

Political Advertising paid for by SARW Political Action Committee (PAC)  
Editor: Barbara Swarouth ([barbaraswarouth@outlook.com](mailto:barbaraswarouth@outlook.com)) 414-491-2341  
Website: [www.saladoarearw.com](http://www.saladoarearw.com)



April 2023



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

April 3 – Harker Heights Mayoral Debate

April 4 – Killeen ISD Place 4 Debate

April 6 – Pints and Politics, Deadfish Grill – 6:00 p.m.

April 11 – Salado School Board and Aldermen Forum, Salado Middle School Cafeteria, 6:00 p.m.

April 11 – Republican Party of Bell County CEC Meeting, Belton Courthouse, 6:00 p.m.

April 13 – Belton ISD School Board Debate

April 17 – CTRW General Meeting – The Gin, Belton – 11:30 a.m.

April 24 – Bell County Young Republicans – Johnny's – 6:00 p.m.

April 27 – SARW General Meeting – Salado Civic Center – 6:30 p.m.

### **SARW GENERAL MEETING – APRIL 27 – 6:30 P.M. - Salado Civic Center**

**SPEAKERS:** Brazos River Authority  
Aaron Abel, Water Services Manager  
Brad Burnett, Regional Manager for Central and Lower Basins

**RSVP by Friday, April 21 –** [sherril.gardipee@gmail.com](mailto:sherril.gardipee@gmail.com) – 254-217-4390

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### PRESIDENT'S PEN

This is my favorite time of year. Spring has sprung and Easter is a time of celebration! I hope your heart is filled with joy. As we enter this season, we are sprinting towards the finish of the 88<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session.

I have been going to Austin and speaking with Legislators since January and will keep working to make sure that I advocate for our priority bills as they go across the finish line. This has been a learning experience and one filled with great memories. I have met so many wonderful people and had so many thoughtful conversations. One thing I know for sure, we all want Texas to be the best State it can be, but we don't always agree on how to make that happen.

Closer to home, I am excited to have the Brazos River Authority speakers coming this month. This is an evening meeting to make sure everyone can get off work and attend. Water rights are an important issue and one that will continue well into the future, so we need to stay on top of what is happening.

Lastly, a quick reminder to make sure to vote on May 6<sup>th</sup>! These elections for our municipal positions and school boards, do not garner a lot of voters but are so very important. Make it a point to have your voice heard and **VOTE** in the May election. As always, thank you for everything you do to **Keep Texas Red!**

*Brenda*

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**CHAPLAIN'S CORNER – Janice Morin**

Heavenly Father, when my world seems out of control, please help me to love and trust you. When I feel tired and unappreciated as I serve others, let Your applause be enough for me.

Asking in your name, AMEN.



**1ST VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS – Sherril Gardipee**

Our SARW General Meeting will be on **Thursday evening, April 26, starting at 6:30 p.m.** at the Salado Civic Center.

We have outstanding featured speakers from the Brazos River Authority:

- Aaron Abel, Water Services Manager
- Brad Burnett, Regional Manager for Central and Lower Basins

Both are hydrologists with current information on the water crisis in Central Texas.

Please plan to attend our evening meeting and get the latest water updates.

Snacks will be available.

**RSVP NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, APRIL 21:**

[Sherril.gardipee@gmail.com](mailto:Sherril.gardipee@gmail.com)

254-217-4390



April 2023



### **2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP – Katherine Krska**

Our membership drive continues. We are grateful for all the new members and everyone who has renewed. Reach out to our new residents and make sure they know that we are here. The growth in our community will easily lead to growth in our Club.

You do not want to miss out on our informational newsletter, the educational speakers and the legislative content. This is an important time in our Country's history and belonging to Salado Area Republican Women is a wonderful way to make an impact and be part of that history.

An application form is attached to this newsletter. Do not hesitate to complete it and mail it in! This is a group where the more the merrier is true. Be sure to invite your friends to join too!



### **3<sup>RD</sup> VICE PRESIDENT OF FUNDRAISING – Barclay McCort**

Ladies, we are looking great for our Fine China Luncheon. President Howard secured underwriting of the \$1,500 room charge at Tenroc from U.S. Congressman John Carter. This is a huge contribution! In addition, Brenda secured a fantastic speaker, Steve Munisteri, an attorney who served as the chair of the Republican Party of Texas from 2010 to 2015. In 2017, Munisteri was appointed to the White House staff as Deputy Assistant to the President and Principal Deputy Director of the Office of Public Liaison. Now he serves as Senior Advisor to Governor Greg Abbott. He is a fabulous speaker!

