

# We are the Wall

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt  
March 25

Happy Hours  
March 23  
April 13  
May 25

VDR Certification  
Training  
April 3

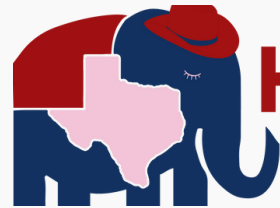
Lincoln Reagan Dinner  
April 20th

National Day of Prayer  
May 4

Poll Watcher Training.  
Visit [HCPWT.com](http://HCPWT.com) for  
dates

Mother's Day  
High Tea  
May 9

Check out our  
[webpage](#) for more  
[details](#)



## HAYS COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN



*Guest of Honor*

Former Governor of Arkansas  
**Mike Huckabee**

*2023 Lincoln Reagan Dinner*

*Thursday, April 20*

*Embassy Suites - Main Ballroom*

*1001 E McCarty Lane*

*San Marcos, TX*

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Check-in 5:00 pm ★ Ballroom opens 6:30pm

VIP & Reception 5:15pm-6:15pm

Online Silent Auction goes LIVE April 6 @ 8:00 am.

Auction Items can be viewed online or at dinner.

Doors open @ 5:00 pm. Auction ends @ 8:45 pm.

Sponsored by Hays County Republican Women

All proceeds will benefit 2024 Candidates.

Visit [hayscountyrepublicanwomen.com](http://hayscountyrepublicanwomen.com) for a sneak peek.



Visit [hayscountygop.org](http://hayscountygop.org)  
for more information

We are still accepting  
auction items!  
Click here to donate.

# A FEW WORDS FROM OUR HCRW PRESIDENT

As we look ahead to the 2024 election, it is clear that Hays County has a lot of work to do. To ensure that conservative Republicans are elected, we need to come together and work toward that common goal.

Over the past few months, I have had discussions with many voters about the 2022 election. While opinions vary, the one thing we all agree on is we need to do better in 2024.

In the words of Abraham Lincoln “A house divided against itself cannot stand.” And so, it is with the Hays County Republican Party. We must unite and organize to fight against the radical left. We must protect our values, our freedoms, and our county.

We must work together to build a broad coalition of support that reflects the diversity of our community while preserving our conservative values. This means reaching out to voters from differing backgrounds and cultures and discovering common ground.

We must invest in community outreach that helps increase voter turnout and ensures that all residents have a voice in the election. This requires working together to register new voters as well as providing information and resources to help voters navigate the voting process.

Additionally, we must focus on issues that resonate with voters in Hays County such as immigration, limited government, property taxes and protecting individual freedoms and liberties. We must build strong relationships with voters who share our values and priorities, work together at community events, outreach campaigns, and other initiatives that help promote our message, and build strong support for Republican candidates.

I am so proud of the HCRW members and all we accomplished in 2022, but to win in 2024, we must do more. We must register more voters, we must increase our membership, and we must build a coalition of volunteers to work for our candidates and our party.

*Sandi*

Sandi M. Ellen, President



Happy  
Easter

# Community EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 25

3:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Vintage Oaks Farm  
400 Limestone Lane  
Driftwood, TX

Fajita  
Taco  
Bar &  
Desserts

Hop on over and join us  
for an egg-cellent afternoon!  
Photo Booth, Prizes, Face Painting,  
Egg Hunt & Easter Bunny  
Don't forget your Easter Basket.



RSVP'S strongly encouraged, but not required

## Hays County Republican Women Mother's Day High Tea

Featuring Dr. Dana Myers

Vice-Chairman for Republican Party of Texas

Ruby Ranch Lodge & Celebration Facility

292 Bartlett Drive, Buda, Tx

Tuesday, May 9

6:00pm - 8:00pm



HAPPY  
Mother's  
DAY

Tickets \$30  
RSVP by 5/7  
[Click here.](#)

Come celebrate Mother's Day with us!

Grandmothers, Mothers, Aunts, Daughters and Granddaughters of all ages are invited.

Men are also encouraged to participate.

