

Elephant Talk

Plano Republican Women

TFRW Region No: 3 Senate District No: 8

February 2018

President's Byline : I'm Not "Wild about Harry"



As I have reflected on how the Mayor of Plano handled the FaceBook posts by Councilman Tom Harrison, I have come to the conclusion that this whole debacle could have been and should have been avoided. But Harry **CHOSE** to make this very public and yet again divided the citizens of Plano. Why, when he received this complaint or complaints from the Muslim community didn't he go to Tom and ask him about these and bring Tom and those few who had probably at this early stage of this seen the posts together to let them this amicably instead of throwing together a press conference and making this into what has become a national story (Harry's version was reported in the Washington Post).

I attended the event on Sunday because I voted for Tom and I know that Tom is not a bigot and did not deserve this. I also know that Tom has been a "thorn in Harry's side" as Harry does not take kindly to those who don't support him on the City Council. This makes me wonder, especially in light of the "additional information" that just happened to be brought up during the closed session on Sunday what Harry's real agenda is here. A real leader would not have chosen this very divisive action which basically paints Tom and his supporters as bigots and that is simply not true. And it was really bad publicity for Plano; just as Harry deciding to snub the President of the United States invitation to the White House was. Good grief, Mayor Mike Rawlings attended the event and he is certainly not a Trump supporter. Harry was in Washington on the city of Plano's time and he should have gone. Harry does seem to be very thin-skinned about a lot of things and I have yet to ever hear this man say "I was wrong" about anything. And just to be clear, if politicians have to resign because they have offended someone or some group, then we could probably clear out every elected office from top to bottom.

The Constitution protects freedom of speech, but it does not say that anyone or any group has the constitutional right not to be offended. Political correctness has led us down a most dangerous path and it needs to stop. The politics of personal destruction needs to stop. How many good people will choose not to run for office because they don't want themselves or their families smeared with half-truths or outright lies. Unfortunately, politics has always been ugly and this is sadly nothing new but with social media and all the instantaneous ways news and fake news is spread, I do think it is worse now than ever.

So, I leave you with this: if this were a major corporation, would the CEO choose to "throw his own company" under the bus and publicly air a problem like this, or would he seek first to find a way to bring healing and unite rather than divide? You decide.

Catherine Gibb

President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

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Calendar of Events

Early Vote 2/20—3/2

Election Day 3/6

Board Meeting 3/13
Celebrity Bakery

March Meeting 3/20

Coupon Cutting notice
By email

February Plano Republican Women Meeting

Next PRW Meeting:

Tuesday, Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Article V & State Sovereignty

Speaker: KrisAnne Hall



Constitutional Attorney, Educator, Author, Speaker, and Radio Host will be speaking on the pros and cons of the processes outlined in Article V of the US Constitution

Article V.: The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments..

<http://krisannehall.com/>

Location: [Reflections on Spring Creek](#)

1901 East Spring Creek Parkway

Time: 11:15 am: Arrive and check-in

11:30 am: Meeting, Lunch & Program

[PRW membership](#) is not required to attend our meeting Lunch is available with RSVP for \$20 in cash or check payable to PRW

RSVPs for lunch must be made by 5 pm the Friday before the meeting

RSVPs to attend without lunch may be made up to 5pm the Monday before the Tuesday meeting

To RSVP send an email to: rsvp@planorepublicanwomen.org
Include your name in your email and say if you will/will not be having lunch



SAVE YOUR TAX DOLLARS: Sam Johnson Hosts “Free File” Tax Workshop

PLANO, TX – To help Collin County constituents save their hard-earned dollars during tax season, U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson (TX-03) will be joining Free File Alliance for a briefing and “Free File” tax workshop. The event is free and open to the public.

The event will start by highlighting the IRS “Free File” program, which provides free online tax-prep and e-filing services to taxpayers who earned an annual income of \$66,000 or less in 2017. Following the briefing, there will be a one hour interactive demonstration to see how easy it is to use “Free File” and learn about other free tax services in the community.

