



September 2018 Issue

HAS HARRIS COUNTY ALREADY TURNED BLUE?

Come hear Sen. Paul Bettencourt show us statistics on exactly how we are voting in recent elections, who is voting for whom, and where do we need to concentrate our efforts on GOTV for the upcoming Midterm Elections.



First elected to the Senate in 2014, Paul Bettencourt represents Senate District 7, which includes portions of Harris County. He previously served 10 years as the Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector, where he introduced “Smart Government” at the Harris County Tax Office and developed a customer service-driven organization. His team created the first major online property tax payment system and the first county tax office website with online automotive registration in Texas. (His motto was “Get on-line, not in-line.”)

In his first legislative session, Senator Bettencourt served as the chief Senate sponsor on 25 bills that the Legislature approved, including his amendment to SB 1760 that requires a 60% supermajority within a taxing jurisdiction to increase property taxes and has already prevented Dallas ISD from imposing a \$100 million tax increase on its taxpayers. Senator Bettencourt also led the passage of the Andrea Sloan “Right to Try” bill, which allows terminally ill Texas patients access to drugs still in the FDA approval pipeline, and SB 1004, which expanded dual credit opportunities in Harris County. He built upon this success in the most recent legislative session by passing legislation to stamp out inappropriate student-educator relationships and he reached across the aisle to establish ISD and Charter School Partnerships to give Texas students better access to educational opportunities. Additionally, he worked to pass HB 810, which gets government out of the way and allows adult stem cell treatments to be used for patients facing severe chronic illnesses.

The senator and his wife Susan are active members of Saint John Vianney Catholic Church, where Paul is a fourth-degree Knight of Columbus.



Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 26, 2018

Houston Racquet Club

10709 Memorial Dr. Houston, TX 77024

Optional Lunch \$25.00 (cash only)

RSVP for lunch no later than Friday, September 21st at 12:00 NOON

To rajadafleming@yahoo.com or 713-963-9805

Please notify us of dietary restrictions when RSVP

No-Shows will be billed

Complimentary Valet Parking

President's Message



At our CHAT last Wednesday we heard Jim McIngvale, aka 'Mattress Mack' as he entertained us and several Candidates speak to kick off our fall GOTV to prepare for the Midterm Elections. This is a tough Election, folks, and we need to prepare ourselves with as much information as possible in order to make the right choices that will impact our future both locally and nationally.

Have you ever heard so much about Socialism as we have recently, but I wonder how many of us **really** know what Socialism is or what it would mean to every person in this country if the current Socialist Candidates were elected to office. On Wednesday, September 12, we have another CHAT planned at the HCRP Westside HQ office on Katy Freeway at 5:30 pm . Our speaker is Carmen Montiel, former Candidate for CD 29. She grew up in Socialist Venezuela and will tell us, first hand, exactly what Socialism will do to this country if the worst happens and what we can expect. Watch your email for a separate flyer invitation and rsvp to Rajada Fleming now.

As we move forward to the election, we will have Sen Paul Bettencourt speak at our September meeting to address the true picture of voting that is actually happening in Harris County by Republicans and Democrats. Are **they** really about to overtake us and turn us Blue. Sen. Bettencourt has the figures to show us facts proving how things are turning out here in our area. Don't miss this meeting! Is Harris County turning Blue? It's up to us to prevent it.

Get involved!!!! If you don't know what to do, go to the HCRP Westside HQ and volunteer your time to help elect our Republican Candidates. You can address postcards, make phone calls, block walk and many other things, just get involved or you can't complain when your candidate doesn't get elected. Our wonderful Village RW are staffing and running this office so you will see faces you know and have fun as well. Let Rajada Fleming know when you can be there and we'll see you next week. And when you go, take some supplies like napkins, bottled water, cleaning wipes, etc.

Don't sit out this election, that's what Village RW do, we're involved, we work and elect the best Candidates for the job. And don't miss the September meeting!

Cheryl Dalton

Message from Theresa Kosmoski, Parliamentarian/Bylaws

Pursuant to Article XIII of the Village RW Bylaws, notice is being given of a proposed amendment to be considered by the club at the September General meeting. The Board of Directors has voted to recommend approval of the following amendment:

Article IX- Board of Directors *The amendment is to add the following new language:*
SECTION 7. Two unexcused absences from meeting of the Board of Directors in any one year shall result in automatic expulsion from the Board. An excused absence shall be granted only by the President.

