



Village Republican Women

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

Houston Racquet Club, 10709 Memorial Drive, Houston TX

11:00 AM Registration ♦ 11:30 AM Program and Lunch

Lunch \$25.00 ♦ Meeting Only \$10.00

Please RSVP by Friday, March 22nd. Before 12:00 NOON

Notify us of dietary restrictions when RSVP

SPEAKER

Elizabeth “Besa” Martin



Can The Electoral College Be Abolished Without a Constitutional Amendment?

YES - States with 63% of the Electoral Votes Have Already Voted in Favor of National Popular Vote.

Join Village Republican Women at our March 27th meeting to hear Elizabeth “Besa” Martin discuss this critical issue. Resa is an attorney and owner of E.R. Martin L.L.C. with a focus on legal representation and strategic consulting for clients in various areas including oil and gas business, real estate, business operations and estate planning. Her legal experience includes work at Bexar County, Texas, the Texas Fourth Court of Appeals and internship at the United States Fifth Circuit of Appeals.

Over the past years, she has served Kendall County Republican Women as Legislative Chair, By-laws Chair, Vice President, and President; Kendall County Republican Party as Rules Chair, Convention Secretary, State Convention Alternate and Delegate; Texas Federation of Republican Women as Candidate Development Chair, V.P. Legislation. V.P. Programs, and Greater San Antonio Council President; National Federation of Republican Women, Asst. Chair Campaign Activities, Chair Election Integrity.

While working under the inspiring leadership of Chair Carolyn Hodges, the NFRW Campaign Activities Committee targeted national Senate races in 2014 and celebrated the return of the U.S. Senate to Republican leadership in January 2015. During the 2010 Election cycle, Besa lead the TFRW “10 in 2010” project to elect more Republicans to the Texas House. Through the wide spread work of TFRW members, the Republican majority moved from 76 to a super majority of 101.

An avid outdoors enthusiast, she enjoys golfing and hunting with her husband as well as dancing. The Martins are passing on their love of this Texas lifestyle to their children.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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TO ALL OUR REPUBLICAN FRIENDS: **ENGAGE, ENGAGE, ENGAGE....**everywhere you go; Grocery, Pharmacy, Church, anywhere you are around people, talk to them about their values, family goals, personal wants etc. and let them know that Republicans have their backs – we want the same things for ourselves as well as them and we are willing to work at the grassroots level to achieve it for all of us. Try to bring them to our meetings so they can see what it's like for other like minded Republicans....we want them, we need to let them know what the truth really is!!!

Our Harris County Chair, Paul Simpson has invited us to join him and our Governor, Greg Abbott, who is the Guest Speaker for the 2019 Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner, March 27, 2019. This year it is being held at the Omni Houston Hotel, 2 Riverway, Houston. rsvp at **Susan Lilly (832) 736-0442**.

April 25, 2019 brings us TFRW Legislative Day in Austin when all Republican Women in Texas, dressed in Red, are recognized in both sessions of the Legislature. It is very exciting to see all of us in the Gallery as we are noticed by the entire audience. VRW has reserved a 'free' bus to take all who are interested in going for the day, and attend the TFRW Luncheon. To rsvp for the Luncheon, send your check for \$75 made payable to TFRW to me at 1203 Ridgewood Pl, Houston, TX 77055 before March 25 for this early bird rate. This year the featured luncheon speaker is Ronna Romney McDaniel, Chair of the RNC. All in all, a very fun day!!!!

Our Membership Meeting is March 27, this is also the last day to join VRW and have your name printed in the 2019 directory. Also our speaker is Besa Martin, an active participant of TFRW for many years. She will be speaking on **THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE** and why it is so important to keep it for our elections. Come find out what it means to our Republic.

So, go to the Lincoln Reagan Day Dinner, join VRW on Membership Day or before and join us for Legislative Day. There is alot for you to be involved in.

We WANT you to join if you have not already renewed or joined and we are hoping to see you March 27.

Cheryl Dalton, President

Announcement!!!