Put on your favorite hat and join us for pots of tea, pastries, and tea sandwiches

## HCRW EXECUTIVE BOARD SPOTLIGHT

### Mary Clarkson - Caring for America

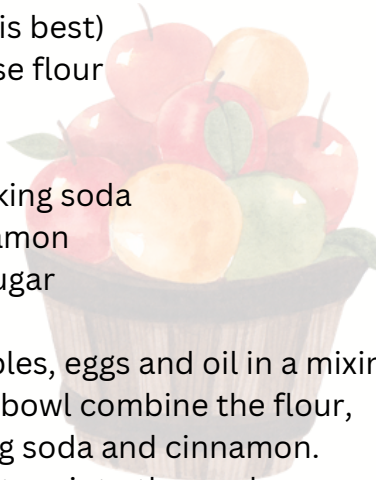


Mary serves as Caring for America chair. Mary has been a resident of Hays County for over 25 years. She's been very active in the Republican party throughout the years serving as precinct chair and election judge for 20 years. She has been a delegate at 4 state conventions. She spearheads our Border Patrol initiative for Hays County collecting countless supplies for our Border Patrol Agents. For her tireless work for the Republican party, Mary was awarded the Mary Joe Roddie award in 2020.

#### **Apple Cake by Deanna Rademachir**

4 cups unpeeled apples, chopped and cored  
3 eggs, beaten  
1 cup oil (canola is best)  
2 cups all-purpose flour  
2 cups sugar  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 ½ teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
Cinnamon and sugar

Combine the apples, eggs and oil in a mixing bowl. In another bowl combine the flour, sugar, salt, baking soda and cinnamon. Stir the flour mixture into the apples, mixing well. Oil a sheet or tube pan thoroughly. Coat the pan completely with the Cinnamon-sugar mixture (2 TBSP works best). Pour the batter into the pan. Bake in a 350-degree oven for 60 minutes.  
Serves 8





# ELECTION INTEGRITY

## Texas Senator Bob Hall Proposes Election Integrity Bill at 88th Texas Legislative Session

On Tuesday, Jan. 24, Texas State Senator Bob Hall proposed a new Election Integrity Bill. The bill is currently being drafted in the Legislative Council during the state's 88th legislative session. Senator Hall also hosted an open forum that included election integrity experts and over 300 citizens from all over Texas. The session included presentations from national election integrity experts as well as citizens from counties in Texas that have been on the forefront of election integrity within our state. The reforms included in this Bill will give members of the GOP majority a chance to prove to voters that they are serious about election integrity. Senator Hall says Texans are being asked to believe that the current election system works "because the government says it works"—an assurance he insists is not good enough.

### **Need for Transparency**

Senator Hall described the state's current voting system as a "black box process" that cannot produce sufficient evidence in a court of law to prove that a declared winner, Republican or Democrat, was the choice of most of the voters in any given election. According to Hall, the current Texas voting system is so "opaque" that "neither the voters nor the election workers are privy to what happens inside the 'black box' election process and equipment."

### **Computerization to Blame**

Senator Hall blames computerization for the decline in transparency, accuracy, and accountability of recent Texas elections. Hall said he believes the current election system "sacrifices security for convenience." With good intentions, computers were viewed as the solution to the proverbial ballot box stuffing that has tainted the outcome of Texas elections for generations, Hall said. Unfortunately, that has not been the case. Computers and software have increased the opportunities and frequency of error and fraud in ways never considered and to a level much greater and more difficult to detect. "Our elections are too important not to have a system that delivers a high degree of confidence that the will of the people is being respected," he said.

### **What the Reforms Will Do**

A centerpiece of Hall's proposed reforms is a return to the use of hand-marked paper ballots, sequentially numbered for each precinct, and managed with strict chain of custody requirements. Ballots would be printed on special, secure paper, and the count preserved on a write-once optical disc. Election night audits would be required as result tapes move from precincts to the county and then from the county to the state. This would allow for verification that county totals are consistent with precinct totals, a safeguard Hall says is lacking in the current system. The proposed legislation would require that transmission of results from the counties to the state be over secure one-way lines.

# ELECTION INTEGRITY

The reform package also includes a tightening of the eligibility requirements for voting absentee. “Mail-in voting encompasses more people than necessary and is too susceptible to abuse and error,” said Hall. Also, immediately before the polls open, the reforms would require a tape to be produced showing there are zero votes recorded in the tabulator; and a result tape must be run and preserved immediately after the polls close. The tabulators are to have limited functions and must not be connectible to Wi-Fi or Bluetooth. They must include secure ballot storage, and the scanners must not be capable of reading the same ballot more than once. The proposed reforms would eliminate electronic poll books, replacing them with paper poll books printed 30 days before in-person voting begins. Curbside voting would be limited to the legitimately disabled, and voters may vote only in their designated home precinct—no more county-wide voting. Withdrawing Texas from membership in the Election Registration Information Center (ERIC) is another proposed reform.