VILLAGE REPUBLICAN WOMEN AMERICANISM UPDATE
Kathaleen Wall, VRW Americanism Chair

Voter Registration Drives

The last day to register to vote for the November 6th General Election is October 9, 2018. Please join Village Republican Women in our teams efforts to assist in registering voters. Contact the following team VRW leaders that are in charge of these specific voter registration drives for more information :

Nancy Scott - Retirement Communities of Eagle Trace and Parkway Place
Mary Grace Landrum - Brookdale Senior Living
New Movers - Lisa Zook
Second Baptist - Eleanor White

We had a successful voter registration drive at the Villages Independence Festival this past July 4 hosted at Ecclesia on West Side.

Salute to Veterans with Houston West Chamber of Commerce

On Friday, November 2, 2018 the Village Republican Women are participating in the HONORING WOMEN VETERANS at the annual Houston West Chamber of Commerce SALUTE TO VETERANS at 11 a.m. at Houston Community College West Houston Institute, 2811 Hayes Road, Houston, TX 77082. The keynote speaker will be Regina Mayor Principal, Global Sector Head and U.S. National Sector Leader of Energy and Natural Resources, Former Officer of the U.S. Army Reserved. Veterans will be seated at our VRW table gratis if their RSVP is submitted by October 1 to KathaleenWallsREC17@Outlook.com.

Tribute to Women's Right to Vote

Mickey Marvins will give the American Minute about the 19th Amendment at the Village Republican Women's Meeting on September 26.





VRW'S CHAT

With

Carmen

Socialism.....What it is, what it means to you



Carmen Maria Montiel was born in Venezuela into a traditional Spanish Colonial family, in which education, hard work and giving back were priorities.

She began her charity work as a young girl in her church youth program. When Carmen was just 16 years old, just like in a Hollywood movie, the president of the Miss Venezuela pageant discovered her. Her beauty and elegance earned her the titles of Miss Venezuela, Miss South America, and

Second Runner-Up in the Miss Universe Pageant in 1984. Carmen Maria immediately put her celebrity to use in the service of others, and created the foundation "Las Misses" to help pediatric hospitals in Venezuela, Ecuador, and Peru.

Carmen moved to the United States to continue her education. In 1991, she was awarded degrees in Broadcasting and Spanish, Magna Cum Laude, at East Tennessee State University. Proof positive that beauty and brains are not mutually exclusive!

Carmen ran a clean successful Campaign for Congress, District 29, making it to the Runoff.

Currently, she sits on the Board of Directors of UNICEF, Virtuosi of Houston, and the Institute of Hispanic Culture, as well as on the Advisory Board of the Latin Women Initiative.

Seeing what Communism can do to a Rich Nation like Venezuela and how it can happen Anywhere, she has become a force in the teachings against this ideology.

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

HCRP Westside Office

10301 C. Katy Freeway

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Snacks and wine will be served

RSVP to rajadaflaming@yahoo.com by Tuesday, September 11th.



Legislative Update

by VP Legislation Julie Faubel

vplegislation@tfrw.org

Interim Charges for the 85th Texas Legislature

The Interim Charges for the 85th Texas Legislature have been issued by Lt. Governor Dan Patrick and Speaker of the House Joe Straus. Interim Charges instruct lawmakers to study important issues and research information about a variety of topics to help guide future legislative decisions. The committees are currently meeting and holding public hearings to get input about their charges and outline the work to be done before they meet again in January 2019.

In preparation for next year's legislative session, both chambers share a number of interim charges that committees will study focusing on the impact and aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, including:

- Examine the use of federal funds by state agencies responding to the effects of Hurricane Harvey. Identify the need for state resources to respond to Harvey relief and recovery efforts, as well as opportunities for state investment in infrastructure projects that will reduce the impact of future natural disasters.
- Evaluate the adequacy of the workforce currently available to the industries responsible for rebuilding the state's key infrastructure as well as residential and commercial properties damaged by Hurricane Harvey.
- Examine how emergency response activities are organized, funded, and coordinated. Review the impact of natural disasters on county finances. Identify any deficiencies in authority for the most populous counties related to infrastructure planning, emergency response, and recovery.

Another issue both chambers will also examine:

- Study strategies to use the Economic Stabilization Fund (ESF) to generate additional revenue for state obligations without compromising the fund's intended purpose. Examine options to increase earnings while minimizing overall risk to the fund balance and ensuring sufficient liquidity. Additionally, consider alternate uses for funds above the constitutional limit.

Some issues for House committees include:

- Study the impact of data breaches or theft on Texas consumers and businesses. Determine if existing rules and regulations offer adequate consumer protection while allowing continued economic success for businesses in the state.
- Monitor developments with international trade agreements, including NAFTA, and review the impact of proposed and enacted changes on the state's economy.
- Some issues for Senate committees include:
 - Evaluate the property tax as it applies to business personal property and the current \$500 exemption. Quantify the economic effect of taxing business personal property and determine whether the tax places Texas at a competitive disadvantage relative to other states.
 - Evaluate the effective tax rate and rollback tax rate calculations. Evaluate the operations of appraisal review boards (ARBs). Determine whether ARB operations are sufficiently independent of central appraisal districts and taxing units and whether ARBs and/or chief appraisers should be elected.