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

For Immediate Distribution | February 27, 2019 | (512) 463-1826

Governor Abbott Reappoints Hodges To State Cemetery Committee

AUSTIN – Governor Greg Abbott has reappointed Carolyn Hodges to the State Cemetery Committee for a term set to expire on February 1, 2025. The committee works with the State Preservation Board to adopt rules to manage oversight of the Texas State Cemetery.

Carolyn Hodges of Houston is co-owner of PlansPerfect LLC. She is on the executive committee and board of directors member of the Archer Center at The University of Texas. She is a former educator and has volunteered with the March of Dimes and the local Houston PBS station. Hodges received a Bachelor of Science in education from The University of Texas at Austin and a Masters of Education from the University of Houston.

This appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.



Carolyn is a long time member and past President of Village RW, Texas Federation of Republican Women and Greater Houston Council of Federated Republican Women.

We are very proud of her!!
Congratulations!!

Join Village RW on Legislative Day in Austin

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Legislative Day is fun - we get to see old friends and meet new people, and wear our favorite color RED as we are recognized in the Legislative Session.

Legislative Day is a day of sharing our viewpoints with like-minded women from other clubs across Texas as we enjoy the TFRW Luncheon at a nearby hotel and hear what they are doing in their clubs to keep Texas RED

Legislative Day is a day when we visit our Legislators

Legislative Day is when we learn how we can promote our Legislator's ideas into action

Our sister clubs are invited to ride along with us in our free bus for TFRW's Legislative Day on April 25 at our beautiful Capitol in Austin, Texas.

We will depart from our former Westside Headquarters parking lot, 10301 C. Katy freeway. At the far end of parking lot where Jason Deli is.

Details will follow as the date approaches.

Looking forward to seeing you on the Village RW bus!

RSVP to rajadafleming@yahoo.com

Seats are limited to first 35 RSVPs



Cornyn Named One of Most Effective Lawmakers

WASHINGTON— U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) today announced the Center for Effective Lawmaking named him one of the top five most effective Republican Senators in the 115th Congress:

“The past two years have been an unmitigated success for the country. We've delivered on promises we made. We've put money back in the pockets of hardworking families. We enhanced community safety and fought for victims. We've modernized infrastructure and supported our men and women in uniform. And I hope we can continue this momentum into the 116th Congress.”

The Center released the following statement congratulating Sen. Cornyn on this honor, which you can read more about [here](#):

“He was very active in sponsoring 65 separate bills, and achieved great success in navigating eight of his sponsored bills through the Senate and into law, including measures that dealt with human trafficking, forensic evidence reporting requirements for sexual assaults, and the reauthorization of the national internet crimes against children task force program,” said the Center for Effective Lawmaking’s Co-Director Alan Wiseman.

Senator John Cornyn, a Republican from Texas, is a member of the Senate Finance, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees.



Legislative Issues by Kate Bush



The following information comes from State Senator Paul Bettencourt. Senator Bettencourt represents District 7 in Houston. Prior to his position as State Senator, Paul Bettencourt served as Harris County Tax Assessor. Consequently, Senator Bettencourt is in an excellent position to create bills that provide relief from over taxation. His bill SB2 Property Tax Reform and School Finance Reform is one example. SB933 creates an Inspector General in Texas Education. This bill will help with the School Finance Reform section of SB2.

Why Property Tax Reform & Relief Is So Important

By: Chairman Paul Bettencourt

Home and business owners across Texas already know the truth: Property taxes are rising too fast. The problem is that as appraised values go up, property tax rates almost never come down. Often they even go up! I filed Senate Bill 2, the Texas Property Tax Reform and Relief Act of 2019 to solve this pressing issue for every part of the property tax bill, schools, counties, cities, and special districts.

The fact is that across the State taxpayers are facing an ever increasing tax burden and in some cases face the prospect of being taxed out of their home. Governor Abbott opened the 86th Legislative Session by telling the Texas Senate, "We are going to solve school finance and property tax reform this session!" I could not agree more. Texans cannot continue facing double digit increase in their property tax bill year after year after year. Lt. Governor Patrick highlighted his resolve to address this pressing issue by creating the Senate Committee on Property Tax and naming me as Chairman.

