## Ector County Republican Women

Volume 21, Issue 5 August 31, 2021 TFRW Region #9, District #31

# **ECRW NEWSLETTER**



#### Per the Pres

by Rachel D. Minor

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## Register for Luncheon – ecrwodessa.com

Visit us at the Fair – Booth 19 & 20

We need you to get involved.

Elections in November.



Paint Party register

TFRW - Oct

#### Get Ready to Stand!

As I shared at our last luncheon, my heart is broken for the chaos that appears to reign in our city, county, state, nation, families, businesses, and lives. There are so much hurt, confusion and so many frustrations surrounding us in today's situations, with situations and plans changing daily. But at the same time, we are called "to stand" and remember WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE STAND FOR, AND WHY WE ARE REPUBLICANS.

In August our club was given the title from TFRW of being the #2 club in Texas, what does that mean? We can impact and influence more people than clubs in Dallas, Austin, and Houston! That is HUGE! We exist to promote Republican principles and values, to support Republican candidates, to increase the effectiveness of women in government through active political participation and helping to create an informed electorate through political education and engaging members while showing loyalty to the Republican Party.

Over the next few months and hopefully into the new year we are going to have what we are calling "Educate & Engage" political trainings. These training will be led by individuals who are experts in the topic they will be training us in. Our first training was an enormous success where we learned how to become certified an Agent Registrar, so that we can help people become registered voters.

Below are this month's training dates, be sure and mark your calendars. You can register for these trainings at www.ecrwodessa.com.

#### State Government 101-Instructor Teresa Beckmeyer

This evening training will be an overview of the state government, from the organization/function to individual offices along with how a bill becomes a law.

**Date:** Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:30-8:00

Place: Saulsbury Industries

#### **Understanding the Electoral College-Instructor Matthew Stringer**

This evening training will be overview of the history of the electoral college, the purpose, and a 1<sup>st</sup> hand account of the importance of our electoral process.

Date: Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:00-8:00 **Place:** TBD

#### Cont'd page 1

We want our members to be informed citizens, we want to provide tools, training, and speakers for you to make educated decisions and create opportunities for you take pollical action. We understand we are all individuals at various stages of life, with diverse opinions but you have the responsibility of keeping Ector County a fantastic community to live in, to raise our families and to build business, to be more engaged and informed and ensure that Republican principles are fostered and promoted for generations to come. Stand with me as we fight against the chaos the world hurls at us as we keep Texas RED!

Forever Grateful,

Rachel Minor





# ECRW NEWSLETTER



Louie Gohmert & Steven with Midland Young Republicans



Back to Club Summer Party at Debi & Dwayne Hays home.



Louie & Wallace





Our Ice Cream contest winner "Jennifer Woodall" with her Cantaloupe Homemade Ice Cream.

# ECRW NEWSLETTER



We ended our summer fun at the home of Debi & Dwayne Hays. Hot Dogs with all the fixins were devoured by everyone. There were lots of competition for the Homemade Ice Cream contest. Our glorious winner of \$100 gift card was Jennifer Woodall. Thank you to everyone who competed, help setup and tear down and brought food.

Our speaker of the night *Louie Gohmert* from Mt. Pleasant was quite entertaining and told us we need to keep stepping up for our rights. He spoke of the parallels from 1984

compared to today. How the computer watches you and the FBI keeps the pictures and text messages to compare when needed. He told President Trump he knows he appointed Christopher Wray, but long as he was there, President Trump nor the conservatives were not safe. Our freedom is not safe.



**Tryon & Trudi Lewis** 

as

Real Communism (to take from those who earned it and give to those who didn't), there is no government. Mankind moves to this enlightened state.

Totalitarian— a system of highly centralized government in which one political party or group takes control and grants ne ither recognition nor tolerance to other political groups. If this happens to the United States, we can't just move to Australia, China will gobble up the US and we will be governed as them.

Ronald Reagan stated in 1987 — "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

George Orwell's 1984 - It Predicted Much Of Today's Surveillance Society. Looking back on its



predictions and the state of the world today, how much did it get right in its predictions of a dystopian surveillance state where every word is monitored, unacceptable speech is deleted, history is rewritten or deleted altogether and individuals can become "unpersons" for holding views disliked by those in power? It turns out Orwell's predictions were frighteningly accurate. In 1984, it was the state that determined what constituted acceptable speech in keeping society orderly.

We have to win the White House back. We have to start locally and make them accountable.

