

THE BEACON

NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN

WINNER OF THE TEXAS FEDERATION OF REPUBLICAN WOMEN BEST NEWSLETTER AWARD 2020-2021

Volume 24, No. 2

February 2024

Region XVII. Senate Dist. 4



President's Letter - Leigh Billingsley

Election Day is right in front of us! We need all good Republicans to vote and "get out the vote" for worthy candidates! Early voting starts Tuesday, February 20th and

election day is Tuesday, March 5th. Please get out and vote and encourage your friends to do the same! Local elections have local consequences so this is really important!

We have an exciting evening event coming up to which I hope you will bring your spouses and friends. It is March 21st and will feature Kirk Cameron. Kirk, as you may recall, was the star in the hit series Growing Pains (and appeared in several movies.)

A couple of weeks ago, our Club was contacted by Zac Bell, Editor in Chief of Brave Books, a faith based conservative publisher right here in Conroe. Zac and his CEO, Dr. Trent Talbot (a local ophthalmologist) invited NSRW to co-host a special event featuring television and movie star, Kirk Cameron. You may remember him from the show "Growing Pains" that was popular in the '80's.

Kirk is working very hard to bring a project near and dear to his heart to our country's children and grandchildren. The project is a children's TV show called "Adventures with Iggy and Mr. Kirk" designed to provide children everywhere with a greater sense of right and wrong and an understanding of truth as it helps to build character. I think it's his way of countering the WOKE influences we see everywhere!

NSRW is planning to hold this event at the Yacht Club for an evening dinner beginning at 6:30 PM. Doors open at 5:30 and a cash bar will be available. Dinner will cost \$30.00. (inclusive). Kirk will describe the project and invite you to help make this a reality.

See page 8 in this newsletter for more details.





- Carolyn Jones 1st Vice President/Programs

Monthly Meeting Wednesday, March 6, 2024



Bentwater <u>COUNTRY</u> Club 800 Bentwater Dr. Montgomery, TX

Program: Texas Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham

Commissioner Buckingham's family members were among the first settlers to Texas seven generations ago, and that tough, independent, pioneer spirit is deeply rooted in her personality. True to her Texas roots, her commitment to service began early, serving as a volunteer firefighter, and attending the Texas A&M Fire School. She is also an avid hunter, outdoorswoman, and steward of the land. She made history in 2016 as the first woman elected to the Texas State Senate from Travis County and she made history again in 2022 when elected as this state's first female Land Commissioner.

Dawn came from humble roots—growing up on a ranch near the Texas coast and then moved to Central Texas. She has never settled for less than her dreams. Wanting to attend college, but without the money to do so, Dawn lived at home, working two jobs to pay her own way through college at the University of Texas at Austin. With endurance of spirit she graduated Magna Cum Laude and debt-free. It was during college that she met the love of her life and husband of 31 years, Ed Buckingham. Dawn and Ed both received their medical degrees from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, and they have two children. Her commitment to service and recognition for her work has allowed her to hold leadership positions in local, state, and national medical organizations.

Sign-in starts at 10:30 a.m. The meeting will begin at 11 a.m., with lunch at 11:30 a.m. The program will begin at noon. Meetings last until approximately 1:00 p.m. Lunch is optional, but reservations must be made by midnight, February 27, even if you're not eating. You can make reservations by clicking on link below or by calling Bentwater Country Club at 936-597-6219 and choosing the 0 option.