[Continued on next page](#)

Combined, there are hundreds of interim charges that have been issues for most every committee in both the Senate and the House.

For the complete lists and full text of Lt. Gov. Patrick's 2017 Interim Legislative Charges:

https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/wp-content/uploads/docs/2017_Hurricane_Senate_Interim_Charges.pdf

https://www.ltgov.state.tx.us/wp-content/uploads/docs/InterimCharges_2017_Round_2_FINAL.pdf

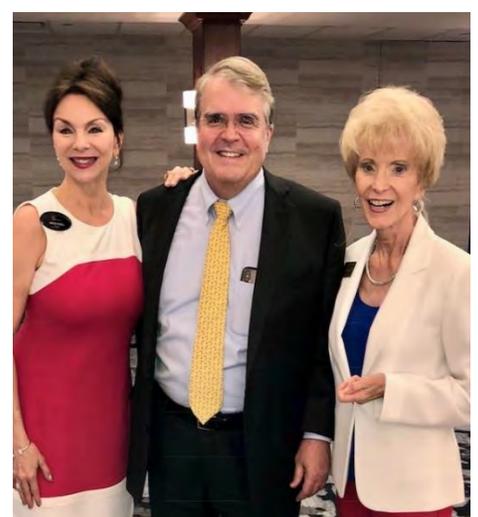
For the complete lists and full text of Speaker Straus' 2017 Interim Committee Charges:

http://www.house.state.tx.us/_media/pdf/interim-charges-85th.pdf

<http://www.house.state.tx.us/news/press-releases/?id=6373>

I encourage you to become familiar with the website Texas Legislature Online. It is your best source for information and to follow the proceedings of both the Senate and the House committees this year as they prepare for the 2019 Legislative session. Using this website (<https://capitol.texas.gov/Home.aspx>) you can follow committee activities as they study their charges in both houses.

By exploring this website, you can stay informed about both the many committee meetings by date, as well as live broadcasts of committee hearings (<https://capitol.texas.gov/MnuCommittees.aspx>). Hearing notices, meeting minutes, and witness lists for a specific committee can also be found at this site.



Scenes from August 22nd Chat

VILLAGE REPUBLICAN WOMEN
General Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2018

President Cheryl Dalton called the meeting to order at 11:29 A.M.

Ms. Emely McHattie opened the meeting in prayer. Ms. Kathaleen Wall led the pledges to the flag of the United States and the Texas flag. Ms. Beverly Roberts presented the "American Minute" and spoke on the origin of Memorial Day and reminding each of us that we must continue to honor our veterans. President Dalton welcomed everyone to the General Meeting and introduced guests and candidates. President's Report: President Dalton announced that now that the primary elections are over, we must turn our attention to the election in November. President Dalton asked for five volunteers to serve on the campaign disbursement fund. Those volunteering are Emely McHattie, Jodie Dornak, Buffie Ingersoll, Robyn Harrison, and Ann Bielstein. President Dalton asked for approval of the April minutes. Motion was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved. President Dalton announced that Village Republican Women has been penalized \$100 for failure to turn in the TEC report that was due earlier this year. President Dalton reported that the opening on the Headquarters office was a fun day. President Dalton reminded all attendees that Ms. Bobbi Robinson is available to help anyone who is interested in joining the club and also announced that men are invited to join. President Dalton announced that the State Convention is June 14-16 and also reminded all members to RSVP the lunch reservation to the general meetings before noon the Friday before the meeting. President Dalton announced that there is a deputy voter training session following today's meeting, 1:30-2:30 PM. This concluded the President's Report.

Ms. Deanna Harrington introduced candidate for State Republican Party Chair, Cindy Crocker Asche and Ms. Theresa Kosmoski. Ms. Kosmoski began the program asking Candidate Asche to tell the audience about herself and to explain why she decided to be a candidate for this position. Candidate Asche emphasized that the Republican Party needs to do a better job with their resources, needs to bring youth and diversity into the Republican Party, needs to recognize that conservative values are important to the Republican Party, and finally, needs to unite the Republican Party across Texas to defeat Democratic candidates. Ms. Kosmoski concluded the program with a time for questions and answers from the audience.

President Dalton concluded the meeting reminding everyone of upcoming important dates listed on the agenda and stated to watch their emails for summer activities.

The general meeting concluded at 1:01 P.M.

Sharon Mills
Recording Secretary

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
	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
Carolyn Toriggino	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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