

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

March 2017

President's Byline : Exercise Your Constitutional Right and VOTE!



The Plano City Council Forum that we hosted on Tuesday, March 21st had a great turnout with over 70 people attending, not counting the 10 candidates. We would like to thank the Plano Star Courier's reporter Kelsey Samuels for covering the forum which made the front page of that paper along with a picture of the candidates and the story can also be found online at http://starlocalmedia.com/planocourier/plano-republican-women-host-city-council-forum/article_7bd46220-10d4-11e7-8981-3b60f221a9c5.html (this include more pictures).

We will be hosting a Plano ISD Forum on Tuesday, April 18th and we are looking forward to hearing from those candidates. Our members have been working hard supporting the candidates of their choice. Early voting starts on Monday, April 24th with election day on May 6th. In addition to the election of city council members and PISD board members, voters will also be voting for the Collin College trustees and 6 propositions will be on the ballot. Collin County Elections will have the sample ballots online very shortly. I urge everyone to exercise your constitutional right and VOTE!

Denise Midgley
drmidgley@gmail.com



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Wellesley Profs: No Controversial Ideas on Our Campus, Please

By: Catherine Gibb

Hillary Clinton's alma mater made headlines this week when a group of professors sent out an extraordinary email detailing their thoughts on how outside campus speakers should be chosen. Wellesley College faculty belonging to the Commission for Ethnicity, Race, and Equity recommended a litany of criteria that, as critics have said, would severely curtail the spectrum of ideas that have a place on campus.

In the email, the faculty made the declaration that inviting controversial speakers to the Wellesley campus was an imposition on "the liberty of students, staff, and faculty at Wellesley," and forced them down the dark road of investing "time and energy in rebutting the speakers' arguments."

Because if there's one thing we don't want our students to do, it's think too much about their own beliefs. We want them to merely accept those beliefs as the truth; any ideas that could counteract those beliefs are dangerous and must be censored.

Do you think anyone at the Wellesley campus would care if the UFO club invited some kook to come talk about visitors from the planet Zulitron? Probably not, because no one's concerned that Mr. Zulitron's ideas will catch on. They're absurd, and they can be seen as absurd by the vast majority of people. And those who can't see the absurdity, well, there's nothing you can do about those people, so there's no point in worrying about it.

No, ideas are only scary when they force you to question what you currently believe. Colleges like to pretend that they are anti-indoctrination centers, there to expand the mind and break you out of the little world you grew up in. Maybe they were, at one point. Maybe they still are, in some ways.

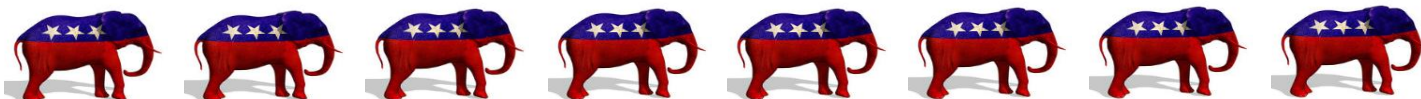
But in just as many ways, they have just become another form of indoctrination. Maybe it is enlightening to see that some of the stuff you believed in wasn't true. But did that make you free? Or did you just immediately begin believing in another story? One that may not be any more true than the old one...

At Wellesley, the professors were partially responding to a recent speaker, Laura Kipnis, who raised some controversial not-quite-the-kind-of-feminism-we-liberals-like issues like the "culture of sexual paranoia" gripping many college campuses.

From FIRE, which uncovered the email: *The committee recommends that those inviting any future speakers "consider whether, in their zeal for promoting debate, they might, in fact, stifle productive debate by enabling the bullying of disempowered groups," adding that the committee would be "happy to serve as a sounding board when hosts are considering inviting controversial speakers, to help sponsors think through the various implications of extending an invitation." They also argue that "standards of respect and rigor must remain paramount when considering whether a speaker is actually qualified for the platform granted by an invitation to Wellesley."*

The left used to pride themselves on their commitment to free speech, and colleges used to pride themselves on the free exchange of intellectual ideas. Where that kind of liberalism has gone, we don't know.

Maybe it was always a front.



Presidential Commonalities: Reagan and Trump

By: Karin Stedman

Many Republicans are currently finding themselves wishing for the bygone days of the Reagan era. They remember the economic prosperity and the strength of Reagan's foreign policies during his two terms in office. However, if you consider Reagan's background, ideals and philosophies, they begin to sound very similar to our current President's own views. In fact, as you begin to look closer and compare the two, many parallels come to light.

One of the most obvious similarities is the strength of their convictions. Reagan and Trump share a passion to serve our country and believe strongly in conservative ideals and policies for future generations. Many people believe that Reagan redefined the purpose of government and reinforced the conservative agenda for decades. Trump has voiced that he wants to do the same, as seen in his "Make America Great Again" slogan and passionate speeches. They both share a love of country, as illustrated when talking about our fallen heroes, and their impassioned pleas regarding immigration and other conservative talking points.

Both men were not typical politicians, by any means. Reagan, our 40th President, was considered a Washington outsider, who initially chose a career in entertainment. He appeared in more than 50 films and was even president of the Screen Actors Guild. He later served two terms as governor of California and yet he stood apart from those who were lifelong politicians. Trump, the consummate businessman, also had a foray into television with his two "Apprentice" shows.

Few people thought either of them could become President, doubting their chances from early on. Reagan was initially dismissed because of his Hollywood stardom. It must've come as quite a surprise to his critics when he was elected a second time! Trump, a wealthy businessman and mogul, faced the same doubt, on both sides of the aisle, and wasn't taken seriously. Having never held public office, what a surprise to those doubters when Trump led the polls and beat out a very crowded GOP field of candidates! In retrospect, the fact that they both had other careers, and were Washington "outsiders," led to even more popularity for each of them. They apparently appealed to those who want a fresh perspective and drastic change from the usual insiders. It seems, in both cases, that the voters were tired of the status quo.

Interestingly, both Trump and Reagan were initially Democrats. Their viewpoints changed, however, through life and work experience. Reagan was initially a liberal Democrat, but he backed Dwight Eisenhower and Richard Nixon and went on to register as a Republican in 1964. Trump had previously supported both Democrats and Republicans financially, yet aligned himself with conservatives in the past election.