More good news – Twenty-five volunteers have stepped up to host a table at the FCL. Twenty-five was our goal. Now your part is to bring in some fabulous auction items. We are hoping for some big-ticket items, such as trips, gift certificates, art, golf outings, etc. You may bring them to our meeting or give them to Nancy Norris (512-422-2233). I hope to see you at our April meeting where tickets and flyers will be available.



April 2023

LEGISLATION



### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Michele Hercules

March has been a VERY BUSY month for all our legislators!!

The Senate State Affairs Committee met to hear testimony on several bills of interest – including [SB175](#) (stop taxpayer-funded lobbyists), [SB921](#) (prohibit ranked choice voting), and [SB15](#) (protect women’s sports). All three passed out of Committee 7-3. On to the Senate floor vote!

The Senate passed [SB2](#) to restore penalties for election fraud back to felony status. Last session, a last-minute amendment changed it from felony to misdemeanor. We also need to convince the House (specifically Speaker Phelan) to pass it! SB2 was received in the House on 3/15/23.

On Thursday, the Senate State Affairs Committee took testimony on Senator Campbell’s [SB14](#) to protect children by stopping the gender modification of minors. At this time, the Committee has not yet voted on it.

[HB98](#) will be heard in the Youth Health & Safety Committee. This is a BAD BILL! We need people to testify against it and/or make online comments.

We’ve already seen school districts conducting “mental health” assessments on kids, tracking them, collecting data, and sometimes selling the data to outside groups. This bill wants to allow the school district to be a Medicaid provider for mental health services, which would allow them to monetize the mental health services they are providing.

The left keeps pushing schools to completely take over every aspect of children’s lives. We must not let them! Here is an excerpt from the bill-

*Sec.A38.038.REIMBURSEMENT UNDER MEDICAID. The Health and Human Services Commission shall allow a school district to enroll as a provider under the medical assistance program under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code, to provide and receive reimbursement for the provision of mental health services to district students who are medical assistance recipients. The job of school districts is to educate children, not be their healthcare provider!*

A packed public hearing on [HB900](#), to regulate books sold to or included in public school libraries, was held this month and is now pending in committee. Please pray with us for the passing of this bill to protect our children.

An anticipated hot debate on [HB 20](#) is expected. Thinking outside of the box, the bill would create a law enforcement unit based at the border that would have the authority to arrest, detain

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April 2023

LEGISLATION



### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Michele Hercules**

**(CONTINUED)**

and deter people crossing the border illegally and would oversee the construction and maintenance of physical barriers on the border. According to a summary of the bill by the speaker's office, the unit would eventually replace Texas National Guard soldiers and state troopers who have been deployed to the border as part of Operation Lone Star.

During Governor Abbott's School Choice Rally at the Capitol this month, with thunderous assurance, vowed the legislature would pass school choice bills this session. "The children will rise up because you are going to rise up." **SB8** (parental rights and public-school responsibilities regarding instructional materials and the establishment of an education savings account program) Please remind your representatives that this is one of our, very important, TX GOP Priorities!  
<https://texasgop.org/priorities/>

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SHOWED UP AT THE CAPITOL, MADE PHONE CALLS, AND SENT EMAILS...YOU MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE!!**

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### **Political Activities – Christie Justice**

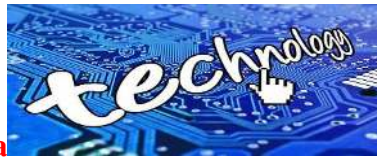
The first quarter of 2023 has ended, and it is once again time to report our volunteer hours.

Thank you all for the countless hours you devote to serving our community and our country.

If you did not report your hours at our March meeting, send me an email. It is not necessary to fill out a form. If you need a list of suggested eligible activities, the form is attached. To make this simple, send me a quick email stating “total hours for first quarter = \_\_\_\_\_”.

[christie@christiejustice.net](mailto:christie@christiejustice.net)

Blessed Easter to you and yours.



### **TECHNOLOGY – Michele Melsha**

Facebook is at the top of the social media game! It tends to have a wider audience than other social media sites! Please utilize this opportunity/technology to reach out and ask your family and friends to join us in our shared mission of our Republican message!

