

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

October 2026

President's Byline



Patriotism, Commitment & Legacy

As we enter these final weeks before Election Day, I am reminded that patriotism is more than the love we feel for our country - it is what we are willing to do for it.

This is our moment to turn our commitment into action. Every conversation, every phone call, every door knocked, every voter encouraged to participate, and every hour volunteered matters.

Democracy depends on citizens who are willing to show up, work hard, and make their voices heard.

Those who came before us understood that freedom carries responsibility. They gave their time, their talents, and in many cases far more, so future generations could inherit the extraordinary privilege of self-government. Now it is our turn to carry that responsibility forward.

In these remaining weeks, I encourage each of us to ask: What more can I do? There will be time to rest after Election Day. Right now, let us give our effort our energy, our commitment, and our very best.

Ultimately, this election is about more than one day. November 3rd. It is about the legacy we leave and the example we set for our children and grandchildren and the country we entrust to them.

Let us finish strong and never take for granted the privilege we have to participate in the future of Collin County, Texas and America.

Our patriotism inspires us. Our commitment drives us. Our legacy will be determined by what we choose to do with both.

God bless you and yours and God bless our club.

Blessings,

Kathy Ward

President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

In this issue:

President's Message	1
October Meeting	2
September Photos	3
Americanism Report	4-6
PRW In Action	7
Political Action	8
PRW In Action	9
Caring for America	10
PRW In Action	11
PRW Patrons	12
Membership	12
Sponsors	13-15
PRW Officers	16
Birthdays	16
Mission Statement	16

Calendar of Events

Next Board Meeting
October 6,, 2026, 11:30
Niki's Restaurant
West Plano

Next General Meeting
October 20 2026,
11:30
Saltgrass - East Plano



PRW October Meeting



NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

October 20, 2026

Speaker: Steve Munisteri
Senior Advisor and Policy Director
to Governor Greg Abbott

The Honorable Steve Munisteri will be our speaker on October 21, 2026. He is currently the Senior Advisor to Governor Greg Abbott. He has decades of work with the Republican Party, and these are just portion of his achievements:

- Former 3-time elected Chair of the RPT, under his Chairmanship the number of elected Republicans statewide increased from 2470(45%) to 3660(67%) an all-time record
- Former Deputy Assistant to the President and Principal Deputy Director of the Office of Public Liaison under President Trump
- Former Senior Advisor to Senators Paul and Cornyn and RNC Chairman Priebus
- Co-founder of the Volunteer Engagement Project
- Founded the Young Conservatives of Texas
- Former State Chairman Texas Young Americans for Freedom
- Former State Chairman Young Texans for Reagan
- 54-year veteran of Republican campaigns including 14 Presidential campaigns

<https://Stephen%20Munisteri%20October%202026%20Bio.docx>

Location: Saltgrass Steakhouse Plano East
3320 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in, 11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

Lunch is available for \$25.00 with RSVP, cash or check payable to PRW on arrival.
Lunch will be salad, entree with vegetable, and tea.

[RSVP here to pay with credit card](#)

Please note: all Online Credit Card Payments include a processing fee.

To RSVP send an email to: <https://planorepublicanwomen.org/>.
Include your name in your email and specify whether you will/will not be having lunch.

PRW September Photos





AMERICANISM REPORT



Are We There Yet?

By Crystal Griffith

This past week I received dozens of text messages claiming to be from the same political candidate, but they all came from different cell numbers. When I watch a video on YouTube, ad after ad pops up for James Talarico, and there are so many political ads on television, it makes me want to scream. We see it all over social media, hear it on our radio stations, and sometimes have difficulty pulling out of a parking lot into oncoming traffic with all those huge political signs in our way. In other words, *midterm season is upon us!*

If you read the above and nodded your head at any of it, you are not alone. We are in this together! We are tired, yet we love our country and want to do everything we possibly can to win in November. We know how important this election is for the future of our own families and our friends too. The stakes have not been this high for a midterm election in many years.