“With tax season underway, I want to make sure folks know about the IRS ‘Free File’ program that helps middle and lower income Americans do their taxes *and* for free,” said Johnson. “I’ve always been troubled at the idea that hard-working Americans have to pay for help to do their taxes due to the complexity of the tax code. The good news is that the recently passed tax reform should make next year’s tax filing easier – as easy as using a postcard-like form! I look forward to a productive tax workshop, and I also encourage folks who need any other assistance with the IRS to please call my Plano office at (469) 304-0382. My staff and I are always happy to help!”

WHAT: Learn how to file your taxes for free with Free File Alliance

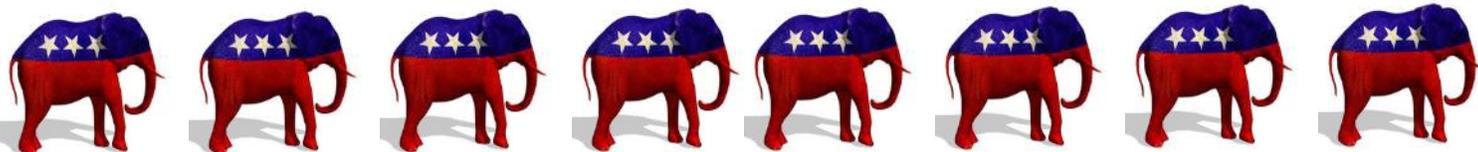
WHEN: March 2, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Collin College, Spring Creek Campus
2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, Room I 123
Plano, Texas 75074

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Lori Baux: MLBaux@gmail.com, 202-265-8148.

For more information, please visit www.irs.gov/freefile.

To learn more about Congressman Johnson’s efforts regarding fiscal responsibility, [CLICK HERE](#).



STATEWIDE ELECTION DATES

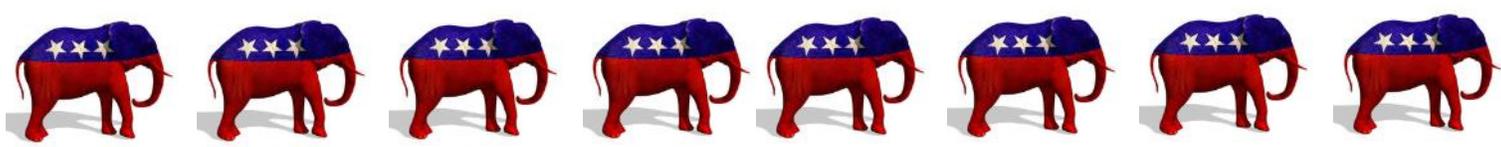
March 6, 2018: Primary election

May 22, 2018: Primary runoff election

November 6, 2018: General election

[click here](#) for information about the
Collin County Republican Primary

PRW February Meeting Photos



Black History Month

By Walter E. Williams

February 17, 2018

Carter G. Woodson, noted scholar, historian and educator, created "Negro History Week" in 1926, which became Black History Month in 1976. Woodson chose February because it coincided with the birthdays of black abolitionist Frederick Douglass and President Abraham Lincoln. Americans should be proud of the tremendous gains made since emancipation. Black Americans, as a group, have made the greatest gains, over some of the highest hurdles, in a shorter span of time than any other racial group in mankind's history.

What's the evidence? If one totaled black income and thought of us as a separate nation with our own gross domestic product, black Americans would rank among the world's 20 richest nations. It was a black American, Colin Powell, who, as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, headed the world's mightiest military. There are a few black Americans who are among the world's richest and most famous personalities. The significance of these achievements is that in 1865, neither a former slave nor a former slave owner would have believed that such gains would be possible in a little over a century. As such, it speaks well of the intestinal fortitude of a people. Just as importantly, it speaks well of a nation in which such gains were possible. Those gains would have been impossible anywhere other than the U.S.

Putting greater emphasis on black successes in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds is far superior to focusing on grievances and victimhood. Doing so might teach us some things that could help us today. Black education today is a major problem. Let's look at some islands of success from yesteryear, when there was far greater racial discrimination and blacks were much poorer.

From the late 1800s to 1950, some black schools were models of academic achievement. Black students at Washington's racially segregated Paul Laurence Dunbar High School, as early as 1899, outscored white students in the District of Columbia schools on citywide tests. Dr. Thomas Sowell's research in "Education: Assumptions Versus History" documents similar excellence at Baltimore's Frederick Douglass High School, Atlanta's Booker T. Washington High School, Brooklyn's Albany Avenue School, New Orleans' McDonogh 35 High School and others. These excelling students weren't solely members of the black elite; most had parents who were manual laborers, domestic servants, porters and maintenance men. Academic excellence was obtained with skimpy school budgets, run-down buildings, hand-me-down textbooks and often 40 or 50 students in a class.