For more information about SARW, and other Republican events, do not forget about our website at:

[www.saladoarearw.com](http://www.saladoarearw.com)



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**AMERICANISM/CARING FOR AMERICA – Kate McKinley**

Another thought statement/fill in the blank for April 2023--“*By planning today, I Can Care For America By\_\_\_\_\_*”. The Thought Statement will change each month, but please do not let that keep you from thinking on previous Thought Statements. Use these to give yourself time to reflect on your own behaviors, starting conversation with family and friends, meeting a new person in the grocery cashier line (!), sharing on social media, etc. You may even come up with your own Thought Statements to share with family/friends. I believe we can each find ourselves improved by our next elections. Many local school boards and municipal governments are having elections in May 2023. Election Forums/Debates will be occurring. Ready yourself and bring others to new thoughts on candidates, issues, and elections by attending these and reflecting on the Thought Statement.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our SARW Executive Committee has agreed to donate \$100.00 to the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service (VAVS) at the Olin E. Teague VAMC in Temple , Texas. This was used for March 29<sup>th</sup> Vietnam Veterans Celebration. VAVS had a cookout in Harker Heights at Levin Park. Our donation has assisted in purchase of the Hot Dog, Buns, and Condiments.

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You might want to check out this website:

<https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/discover/texas-history-timeline>.

There are many stories at this site for us to learn where our State has been before.



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### CENTRAL TEXAS REPUBLICAN WOMEN



Our April luncheon will feature our Annual Scholarship Endowment Award winners and their parents. Tom Maynard, State Board of Education Trustee District 10, will be our guest speaker. Tom has been actively engaged in education as a parent, teacher, school board trustee, and administrator for over 20 years. Please be sure to attend this exceptional luncheon presentation.

April 17, 2023, at The Gin Restaurant on Nolan Creek

Registration/Networking at 11:00 am

Meeting Begins at 11:30 am

**RSVP Reservation is Required** ..... Email RSVP to: [mabeasley62@gmail.com](mailto:mabeasley62@gmail.com) or Pay \$20 Cash or Check at the Door. Prepay via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/central-texas-rw-april-luncheon-meeting-tickets-598362728027>

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## REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BELL COUNTY

204 N. East Street, Ste. A-1, Belton, TX 76513 Phone: 254-831-5200

[www.belltxgop.org](http://www.belltxgop.org) [belltxgop@gmail.com](mailto:belltxgop@gmail.com)

Mack Latimer, Chairman

The Republican Party of Bell County CEC Meeting will be held April 11 at 6:00 p.m. at the Belton Courthouse. We look forward to seeing many of you at this meeting.

### Exciting News:

Bell County Republicans are having a conservative golf tournament fundraiser.

### TIME AND LOCATION:

June 23 – 7:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Sammons Golf Course, 2727 W. Adams Avenue, Temple

### SCHEDULE:

- 7:00-8:00 a.m. Registration
- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. - Tournament

**[For more information, contact Bell County Headquarters at 254-831-5200](#)**

**[or use the QR Code below,](#)**



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April 2023

## SALADO AREA REPUBLICAN WOMEN

President

Brenda Howard

[brendaghoward@protonmail.com](mailto:brendaghoward@protonmail.com)

208-741-0725

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Programs

Sherril Gardipee – [sherril.gardipee@gmail.com](mailto:sherril.gardipee@gmail.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Membership

Katherine Krska – [katkrska@yahoo.com](mailto:katkrska@yahoo.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Fundraising

Barclay McCort – [barclaymccort@gmail.com](mailto:barclaymccort@gmail.com)

Secretary

Kathy McLeod – [kathymcleod88@gmail.com](mailto:kathymcleod88@gmail.com)

Treasurer

Diane Balady – [dbalady@outlook.com](mailto:dbalady@outlook.com)

CHAIRS

Chaplain

Janice Morin – [jimjanmorin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimjanmorin@sbcglobal.net)

Scholarships

Bonnie Conway – [conwaybg6@gmail.com](mailto:conwaybg6@gmail.com)

Newsletter

Barbara Swarouth - [barbaraswarouth@outlook.com](mailto:barbaraswarouth@outlook.com)

Campaign Activities

Christie Justice – [christie@christiejustice.net](mailto:christie@christiejustice.net)

Hospitality

Karin Borman-Berg – [karb@mygrande.net](mailto:karb@mygrande.net)