The month of October can be exciting, full of noise and chatter, or downright exhausting. Maybe you are hopping from event to event, block walking your precinct and someone else's too. Perhaps you are phone banking, volunteering, attending meetings and ordering way too many chicken dinners. If you are a candidate yourself, your whole family has been "all in" the entire year and the trunk of your car has been eternally occupied by a never-ending supply of yard signs, buttons and door knockers. You've been working to win the primary in March, perhaps a run-off in May, and you have fought to maintain your presence all summer long. And it's been a hot summer indeed! So perhaps you are a little tired and running off pure adrenaline and zero sleep at this point. *Those of us in the party SEE you and greatly appreciate your sacrifice.*

Times like this remind us of that line we used to aggravate our parents with while in the back seat of the car on a long road trip: *Are We There Yet?* Well, almost. As of October 1st, we have 34 days left. That's only five short weekends to make a mark on our community and reach our fellow registered voters. It will go by extremely fast! Like that old road trip, sometimes it is not about the *destination* once you arrive - but the *journey* and the people you meet along the way that will be more memorable. In our case especially, it will be more *impactful*.

So, what CAN we do? *Leave no stone unturned.* Let's stay focused on the goal, clear those weekends just one more time, and ask yourself – what more can I do to help my party get candidates elected by communicating our great conservative principles with voters before election day?

Ways we can be engaged and HELP during this time:

- First, pray about it. Each of us have special skills and talents that have been given to us by God. Ask Him how you can be of use and to direct you to those places of opportunity.
- Work as a team. It's much more fun than working alone. And safer too!
- Remind everyone you talk with about the down-ballot principle. We need to vote Ken to Kallas and all candidates in between.



AMERICANISM REPORT



- If you are a precinct chair, you are probably block-walking. You could meet up with all your helpers for lunch afterwards as a reward for a job well done and to discuss what everyone learned. Having a good time will help retain your volunteers for future assignments, and it gives you the opportunity to individually talk with and encourage your workers, especially younger voters who might want to get more involved with our party. Drop a card in the mail to thank each of them for their time.
- Not a precinct chair? Ask your precinct chair or local candidate what they need help with the MOST over the next 4 weeks. They WILL have an answer for you!
- Talk about issues that are important to the swing and independent voters. Listen to their concerns, then meet them where they are. Your replies will be much more sincere that way, and they will feel truly heard.
- We need poll workers! Candidates cannot be at all polling locations at once and need enthusiastic folks like you to be the face of their campaigns. Hold a sign and greet folks at the designated candidate zone. You would be surprised how often this gets extra votes. Some people come only to vote for the Governor or U.S. Senator. They don't really know who else is on the ballot. Share your candidate's information and principles with them and hand them a voter guide to encourage them to vote for Republicans all the way down the ballot.
- Offer to deliver signs for your neighbors to boost party support on your street.
- If you know a friend who cannot get to the polls on election day, offer to drive them! (I don't recommend giving rides to strangers of course!)
- Can't get out and walk yourself? No problem! Offer to phone bank for a candidate or call headquarters to see what their in-house needs are.
- Folks new to the area may have left another state because they are seeking out the very freedoms and ideals we hold dear as conservatives in Texas. Do you know anyone on your street who has recently moved to your neighborhood the past few months? Welcome them with a housewarming plant AND a Collin County GOP voting guide!
- Who do you know that IS a Republican but has become detached from the party, either because they are frustrated with the way the country is going or because they only vote in the presidential election? Remember what Trump said a few weeks ago, "Pretend I'm on the ballot!" It was a joke, but many voters only engage in presidential years, and we can't afford for them to stay home this fall.
- Look at the Collin County GOP calendar online and attend our Victory events over the coming weeks. Let's show a strong turnout for our community. Invite friends too! Who doesn't love a movie night or shopping excursion? And it gives you time to discuss values, concerns and hopes for our country with your guests while having a good time together.
(<https://www.collincountygop.org/calendar/>)
- The small stuff counts! Offer to supply the snacks, staple materials for block walks, or mail postcards for candidates. A hand-written postcard goes further with voters than a generic mass mailout.
- The conversations you strike up in the grocery line may even help influence another person, and those moments are so organic that they won't feel like politically driven conversations; you simply care about your community and the stranger in front of you probably does too. Look for the opportunities, and when they land in your lap, be ready and prepared. A good strategy is to listen first, then frame your discussion based on what the other person is saying.
- If you attend a church or synagogue, encourage your friends there to turn out for the election too. Many of the church-going public stay home at election time yet their faith-based values would align with our Republican candidates, so remind them how important this election is. Some folks just don't know what a county commissioner does. So, educate them – and remind everyone you speak with how easy it is to go vote EARLY. Don't wait until election day when the lines are long.
- Know several local polling locations near you and be prepared to direct interested voters to the Collin County Elections webpage to find out where to vote, times polling locations are open, and to view a sample ballot. It is as easy as a click on the phone. (<https://www.collincountytx.gov/elections/details>)