In terms of foreign policy, President Reagan pressured the Soviet Union to end the Cold War, much like Trump's pressure on foreign countries to pay their fair share of UN funding. A priority for both of them was to strengthen the military, as both are strong on defense as well as the space program. While each of them may have had some uncomfortable and unpopular situations arise, their strong character and personalities see them through. For Reagan, situations such as Iran-Contra were controversial, but he maintained his popularity through even a recession, and tax and budget issues. In the short time Trump has held office, he has already had to face down controversies, many of them due to media bias. When faced with tough situations, they both often used humor to diffuse them.

Trump's views on illegal immigration are very similar to Reagan's, and both are very outspoken on this issue. Border security was a priority for both, as Reagan signed the Immigration Reform and Control Act in 1986, making it illegal to hire illegal immigrants and requiring employers to be responsible for checking their status.

Both of these men speak frankly, without concern for political correctness. Reagan, dubbed "The Great Communicator," spoke to the people plainly and wasn't concerned with who might be offended. This certainly describes Trump, and perhaps even more so than Reagan. Many find it refreshing and appreciate his candid speech and frankness. Both seem to appeal to the common man, while speaking from the heart.

They also share like views on what are the cornerstones of conservative politics, such as tax reductions, lowering government spending, limiting government in most aspects of American's daily lives, and out of control employee unions. Putting decisions back into the hands of individual states is another key point made by both men. Recalling key points from "Reaganomics," Trump wants to also spur job growth with the repeal and reduction of various taxes.

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Presidential Commonalities: Reagan and Trump

By: Karin Stedman

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Both of these Presidents are strong believers in protecting gun rights and the Second Amendment. Reagan was quoted as saying that if we give up "that part of the Constitution" that is the Second Amendment, "we give up part of our freedom and increase the chances that we will lose it all." Trump has repeatedly stressed the importance of maintaining our gun rights and the Second Amendment, since announcing he would run for President.

There are certainly many fascinating comparisons to be made between these two Presidents. It will be interesting to see how many more will be made and just how similar or different they will turn out to be in the future. Let's hope that the conservative and direct approaches that they are both known for will continue for many years.

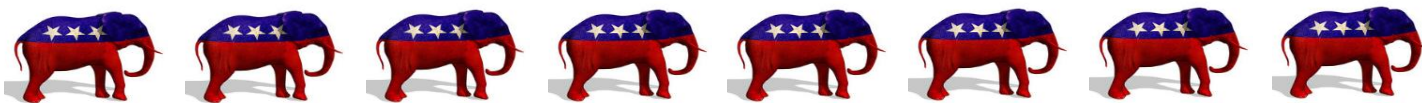
"...History is a ribbon, always unfurling; history is a journey. And as we continue our journey, we think of those who traveled before us...Now we hear again the echoes of our past: a general falls to his knees in the hard snow of Valley Forge; a lonely President paces the darkened halls, and ponders his struggle to preserve the Union; the men of the Alamo call out encouragement to each other; a settler pushes west and sings a song, and the song echoes out forever and fills the unknowing air.

It is the American sound. It is hopeful, big-hearted, idealistic, daring, decent, and fair. That's our heritage; that is our song. We sing it still. For all our problems, our differences, we are together as of old, as we raise our voices to the God who is the Author of this most tender music. And may He continue to hold us close as we fill the world with our sound—sound in unity, affection, and love—one people under God, dedicated to the dream of freedom that He has placed in the human heart, called upon now to pass that dream on to a waiting and hopeful world.

God bless you and may God bless America."

Sources: www.newsmax.com; <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Ronald-Reagan>; <http://www.bartleby.com> (excerpt of Reagan's 2nd inaugural address)

Karin Stedman, American Heritage Chairman



A Fishing Story...

The king wanted to go fishing, so he called on the royal weather forecaster and inquired as to the weather forecast for the next few hours. The weatherman assured him that there was no chance of rain in the coming days, So the king went fishing with his wife, the queen. On the way he met a farmer on his donkey.

Upon seeing the king the farmer said, "Your Majesty, you should return to the palace! In just a short time I expect a huge amount of rain to fall in this area". The king was polite and considerate, he replied: "I hold the palace meteorologist in high regard. He is an extensively educated and experienced professional. And besides, I pay him very high wages. He gave me a very different forecast. I trust him." So the king continued on his way. However, a short time later a torrential rain fell from the sky. The King and Queen were totally soaked and their entourage chuckled upon seeing them in such a shameful condition. Furious, the king returned to the palace and gave the order to fire the professional.

Then he summoned the farmer and offered him the prestigious and high paying role of royal forecaster. The farmer said, "Your Majesty, I do not know anything about forecasting. I obtain my information from my donkey. If I see my donkey's ears drooping, it means with certainty that it will rain." So the king hired the donkey. And thus began the practice of hiring dumb asses to work in the government and occupy its highest and most influential positions. The practice is unbroken to this date and thus, the democrat symbol was born!!!

April Plano Republican Women Meeting



**Next PRW Meeting:
Tuesday, April 18, 2017**

PISD Candidate Forum
Location: Reflections on Spring Creek,
1901 East Spring Creek Parkway

Candidates for Plano City Council and Mayor have been invited to participate in a forum at our March meeting. Confirmed attendees are listed in green.

Place 1

Tammy Richards
Carissa Picard

Place 2

Jack Liu
Angela Powell
Sreedhar "Sree" Yedavalli
Amanda Jackson

Place 3

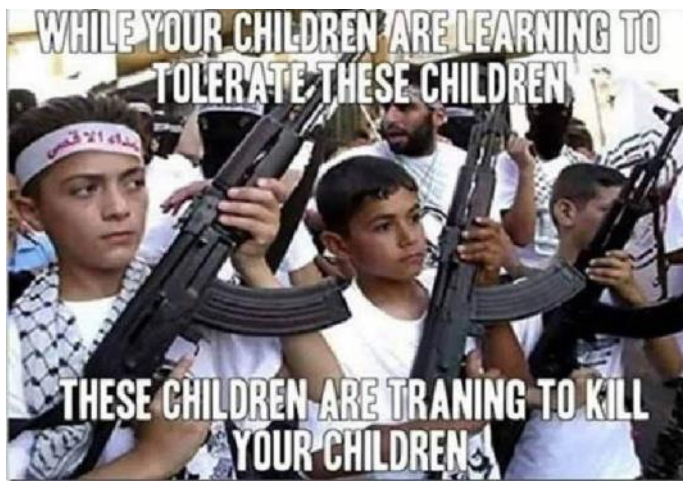
Nancy C. Humphrey
Yvette Jackson
Nathan Rylander

Place 4

Marilyn Hinton
Greg Myer
Trish Patterson

Time: 11:15 am: Check-in
11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

PRW membership is not required to attend our meeting Lunch at the meeting is available with RSVP for \$20 in cash or check payable to PRW
Caring for America: Add a contribution to your lunch ticket to benefit Patriot Paws



**I lived through
OBAMA
You'll live through
TRUMP**

William Layne

**It Takes A Special
Kind Of Lunatic To
Think That
Importing Welfare
Recipients Who
Want To Kill Us Is A
Good Idea.**



Common Law Jury

by W. Cleon Skouson

Why is the Common law jury call a safety net?

