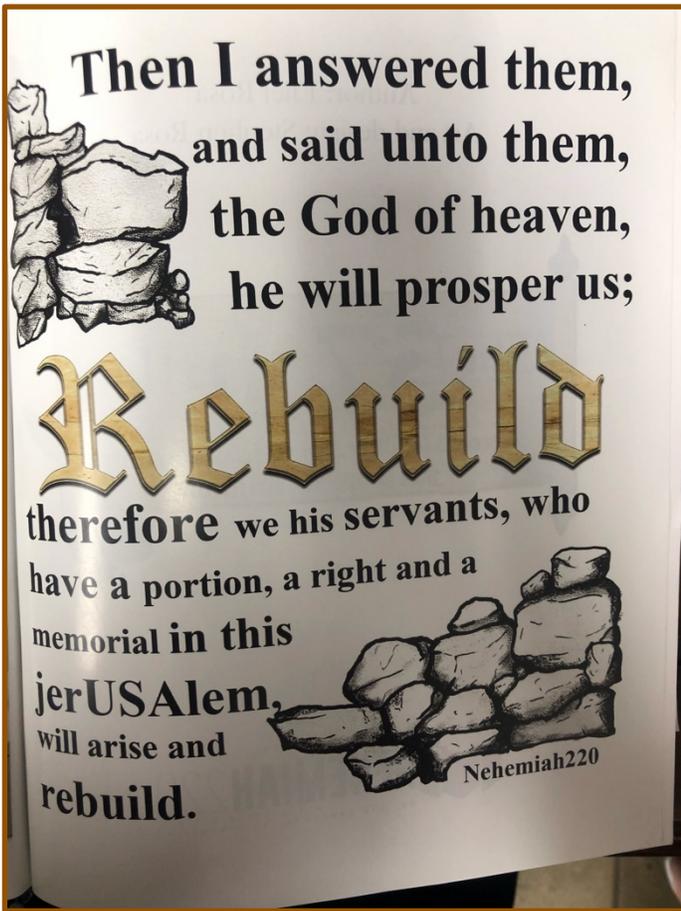
**Thank you for reading. It is the honor of my lifetime to serve you in Congress. Please follow me on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for daily updates.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "August Pfluger".

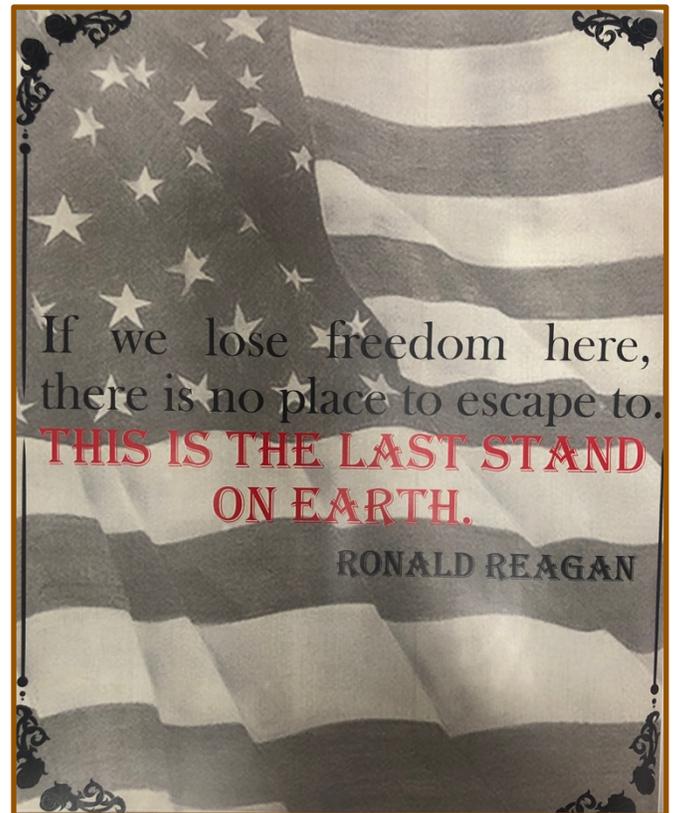
Rep. August Pfluger  
Member of Congress

Heritage

by Shaye Lane



www: [ecrwodessa.com](http://ecrwodessa.com)  
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 Republican Women  
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# TEXAS FEDERATION of *Republican Women*

## ACTION ALERT!

### PROHIBITING DENIAL FOR PLACE ON BALLOT

Dear Members,

On Thursday, March 16th, the House Elections Committee will hold a hearing on [HB 1635](#) by Rep. Dustin Burrows (R-HD 83) which prohibits 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 forth in the Texas Election Code. While it might seem that such a bill should not be necessary, confusion caused by recent changes to political party rules require this clarification.

The Texas Election Code applies to all general, special and primary elections held in this state. Tex. Elec. Code § 1.002. Candidacy requirements are set by constitution or statute. See, e.g., Tex. Elec. Code § 141.001. HB 1635 seeks to reinforce that it is **the law**, not an individual's discretion, that determines whether a candidate's name appears on the ballot. Please contact the Members and Clerk of the Elections Committee (contact information below) to express your support for HB 1635.

Also, because this bill is pending in the House, you can "testify" without appearing in person any time until the hearing is adjourned by visiting the House witness testimony portal [HERE](#). You will be asked to certify that you are a Texas resident, provide your name, address and phone number, and SELECT HB 1635 by Burrows to enter your comments. Remember, you are not acting on behalf of your club or TFRW, so the Organization/Representing box should be left blank.

### 2023 House Elections Committee

**Clerk: Lauren McCarthy** (512) 463-0772  
Room: EXT E2. 144

**Chair: Rep. Reggie Smith**  
(512) 463-0297 | [reggie.smith@house.texas.gov](mailto:reggie.smith@house.texas.gov)

**Vice Chair: Rep. John H. Bucy III**  
(512) 463-0696 | [john.bucy@house.texas.gov](mailto:john.bucy@house.texas.gov)

**Representative**

**Rep. Dustin Burrows**

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**Rep. Giovanni Capriglione**

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**Rep. Mano DeAyala**

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**Rep. Christian Manuel**

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**Rep. Eddie Morales**

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**Rep. Valoree Swanson**

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**Rep. Hubert Vo**

(512) 463-0568 | [hubert.vo@house.texas.gov](mailto:hubert.vo@house.texas.gov)

Thank you for your attention to this important piece of legislation that seeks to protect the election process.

Kit Whitehill

President

[president@tfrw.org](mailto:president@tfrw.org)

Robbi Hull

VP Legislation

[vplegislation@tfrw.org](mailto:vplegislation@tfrw.org)