RESERVATION

Membership

- Genette Stanton, 2nd Vice President

We hit 201 members February 15, making us a Texas Federation of Republican Women Super Jumbo club! We also have 55 associate mem-



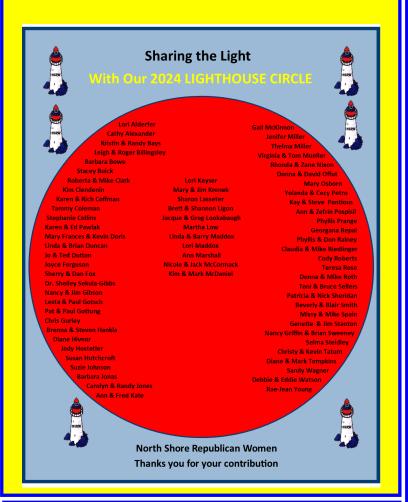


New Members

Ebele Gunn Donna Roth Crystal Milner

Online membership:

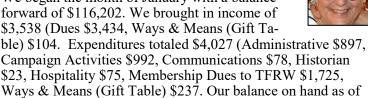
https://www.nsrepublicanwomen.org/ membership.html



Treasurer's Report - Chris Gurley, PAC Treasurer

We began the month of January with a balance

January 31, 2024 was \$115,713.



Ways & Means Debbie Graham, 3rd Vice President **Fundraising/Golf Tournament**

> I would like to thank all of you who have signed up as volunteers for our fundraising efforts this year. We will have a short fundraising meeting 30 minutes before the March 6 NSRW Monthly Meeting to discuss fundraising ideas and begin selecting our volunteer assignments. I would like to encourage you to come to the meeting, even if you have not signed up and/or you were involved in the fundraising efforts last year. Your input will be greatly appreciated.

I want to thank Sherry Fox for the in-depth work she put into fundraising efforts for the last two years in her role as Vice President for Ways and Means; and, especially for the wonderful booklet she put together to assist me in trying to step into her shoes this year. I also would like to thank Roberta and Mike for their willingness to share what they pioneered in setting up the On-Line Auction process the past two years, and Teresa Rose for her willingness to step in as our technology administrator for the On-line Auction this

We have already received our first sponsorship donation for the Golf Tournament Dinner from Guadalaharry's Bar & Grill; so we are off to a great start, but will need everyone's assistance to meet our goals for this year.

I hope to see you before the meeting on March 6th.

SAVE THE DATE!!!

North Shore Republican Women UNITED WE STAND

to Keep Montgomery County Red **Eighth Annual** Golf Tournament, Auction, & Dinner

BENTWATER COUNTRY CLUB

800 BENTWATER DR., MONTGOMERY, TX 77356

Monday, September 30, 2024





Funds raised go to NSRW's many activities and programs with contributions to candidates. and charitable projects, as well as college scholarships to young Republicans graduating from Willis and/or Montgomery High Schools. All fifth grade students in Willis ISD receive U.S. Constitution booklets and all third graders receive dictionaries. We support homeless youth, new citizen and veterans groups, the Montgomery County Food Bank, Safe Harbor and other organizations.

Political Advertising Paid for by North Shore Republican Women, Chris Gurley, treasurer, 49 Fairfield Dr., Montgomery, TX 77356. A Tax-Exempt Organization Under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to North Shore Republican Women PAC Are Not Deductible as Charitable Con for Federal Income Tax Purposes. Corporate Contributions Are Not Permitted. Not Authorized by Any Candidate or Committee.

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

-Deborah Gentz

NSRW Candidate Forum Photos









WE'RE ALL INVITED!

Morgan does not have an opponent in the Republican Primary. But, he wanted to do a fun event to get all Republicans together before Election Day. So please plan to join Congressman Luttrell at this FREE event! Red White & Blue Republican Rally at Honor Cafe February 23rd | 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Register here



Join Congressman Luttrell and meet your local Republican Candidates, grab a snack and get fired up for Election Day!





February 7, 2024 Meeting



























There are also important precinct chair & county chairman races at the bottom on most ballots. Look up your candidates here. If you don't know your precinct number, look it up here: Voter Registration Status

MARCH 5, 2024 PRIMARY ELECTION

Applications for a ballot by mail must be submitted to the early voting clerk on or after January 1 of the year of the election(s) for which you are applying and no later than the close of business on the 11th day before Election Day (February 23, 2024).