Alumni of these schools include Thurgood Marshall, the first black Supreme Court justice (Frederick Douglass), Gen. Benjamin Davis, Dr. Charles Drew, a blood plasma innovator, Robert C. Weaver, the first black Cabinet member, Sen. Edward Brooke, William Hastie, the first black federal judge (Dunbar), and Nobel laureate Martin Luther King Jr. (Booker T. Washington). These examples of pioneering success raise questions about today's arguments about what's needed for black academic success. Education experts and civil rights advocates argue that for black academic excellence to occur, there must be racial integration, small classes, big budgets and modern facilities. But earlier black academic successes put a lie to that argument.

In contrast with yesteryear, at today's Frederick Douglass High School, only 9 percent of students test proficient in English, and only 3 percent do in math. At Paul Laurence Dunbar, 12 percent of pupils are proficient in reading, and 5 percent are proficient in math. At Booker T. Washington, the percentages are 20 in English and 18 in math. In addition to low academic achievement, there's a level of violence and disrespect to teachers and staff that could not have been imagined, much less tolerated, at these schools during the late 1800s and the first half of the 20th century.

Many black political leaders are around my age, 81, such as Rep. Maxine Waters, Del. Eleanor Holmes

Norton and Jesse Jackson. Their parents and other authorities would have never accepted the grossly disrespectful, violent behavior that has become the norm at many black schools. Their silence and support of the status quo makes a mockery of black history celebrations and represents a betrayal of epic proportions to the blood, sweat and tears of our ancestors in their struggle to make today's educational opportunities available.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

Have You Ever Wondered Which Side of the Fence You Sit On?

This is a Great Test!

If a **conservative** doesn't like guns, he doesn't buy one.

If a **liberal** doesn't like guns, he wants all guns outlawed.

If a **conservative** is a vegetarian, he doesn't eat meat.

If a **liberal** is a vegetarian, he wants all meat products banned for everyone.

If a **conservative** is down-and-out, he thinks about how to better his situation.

A **liberal**, wonders who is going to take care of him If a conservative doesn't like a talk show host, he switches channels. Liberals demand that those they don't like be shut down.

If a **conservative** is a non-believer, he doesn't go to church.

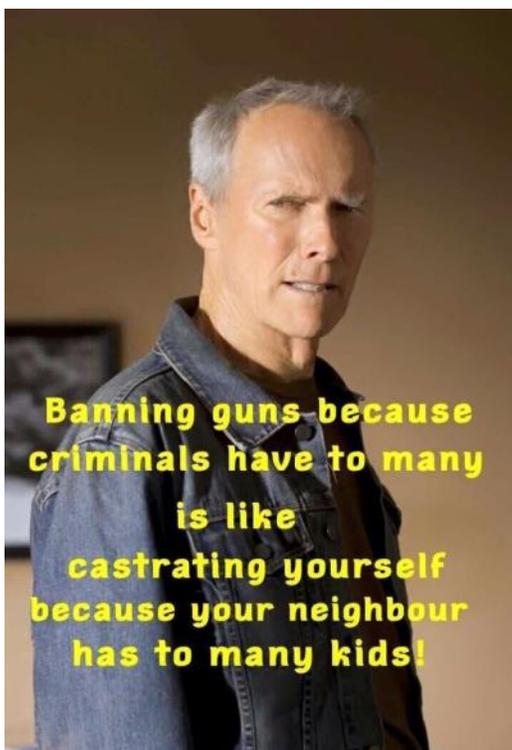
A **liberal** non-believer wants any mention of God and Jesus silenced.

If a **conservative** decides he needs health care, he goes about shopping for it, or may choose a job that provides.

A **liberal** demands that the rest of us pay for his.

If a **conservative** reads this, he will forward it so his friends can have a good laugh.

A **liberal** will delete it because he is "offended".