We all believe in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. Louie says he believes in what the bumper sticker states "Guns kill people, just as spoons made Rosie O'Donnell fat"! Another sign that states "the lefts way to end innocent people being killed by somebody with a gun is to ban innocent people from carrying guns!" "That's like saying we don't want anymore sober people killed by drunk drivers. So sober people can no longer drive."

Mr. Gohmert believes in the justice. We have to make sure people get a fair trial. But you have to have honest honorable people participating in our federal system. It's gotten bad! He was asked if he still has hope? Louie stated he would not still be in public office is he didn't have hope! We all have to work because the election will not fall in our lap. "I hate the line, Louie we don't have to worry, God's in control!" A preacher said once, yes God's in control but that doesn't mean we should lean on our shovel and pray for a hole! God's given us the tools and we need to go about using them for what is just and right. That means Conservatives that will follow the law in elections to come.









# We Honor the Service Members killed in Kabul, Afghanistan.

- Army Staff Sgt. Ryan C. Knauss, 23, of Corryton, Tenn.;
- Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin T. Hoover, 31, of Salt Lake City, Utah;
- Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosariopichardo, 25, of Lawrence, Mass.;
- Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole L. Gee, 23, of Sacramento, Calif.;
- Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan W. Page, 23, of Omaha, Neb.;
- Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto A. Sanchez, 22, of Logansport, Ind.;
- Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David L. Espinoza, 20, of Rio Bravo, Texas.
- Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared M. Schmitz, 20, of St. Charles, Mo.;
- Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola, 20, of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.;
- Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui, 20, of Norco, Calif;
- Navy Hospitalman Maxton W. Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, Ohio.
- Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, Calif.
- Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum, 20, of Jackson, Wyo.

## The First 6 Months

**by:** Dusty Gallivan Ector County District Attorney

A pandemic, no court, over 6,000 pending cases, and combining 2 offices into one. These are just some of the challenges the Ector County District Attorney's Office has overcome in the last 6 months!

The pandemic created havoc for our local criminal justice system. First it was no court, then it was limited court, then it was remote court. When we started, the Texas Supreme Court's latest order was that any court must be remote. Unfortunately, our local criminal courts were not equipped to handle court proceedings remotely. Priority one was to get the courts up and running in Zoom, which we did. But as fate would have it, as soon as we completed the project, the Texas Supreme Court issued an order allowing in person hearings and shortly after that allowed jury trials.

The pandemic and the inability to have court on a regular basis created a backlog of cases. Once we were able to have court, things started moving, quickly!

Although we don't have the final numbers yet, in the first 6 months we did almost 2000 guilty pleas, filed over 2,000 new cases, had about 15 jury trials, and ultimately resolved approximately 3,400 cases! It feels like we are just treading water at times, but we are moving forward.

Combining the County Attorney (CA) Office and the District Attorney (DA) office is our top priority. Six months ago, and the 20+ years prior, the CA and DA office were separate entities, meaning the CA prosecuting misdemeanors and juvenile cases and the DA prosecuted felonies, each without regard for the other. By combining the offices, the DA will assume responsibility for prosecuting misdemeanors and juveniles. The CA assumes responsibility for all civil matters for the county. Having one office handle all criminal prosecutions will create efficiency within the office, saving tax payers' money. The ability to have the same office handle all of a defendant's cases will move cases faster, saving taxpayers' money.

As of today, we have combined all the functions of the offices. We hit some bumps and roadblocks along the way, but we are starting to see the fruits of our labors. Officially, we will not be one office until September 1st, 2021, but we have operated as one office since January 1st, 2021.

In addition, we re-painted and re-carpeted the entire office space on both floors. It had been nearly 15 years since the offices were painted and over 10 years since the carpet was installed. We were able to accomplish this without using any tax dollars. Now, the office looks and feels great!

The next 6 months will bring its own challenges and we are ready! We anticipate having at least 20 more jury trials, 3,000 more guilty pleas, filing another 3,000 new cases, and all the other activity which creates our criminal justice system

Dale Brunk was our August Speaker sharing his actual events of September 11, 2001 as a young 22-year-old professional starting his occupation at Morgan Stanley on the 61<sup>st</sup> floor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Twin Tower Building. Appearing to work on September 10<sup>th</sup> he was amazed at his view from the 61<sup>st</sup> floor and gazing at The Statue of Liberty. What a sight!