"My hope and prayer is that everyone know and love our country for what she really is and what she stands for." - John Wayne



AMERICANISM REPORT

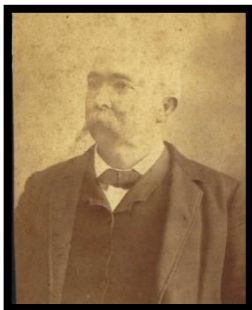
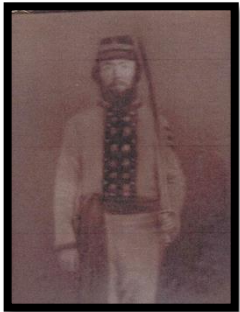


HONORING AMERICAN HEROES: THE MCALLISTER FAMILY

Memories shared by Margie McAllister

My dad's family is from Marshall, Texas, which is east of Dallas almost to the Louisiana border. My sister and I started doing genealogical research probably about 10 years ago. We initially thought that our grandmother's family was more interesting, but we were wrong. My grandfather's family was far more interesting.

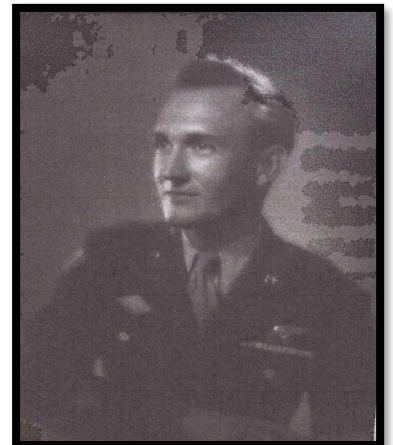
My great, great-grandfather, A.W. McAllister, was in the U.S. Army in the 1830's while residing in Alabama (Lt. Colonel and Colonel). He moved to Texas in 1841, before Texas was a state and was granted 640 acres of land just east of Marshall. The land documents list Texas as The Republic of Texas. His widow survived him after his death, and my great-grandfather was raised on that same land.



My great-grandfather, A. F. McAllister, volunteered and served in the Civil War in the Texas 3rd Calvary in the Confederacy. He returned to Marshall after the war, married, and lived the remainder of his life in Marshall. My grandfather, Alexander William McAllister, was born in Marshall but never served in the military.

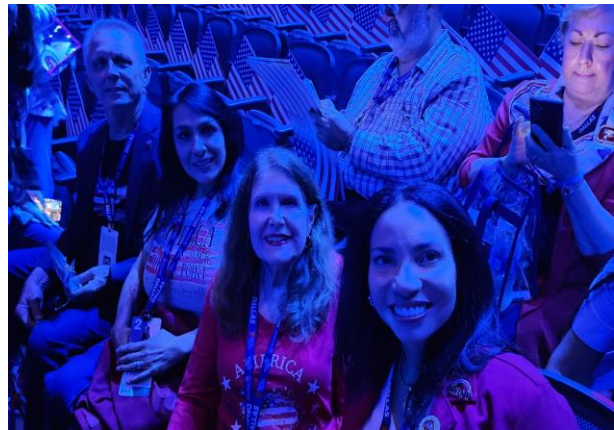
My father, Alexander William McAllister Jr., volunteered and served in the Army Air Corp (the Air Force had not yet been formed) during WWII. He was a gunnery instructor, expert marksman and airplane mechanic.

My sister and I have applied for First Families of Harrison County (County where Marshall is located) for my great, great-grandfather and great-grandfather, since they were in that area prior to 1880 and helped settle that city. We have been working through the Harrison County Historical Society, and although we have not gotten final acceptance, we expect to qualify based on the records we've submitted.