EARLY VOTING

March 5, 2024 Primary Elections	
Main and Branch Early Voting Polling Places	
Tuesday, February 20 - Friday, February 23	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 24	7:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 25	11:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.
Monday, February 26 - Friday, March 1	7:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.

Polling Location	Physical Address
North Montgomery County Community Center	600 Gerald Street, Willis 77378
◆ Lone Star Community Center (Not the Lone Star Convention Center in Conroe)	2500 Lone Star Parkway, Montgomery 77356
◆ West Montgomery County Community Development Center	31355 Friendship Drive, Magnolia 77355
◆ East Montgomery County Fair Association Building	21675A McCleskey Road, New Caney 77357
South County Community Center	2235 Lake Robbins Drive, The Woodlands 77380
◆ Central Library (Main Early Voting Polling Place - Limited Ballots)	104 I-45 North, Conroe 77301
◆George and Cynthia Woods Mitchell Library New Location ★	8125 Ashlane Way, The Woodlands 77382
Magnolia Event Center	11659 FM 1488, Magnolia 77354
Spring Creek Greenway Nature Center	1300 Riley Fuzzel Road, Spring 77386
◆ East Montgomery County Community Development Center	16401 First Street, Suite 100, Splendora 77372

Did you know there are 13 ballot propositions on the Republican Primary Ballot? Read before you go to the poll to vote.

Propositions 9-13 are on next page

Keep in mind that this is an opinion poll of Republican voters and not a policy referendum. You are not voting to make a law but merely saying YES you agree or NO you do not agree with the statement.

2024 Republican Primary Ballot Propositions

Approved by the State Republican Executive Committee – December 2, 2023

Proposition 1

Texas should eliminate all property taxes without increasing Texans' overall tax burden.

Proposition 2

Texas should create a Border Protection Unit, and deploy additional state law enforcement and military forces, to seal the border, to use physical force to prevent illegal entry and trafficking, and to deport illegal aliens to Mexico or to their nations of origin.

Proposition 3

The Texas Legislature should require the use of E-Verify by all employers in Texas to protect jobs for legal workers by preventing the hiring of illegal aliens.

Proposition 4

The Texas Legislature should end all subsidies and public services, including in-state college tuition and enrollment in public schools, for illegal aliens.

Proposition 5

Texas urges the United States Congress not to grant any form of amnesty or a pathway to legalization for illegal aliens.

Proposition 6

The Texas Legislature should prohibit the deployment of the Texas National Guard to a foreign conflict unless Congress first formally declares war.

Proposition 7

The Texas Legislature should establish authority within the Texas State Comptroller's office to administer access to gold and silver through the Texas Bullion Depository for use as legal tender.

Proposition 8

The State of Texas should ensure that Texans are free to give or to withhold consent for any vaccine without coercion.

Ballot Propositions, continued

Proposition 9

The Republican Party of Texas should restrict voting in the Republican primary to only registered Republicans.

Proposition 10

The Texas Constitution should be amended to restore authority to the Texas Attorney General to prosecute election crimes.

Proposition 11

Texas parents and guardians should have the right to select schools, whether public or private, for their children, and the funding should follow the student.

Proposition 12

The Texas Constitution should be amended to require proof of citizenship before any individual can be registered to vote.

Proposition 13

Texas should ban the sale of Texas land to citizens, governments, and entities from China, Iran, North Korea, and Russia.

Mail In Ballot Information

It's your right to vote by mail if you are:

65 Years of Age or Older on Election Day;

Disabled, as defined in Texas Election Code



Confined for Childbirth (expected to give birth within three weeks before or after Election Day);

Expecting to be Absent from the County (on Election Day and during the hours of early voting by personal appearance or the remainder of the early voting period after you submit your application); or

Confined in Jail or Involuntary Civil Commitment under Chapter 841 of the Health and Safety Code, but otherwise eligible.