Political Cartoons

ONE-TIME COST OF THE BORDER WALL



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**LIBERALS THINK WE
SHOULD BE EQUAL
AT THE FINISH LINE.**

**CONSERVATIVES THINK
WE SHOULD BE EQUAL
AT THE STARTING LINE.**

TPUSA.com

I am Jesse Jackson. In 1999, I awarded Donald Trump, the billionaire with a lifetime achievement award for helping the poor.



In 2016, I called him a friend who embraced under-served communities. NOW THAT HE IS PRESIDENT, HE IS A RACIST AND THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE MUST GO.

Furthermore I SAY TRUMP WILL NOT GET INTO HEAVEN.



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

William Layne



Legislative Report

BREAKING: Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Receives Permit

Region at Serious Risk of Water Shortage without Reservoir

PLANO, TX —This week the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) received and accepted the long-awaited federal permit needed to construct the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir. The permit, issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, comes just in time – tremendous population growth in North Texas, coupled with a deficit of rain over the last decade, has put the region at a serious risk of a water shortage without this new reservoir in place by 2022.

The federal permit process was expedited thanks to **Congressman Sam Johnson's (TX-03)** bipartisan amendment included in the *Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act* (S. 612), which was signed into law on December 16, 2016. The amendment was co-sponsored by North Texas Representatives Pete Sessions, John Ratcliffe, and Eddie Bernice Johnson.

"This permit is GREAT news for North Texans," said Johnson. "Drought is no stranger to Texas, which is why making sure we have the water we need has been a longstanding priority of mine. Many folks may not be aware that our existing local reservoirs will soon be unable to meet the water demands of our area. You see, at Collin County's current rate of projected population growth, by 2022 there is a high risk of a water shortage unless this new reservoir is built. And the impact of not having this new reservoir would impact daily lives as well as our local economy. This goes beyond just watering the yard. It's about water from the faucet. But with four years needed to build and fill the reservoir, we've been cutting it close. I am proud to have successfully led the bipartisan effort with my neighboring colleagues to expedite the issuance of the permit. North Texans want, need, and deserve access to clean, reliable water – and it's great to see the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir finally becoming a reality."

"We appreciate the tremendous support from Sam Johnson as well as other Congressional leaders and legislators who fought to help us get construction started as soon as possible," said **Tom Kula, NTMWD Executive Director**. "They recognize that securing this critical water source is vital for the future of north Texas and supporting residents and economic prosperity in our fast-growing region."

"After years of hard work and engagement with several federal agencies, I am pleased to see leadership at the EPA, Region 6 and the Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District have agreed to proceed with a positive permit decision for North Texas Municipal Water District's Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir Project," **Congressman Pete Sessions (TX-32)** said. "This project is essential to meet the needs of our rapidly expanding region and will ensure North Texas communities have access to the resources they need to continue to grow and prosper. I thank all the parties involved for their diligent work on this issue."

"I'm very pleased that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has finally issued the long-awaited federal permit for the construction of the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir," stated **Congressman John Ratcliffe (TX-04)**. "After a decades-long, hard-fought battle on this important issue, I'm hopeful that construction will begin quickly, so the people of Northeast Texas can benefit from the positive impact it will have on the region."

"This is extremely good news for North Texas and the future of water delivery in the region," said **Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX-30)**. "I am proud to have joined my colleagues in the Texas Delegation in seeing this through. The population in North Texas is expected to grow precipitously and completion of the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir project will ensure that we can meet our water needs into the foreseeable future. I would like to congratulate and thank everyone involved for this bipartisan effort."

Legislative Background:

On September 28, 2016, the House of Representatives passed Congressman Johnson's amendment to expedite the federal approval of the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir as part of the *Water Resources Development Act* (H.R. 5303). It was then modified in conference committee and included in S. 612, the *Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act*. Former-President Obama signed S. 612 into law on December 16, 2016.

Specifically, Johnson's 2016 amendment required the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to expedite the federal permitting process for the Lower Bois d'Arc Creek Reservoir, and also required a report to Congress on its progress. Johnson authored the amendment because federal regulators had already spent nearly a decade reviewing the project, and the permitting process appeared far from over. As required by the amendment, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers submitted a [report](#) to Congress in July of 2017 with an updated timeline that anticipated a final Record of Decision to be finalized by January 2018.