Think of a tight rope walker up 40 feet in the air and only a small, thin rope to walk on. What if he loses his balance and falls? If there is a safety net under him he will be saved form injury or death.

So it was with the fragile, fledgling founding of our nation by liberty loving people who understood the crushing power of a strong monarchy.

How can we protect the citizens from the over reach of an greedy President or of unprincipled judges? What is there to protect the people from the abuse of a strong government and unethical judges? After much bantering and supposing the efforts of their study of history, asking in prayer for wisdom and divine insight as to the role of Government the Founding Fathers wisely made provision for trial by Jury.

In the Constitution. In Article III, Section 2. Case 3. The trial of all crimes, expect in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury. 1.

The common law jury had the right to determine the fact as well as if law was administered in accordance to the Constitution.

The jury is of the peers to decide if the accused broke the law. If indeed the accused broke a law or the acts were totally in his defense of an abuse. The common jury of peers would have power to set it right. As Thomas Jefferson explained the power of the jury. "These Magistrates have jurisdiction both of criminal and civil. If the question before them be a question of law only they can decide it themselves; but if it be of fact, or of fact and law combined, it must be referred to a jury" 2

The trial of criminal cases having a jury is the safe guard to liberty.

The common law jury was a safety net against Government abuse. As I showed you how a safety net protects the tight rope walker so the jury of peers protect the people against government abuse, "the common law jury would be their safety net or "palladium" of protection". 3.

Let us look at the history of the English law. With the signing of the Magna Carta citizens had the right of a trial by jury. In all criminal cases the defendant has the RIGHT of trial by jury and is "innocent until proven guilty". The jury is formed of 12 men. This is important that every citizen is fairly treated. This is the point of the jury.

In the Federalist Papers Alexander Hamilton explained that in civil law cases a review of the facts "might be essential to the preservation of the public peace". The first jury trial was in 1794 with Chief Justice John Jay the case was Georgia v. Brailsford. This case was where the Supreme Court had original jurisdiction. Supreme Justice John Jay explained to the jury that they were to look at the facts and the law. They were instructed to decide if the law was constitutional? Then to decide if the facts of the case were indeed criminal or in self defense?

By 1852 Lysander Spooner, a privately educated lawyer from Massachusetts was disturbed by the erosion of the jury's power. The courts had their way to limit the jury's authority. The jury originally not only had the right and duty to judge the facts but also the moral responsibility of absolving the defendant if the law" were oppressive. Over time many cases came to the Supreme Court and the judiciary was able to get the legislature to pass restrictions on the jury to limiting their ruling over the law. 4 , See Appendix.

The trials are to be in the state where the alleged crime was committed. Going back to the King George III's reign the accused would be transported to England and be tried there. The jury was Not of the peers and there for not a friend or neighbor who would know of the character and circumstances of said prisoner.

The English form of jury goes back to mid-sixteenth century were twelve citizens were gathered to hear under oath the claim of criminal charges against one of their community. In the Virginia charter is 1606 they were to enjoy the rights of an Englishman, which included the right to a jury trial. In the mid eighteenth century juries played a vital part in the resisting English authority. For example: the trial of John Peter Zenger, a New York printer whom the jury acquitted on charges of seditious libel. 5

Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams all agreed on the importance of the jury as well did most of the Anti-Federalists. The common law jury was praised observing that "the common people ...should have as complete a control, as decisive a negative, in every judgment of a court of judicature" as they have in the legislature.



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The erosion of the jury's power after the 1895 Supreme Courts conclusion in Sparf and Hansen v. the United States that the jury did not have the right to decide legal questions. As a result, today judges can—and do— instruct the jury that they must accept the judge's view of the law, and the lawyers are no longer allowed to argue the merits of the law to the jury. Because the jury possesses authority to issue an unreviewable general verdict of acquittal, the jury never the less retains the raw power to check general laws with which it disagrees in individual cases. But because the trial judge does not instruct the jury that it has this authority, the jurors may not know that they have it. 7.

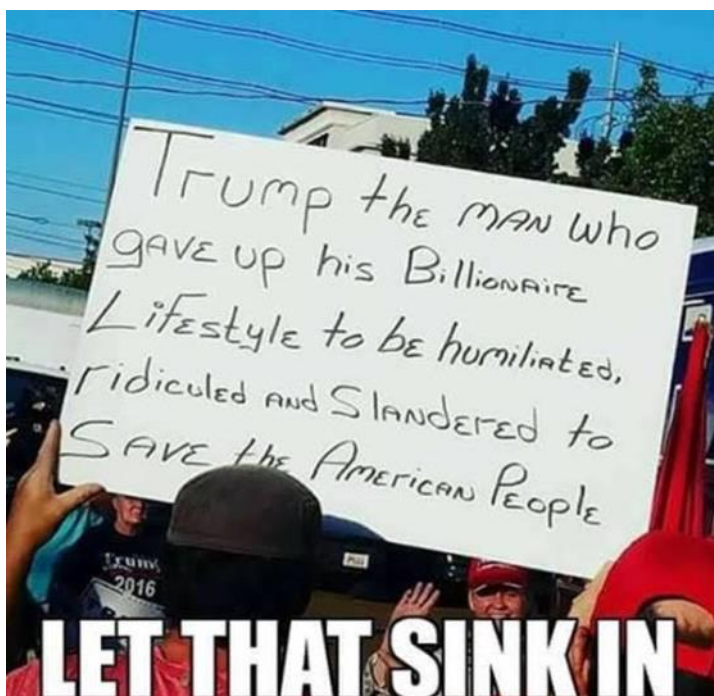
Also new trends are used to intervene before the case goes to a judge and jury. Some use the plea bargain to get a quick resolution to a conflict. The second is the changing nature of sentencing. Congress and many state legislatures have adopted new sentencing commission to specify the penalties for certain crimes. In addition there are states where the judges request a change of venue. This is in direct conflict with the Constitution of a common law jury of peers and in the place where the crime was committed.