I often joke that the State bird of Texas is no longer a mockingbird but rather a construction crane! With this reality comes increases in property taxes. A look at the property tax levy growth across the major counties in Texas between 2013 - 2017 shows that Harris County had a 51% increase, Bexar County had a 37% increase, Dallas County saw a 33% increase and both Tarrant and Travis counties had roughly an 18% increase. Levy growth in the five largest Texas cities during this same time period showed a 38% hike in Houston, a 34% jump in San Antonio, a 32% increase in Austin, a 30% rise in Dallas, plus 24% more in Fort Worth. This is an everywhere problem across the State.

This levy increases mean that taxpayers must pay more. For example, and average Houston homeowner has seen a 37% increase in this same time frame and the average Dallas home saw an increase of over 33% to \$5,000 a year! Before this Legislative Session I drove by my first home, which cost \$139,000, I owned with my wife in Houston which we sold twenty years ago. Today, that home is now worth almost \$450,000 - up by a factor of three! Those who are just starting off are being boxed out of starting off the same way that we did.

The concept of Senate Bill 2 is simple: As values go up property tax rates should come down. This legislation seeks to lower the rollback rate from it current level of 8% down to 2.5%. If a taxing entity wants to exceed that amount they must get voter approval in a November election. To put this plainly, Senate Bill 2 gives local voters more control over their property tax bills.

This is not just about the current home and business owners in Texas, but rather this is about all of the home and business owners who have yet to come. That is why I am so tenacious about this. The Texas miracle is a major economic driver for the entire country and property taxes threaten this continued success. We are fighting for the Texas dream in the Texas Senate to ensure that Texas will continue to be the job creation engine that we all know well into the future.

Village RW remembers one of their own

Mary Ann Wall

A former member of Village Republican Women, Mary Ann Wall, passed away in January 2019 and it is fitting that she be remembered as she gave so much to this club and to TFRW.

Her health had been declining for some time and she had moved to New Braunfels to be near her daughter.

Those of you who knew Mary Ann remember her engaging smile and that she could be a little feisty at times. But she provided leadership and participated in so many ways.

She served in the following offices for VRW: Recording Secretary, Treasurer (3 terms) – now that is dedication, 1st Vice President, and finally President. She chaired fundraisers, participated in campaigns and was always in the middle of things.

She served as Treasurer for the Texas Federation of Republican Women in 1980-81 and later served as Village Treasurer, the three terms mentioned above. I suppose that Village thought if she can do it for TFRW, she can do it for us.

She was honored in 2005 by being named one of the 10 Outstanding Republican Women by TFRW at its convention. This award was especially meaningful to Mary Ann.

We will miss the spirit of Mary Ann Wall and her many contributions to our organization.

VRW February General Meeting on 2/27/2019



Village Republican Women

February Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2019

The meeting was called to order by our president Cheryl Dalton at the Racquet Club on February 26, 2019 at 11:30 AM. Robyn Harrison presented the invocation. Theresa Kosmoski led both pledges to the flags of the U.S. and of Texas. Nolia Rohde presented the American Minute on slavery.

President Dalton reminded us that only those who had paid for lunch and had the orange lunch ticket were to be seated at the center tables and that there would be no sharing of lunches.

President Dalton introduced our guests and candidate for Houston Mayor, Bill King. The minutes were approved as recorded. She reminded us to sign up for Legislative Day on April 25 in Austin. She announced that Governor Abbott had appointed Justice Brett Buzby to the Texas Supreme Court. She also informed us that Rajada Fleming had imported all our names into a new web site named MailChimp due to changes by Google Groups and giving us more control. Lastly she informed us of a voter registration class on March 7 at Trini Mendenhall.

Carolyn Hodges gave a presentation as we remember Mary Ann Wall who was a long time member of VRW and passed away in January of 2019.

Her presentation was followed by a report of the Internal Review Committee of the treasurer given by Anne Bielstein. She reported that the club is in compliance with all rules. Committee members were Rajada Fleming, Anne Bielstein, and Nolia Rohde. A motion was made, seconded and voted to accept.