Mr. Brunk went to work on September 11<sup>th</sup> to start his day in a meeting. After taking a break he went to the same place he viewed the Statue of Liberty the day before. Only this time he noticed papers flying thru the air. He looked down to see if there was a parade but then he realized there were manila folders in the debris. He visited with his friend, Terry and decided they needed to go down a few floors to see what was happening. He described going down the stairwell floor by floor. Once he got to the bottom and stepped outside, he looked up and saw both towers with these huge holes and the biggest, blackest smoke he had ever seen. They stood there in awe, they could see the red flames inside both buildings. "We were waiting to wake up, for this surreal moment to end." Terry said, "Dale I think the building is going to fall." Then we start counting the number of floors to where the building got hit. The 61<sup>st</sup> floor where we were just having meetings and then wondering if everyone got out.

This is Dale's second day in the city, and he has no clue where to go. He stops first and Thanks God he made it out. At the same time, he asks God where I am to go. I'm lost. We knew where we were staying but had no idea how to get there. He had a map he was looking at the night before showing how to get to Yankee Stadium, because Roger Clemens was supposed to pitch.

He asked a gentleman how to get to  $6^{th}$  Ave. The gentleman told him he would take them to  $6^{th}$  Ave. He did and then turned and went back to help others.



He makes it back to the South gate towers across the street from Madison Square Gardens. As he walks in, they ask if he is with Morgan Stanley and that they need to report to the FBI as a survivor of the World Trade Center attack. He vowed not to let the attack dictate his outcome. If he did then the terrorist would have won. Mr. Brunk has shared his story numerous of times. As a listener, I felt like he told the story for the first time. There is still so much compassion and thankfulness as he and

his friend were saved that day.

You have a choice. Don't let a bad situation define you. It can destroy you! You can make a change. Use your experience to make that change.

# Our August Luncheon







August Luncheon was very heartfelt.

Red Roses were donated by Blooming Rose of Odessa and given to all the ladies.

Remembering and praying for our troops, 9/11 victims & survivors, August 2019 #Odessa Strong, COVID Victims. Praying God's protection over us all!





## **#TFRWCares**

#### **TFRW Gift Card Collection Drive**

As you are well aware, Hurricane lda inflicted tremendous devastation to state the Louisiana and even now continues its destruction as a tropical storm in Alabama. We, in Texas, know firsthand the struggle to recover and repair after a storm of this magnitude, so I would like to come together as a federation and be a blessing to our Louisiana neighbors by hosting a Gift Card Collection Drive. Please consider donating a Walmart, Home Depot, or Lowes gift card that can be used to purchase emergency essential items.



Whether \$10 or \$500, your contribution is most appreciated. Please send gift cards (No cash or checks please) to the TFRW office at the address below. Thank you in advance for your generosity. #TFRWCares

#TFRWCares c/o Glynis Chester 13740 N. Hwy. 183 Suite J4 Austin, TX 78750-1832

# The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals

By Mary Lou Keel



The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals is our state's highest criminal court; it is our supreme court for criminal cases. It was established in 1891, has statewide jurisdiction, and hears criminal cases on appeal. The Texas Constitution specifies that the Court is served by eight judges and one presiding judge. Our current presiding judge, Sharon Keller, was the first woman elected to the Court (1994) and the only woman so far elected to serve as presiding judge (2000).

The nine members of the court serve six-year, staggered terms, so three seats are on the ballot every election cycle. In the 2022 election cycle the seats that will be up for election are held by incumbent judges Scott Walker, Jesse McClure, and me. Judge Walker and I were elected in 2016, and Judge McClure was appointed in 2020.

The first Republican was elected to the Court in 1992. But he switched parties in 2014 to become a Democrat, and lost his re-election bid—to me—in 2016. With your help he will remain the last Democrat to hold statewide office in Texas for many years to come as we keep Texas red.



### **Important Information:**

I have Covid and want to share this information with all of you. If you get Covid, ask your health care provider if you qualify for REGEN-COV. Or visit <a href="www.regencov.com">www.regencov.com</a>. This is an IV given that helps relieve a lot of the COVID symptoms. I'm not a doctor but I went to Dr. Bartletts facility, had the infusion and before leaving my horrible body aches were gone. Covid effects everyone differently but it could save you from going to the hospital. Please stay safe!!

Blessing, Donna Kelm

# **Stacked Chicken Enchiladas**

Submitted by Dottie Chavez

Stacked Chicken Enchiladas (I have to double the recipe because leftovers are in order)

Cook 3-4 chicken breasts in crock pot or InstaPot. I put a bit of olive oil in bottom. Season with fajita seasoning & put enough water to almost cover them.