When crimes are committed outside of any state, i.e. in a Territory the Congress shall indicate the place where the trial shall be held. This applied to crimes on the high seas also. 8 Trial by jury is not practical when dealing with international disputes.

The value of the common law jury is still an important aspect of our American heritage and would better serve our citizens. I feel it's worth standing up for. The United States of America is the last Country to have trials by jury. We need to talk about the value and how to reinstate it. More students of the constitution law need to be in positions of authority as senator Mike Lee of Utah and Ted Cruz of Texas. They are helping hold the senate responsible for their actions.

Since the original 13 states our nation has grown to 50 states and the many changes have followed. I feel as we the people are able to send a clear message that the Constitution is for the betterment of our nation and we need to stand firm in the enforcement of the law.

1. The Making of America, W. Cleon Skousen. 1991 page 614
2. Ibid. page 615
3. Ibid. page 616 * see appendix
4. Ibid. page 616
5. Heritage Guide to the Constitution, Edwin Meese III page 616
6. Ibid. page 262
7. Ibid page 262
8. Ibid. page 263



Legislative Report



Our Legislators are hard at work both in Washington D.C. and in Austin. Here are links to some of the news in March

Congressman Sam Johnson - 3rd District of Texas

3 / 28 / 2017 [Sam Johnson Announces 35th Annual Congressional Art Competition for High School Students](#)

3 / 17 / 17 [Sam Johnson Reintroduces Bill to Stop Taxpayer-Funded Bonuses to Delinquent IRS Workers](#)

3 / 16 / 17 [SAM JOHNSON: Preserve YOUR Local Veteran Stories with Library of Congress](#)

3 / 9 / 17 [Sam Johnson Statement on Committee Passage of Obamacare Repeal and Replace Bill](#)

3/8/17 [Sam Johnson Bill to Expand Health Care Coverage, Lower Costs for Small Businesses Passes Committee](#)

3/2/17 [Sam Johnson, John Cornyn Reintroduce Bill to Ensure Fair Retirement Savings Treatment for Guard, Reserve Forces](#)

Senator Van Taylor: District 8

3 / 29 / 17 - [The Bravery Of Collin County Sheriff's Department Recognized In The Texas Senate](#)

3 / 29 / 17—[Senator Van Taylor Recognizes Collin County Today In The Senate](#)

3 / 15 / 17 - [Senator Van Taylor Sponsors "We The People" Bus To Capitol Calling For Property Tax Reform](#)

3 / 12 / 17 -[Senator Van Taylor Statement on The Texas Privacy Act \(S.B. 6\) Anticipated to be Considered on the Senate Floor as Early as Tomorrow](#)

3 / 10 / 17 - [Senator Van Taylor Files Legislative Package Protecting Fair Elections](#)

3 / 6 / 17 -[Senator Van Taylor And Representative Jodie Laubenberg File Collin College Nursing Baccalaureate Bill](#)

Rep. Jodie Laubenberg-District 89

Rep. Jeff Leach-District 67

Rep. Scott Sanford –District 70

Rep. Matt Shaheen –District 66

Rep. Justin Holland –District 33

SENATOR VAN TAYLOR SPONSORS

“WE THE PEOPLE” BUS TO CAPITOL CALLING FOR PROPERTY TAX REFORM

AUSTIN, TX – State Senator Van Taylor chartered a bus for constituents wishing to submit testimony in yesterday's committee hearing for S.B. 2, the Texas Property Tax Reform and Relief Act of 2017. During the interim, the Property Tax Reform and Relief Committee went directly to the people and held public hearings in Austin, San Antonio, The Valley, Lubbock, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, and at Senator Taylor's request concluded in Collin County. Through nearly fifty hours of testimony, approximately 2,150 citizens packed auditoriums across the state expressing mainly grief and frustration at the skyrocketing property tax burden.

“I am thankful for everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to travel to Austin and make their voice heard in support of property tax reform,” stated Taylor. “On no other issue have I seen such a divide between the will of the people and government interests, exposing a system where government grows on autopilot without a mechanism for the people to check its power. Such a system, which seeks to silence the people, belittles the principles of our Republic and cries out for reform.”

Taylor continued, “I sponsored this bus for constituents because big-government interests and their team of lobbyists should not have a larger voice at the Capitol than the people. Our homes are special places where we make a lifetime of memories – not just another asset for the government to tax. As I said when we started this mission, in order to achieve meaningful property tax reform the voice of the people must echo the halls of the Capitol. I am so proud of the team Collin County taxpayers who made the long trip to demand property tax reform.”

A trusted conservative leader in the Texas Senate and outspoken advocate for meaningful property tax relief, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick appointed Taylor to serve on the Select Committee on Property Tax Reform and Relief. During the interim the Committee traveled the state holding public hearings, discussing ways to improve the property tax process, as well as reduce the burden on property owners.

In a press release announcing his appointments to the committee, Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick stated, “Texas voters have spoken and they clearly said they want lasting, meaningful tax reform. Proposition 1, this Select Committee on Property Tax Reform and Relief, and recently passed legislation as well as Finance Committee interim charges are all part of a vision for a better Texas.”

According to data from the Texas Comptroller, between 2005 and 2014, local property taxes increased approximately 2.5 times faster than the median household income.

Last session Senator Taylor coauthored, and helped pass, Senate Bill 1 (84R), which increased the homestead exemption from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for school district property taxes. Needing voter approval before taking affect, over 86% of Texas voters supported the measure by passing Proposition 1 during the 2015 Constitutional Amendment Election. According to the non-partisan Legislative Budget Board this legislation provided Texans with \$1.2 billion in property tax relief.

A seventh generation Texan, local small businessman, and decorated Marine Officer, Van Taylor serves the majority of Collin County and a portion of Dallas County in the Texas Senate where he is widely recognized as a conservative leader. Taylor serves as Vice-Chairman of the Sunset Advisory Commission and is also member of the Natural Resources and Economic Development, Education, Health and Human Services, Intergovernmental Relations, and Nominations Committees. Van and his wife, Anne, married after his return from Iraq and are the proud parents of three young girls. Van and his family reside in Plano near the land his great-grandfather farmed during the Great Depression.