5 Things Trump Talked About While Wowing CPAC

By: Fred Lucas

February 23, 2018

A loudly supportive crowd greeted President Donald Trump as he delivered a wide-ranging speech Friday at the Conservative Political Action Conference that lasted nearly 90 minutes.

Here are five of the president's key topics at the nation's largest annual convergence of conservatives.

1. Proof of His Conservatism

At the 2016 CPAC, Trump didn't speak. But talk of his candidacy and conservative credentials faced skepticism from the crowd that year.

"Remember when people used to ask, 'Do you think he's really a conservative?' Well, I think that I've proved I'm a conservative," Trump said.

As evidence, Trump cited passage of the Tax Cuts and [Jobs](#) Act, appointment of a record number of federal appeals judges (including Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch), and recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. "My administration has had the most successful first year in the history of the presidency," Trump boasted. "I mean judges, regulations, everything. The beautiful thing about the tax cuts is nobody thought we could get it."

2. Protecting Schools and the Second Amendment

On the issue of guns, after the Feb. 14 school massacre that left 17 dead in Parkland, Florida, the president criticized by name the deputy sheriff assigned to the school. The law enforcement officer recently admitted to not entering the building and attempting to stop the 19-year-old gunman.

"You had one guard, he didn't turn out to be too good" in stopping the gunman's rampage at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Trump said. "He was not a credit to law enforcement, that I can tell you."

The president said that failure is one more reason to allow "concealed carry" permits for teachers who are trained and skilled with firearms, such as former military or law enforcement personnel.

"Why do we protect airports, banks, government buildings, but not our schools? It's time to make our schools a much harder topic for attackers. We don't want them in our schools," Trump said to applause. "When we declare our schools to be gun-free zones, it just puts our students in more danger—well-trained, gun-adept teachers and coaches should be able to carry concealed firearms."

If authorized faculty could have used a gun when the shooter opened fire, he said, "a teacher would have shot the hell out of him before he knew what happened."

"They love those students," the president said of teachers.

Trump stressed he wasn't talking about arming most teachers, but rather the likely 10 percent or 20 percent who are skilled.

"This week, I had the honor of meeting with students from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, with families who have lost their children in prior shootings—great families, great people—and with members of the local community in Washington, D.C.," Trump said of "listening sessions" he conducted on two consecutive days.

"Our whole nation was moved by their strength and courage," he said.

Trump called for a larger focus on mental health, and for strengthening background checks for gun purchasers. He also noted that his Justice Department has increased prosecution of gun crimes.

"It's not do you love guns, do you hate guns. It's common sense," Trump said.

3. Tribute to Billy Graham

The president paid tribute to the Rev. Billy Graham, the celebrated pastor and evangelist who [died Wednesday](#) at 99.

"In America, we don't worship government, we worship God," Trump said to applause.

"We will never forget the historic crowds, the voice, the energy, and the profound faith of a preacher named Billy Graham."

Continued on page 5

5 Things Trump Talked About While Wowing CPAC

By: Fred Lucas

February 23, 2018

Continued from page 4

4. New Sanctions on North Korea

As the 2018 Winter Olympics wind down in Seoul, South Korea, Trump announced new economic sanctions on North Korea to curb the communist dictatorship's nuclear ambitions.

"Today I am announcing that we are launching the largest-ever set of new sanctions on the North Korean regime," Trump said.

It marks the administration's most recent round of sanctions on the communist regime. It also comes after North Korea's "charm offensive" at the Winter Olympics, where North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un's sister, Kim Yo Jong, got much positive media attention.

"The Treasury Department will soon be taking new action to further cut off sources of revenue and fuel that the regime uses to fund its nuclear program and sustain its military by targeting 56 vessels, shipping companies, and trade businesses that are assisting North Korea in evading sanctions," Trump said.

5. Immigration Enforcement

Trump also stressed border security and shifting to a merit-based immigration system.

"A strong nation has strong borders," he said, then delivered a big applause line: "Don't worry, you're getting the wall."