- ☑Heat oven to 400 degrees.
- ☑Drizzle olive oil on bottom of dish.
- Tear corn tortillas in 1/4 size pieces & layer bottom.
- ✓In a saucepan, warm (2) cream cheese blocks over medium heat, put 4-5 tablespoons of green chiles, and shredded/chopped chicken. Stir together.
- ✓Put chicken mixture on corn tortillas. Keep repeating layers & finish with corn tortillas on top.
- Cover last layer of corn tortillas with green enchilada sauce (hot or mild). I usually only use one can even for a doubled recipe. Use spatula to cover every tortilla. Sprinkle shredded cheese on top. (I like Colby jack or Mexican blend.).

Bake uncovered @ 400 degrees 20 minutes or until cheese is melted.

Y'all won't be sorry!





Painting Party September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Happy Everything

6:00 - 8:30

110 E. VFW Lane Odessa, Texas 79762 Ph: 432-614-2420

Let's check out your creativity!!! Join us at Happy Everything, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. You can purchase the raw wood cutouts for Fall or Christmas to paint from \$25-\$45 each. The best part is Kim will be there to guide us as needed. We will have Wine and snacks as we enjoy the fellowship of up to Forty (40) participants. You do not need to be a member to attend. Please RSVP to Donna Kelm @ 432-413-8894 or email to <a href="mailto:dkelm2005@att.net">dkelm2005@att.net</a>. In your response please give the number of attendees. We look forward to seeing you there!

## **Local News**

**News Releases** 



## **August Sales Tax Check**

The City of Odessa received its August sales tax check, in the amount of, \$5,400,948.10.

The City of Odessa received its August sales tax check, in the amount of, \$5,400,948.10. This amount includes the Economic Development sales tax of ¼ cent. The City of Odessa will receive \$4,320,758.48 and the Odessa Development Corporation will receive \$1,080,189.62.

The City saw an increase in sales tax revenue with August's sales tax revenue total of \$4,320,758.48 which reflects a \$735,115.35, or 20.50% as compared to August 2020.

The year-to-date total sales tax revenue for fiscal year 2020-21 is up 14.69%, or \$4,837,450.86 as compared to budgeted amount expected at this point in the fiscal year.

In addition, the 2020-21 year-to-date amount is below the previous fiscal year-to-date amount by \$(7,433,315.34) or (16.45)%.

The City has budgeted \$36,000,000.00 in net sales tax revenues for this current fiscal year.

Sales tax revenue is generated by sales tax revenue from two months prior to collection, i.e., August's collection is based on June sales.



## **NEWSLETTER**

Anyone interested in submitting information to be placed in our newsletter please email to: <a href="mailto:dkelm2005@att.net">dkelm2005@att.net</a> ECRW allows all Republican candidates to place articles as well. ECRW 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.

# Your Voter Registration Card

After you apply, a voter registration certificate (your proof of registration) will be mailed to you within 30 days.

Check your certificate to be sure all information is correct. If there is a mistake, make corrections and return it to the <u>Voter Registrar</u> immediately.

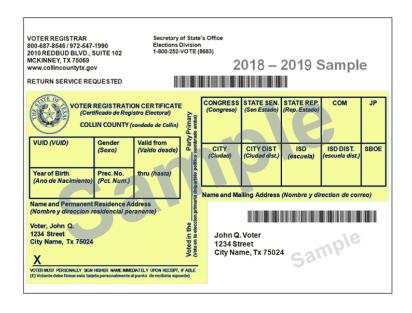
On your registration certificate, you will see a precinct number. Your residence is located in a specific "precinct," or area within the county where you will vote on Election Day. In some cases, precincts may be combined to accommodate joint local elections, so always consult your <u>County Clerk or Elections Administrator</u> in the days before an election for the address of the polling place where you're to vote. If your county has supplied us with polling place information, you can find that information here: <u>County Precincts and Polling Place Addresses</u>

When you go to the polls to vote, present one of the seven (7) acceptable forms of <a href="photo ID">photo ID</a>. If you do not possess an acceptable form of photo identification and cannot reasonably obtain one, you may present a <a href="supporting form of ID">supporting form of ID</a> (one of which is your valid voter registration certificate) and execute a Reasonable Impediment Declaration, noting your reasonable impediment to obtaining an acceptable form of photo identification, stating that the information contained in the declaration is true, that you are the same individual personally appearing at the polling place to sign the declaration, and that you face a reasonable impediment to procuring an acceptable form of photo identification. An election official will match your name to the official list of registered voters.

For voters that applied for and received the permanent exemption from showing a photo ID based in their disability status, this status will be notated on their voter registration certificate. These voters are required to present their voter registration certificate when they go to the polls to vote.