Senator Van Taylor greets "We the People" bus of constituents who traveled to Austin to testify in support of property tax reform.

Enough is ENOUGH: I am hereby DECLARING...

By: Allen West

As you know by now, it has happened again, and it happened in London on the one-year anniversary of another Islamic jihadist terror attack.

However, I'd best be careful in what I say — after all, I don't want to be referred to as an Islamophobe by the Islamapologists. As a matter of fact, the Muslim mayor of London said just last year, "Terror attacks are "part and parcel of living in a big city.

I am hereby declaring that it's time to go on the offense and start seeking out the terrorist cells and eliminating them, globally, and domestically. My concern is that we continue to have those voices of the "coexist" crowd who just refuse to comprehend that there's a dedicated group of individuals focused on our destruction. I suppose if this had happened in these United States, and we still had a Barack Obama or worse as president, we'd be talking about "car" control, and not rushing to judgement.

Unfortunately, just last week in Paris we had another Islamic jihadist who attempted to wrestle away a security officer's weapon, claiming he wanted to die for... well, not University of Tennessee football, that's for sure.

Just as a reminder for those of you not aware, as reported by Reuters, Prime Minister Theresa May said of the attacks, "The terrorist chose to strike at the heart of our capital city, where people of all nationalities, religions and cultures come together to celebrate the values of liberty, democracy and freedom of speech." Any attempt to defeat those values through violence was "doomed to failure."

Mark Rowley, Britain's most senior counter-terrorism officer...said the attack was "Islamist-related terrorism." Police believed they knew the identity of the attacker but would not provide details at this stage, he said. It was the deadliest attack in London since four British Islamists killed 52 commuters and themselves in suicide bombings on the city's transport system in July 2005, in London's worst peacetime attack."

How much longer will we accept excuses? How much longer will we confuse freedom of speech with violent utterances of sedition and hate?

When will Western civilization stop defending that which is indefensible and realize the enemy is not at the gates, but well entrenched inside? We remember the truck used during the Islamic jihadist attack in Nice, France on the French Independence Day. We remember the vehicle used to run down Christmas celebrants at a festival in Germany. We know about the increase in rapes and sexual assaults all over Europe. This is a battle not just being waged in faraway lands. We are all on the new 21st century battlefield, and we are being terrorized. Gladly, we no longer have a US attorney general telling us compassion, unity and love wins the day against murderous Islamic jihadists.

I wonder if I had to speak at St. Louis University tomorrow, would the president there refer to me as a provocateur and administration officials say I had no experience to speak on radical Islamic terrorism? Would the cupcakes inspired by the Muslim Student Association, named in the Muslim Brotherhood's strategic memorandum as an enabling organization, still stage a walkout? Yeah, they probably still would find it easier to attack the very ones seeking to defend them from the wolves, instead of admitting the wolves exist.

We must be prepared in our homelands to fight just as vigilantly as our Warriors deployed in order to protect our way of life. We know this recently happened on the campus of Ohio State University — exactly the same, a vehicle attack followed by a knife assault. Thank God there was a quick thinking, well-trained and fine marksman of a campus law enforcement officer on that campus.

And what is funny is more folks display insidious, unconscionable and unrighteous indignation over a temporary travel halt for folks emanating from areas known to harbor Islamic terrorists. Can it be that the progressive socialist left is aligned with the Islamo-fascists and jihadists?

There can be no more debate: Angela Merkel was wrong and made a horrible mistake exposing her citizens, the folks she's supposed to protect, to a savage scourge based on a 7th century ideological concept that now has 21st century technology and capability.

We've become victims, not so much of the Islamic jihadists, but more so of the weak and cowardly faux leadership in Western civilization that has refused to face this clear and present danger head on and defeat it. We wonder why the recruitment grows, and it has nothing to do with GITMO, but rather a sense of revitalization and ensuring victory over the infidels.

We've allowed the most abhorrent behavior to thrive in our world, and we continue to obfuscate, deny and dismiss this enemy.

Let me put what happened in London in context. Some Islamic jihadist turns his vehicle into the DC mall right now as spring breakers are visiting their nation's capitol. They're mowed down mercilessly, and then the assailant exits the car with a large knife and directs his attack towards Capitol Hill police — well, that's where the story takes a different turn. You see, our law enforcement officers on the beat are armed.

Enough is ENOUGH: I am hereby DECLARING...

By: Allen West

Continued from Page 10

So when, WHEN will we stop worrying about tweets and Russians and get focused? Think about what has happened in the past two days. A 14-year-old girl was brutally raped and sodomized by illegal immigrants at her high school. And four people are dead, up to 40 wounded because of an Islamic jihadist attack. Yet, we want sanctuary cities for criminal illegals and more refugees and open entry for those coming from areas where Islamic terrorism thrives — Iran, Sudan, Somalia, Yemen, Syria, and Libya.

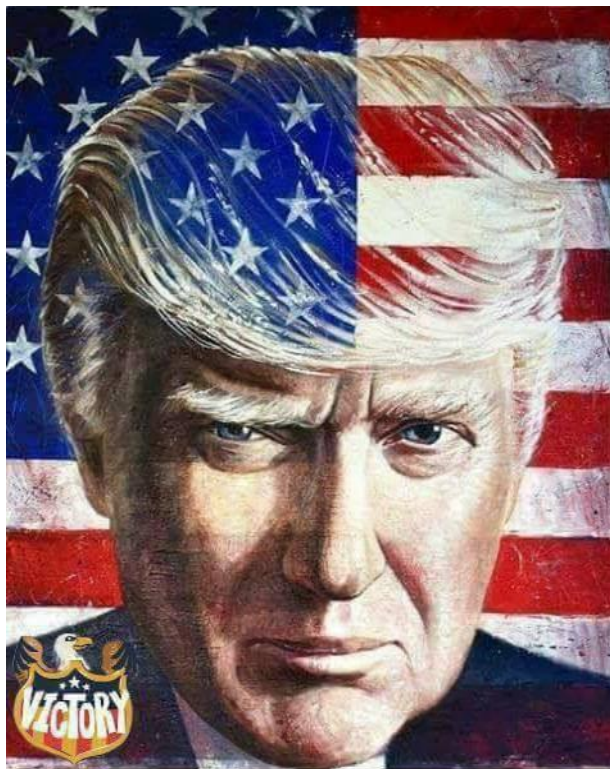
Let's be honest, the fashionable liberal progressive belief that they're more enlightened and compassionate is a farce. We can no longer subjugate ourselves to the gods of multiculturalism and diversity as a means of surrendering our sovereignty and security. This HAS to end but it cannot end until we have a cultural shift that stops attacking ourselves and focus on the real enemy.