## Opposition Expected

Opposition is expected from both sides of the aisle in the legislature and from individuals at the local level who want to maintain the status quo.

In a **two minute video**, Sen. Hall (District 2) details the fundamental flaws in Texas elections and briefly explains the goals of his new bill proposal.

by Julie Taylor  
HCRW Vice President



## Swearing in our Elected officials



Tanner Neidhardt

483rd Judicial District Court in Hays County



Carrie Issac

Texas House of Representatives, District 73

# EDITORIAL



## WE'VE BEEN LIED TO BY JIM DEMCZAK

The 2022 midterm election was arguably the most controversial and divisive election in Hays County's history, especially in San Marcos on Texas State's campus. For months, all students heard was that Republicans want to take away your freedoms. Things like abortion, social justice, and decriminalization of marijuana were pushed on students and citizens of San Marcos. Honestly, the biggest impact and lie to the students was the proposition to decriminalize marijuana. Students want to party, free of any consequence. Given that, Democrats supported and campaigned on this proposition on campus, causing many middle-leaning Bobcats to vote straight down the ballot for Democrats. With that being said, what does it mean for Bobcats who think it is now okay to smoke weed without fear of repercussions? It changes very little if anything at all. Official San Marcos Police Department officers now will "cite and divert" while state officials can still arrest for any trace amount of marijuana. Running up to the election itself last November, students had no idea this was the case and many still don't realize the lie they were told.

The moral quandary of the Democrat's election platform on campus last year should be obvious to everyone. They openly lied to students, used paid and out of town campaigners to advertise their proposition, and have not been transparent to the students and citizens of San Marcos who passed the proposition and got them elected. Texas State is a college filled with different worldviews and opinions and more often than not, it is a great school, but with constant, recycled lies, it can never flourish, and neither can Hays County. The best days are ahead and on to 2024

*The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoint of Hays County Republican Women.*

What can you do? Like us on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter. Share our posts.

**HAYS COUNTY** elected officials for the Texas Senate & House of Representatives.

**Keep an eye on legislation and contact your lawmakers to let them know why you may or may not support it and why it is good or bad for Hays County residents.**

***Your voice matters!***

**State Senator, District 21  
– Judith Zaffarini (D)**

**State Senator, District 25  
– Donna Campbell (R)**

**State Representative, District 45 –  
Erin Zweiner (D)**

**State Representative, District 73 –  
Carrie Isaac (R)**

Interested in learning more about the legislative process in Texas?  
[CLICK HERE.](#)

Want to see a list of filed bills during the 88th Legislative Session, and track their progress?  
[CLICK HERE.](#)



## **Border Patrol**

Another successful year collecting money and supplies for border patrol, DPS, national guard and sheriffs. As the border crossings escalate our mission should too. Next time you are grocery shopping pick up a box of snacks. If everyone buys just one, we will make a dent their needs. I am going to accompany Deb Wall in the future, to deliver supplies to a border location. Thank you all for your support of this project.

Mary Clarkson  
Caring for America Chair

Please continue to bring items to the GOP Welcome Center or any HCRW sponsored event.

We still need the following:

- hand sanitizer
- hand sanitizer wipes
- microban sanitizing spray
- AA/AAA batteries
- latex gloves
- disposable gloves
- insect repellent
- Band-Aids
- first-aid kits
- liquid IV hydration powdered sports drinks
- Gatorade powdered sports drinks
- 6 inch rolled gauze
- Monetary Donations

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Clarkson.  
512-589-4433

## **HCRW Membership Update**

As of October, Hays County HCRW is now classified as a "Jumbo" Club. We have 121 voting members and 45 associate members for a total of 166. ***We don't want to lose our "JUMBO" status.*** Look for membership renewals coming your way soon. A huge thank you to those who have already renewed. Let's surpass 200 members!





# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The 88th Texas Legislature kicked off on January 10th and will end on May 29th. Several bills have been filed on many meaningful subjects including implementing tighter election security measures, protecting the Border, banning the gender modification of children, prohibiting the use of filthy books in our schools, defending gun rights, protecting parental rights and education freedom, prohibiting taxpayer lobbying, saving women's sports, protecting medical freedom and vaccine choice, in addition to property tax relief. The bill filing deadline was March 10th with a total of 9,114 bills filed by members of the Texas House and Senate.

We want to say a special thank you for your advocacy in banning Democrat chairs early on in session. We took steps in the right direction and hope for an even better outcome next session. Speaker Dade Phelan did reduce the number of Democrat chairs from fourteen to nine in the House and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick in the Senate now has only one Democrat chair, who will be retiring this year. Lt. Gov Patrick has pledged to replace him with a Republican, leaving the Senate with only Republican chairs. Sadly, we have not only a Democrat chair, but also a Democrat majority on the Business and Industry and the Corrections Committee in the Texas House. There is no excuse for this from House leadership when Republicans are in the majority.

This past week was busy in the Senate State Affairs Committee, especially on the subject of elections! **Senate Bill 2 by Senator Bryan Hughes** returns the penalty for illegal voting to a second-degree felony, its historic level, and undoes the change from 2021 which lowered it to a misdemeanor. SB 2 later passed the Senate and will now go over to the House for a committee hearing. Additionally, **Senate Bill 921 by Senator Bryan Hughes** was heard and passed out of the State Affairs Committee which bans ranked choice voting in Texas. Most recently, there has been a national push to bring this to Texas. In this confusing system, winners are declared with less than 50% of the total ballots cast. Thankfully Senator Hughes is leading the way with making it clear these types of elections are statutorily prohibited in our State.

Other massively important topics heard in Senate State Affairs this week included banning child mutilation, ending the public funding of gender related surgeries and prohibiting the change of a minor's sex on a birth certificate. These bills included **SB 14** by our own Senator Donna Campbell, **SB 162** by Senator Charles Perry, **SB 250** by Senator Hall, **SB 959** by Senator Campbell, and **SB 1029** by Senator Bob Hall. All of these bills were left pending in committee and are expected to be passed out of State Affairs next week.

**SB 15** by Senator Mays Middleton which puts in place protections for women's collegiate sports, cleared a major hurdle on Thursday, and passed out of Senate State Affairs adding to the protections for K-12 passed last session. **SB 175** also passed out of State Affairs by Senator Mays Middleton which bans taxpayer funded lobbying, a subject which has had repeat attention over the last several years with little traction on the House side. Hopefully this year it will finally get to the Governor's desk.

What can you do? Join HCRW today!

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

[\*\*Senate Bill 3\*\*](#) and [\*\*Senate Bill 4\*\*](#) authored by Senator Paul Bettencourt passed out of the Senate Finance Committee and are now headed to the Senate Floor. These bills together allocate \$16.5 billion in property tax relief. SB 3 specifically increases the Homestead Exemption to \$70,000 for everyone under 65 and \$100,000 for those 65 and older.

[\*\*Senate Bill 645\*\*](#) by Joan Huffman also passed out of committee to go to the full Senate Floor. This bill allows prosecutors to charge people who make, sell and deliver fentanyl with murder and increases the penalty for making or delivering less than one gram of fentanyl from a state jail felony to a third-degree felony. School choice is a topic of extreme urgency by many of our legislators this session. [\*\*Senate Bill 8\*\*](#) and [\*\*Senate Bill 176\*\*](#) will be heard in the Senate Committee on Education on Wednesday, March 22. In other education news [\*\*HB 900\*\*](#) which bans sexually explicit books in public schools will be heard in the House Public Education Committee on Tuesday, March 21st.

On Monday, March 20th, three medical freedom bills will be heard in the Public Health Committee. [\*\*HB 1313\*\*](#) relating to a study on the effectiveness of vaccines against the COVID-19 vaccination and its variants, [\*\*HB 44\*\*](#) which prevents vaccine discrimination against Medicaid recipients, and [\*\*HB 81\*\*](#) relating to informed consent with the COVID-19 vaccination.