Visit the Montgomery County Election Administration website <u>here</u> to read more and to download a ballot-by-mail application. Make sure to check the box to receive your Annual Ballot in box 4 to receive all ballots by mail for the rest of the 2024 election year.

Applications must be received by 2/23/2024 for the March 5, 2024 Primary Elections

North Shore Republican Women Special Event

BENTWATER WELCOMES

ICANERON Reservation up quickly. too late! CANERON

Click here for reservations

Reservations are already filling up quickly. Don't wait and be too late!

MARCH 21, 2024 | 6:30 PM BENTWATER YACHT CLUB

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM

Join North Shore
Republican Women and
Kirk Cameron to learn
what you can do to
create a foundation of
biblical morality in
children for generations
to come.

Register by 3/14 through Bentwater Country Club 936-597-6219

*Dinner will be served but not provided. By registering you understand that dinner will be purchased by the attendee.



QUESTIONS? CALL OR TEXT

LEIGH BILLINGSLEY, PRESIDENT OF NSRW CELL 831-236-9483 CAROLYN JONES, VP PROGRAMS CELL 214-803-5330

BENTWATER YACHT CLUB

200 Bentwater Harbor Dr, Montgomery, TX 77356

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7 **MEETING**

- Mary Osborn, Recording Secretary

The February meeting was called to order by President Leigh Billingsley at 11:00 AM on February 7, 2024. After thanking the club for their contributions to the food drive



by Leigh Billingsley, a devotional message and prayer was led by Cheryl Bolt. The Pledges to both the United States flag and the Texas flag was led by Genette Stanton. The minutes from the January meeting were approved as presented.

Genette Stanton, the 2nd Vice President and membership chair reported that we had 188 members signed up at this time. She also announced that there were sign up sheets for the committees. The Treasurer, Chris Gurley gave the financial report. Deborah Graham, the 3rd Vice President and Fundraising chair spoke of the need for volunteers for the September 30th Golf Tournament and that the volunteers would have a meeting at the March meeting, prior to the general meeting.

Sarah Henry, the Legislative chairman reported on the upcoming May election that would elect members of the appraisal district. Ann Kate gave an election update on the March election concerning the ballots and the precinct chair elections which will be at the bottom of the ballot and also spoke of the 13 propositions that will be on the ballot in March, which will give the Republican legislature an idea of the interest in the proposition by the voter. Joan Martin added information on early voting and registering to vote. Dorothy Woodall added information on the privacy of the voter's choice when going to the polls for the primaries.

Elected officials were introduced. Judge Tracy Gilbert of the 418th District Court was with us and treated the members with a red rose for Valentines Day. Sarah Henry was in attendance, representing State Representative District 16, Will Metcalf. Also attending, were Sandy Wagner, Montgomery County Hospital Board; Rand Henderson, Sheriff; Alice Melancon, TFRW Deputy Regional President; Scott Goleman, Chief Justice, 9th Court of Appeals. The candidates in attendance were Sherry Doolittle, representing Wesley Doolittle, candidate for sheriff; Rand Henderson, candidate for sheriff; Kent Chambers, 9th District Court of Appeals 4 and Kenna Seiler, 9th District Court of Appeals 4.

Carolyn Jones reported on the invitation that the organization accepted to help create a foundation for "Brave Books "at a dinner on March 21, 2024 at the Bentwater Yacht Club. The books and movies that the company is striving to publish will teach children the morality that is needed in this time.

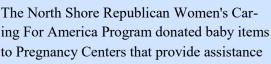
President Leigh Billingsley announced that 228 pounds of food had been delivered to the food bank.

Carolyn Jones, 1st VP, Programs chair, introduced our speaker, Rebecca Smith who is the CEO for "Love Heals Youth" foundation that works to supply many needs to children who are in the foster care system. The video and speech told of the many needs of the foster children and how we can help.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM

Caring for America

- Ann South





to families in need. Our thanks to our members and all who support our Fundraisers! These funds help us to make an impact in our community!