PRW In Action

Catherine and Cleo enjoying the Republican Midterm Convention and they watched from the small group of volunteers placed on stage behind President Trump!



Republican Midterm
Convention

Political Action Hours

by Political Action Chair Jennifer Groysman



Political Action Hours

By Jennifer Groysman

Campaigns are in overtime. What have you done to help our candidates win in November? Have you door-knocked, made phone calls, texted, written postcards, or gone to a campaign event? If

you answered yes to any of those things, your doing those things counts as Political Action Hours. Also, remember to include your travel time. You can submit your hours at

www.planorepublicanwomen.org

Keep the challenge going! 10 hours per month!



What counts as

Political Activity Hours

- **Attending Political Meetings**
 - Political Events & Fundraisers
 - County or State GOP meetings
 - School Board or City Council meetings
- **Travel**
 - Any time you spend traveling to and from political events and meetings.
- **Legislative Advocacy**
 - Time spent calling, writing, about legislative issues

- **Campaign Activities**
 - Block walking, sign waving, phone banking, digital work
 - Running for office
- **Election Support**
 - Election Judge, Election Clerk, Deputy Voter Registrar
- **Appointed or Elected Service**
 - Prep time, travel time, and attendance at meetings you were appointed or elected to serve at any level

Any political activity you do that is not for your primary job counts!

PRW In Action

Congratulations to our own Cleo Marchese who was our PRW Honoree for the TFRW Tribute to Women.



TFRW ladies supporting Shelby Williams for County Commissioner



CARING FOR AMERICA

Your Gift Changes Lives – Donate Today

Bring Donations to Meetings

Gas Gift Cards/Target Gift Cards/Cash



The Agape Resource & Assistance Center in East Plano, TX, helps women, moms and their children facing situational homelessness. With the help of case workers and counselors, women and children typically stay with Agape from 6 months to a year, during which they gain the skills, strength and stability for self-sufficiency.

**AGAPE NEEDS FOR
BACK TO SCHOOL:**

Gasoline Gift Cards

Target Gift Cards



PRW In Action

“PRW is so proud that our President, Kathy Ward, has been appointed by Governor Greg Abbott to the State Board for Educator Certification. This picture was taken as she was being sworn in.



PRW members alongside fellow TFRW sisters with Will Cain at an event for the Texas Public Policy Fondation.

Membership Report

by Membership Chair Joan Hart

Many Thanks To Our Club Patrons

These members have donated \$100.00 in cash, given items to the club, or paid budgeted expenses valued at \$100.00 or more.

Deb Blencowe

Stephanie Casson

Doreen Cruz

Pat Donley

Ushma Ferguson

Catherine Gibb

Jennifer Groysman

Joan Hart

Donna Krauss

Cleo Marchese

Lynn McCoy

Dana Sickler

Merrie Spaeth

Kathy Ward

Diana Wike

We are currently accepting Membership Renewals for 2026! And we always welcome new members!

Membership dues can be paid at the meeting, online through our website
<https://planorepublicanwomen.org/become-a-member>

**Or checks can be mailed to Plano Republican Women, P O Box 940461,
Plano, TX 75094-0461.**

Memberships:

\$40 Full Active Single Membership (PRW receives \$15, TFRW and NFRW receive \$25)

\$45 Full Active Membership with Spouse

\$25 Associate Membership – for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs

\$20 Young Affiliate (young woman, age 10-17)

\$140 Patron Member (includes Full Active Single Membership)

\$145 Patron Member with Spouse

[Become a Member](#)

The next time you see these sponsors —shake their hands.

Paid Political Advertising PRW



JEFF LEACH
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 67

P.O. Box 2910 • Austin, Texas 78768-2910
512-463-0544 • 512-463-9974 (FAX)
JEFF.LEACH@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

STATE of TEXAS
HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES



Matt Shaheen
District 66

P.O. Box 2910 • Austin, Texas 78768-2910
(512) 463-0594 • f (512) 463-1021
MATT.SHAHEEN@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