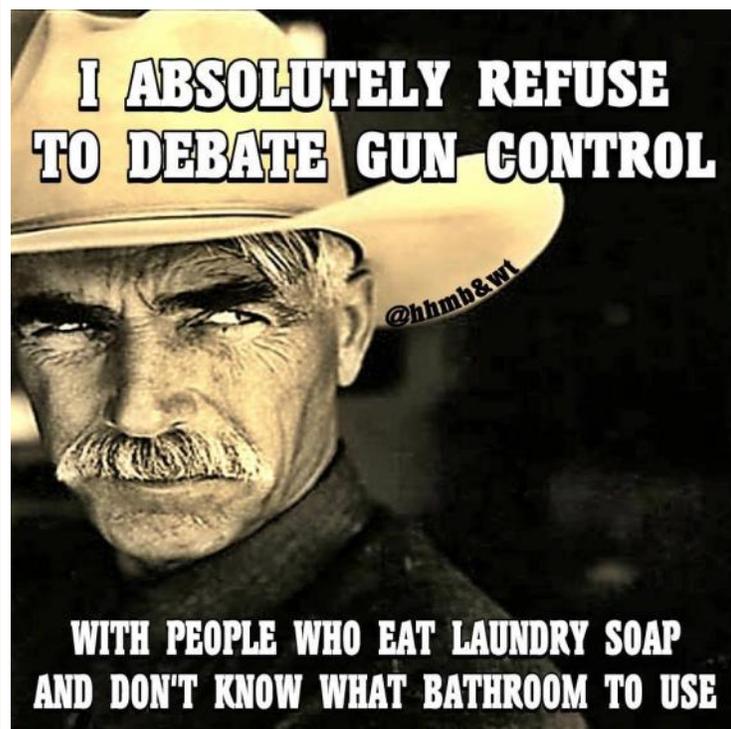
Trump also recited the words of "[The Snake](#)," a 1968 song by Al Wilson, as a metaphor for immigration. It was an often-repeated line the president used from the campaign.

Trump has pushed Congress for a merit-based system of legal immigration, ending certain lotteries and chain migration for family members as part of a compromise to grant amnesty to hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants brought to the country as minors.

"I don't want people coming into this country from a [lottery](#)," Trump said. "I want people coming into this country based on merit."

CPAC, the largest annual national gathering of conservative activists, runs Thursday to Saturday at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland, just outside Washington.

Fred Lucas is the White House correspondent for The Daily Signal.



To All:

As I will be counting votes as Ballot Board Chair starting March 1, I need someone to cover at HQ on Thursday, March 1st, Friday, March 2nd, and Monday, March 5th. If you can find someone in your clubs who can cover some of this time I would appreciate it. I am asking others as well.

Thank you.

Neal

PRW Members,

If any of you can work at Collin County Republican Party Headquarters, 2963 West 15th Street, Suite 2981, Plano on any of the dates below, please call Neal at 972-312-9959 and let him know.

Catherine

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

February 2018

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Sam Johnson
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P.O. Box 860096 Phone (972) 424-9573
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Geraldine "Tincy" Miller
State Board of Education
Member, District 12

1100 Providence Tower West/LB#11 972/419-4000 (OFFICE)
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512-463-0544 • 512-463-9974 (FAX)
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Scott Sanford
State Representative
District 70




JODIE LAUBENBERG
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 89

206 N. MURPHY ROAD P.O. BOX 2910
MURPHY, TX 75094 AUSTIN, TX 78768
972.424.6810 512.463.0186
FAX: 512.463.5896
JODIE.LAUBENBERG@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US



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Honorable John Roach, Jr.
296th District Court
2100 Bloomdale Road, Ste. 20012
McKinney, TX 75071



Judge Barnett Walker
County Court at Law No. 2

2100 Bloomdale Road, Suite 10344 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 548-3820 • Metro (972) 424-1460 Ext. 3820 • Fax (972) 548-3828
Email: bwalker@co.collin.tx.us • www.collincountytx.gov




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



Keith Self
County Judge

2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192 • McKinney, Texas 75071
(469) 586-7156 • Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 4623
Email: keith.self@collincountytx.gov



Susan Fletcher
CONSERVATIVE
REPUBLICAN
Collin County Commissioner Pct. 1

s Fletcher@collincountytx.gov Jack Hatchell Administration Building
972.548.4676 office 2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192
972.567.4162 personal cell McKinney, TX 75071




Cheryl Williams
Commissioner, Precinct 2

2300 Bloomdale Road, Suite 4192, McKinney, TX 75071
Metro (972) 424-1460, Ext. 4626 • Cell (214) 471-3126
Email cdwilliams@collincountytx.gov

Chris Hill
County Commissioner, Texas Conservative.