Our sympathy goes out to NSRW member Lou Dycus, whose daughter, Debby Capps, passed away on February 1. Debby was past president of Bentwater Ladies Organization. A reception to honor and celebrate her life will be held at her and her husband Rob's home in Montgomery on March 2.



Mary Osborn, Chris Gurley, Leigh Billingsley, Deborah Graham, Genette Stanton, Carolyn Jones

2024 NSRW Board Members OFFICERS

President

Leigh Billingsley leigh@northshorerw.com

1st Vice President/Programs Carolyn Jones

2nd Vice President/Membership Genette Stanton

3rd Vice President/Ways & Means Deborah Graham

Recording Secretary
Mary Osborn

Treasurer/PAC Treasurer Chris Gurley

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Americanism

Awards - Dorothy Woodall

Campaign Activities - Deborah Gentz

Caring for America - Ann South/Sherry Fox

Caring and Concern - Sherry Martinez

Chaplain - Cheryl Bolt

Community Engagement - Karen Darcy Pawlak

Directory - Jody Hostetler/Karen Darcy Pawlak

Gift Table - Becky Harper/Sharon Lasseter

Historian - Gail McKinnon

Hospitality - Cay Eckland/Debbie Dye

Legislative - Sarah Tillman Henry

Literacy - Ann South

Media - Ann Kate

Parliamentarian/Bylaws - Dorothy Woodall

Pistols and Pearls

Publicity - Joan Martin

Scholarship

Youth Outreach



NSRW Calendar of Events

February 20 - Early Voting begins for March 5 primary election

March 5 - Primary Election Day

March 6 - NSRW Monthly Meeting, Bentwater Country Club, sign in begins at 10:30 a.m. Program - Land Commissioner Dawn Buckingham.

March 20 - NSRW Board Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Bentwater Country Club board room.

March 21 - Special NSRW event - Kirk Cameron Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Bentwater YACHT Club. Event begins at 6:30 p.m.

April 3 - NSRW Monthly Meeting, Bentwater Country Club, sign in begins at 10:30 a.m. Program - Congressman Morgan Luttrell



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Email:

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<u>Like us on Facebook:</u> North Shore Republican Women/TX

Website: www.nsrepublicanwomen.org

TFRW Website: www.tfrw.org

NFRW Website: www.NFRW.org

Republican Party of Texas Website:

www.texasgop.org

Beacon Editor: Ann Kate



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A Non-Profit Organization Under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code.

A Not-Holl Organization Order Section 32 to the Internal Reventa Code.

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

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NORTH SHORE REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEMBERSHIP FORM - 2024

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name:	Please check one:	
Spouse Name (if applicable):	NewRenewal	
Home Address:	Membership Fees: (Circle One) Active: \$40	
City:	Seniors 75+ discount offered: \$30	
Zip code Mailing Address (If different for mailings):	Lighthouse Circle (see website): In addition, I would like to contribute\$15,\$25,\$50 or \$to support various NSRW philanthropy programs (any amount would be greatly appreciated).	
Home Phone:	Active membership is for all women with NSRW as their primary membership. Associate membership is for women with other	
Cell:	Republican Women memberships, and men. Associate women please specify your other	
E-Mail:	current active membership: Young Affiliate is teenage women ages thirteen	
Texas Senate district in which you reside	through seventeen.	
Occupation (Required for PAC reporting):		
OR (Please check if retired) NSRW may/may not (circle one) publish this information in its printed and electronic form	NSRW has my permission to send the monthly Beacon newsletter to me by email <u>yes/no (circle one)</u>	
Do you want a Yearbook? YesNo Prefer: Electronically Printed		

*** Please mail this form with your check payable to NSRW to: P.O. Box 1993, Montgomery, TX 77356