Parliamentarian/Bylaws

Lynne Wilton – [wtilton1@msn.com](mailto:wtilton1@msn.com)

Awards

Shirley Stephenson – [steppnup@embarqmail.com](mailto:steppnup@embarqmail.com)

PAC Treasurer/Chairman

Fayann Ridgley – [fayelucken@hotmail.com](mailto:fayelucken@hotmail.com)

Publicity

Barclay McCort – [barclaymccort@gmail.com](mailto:barclaymccort@gmail.com)

Literacy

Nancy Norris – [ncnorris8@yahoo.com](mailto:ncnorris8@yahoo.com)

Americanism/Caring for America

Kate McKinley

Legislative

Michele Hercules - [michelehercules@yahoo.com](mailto:michelehercules@yahoo.com)

Historian

Bobbie Reihsen – [breihsen@hotmail.com](mailto:breihsen@hotmail.com)

Technology

Michele Melsha – [mmelsha@msn.com](mailto:mmelsha@msn.com)

Greeter

Michele Melsha

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### Membership Form for 2023

**Personal Information:**

**2023 Dues - \$35**

Title: (Check one): Mrs. \_\_\_ Miss \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ Dr. \_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_ Mr. \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Required by law for PAC reporting.

Check Membership Type: Primary \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_

Associate \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_

A SARW Member is a Republican woman who wants SARW to be her primary Federated Republican Women's club. An Associate Member is a Republican Woman who already belongs to a primary Federated Republican Women's Club and also wants to support SARW or is a Republican man who wants to support SARW.

**Please return this form along with a check payable to:  
SARW, PAC; PO Box 373; Salado, TX 76571**

SARW Information:

- The **objectives** of Salado Area Republican Women are to:
- Inform our members and the electorate through political education.
- Increase effectiveness of women in the cause of good government through political participation.
- Foster loyalty to the Republican Party and to promote its principles, and candidates in all elections including non-partisan elections.
- Work for the election of the Republican Party's nominees

We are **Republican** because we believe in:

- Lower taxes & limited government
- Unlimited opportunity for all
- Security for the Homeland
- Parental authority &
- We respect individual achievement with self-reliance.

**Disclaimer: Paid for by Salado Area Republican Women, PAC, P.O. Box 373, Salado TX 76571A Nonprofit Organization under Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code Contributions to SARW-PAC are not Tax Deductible as Charitable Contribution for Federal Income Purposes Corporate Contributions are Not Permitted. Not authorized.**



April 2023

## SARW VOLUNTEER HOURS

**Political Activities**-All activity that promotes the election of Republican candidates, and actions that advance those philosophies, values, and ideals. Hours include training, preparation, set up/take down, travel and actual activity time. This includes paid and unpaid time.

# Hours

- \_\_\_\_\_ SARW Monthly Meetings/Fundraisers/Special Events
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bell County Executive Committee Meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voter Registration/Election Worker/Poll Watcher
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pints & Politics
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bell County Headquarters Volunteer/Fundraising
- \_\_\_\_\_ SARW Committee Work/Board Meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Campaign Work
- \_\_\_\_\_ Republican Party TX and TFRW Conventions/Meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ National, State, Local GOP Seminars/Workshops/Trainings/Meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contacts to Candidates/Elected Officials

## Community Activities

# Hours

- \_\_\_\_\_ SISD Volunteer (PTO, Room Mom, Book Fair, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chamber of Commerce
- \_\_\_\_\_ SLCL-Salado Ladies Community League
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Partisan State, County, Village Boards/Including Elections (School, Library, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ FSPL-Friends of Salado Public Library

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April 2023

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| _____ PALS-Public Arts League of Salado                                       | _____ USO Ft. Hood  |
| _____ Historical Society Bell County/Salado                                   | _____ Tablerock     |
| _____ KSB-Keep Salado Beautiful<br>Garden                                     | _____ Community     |
| _____ Salado Education Foundation<br>Relief                                   | _____ Salado Family |
| _____ Church Committee Work (not worship services)<br>Clubs                   | _____ Lions/Rotary  |
| _____ Salado Community Chorus   |                     |
| _____ Special Events (The Stroll, Jingle Walk, Sirena Fest, Empty Bowl, etc.) |                     |
| _____ Other (briefly describe _____)  |                     |

**Political Phone Calls** # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Hours

Report Hours to Christie Justice: [christie@christiejustice.net](mailto:christie@christiejustice.net)