Several bills we are looking forward to passing which have yet to receive a hearing include [\*\*Senate Bill 1070\*\*](#) by Senator Bryan Hughes and [\*\*HB 2809\*\*](#) by Jacey Jetton as the House companion which prevent the collection of data outside of the original framework of the Texas Interstate Crosscheck Program, a program created to address duplicate voters in our voter registration system across state lines. [\*\*SB 399\*\*](#) by Senator Bob Hall is a similar bill which requires outright withdrawal from ERIC. Other election bills we are highly interested in include [\*\*SB 512\*\*](#) which prohibits the use of electronic poll books, [\*\*SB 397\*\*](#) which requires printing results tapes, [\*\*SB 2464\*\*](#) which closes the gap from early voting to election day and [\*\*SB 1643\*\*](#) which deals with verification of precinct returns with the canvassing authority. These bills are all authored by Senator Bob Hall, who has done an excellent job working with the grassroots and holding a public discussion with ongoing concerns as to our elections. Also under the elections umbrella is [\*\*HB 2890\*\*](#) by Carrie Isaac which prohibits polling locations at universities of higher education due to public safety concerns. Ultimately, Senate Bill 1 was a good start last session on election reform, but there clearly is more work to be done.

Lastly, [\*\*SB 16\*\*](#) by Senator Hughes bans critical race theory in higher education and [\*\*SB 17\*\*](#) by Senator Brandon Creighton bans diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) policies in higher education. The Grid and Border remain priorities, though the Legislature has not had any hearings on these issues yet. [\*\*SB 330\*\*](#) goes a long way to protect Texas' grid from external spy threats--this is particularly important given the most recent Chinese balloon stories! Related to security concerns, [\*\*SB 147\*\*](#) prohibits the purchase of property by foreign entities, but was left pending in committee.

For a preliminary review of bills which have the Texas GOP approval given the legislative priorities, you may [go here](#). This list will be completed by the end of next week so be sure to check back. We would encourage you to keep track of all these important bills through the [Texas Legislature Online website](#).

By: Lucy Trainor  
HCRW Legislative Chair

[What can you do? Join HCRW today!](#)

# AMERICANISM

by Laura Nunn  
HCRW Americanism Chair

We came to this continent for freedom starting in the 17th century; we have since fallen asleep and become enslaved. Upon our firm convictions that God “will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory,” we have allowed the enemies of freedom and liberty to rob us of both.

It is time for us to rouse and remind ourselves of the reason the United States is a great nation and Texas a great state. Americanism is an ideology of loyalty to the United States and defense of American political ideals such as independence, equality before the law, freedom of speech, capitalism, and progress. True American women ascribe to these ideals and endeavor to perpetuate these ideals through customs and beliefs. We seek to be self-sufficient and independent. We seek to treat each other equally before the law. We respect each other’s freedom to speak even when it might be contrary to our individual convictions. We believe that capitalism’s inherent work ethic is the natural order for commerce; and we believe that progress is the hope for a bright future for ourselves and our posterity.

Often attributed to St. Augustine, the following sentiment recommends our actions towards one another: “In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity [love].” What are the essentials? For Republican women in Texas, the essentials are constituted by the Republican Party of Texas platform. We must be unified in the message of our party’s platform. What are non-essentials? For Republican women in Texas, we must demonstrate liberty towards each other for the various methods by which we work to improve our republic and secure our freedoms. In all things, charity, or love. We must follow God’s commandment to have no other gods before Him and to love our neighbor as ourselves. This can be a tall order when we find ourselves on the receiving end of hurtful words and deeds.



# AMERICANISM

Our nation was founded by the brave men and women who loved and honored God even in the face of terrible danger. We dishonor them when we reject the foundation upon which this great nation was formed. Texas Republican women strive to carry the torch of liberty by nurturing godly marriages and raising godly children. We must practice Americanism daily by remembering the tremendous sacrifices of our founders and the brave men and women who have given their lives to keep our land free. Consider the following lyrics written by a godly Texan:

the halls of law and justice  
To the classrooms of our great land  
We still rise to pledge allegiance for which we stand

Through the years of peace and blessing  
We've gained such wealth and lost what's just  
We must call to our remembrance a faith left for us:  
In God We Trust

In pride we scoffed at God's commandments  
Like fools we took them from our walls  
And now we bear a fateful witness  
As our children fall  
Some say, Come, let's worship freedom  
Some call God diversity  
But we must call to our remembrance  
What makes us free are God's decrees

On and on down through the ages  
Our fathers sang the gospel songs  
That changes men but never changes  
And God's truth must keep marchin' on  
God's truth will keep marchin' on.