Page seven of the Muslim Brotherhood's Explanatory Memorandum written in 1991 by Mohammed Akram states, "The process of settlement is a 'Civilization-Jihadist Process' with all the word means. The Ikhwan [Muslim Brotherhood] must understand that their work in America is a kind of grand jihad in eliminating and destroying the Western civilization from within and 'sabotaging' its miserable house by their hands and the hands of the believers..." "[W]e must possess a mastery of the art of 'coalitions', the art of 'absorption' and the principles of 'cooperation.'"

None of this has to be so, but we are indeed bringing about our own destruction by allowing gaps where our classical liberal rights and freedoms are being exploited. Ask yourself, when was the last time the liberal progressive left took to the streets in violent protest because of an Islamic jihadist attack? Not even when it was done at a gay establishment in Orlando, fully knowing that gays are thrown from buildings and hanged by Islamists.

But let a Christian couple say they don't want to bake a cake for a same-sex marriage, and they go apoplectic. That is how we destroy ourselves by our own hand...and the damn jihadists, those killing us, and the slick suit-wearing ones, like Linda Sarsour who led the Million Women's March, just laugh their butts off.

Political Cartoons



The Devil whispered into President Trump's ear and said, "You're not strong enough to withstand the storm." President Trump whispered back, "I Am The Storm."



Plano City, School and Collin College Elections



Elections are scheduled for Saturday, May 6 for:

- Plano City Council Members and Mayor
- Plano Independent School District Trustees
- Collin College Trustees

Early Voting Begins Monday, April 24.

- All Plano council members are elected by all Plano voters. It is confusing because some council seats require residency in specific districts - but all voters vote on all council seats.
- The Mayor is Place 6 and will be on the ballot. Special duties of the Mayor such as managing council meetings would be interesting to include.
- Past voting in city elections has been very low. The last election turnout was around 6%. The time before that was even lower. It is important to get people to vote in city elections.
- PRW's March meeting will be a forum for Plano council candidates. Invite people to attend and meet the candidates. There will be a candidate meet & greet at 11 am before the forum begins.
- The city election is May 6 - other dates such as last day to register and when early voting begins would be good to include.
- Also on the ballot in May are PISD and Collin College trustees.
- The April PRW meeting is a forum for PISD candidates so a similar article in the March newsletter about PISD would be appropriate.

Use this link to get more information: <http://www.planorepublicanwomen.org/may-2017-elections.html>



Democrats v. Gorsuch: It's the Rule of Law, Stupid!

By: Mark Alexander

The Gorsuch confirmation hearings provide a clear contrast between the Rule of Law our Framers established and Democrats' desire for the despotic rule of men.

"It has long, however, been my opinion, and I have never shrunk from its expression ... that the germ of dissolution of our federal government is in the constitution of the federal Judiciary; working like gravity by night and by day, gaining a little today and a little tomorrow, and advancing its noiseless step like a thief, over the field of jurisdiction, until all shall be usurped." —Thomas Jefferson (1821)

In March of 1991, after Operation Desert Storm — the first war in Iraq — President George H. W. Bush enjoyed a 90% public approval rating. But a year later, facing an unknown young and energetic presidential challenger, Bill Clinton, Bush's *disapproval rating* somehow topped 60%.

Clinton's "ragin' Cajun" campaign advisor, James Carville, sharply focused Clinton's message on the economy and a single mantra, which the main-stream media dutifully repeated ad nauseam: "It's the economy, stupid!"

And it worked. This week, as Donald Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Neil Gorsuch, faced a barrage of leftist criticism from Democrat "constitutional scholars" on the Senate Judiciary Committee, it became abundantly apparent that all of them missed the prerequisite "Constitutional Law 101" course regarding the role of SCOTUS jurists.

With no apology to Carville, allow me to respond to those critics: "It's the Rule of Law, stupid!"

Early in his campaign last year, Donald Trump promised that he would appoint "conservative judges" to the Supreme Court. By "conservative," he meant those who would "conserve" the Liberty and Rule of Law enshrined in our Constitution. Conversely, his opponent (I can't recall her name) promised to appoint "liberal judges," those who would seek to "liberate" the American people from their unalienable rights to Liberty — judges who would treat our Constitution as if it were, as Thomas Jefferson warned, "a mere thing of wax ... which they may twist and shape into any form they please."

Indeed, Jefferson, who Democrats claim as the father of their political party, warned, "[T]he opinion which gives to the judges the right to decide what laws are constitutional and what not, not only for themselves, in their own sphere of action, but for the Legislature and Executive also in their spheres, would make the Judiciary a despotic branch."

Despite Jefferson's timeless warning, our judiciary has devolved into a despotic branch in this era. Its jurists legislate by judicial diktat, which the Democrats have sought to create ever since the reign of the 20th-century father of their party, Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Since 1970, leftists have, in large measure, succeeded in undermining Rule of Law by nominating SCOTUS judges who subscribe to the errant notion of a "living constitution," one that can be shaped and twisted to comport with their political ideology.

Last year, when endorsing Donald Trump's candidacy, I noted that when asked, "How will you vote," I responded as I have every quadrennial election since I cast my first vote: "For our Constitution." In other words, for the candidate who is most likely to nominate constitutionally constructionist judges to the Supreme Court — those who will promote Liberty over tyranny.

I warned that "the outcome of the November election will not only determine our president for the next four years, but the composition of the Supreme Court for the next quarter-century."

In the month prior to his inauguration, Donald Trump began to lay the foundation for a conservative administration that would rival that of Ronald Reagan.

Within days of his inauguration, President Trump delivered on his promise to nominate constitutional conservatives to the Supreme Court — starting with Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Neil Gorsuch, who was endorsed by both our colleagues at the Heritage Foundation and the Federalist Society.

The nomination of Judge Gorsuch to fill the seat of the late Antonin Scalia is an unequivocal win for Rule of Law.

Despite how Democrats and their Leftmedia echo chambers want to frame the nomination debate, it is NOT a "Republican versus Democrat" or "conservative versus liberal" issue. This is a pitched battle for the future of Liberty.