Nancy Scott gave the treasurer's report. She presented a budget to be voted on by the membership. Finance committee members were Nancy Scott, Buffie Ingersoll, Penny Remick and Cheryl Dalton. Nancy moved for the adoption of the report which was seconded and voted to accept as presented.

Buffie Ingersoll gave the Ways and Means Report announcing the planned fund raiser coming up which will be held at the Racquet Club on Saturday, April 13, 2019. It will be a British Tea and Fashion Show sponsored by Dillard's. Invitations were on the tables. More details are to come.

Kate Bush gave the Legislative Report highlighting tax reform and school funding.

President Dalton adjourned the meeting by announcing the topics of the meetings through May, including presentation on the Electoral College, Redistricting, Women's Health Care, and further reminders of Legislation Day. She adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm.

Penny Remick
Recording Secretary

*British Luncheon
and Spring Fashion Show*

Saturday, April 13, 2019
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Houston Racquet Club
10709 Memorial Dr.

Sponsorship

\$3,000 Queens Table—SOLD

\$1,000 Countess Table—Priority seating for 8 next to the runway, champagne, favors, and signage in the invitation and at the event

\$600 Baroness Table—Seating for 8, signage in the invitation and at the event.

\$500 Flowers—Two priority seats at a Countess table, champagne, favors and signage in the invitation and at the event

\$300 Favors—Two seats at a Baroness table and signage in the invitation and at the event.

Individual ticket \$125—Countess \$75—Baroness

Hosted by
Village Republican Women
RSVP to www.villagerepublicanwomen.org
Questions sleanorwhite@comcast.net

Optional Attire: Hats, pearls & gloves
Gentlemen welcome

We invite you to loan us your tea pots, tea cups, dress gloves, and fake pearls, to use to create centerpieces. Label each item, pack them carefully in a labelled box, and bring to the March meeting. Or for pickup contact Beverly Roberts 832-443-8109 or bjuhlmer47@gmail.com .

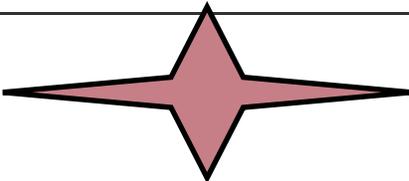
Welcome New Members

Sally Biestek

Meredith Iler

Tobin Weaver

Kathryn Williamson





It's Island Time Again!

The Texas Federation of Republican Women is pleased to announce the 32nd Biennial Convention, **October 3-5, 2019**. The beautiful Moody Gardens Resort and Convention Center in Galveston will be the site for this amazing and exciting event. "It's Island Time Again"!

For 3 days the resort will be a fabulous way to meet and greet a large group of hardworking Republican Women, the largest, most active group of grassroots people in Texas.

The Texas Federation of Republican Women, with over 150 clubs and nearly 10,000 members, stand ready to successfully work in each and every Republican campaign state wide, and across the country.



Village Republican Women

Region II
S.D. 7

www.VillageRepublicanWomen.org

2018-2019 Executive Board

Name	Position	Email
Cheryl Dalton	President	president@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Deanna Harrington	First V.P.	programs@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Rajada Fleming	Second V.P.	hospitality@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Buffie Ingersoll	Third V.P.	fundraiser@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Sharon Mills	Recording Secretary	recording@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Susan Smith	Corresponding Secretary	corresponding@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Nancy Scott	Treasurer	treasurer@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Bobbi Robinson	Membership	membership@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Paula VonKennel	Newsletter/Social Media	newsletter@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Julie Jaehne	Campaign Activities	campaign@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Kate Bush	Legislative	legislative@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Theresa Kosmoski	Parliamentarian & By-Laws	N/A
	Public Relations	publicity@villagerepublicanwomen.org
	Chaplain	N/A
Chris Cobb	Webmaster	webmaster@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Lucretia Shaver	Community Outreach	outreach@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Ginger Howell	Historian	N/A
Kathaleen Wall	Americanism	americanism@villagerepublicanwomen.org
Robyn Harrison	Awards	N/A
Beverly Roberts	Directory	Bjuhlmer47@gmail.com
Nolia Rohde	Grass Roots	N/A
Jodie Dornak	Calling Chair	N/A

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