If you lose your certificate, notify your county <u>Voter Registrar</u> in writing to receive a new one.

You will automatically receive a new certificate every two years if you haven't moved from the address at which you are registered.





# America First!!!

# by: Tammy Powers

We are excited to announce that the Permian Basin Fair is coming up September 3-12<sup>th</sup>. This is a great opportunity for us to educate the public on the importance of elections and what it means to be a Republican! The booth will provide the opportunity for people to register to vote along with an opportunity to become a member of ECRW.

ECRW will have a raffle for membership (or load card) at the "Midland Shooters Association" shooting range for anyone that registers to vote! An additional raffle donated by Dr. & Mrs. Lively for a gift certificate (valued at \$700) for Galderma Kysse filler for lips for anyone that becomes new member of ECRW!

We still have some shifts available and we are asking that two people work each shift:

Sept. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fri.	5-10pm	B	<b>Ooth</b>
Sept. 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sat.	12pm – 2pm, 4-6pm, 8-10pm		OULI
Sept. 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sun.	12pm-2pm, 4-6pm, 8-10 pm		
Sept. 6 <sup>th</sup>	Mon.	12pm-2pm, 4-6pm, 8-10 pm 12-2 pm (need 1 person) and 4-6 pm ( 5pm-7pm (need 1 person)	TO	<b>Q</b> <sub>7</sub> = -
Sept 10	Friday	5pm-7pm (need 1 person)	ーフ	$\propto 20$
Sept 11	Sat	2-4pm, 4-6pm, 6-8pm, 8-10 pm		
Sept 12	Sun	6-10pm		

This is very important upcoming election year and we to encourage/educate people on the values of the Republican Party!!!! We want AMERICA FIRST!!!!!

Local Candidates – This is a great opportunity to meet the public for upcoming elections!!!!!



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Permian Basin Fair – Booth 16

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> Labor Day

Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> General Meeting/Luncheon "Brooks Landgraf"

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> Painting Party at Happy Everything

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

Oct. 13-17<sup>th</sup> TFRW Biennial Convention
Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> Permian Basin Oil Show
Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting/Luncheon

Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> Super Tuesday

Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> General Meeting / Luncheon "Loren Spivack"

TBD Winter Get Together
Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting



August luncheon



Auction at August luncheon

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## **ECRW NEWSLETTER**

#### 2021 OFFICERS/BOARD

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**Vice-President** 

Donna Kelm ph: 432-413-8894

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# MEET THE SPEAKER September 15th VIPS & PATRONS 10:30am Luncheon 11:30 – 1:00pm

## State Representative Brooks Landgraf

**p**roudly serves his fellow West Texans across Andrews, Ector, Ward and Winkler counties in the



Texas House of Representatives. Representative Landgraf is chairman of the House Environmental Regulation Committee and serves as a member of the House Transportation Committee, the House Redistricting Committee, the House Administration Committee, and the House Select Committee on Constitutional Rights and Remedies.

Landgraf is a native son of Odessa. His family has been ranching in West Texas for five generations, and Brooks is active in managing the family's business and ranching operations. Brooks is also an experienced business attorney who has worked in the oil and gas and healthcare industries.

Brooks has served the people of District 81 in the Texas House of Representatives since 2015. He quickly became known for his commitment to West Texas, his strong work ethic and his fierce advocacy for practical, conservative solutions. Brooks has fought to improve highways and schools in West Texas while also working to repeal burdensome regulations that harm the Permian Basin's oil and gas industry.

Governor Greg Abbott has praised Brooks for his "tireless efforts" in the Texas Legislature, calling him "a proven conservative leader and a strong voice for the people of West Texas."

A Permian High School alum, Brooks graduated from Texas A&M University, where he received U.S. Army training in the Corps of Cadets. Landgraf then earned his law degree from the St. Mary's School of Law in San Antonio, where he also served as the editor-in-chief of the law review.

Brooks is a proud Eagle Scout and is dedicated to serving the state and community that have given him so many opportunities. Following law school, Brooks immediately returned home to West Texas and represented energy producers and other local businesses while working in private practice. Brooks was named volunteer of the year by Legal Aid for his pro bono efforts. In 2017, Brooks was named to the inaugural class of "Odessa Under 40" by the Young Professionals of Odessa.

Brooks and his wife, Shelby, whose family is from Andrews, have one daughter, Hollis Rose, and are proud to call West Texas their home. They enjoy volunteering together for local charities, and the family loves spending time together working on the family cattle ranch. They attend church at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Odessa.