Our Founders and our Constitution prescribed that the specific role of Supreme Court justices was and remains, "to support and defend" Rule of Law in accordance with their solemn oaths. As [George Washington](#) stated on behalf of the framers, "The Constitution, which at any time exists 'till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole People, is sacredly obligatory upon all."

Justice Antonin Scalia defined constitutional originalism (conservatism) this way: "The Constitution that I interpret and apply is not living but dead, or as I prefer to call it, enduring. It means today not what current society, much less the court, thinks it ought to mean, but what it meant when it was adopted."

That is the same constructionist view held by Judge Gorsuch.

The current Senate judiciary hearings provide a clear and dramatic contrast between the competing visions of conservatives advocating for the constitutional Rule of Law our Framers established and the Democrats' desire for the despotic rule of men.

Continued on Page 14

Democrats v. Gorsuch: It's the Rule of Law, Stupid!

Continued from Page 13

Lecturing Judge Gorsuch on how judges should conduct themselves on the federal bench, Sen. Pat Leahy (D-VT) complained, "It has been 25 years since an originalist has been nominated to the Supreme Court. Given what we've seen from Justice Scalia, and Justice Thomas and Judge Gorsuch on record, I worry that it goes beyond being a philosophy and it becomes an agenda." Leahy continued, "Judge Gorsuch appears to have a comprehensive originalist philosophy ... While it has gained some popularity within conservative circles, originalism, I believe, remains outside the mainstream of moderate constitutional jurisprudence."

I would challenge Leahy to find anything — *anything* — in our Constitution about "mainstream moderate constitutional jurisprudence." Then again, by his account Rule of Law is just an antiquated concept.

Judge Gorsuch channeled Justice Scalia in his reply to Leahy: "If judges were just secret legislators, declaring not what the law is but what they would like [it] to be, the very idea of a government by the people and for the people would be at risk. And those who came before the court would live in fear, never sure exactly what the law requires of them, except for the judge's will."

The Demos' ranking committee member, Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), protested: "Judge Gorsuch has stated that he believes judges should look to the original, public meaning of the Constitution when they decide what a provision of the Constitution means. ... I find this originalist judicial philosophy to be really troubling."

Feinstein continued, "In essence, it means that judges and courts should evaluate our constitutional rights and privileges as they were understood in 1789. However, to do so would not only ignore the intent of the [Framers], that the Constitution would be a framework on which to build. ... I firmly believe the American Constitution is a living document, intended to evolve as our country evolves."

Feinstein's assertions are mind-numbingly wrong in every syllable — but this is precisely the sort of incoherence that we've come to expect from her.

In 1789, our Framers provided a brilliant foundational document on which to sustain Liberty. It prescribed a clear method for its own amendment by the whole body of the people and their legislatures, not by judicial activists as Feinstein and her fellow Democrats would wish. What leftists "firmly believe" is that they should dictate law.

I should note here that when Feinstein pressed Judge Gorsuch on his views regarding the Second Amendment, the [premier civil right](#) ensuring the defense of all others, he stood firm in his position that "Heller is the law of the land." (As you recall, the Heller decision overturned banning of handgun possession by law-abiding citizens in Washington, DC, and by broad extension other jurisdictions across the nation.)

Sen. Dick Durbin (D-IL) scolded Gorsuch, insisting, "Your nomination is part of a Republican strategy to capture our judicial branch of government." If so, then by "capture" he must actually mean "restore Liberty for this and future generations."

Indeed, Judge Gorsuch stood equally firm in his defense of the [First Amendment](#) protection of religious liberty when Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) challenged the right of family-owned businesses to practice their religious beliefs.

Of course, back in 1993, Schumer and former Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) joined Republicans enacting the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which Judge Gorsuch noted "says that any sincerely held religious belief cannot be abridged by the government without a compelling reason." Apparently, Schumer was endeavoring to contradict the legislation he helped pass.

Judge Gorsuch noted further that because Congress previously "has defined 'person' to include corporation ... you can't rule out the possibility that some companies can exercise religion. And of course we know churches are often incorporated and we know nonprofits, like Little Sisters or hospitals, can practice religion."

Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) turned her attention to pronouns. She asked Gorsuch if a woman could be president, even though "the Constitution refers like 30-some times to 'his' or 'he' when describing the president of the United States."

Gorsuch replied, "Senator, I'm not looking to take us back to quill pens and horses and buggies. ... Of course women can be president of the United States. I'm the father of two daughters, and I hope one of them turns out to be president."

Last and most certainly least, the comedic Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) exclaimed, "While no one can dispute [Justice Scalia's] love of the Constitution, the document he revered looks very different from the one that I have sworn to support and defend." Only if one is in severe need of historically corrective lenses.

The truth is that our Constitution says and means exactly the same thing today as it did when our Founders drafted it — and as properly amended in the years since. It remains the standard for enumeration of Liberty and the [innate and unalienable rights of man](#).

Founder John Adams, who drafted the Declaration of Independence with Thomas Jefferson, warned, "A Constitution of Government once changed from Freedom, can never be restored. Liberty, once lost, is lost forever." In other words, if constitutional liberty is abdicated, it would take the reformation of another constitution to restore it — most likely by way of revolution.

Contemplate those words. Currently, our Constitution has been subjected to enormous insult and adulteration by Democrat SCOTUS appointees, and the resulting corruption of the constitutionally authorized role of government means that even the most stalwart constitutional constructionist is operating in a lawless environment. Restoring Rule of Law is an enormous task, and it begins with holding members of the legislative and executive branches accountable for abiding by their sacred oaths "[to Support and Defend](#)" our Constitution — and uphold Rule of Law.

Beyond Gorsuch, this week Donald Trump announced his nominee for the first of the appellate court vacancies — U.S. District Judge Amul Thapar for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Thapar was on the [short list for SCOTUS nominees](#), so another great pick.

Of the 677 District Court and 179 Court of Appeals judgeships, there are 19 appellate and 96 district vacancies awaiting Trump nominees. By comparison, of the last three administrations, Bill Clinton nominated 62 Court of Appeals and 306 District Court judges over his eight year tenure. Of course, over the next four years, if Republicans can hold the Senate in 2018, given additional attrition on the courts, Trump may get to half the Clinton number. Let's hope he gets at least one more Supreme Court nominee.

(Footnote: One reason Rule of Law is being undermined — according the latest public surveys, [only 43% of Americans](#) can name even one Supreme Court Justice...)

Semper Vigilans Fortis Paratus et Fidelis
Pro Deo et Libertas — 1776

SHERIFF: WHERE IS THE SANCTUARY FOR OUR CITIZENS?