ELECT ★ JUDGE
BEN SMITH
REPUBLICAN
FOR
JUSTICE FIFTH COURT OF APPEALS

★ **SCOTT GRIGG**

Conservative Republican
for
Collin County Tax Assessor Collector



JIM SKINNER
SHERIFF

Collin County Sheriff's Office
4300 Community Avenue
McKinney, Texas 75071
972.547.5100 Office
972.547.5303 Fax

sheriffskinner@collincountytx.gov
www.collincountytx.gov/sheriff



KEEP JUDGE
TOM NOWAK
366TH DISTRICT COURT

VotingForTom.com
tom@votingfortom.com
214-405-1179



Judge Kimberly M. Laseter
401st Judicial District Court

Collin County Courthouse
2100 Bloomdale Road, Suite 30030
McKinney, Texas 75071
972-548-4241

401@collincountytx.gov
Tammy Sharkey, Coordinator
Charla Reamy, Court Reporter
Ty Jones, Bailiff



PIPER McCRAW
JUDGE, 469th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
COLLIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE

2100 Bloomdale Road, Suite 30014 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 548-5660 • Fax (972) 548-5664 • 469@co.collin.tx.us
Court Administrator, Shannon Reynolds • Court Reporter, Stephanie Hunn
Bailiff, Shane Capps



JUDGE RANDY JOHNSON
County Court at Law No. 5

2100 Bloomdale Rd., Ste. 20382 • McKinney, TX 75071
(972) 548-3850 • Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 3850
E-mail: rjohnson@co.collin.tx.us • www.collincountytx.gov

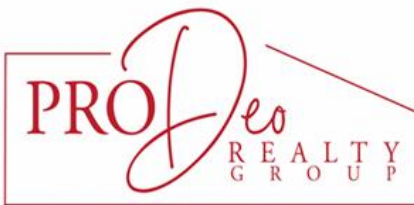


CONSTABLE
PRECINCT 3

SAMMY KNAPP
CONSTABLE

920 E. Park Blvd., Suite 230
Plano, Texas 75074

Email: sknapp@co.collin.tx.us (972) 881-3070
Cell: (214) 250-7886 Fax: (972) 881-3143
www.collincountytx.gov



Derek V. Baker, Realtor
SHINN TEAM REAL ESTATE

214-551-4604



Jerry Madden

Right on Crime - Senior Fellow

Former Texas House of Representatives
Former Chair of Corrections

(972) 989-7758
jmaddeninsurance@aol.com

428 Valley Glen Drive
Richardson, Texas 75080

MICHAEL Slaughter

FOR COLLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 2



★ **SHELBY WILLIAMS** ★
FOR
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

ShelbyHWilliams.com
214.995.6969

Chris Hill
Texas Conservative ★ Collin County Judge

www.chrishill.us

The next time you see these sponsors —shake their hands.

Paid Political Advertising PRW



MATT CARPENTER
CONSTABLE
PRECINCT 1

2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 1136
McKinney, Texas 75071

Email: mcarpenter@co.collin.tx.us (972) 548-4419
Fax: (972) 548-4785
www.collincountytx.gov

GEORGE B. FLINT

Partner
georgeflint@solidcounsel.com
P: 2144722183 C: 2147739500

2600 Network Blvd, Suite 400
Frisco, Texas 75034
P: 2144722100 F: 2144722150
www.solidcounsel.com



Pam Little
Member
State Board of Education
District 12

Texas Education Agency
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494

632 Merlot
Fairview, TX 75069
(972) 342-6697
pam.little@tea.texas.gov



SENATOR
ANGELA PAXTON
DISTRICT 8

CAPITOL OFFICE
P.O. Box 12088, Ste. GE5
Austin, Texas 78711
512-463-0108 • Fax: 512-463-7579

DISTRICT OFFICE
604 S. Walters Rd., Ste. 100
Allen, Texas 75013
972-908-3424 • Fax: 972-908-3361

angela.paxton@senate.texas.gov



CANDY NOBLE
★
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 89

206 N. MURPHY ROAD
MURPHY, TEXAS 75094
972.423.6542

POST OFFICE BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768
512.463.0186

CANDY.NOBLE@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV



GREG WILLIS
CRIMINAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COLLIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