Duncan Webb
Commissioner, Precinct 4

2300 Bloomdale Rd., Suite 4192 • McKinney, Texas 75071
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Greg Willis
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JIM SKINNER
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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




Judge John E. Payton
Justice Court Precinct 3, Place 2

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Office: (972) 881-3051
Fax: (972) 881-3098
jpayton@co.collin.tx.us • www.collincountytx.gov



George Flint
Chairman

8416 Stacy Road, Suite 100
McKinney, Texas 75070
(972) 540-5985
george@collincountygop.org



City of Plano
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Suite 300
Plano, TX 75074

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Plano, TX 75086-0358

Ron Kelley
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
Place 5

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Email: mshaheen@collincountytx.gov
www.mattshaheen.com



Anthony Ricciardelli
for Plano City Council, Place 2

Anthony@AnthonyforPlano.com
www.AnthonyforPlano.com
6009 W. Parker, P.O. Box #149-364
Plano, Texas 75093
972-345-8730

Pol. adv. paid for by Anthony Ricciardelli for Plano, Pat Greer, Treasurer, 6009 W. Parker, #149-364, Plano, TX 75093



Rick Smith
Elect - Plano City Council Place 8

Rick For Plano
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Judge Chuck Ruckel
Justice Court
Precinct 3, Place 1

920 E. Park Blvd., Suite 220
Sub Courthouse, Plano, Texas 75074
(972) 881-3001 • Fax (972) 881-3157
Email: cruckel@co.collin.tx.us • www.collincountytx.gov



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ADVERTISING HERE
CONTACT PRW AND
FIND OUT HOW**

Sponsors@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Officers and Birthdays

PRW OFFICERS for 2018

Catherine Gibb, President

972-578-0704

President@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Jennifer Groysman, 1st. VP Programs

Anne Logan, 2nd. VP Membership

RSVP@PlanoRepublicanWomen.org

Rita Greenwell, 3rd VP Awards

Jeanne Hurlebaus, Recording Secretary

Susan Bushey, Corresponding Secretary

Lynn McCoy, Treasurer



March Birthdays

PRW Members

Terri Miller 3/8

Betty Westbrook 3/12

Ann Bott 3/18

Jeanne Hurlebaus 3/22



February Birthdays

PRW Members

Sharon Lewis 2/5

Ann Harrington 2/12

Dotty Ragley 2/16

Jeanettee Parker 2/17

Stacey Kemp 2/19

Catherine Gibb 2/24

Lily Bao 2/27

Denise Schafer-Junger 2/27

Reva Bartlett 2/28

Associate Members & Sponsors

Chris Hill 2/6

Anne Taylor 2/10

Terri Miller 2/11

Laura Ripple 2/12

Keith Self 2/13

Scott Becker 2/14

John Roach Jr. 2/15

David Ripple 2/16

Myrna Acklin 2/17

Angela Tucker 2/18

**YOUR VOICE
YOUR VOTE**

Important Voting Dates

February 20, 2018: Early voting Begins

March 6, 2018: Primary election

May 22, 2018: Primary runoff election

November 6, 2018: General election





Please mail this form with your check made payable to PRW:

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

CORPORATE CHECKS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

PLANO REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP/SPONSOR FORM

Year: 2018

Memberships:

- _____ \$30 Full Active Single Membership
- _____ \$35 Full Active Membership with Spouse
- _____ \$25 Associate Membership - for Men or Active Members of other Republican Women Clubs

Sponsors:

- _____ \$200 Platinum: Business card ad in Directory & Newsletter; PRW Webpage image w/link to your website & associate membership* for your spouse
- _____ \$150 Gold: Newsletter Ad, PRW Webpage image w/link to your website & spouse associate membership*
- _____ \$100 Silver: Ad in the Newsletter & listing on the Website OR Webpage image w/link to your website
- _____ \$75 Bronze: Ad in the Membership Directory/listing on the Website

*if your spouse is not a member of another TFRW club, she can be a member of PRW

Additional (Optional):

- _____ \$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 Plano 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