By: Sheriff David Clark

Recently, an illegal immigrant in Stamford, CT, a sanctuary city, [allegedly raped a three-year-old girl](#); one state over, the grief-stricken families of teenage girls who were killed with machetes and baseball bats finally saw their [illegal immigrant murderers indicted](#).

Ten of the 15 arrested were in the country illegally. Against this backdrop, a group of non-compliant sanctuary city “law-unenforcement” executives signed a letter calling those who wish to enforce already existing immigration law “extremists.”

That is a great political statement straight from the Democrat Party talking points, but as far as a public safety policy statement it is flawed on several fronts. Let’s put the talking points away and have a serious discussion.

The [letter](#), addressed to the U.S. Senate, was a response to President Trump’s January executive order threatening to withhold federal funds to those sanctuary cities that refused to comply with federal immigration law. Oh, and it does add a request of their own: they still want the federal funds. I was taught at a young age that you can’t have your cake and eat it too. That applies here.

To be clear, what is being asked of police is no more than to hold illegal aliens if they commit crimes or are subject to deportation until Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials can take custody of the criminal illegal alien.

Why is that so extreme? As if they thought no one would notice the glaring inconsistency, the letter opens by repeating their commitment to the safety of the communities they serve. It’s quite an impressive amount of gall for these letter-signers to cite public safety as they give a hearty welcome to illegal immigrants; savage criminality and dangerous pasts a plus.

The claim by these executives that holding arrested or convicted criminal illegal aliens will hurt community policing efforts in Latino communities is nothing more than an emotional and anecdotal claim with no substantiation.

Apply that flawed logic to effort to improve police relations within the black community. Using their approach, the police would not issue any more traffic tickets and refrain from stopping black motorists. Sure, relations would improve but public safety would suffer as traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities would rise.

These catch and release supporting law enforcement executives didn’t just sign an inane, politicized letter; they actively are aiding and abetting criminality. They are choosing the vile path of political expediency and grandstanding upon that political road over their ethical duty to uphold the law.

Sanctuary cities are safe havens for criminal activity. One of the statistics that law enforcement agencies struggle with is unreported and under reporting of crime. Just because a crime goes unreported does not mean that it isn’t a problem or didn’t occur.

People in the country illegally are less likely to report crime for fear of being identified as being in the country illegally themselves. (Even though local police do not have immigration enforcement authority.) This means rapes, domestic violence, robbery, thefts, and child abuse can often go unreported. It hurts police-community trust when people cannot be protected by police.

The re-victimization and incarceration costs for imprisoning criminal illegal aliens alone should have cities, counties and states on board with President Trump’s attempt to make America safe again.

According to one [report](#), taxpayers paid nearly \$1.9 billion to house imprisoned criminal illegal aliens in FY 2014 with states paying most of the cost (92 percent). That is money that could be spent on education, job training and rebuilding infrastructure.

We reduce future costs by deporting all criminal illegal aliens on their first arrest, conviction or not and truly sealing the border so they cannot return. This requires the cooperation of local law enforcement executives and elected officials.

This hypocrisy and disrespect for the law would be almost comical if the stories I’ve recounted here weren’t common occurrences. That three-year-old would not be raped, if it weren’t for the illegal continuance of sanctuary cities.

Consider that President Trump must take on law enforcement executives from these 63 jurisdictions if he wants to keep Americans safe. Let that sink in, and you’ll begin to question what exactly the political left in America stands for – because it isn’t Americans.

Some states are already holding local governments accountable for non-compliance with immigration law by fines and withholding state funding. Additional withholding of federal funds will cause enough strain on local budgets that over time they will comply with immigration laws like they did on mandatory seatbelt wearing and mandated highway speed limits.

It is as if these 63 letter-signers (and the media and politicians who love their sanctuary cities) have no regard for the American way – for laws crafted for and by the people -- at all, but only seek to placate the whims and predilections of the politically correct set. The consequence is that we are left with representatives, media, and law enforcement who choose politics over duty, and leave their cities wide open to assault, turmoil, and violence.

The true meaning of sanctuary is found in our law itself; in it we can all have rest that we are self-governed, and we can trust our law enforcement executives to fulfill their duty and uphold what the people expect of them.

Sheriff David Clarke is the Milwaukee County sheriff. Clarke is the author of “Cop Under Fire: Moving Beyond Hashtags of Race, Crime and Politics for a Better America.” Follow him on Twitter @SheriffClarke

The views expressed by contributors are their own and are not the views of The Hill.

If you type in this long link, you can read the letter that Sheriff Clark is referring to: https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/03/opinion/a-sanctuary-city-seizes-the-moment-and-the-name.html?_r=0

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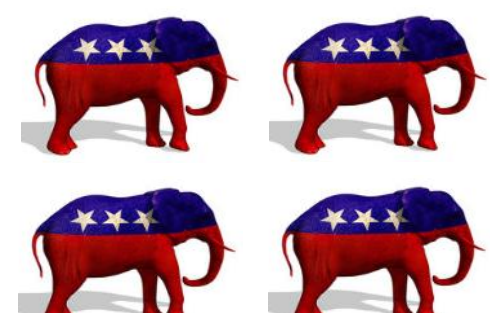
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Photos from the PRWC March Meeting



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First female DNC Chair to resign for tampering with a primary.



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- _____ \$1 TFRW Scholarship Donation
- _____ \$8.00 Magnetic PRW Name Tag
- _____ \$4 Mail Delivery of the annual PRW Membership Directory

TOTAL: _____ **Check #:** _____

Please provide the information to be included in the PRW Membership Directory

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____
Street City Zip code + 4

Phone numbers: (home) _____ (Office) _____ (Cell) _____

Email* _____ Precinct# _____ Birthday (month & day) _____

Spouse Email* _____

* Email is used for newsletters and other PRW announcements

The information requested below is required by the Texas Ethics Commission:

Occupation _____ **Employer** _____



Plano Republican Women
P.O. Box 940461
Plano, TX 75094



Plano Republican Women

**meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month
(except June, July & December)**

Reflections on Spring Creek

1901 East Spring Creek Parkway

just 1½ blocks east of Central Expressway in Plano

11:15 am check-in

11:30 am meeting, lunch and program

Lunch is \$20 payable to PRW (Cash or Check) at the door.

You do not have to have lunch to attend,

But please RSVP to

rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org



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