2100 Bloomdale Rd., Ste. 20004
McKinney, TX 75071

www.collincountyda.com

gwillis@collincountytx.gov

972.548.4330



MICHAEL GOULD
DISTRICT CLERK
COLLIN COUNTY

2100 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 12132 Metro (972) 548-4369
McKinney, Texas 75071 (972) 424-1460 Ext. 4369
Cell (469) 332-8334
mgould@co.collin.tx.us www.collincountytx.gov



STACEY KEMP
COUNTY CLERK

2300 Bloomdale Road, Suite 2106 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 548-4136 • Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 4136 • Fax (972) 547-5731
Email: skemp@collincountytx.gov • www.collincountytx.gov



ANGELA TUCKER
JUDGE
199TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

2100 Bloomdale Road, Suite 10030 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 548-4415 • Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 4415

RE-ELECT Judge Jennifer Edgeworth
REPUBLICAN • 219TH DISTRICT COURT



JUDGE JILL R. WILLIS
429th Judicial District Court

2100 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 10014 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 547-5720 • Metro (972) 424-1460 ext. 5720 • Fax (972) 547-5727
E-Mail: jwillis@co.collin.tx.us



JUDGE BROOK FULKS
470TH DISTRICT COURT

RUSSELL A. STEINDAM COURTS BUILDING 470@co.collin.tx.us
2100 Bloomdale Rd., Ste. 20146 Stacey Samples, Coordinator
McKinney, Texas 75071 Major Pearson, Court Officer
(972) 548-5670 Tanner Feast, Court Reporter
(972) 548-5674 Fax www.collincountytx.gov



Judge Christine A. Nowak
493rd Judicial District Court

Russell A. Steindam Courts Building 493@co.collin.tx.us
2100 Bloomdale Road, Suite 20250 Amy Patterson, Coordinator
McKinney, Texas 75071 Mark Miller, Court Officer
(214) 491-4870 Ashley Boyd, Court Reporter



JUDGE DAVID RIPPEL
County Court at Law No. 4

1800 N. Graves St., Suite 160 • McKinney, Texas 75069
(972) 548-3840 • Metro (972) 424-1460 Ext. 3840 • Fax (972) 548-3844
Email: drippel@co.collin.tx.us • www.collincountytx.gov

The next time you see these sponsors —shake their hands.

Paid Political Advertising PRW



**Justice of the Peace
Ellen Kinnebrew
Collin County Pct. 2**

1025 S. State Highway 78
Lavon, Texas 75166

Office: (972) 548-6481
Fax: 972-547-1889
www.collincountytx.gov



Judge Mike Missildine

Justice of the Peace
Justice Court Precinct 3, Place 2

920 E. Park Blvd., Ste. 210 • Plano, Texas 75074
Office (972) 881-3051 • Fax (972) 881-3098
Email: mmissildine@collincountytx.gov • www.collincountytx.gov



Plano Republican Women

Join us for a fantastic lineup of

October 20

November 17



The Hon. Steve Munisteri
Senior Advisor to Governor Abbott



Chairwoman D'rinda Randall
Republican Party of Texas

www.planorepublicanwomen.org

PRW Officers and Birthdays

Kathy Ward, President

President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Catherine Gibb, 1st VP Programs - 214-929-0857

Joan Hart, 2nd VP Membership

RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Lynn McCoy, 3rd VP Awards

Ashley Bergerson, 4th VP, Ways and Means

Janet Troutman, Recording Secretary

Trina Westberg, Corresponding Secretary

Dana Sickler, PAC Treasurer

September Birthdays

Karen Finch	10/1
Teresa Sperandeo	10/2
Debbie Hollingshead	10/8
Denise Voss	10/17
Teri Ann Rogers	10/21
Deb Blencowe	10/22
Desiree Brown	10/26
Betsy Liberto	10/26



Political Advertising Paid for by Plano Republican Women PAC Treasurer, PO Box 94046, Plano Texas 75094. Tax Exempt Organization Under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Contributions to Plano Republican Women PAC Are Not Deductible as Charitable. Contributions for Federal Income Tax Purposes. Corporate Contributions Are Not Permitted. Not Authorized by Any Candidate or Committee.

Vision and Mission Statement:

Plano Republican Women is an American political club, bringing together women to positively impact the direction of our nation. We come together as a collective force advancing the power of women through political access and participation.

Our mission is to see women from all age groups and walks of life as key players at the political table of national, state, and local issues.

