



The Wave

Official Newsletter of Canyon Lake Republican Women, Canyon Lake, TX

Texas Federation of Republican Women Region 14 - Senate District 25

Volume 11 - January 2026

President's Message



Happy New Year, 2026! I am so excited to be your President for this next

year. My deepest appreciation to Immediate Past President Jan Hunt for her guidance in getting ready for this position! I know she and the rest of the past presidents will continue to provide all the help we need to succeed!

We will continue to keep faith, celebrate family and cherish our freedoms throughout the coming year.

If you are new to our club, Welcome! If you are a returning member, thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission. We are women (and men) of purpose. We believe in God, our families, our country, our state, and our community. There was no more of an example of our 'community' than when our crew came together and decorated our float and participated in the Canyon Lake Christmas Parade. As we 'floated' the route, there were multiple people who shouted "Republican women are the best!". We make a positive impact in our community, and we

should all be proud of that!

This is a new year with a new board. I am humbled and honored to be elected President, and I send huge appreciation to all who volunteered to fill the other seats at the table. Let's make this a year of distinction! TFRW's theme for the year is: **Where the RED Begins!** "Retention, Education, and Deployment". CLRW aims to empower each member with essential knowledge to cultivate an informed electorate through our political education initiatives.

We are once again in a campaign year, and electing Republicans is our business. Locally, in our community, the Republican Party of Comal County is hosting two Candidate Forums: **Monday, January 19**, at **Columbus Hall**, in **New Braunfels** and **Monday, February 2** at the **Hampton Inn** in **Bulverde**. Attending one, or both, and asking the RIGHT questions of these candidates will help you decide which candidate to vote for. We will have a Primary, a Runoff, and a Midterm General election this year. It is our RESPONSIBILITY to VOTE and to be an **informed** voter. My motto is to always be the backup for your Precinct Chair and GET

OUT THE VOTE!

This will be a busy year for TFRW: First up for TFRW is **Leadership Day, January 10th** in Ft. Worth. Those of us attending are looking forward to learning new skills to help us in our positions. This will be an amazing opportunity to learn to lead! We encourage you all to join us! In June, the **Republican Party of Texas** has their convention in Houston.

In JULY, AMERICA has a birthday! Wahoo! Our nation will be 250 Years Old!

Thank you for the honor to serve. God Bless America, our wonderful state of Texas, and each of you. You make our club great. Again, Happy New Year!

Deborah Collins,
President

CLRW Meets

Third Wednesday • 9:30 am
St. Francis by the Lake
Episcopal Church
121 Spring Mountain Dr.

PO Box 2751
Canyon Lake, TX
78133
719-337-0545

canyonlakerw.com



What's Happening

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21, 2026

MEET & GREET - 9:30 A.M. MEETING - 10:00 A.M.



**KEEP TEXAS
RED**

A 10-Step Plan for
Republican Voters

— GUEST SPEAKER —
JOSEPH VARGAS

PRESENTED BY
**CANYON LAKE
REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

ST. FRANCIS BY THE LAKE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
121 SPRING MOUNTAIN DR.
CANYON LAKE, TX 78133



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Upcoming Events

Thursday, January 15

CLRW Dictionary Delivery

Volunteers Needed

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 19, 6:00 PM

Candidate Forum

Columbus Hall

111 Landa Street, New Braunfels

Wednesday, January 21, 9:30 AM

CLRW Business Meeting

Speaker: Joseph Vargas

*Topic: Keep Texas Red - 10-Step Plan
St Francis by the Lake Episcopal Church,
121 Spring Mountain Dr., Canyon Lake*

Monday, February 2, 1:00 PM

Executive Committee Meeting

TPML Founder's Room

Monday, February 2, 6:00 PM

Candidate Forum

Hampton Inn

499 Singing Oaks, Bulverde



Joseph Vargas, our January 21, 2026 speaker started out as a democratic strategist. He realized he was opposed to their logic and the psychological effects they use. A former debate champ, he has written a quick read book, THE

DEMOCRAT MODUS OPERANDI, which will be available at our meeting for \$20. This book is a training guide on how to respond to the use of emotion, negative branding, selective outrage, and language employed by Democrats. (There will also be an 8 page booklet available that sells for \$10.) We are in for a real treat and will surely benefit from his insight!

Beth Naumann,
1st VP Programs

SNACK TIME

2026

We kindly invite you to volunteer and bring a delightful treat to share at our upcoming meeting.

To sign up, please click on the Sign Up Genius link.

Sign Up Here!



What's Happening



YOU'RE INVITED

**COME HEAR FROM THE CANDIDATES ON YOUR
BALLOT FOR THE 2026 PRIMARY**

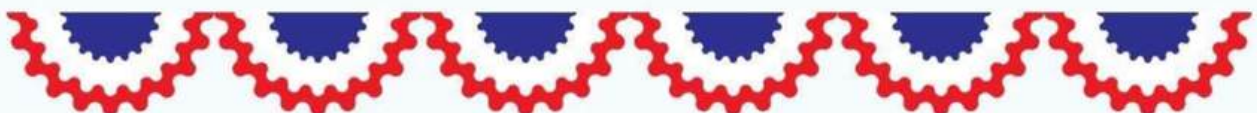
Forum Details

**Monday, January 19, 2026
Knights of Columbus Hall
111 Landa Street
New Braunfels 78130**


**Monday, February 2, 2026
Hampton Inn Bulverde
499 Singing Oaks
Spring Branch 78070**

**These will be important events to attend, get
informed, directly meet the candidates, ask
questions and share your concerns
Doors open at 5pm, Forums to begin at 6pm**

Limited Seating **MUST** RSVP
by Thursday, January 15, 2026
include date of forum and names of attendees
ComalGOPEvents@gmail.com



Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4



Public service has always been deeply personal to me. I am first and foremost a wife and a mother, and my family is the foundation that keeps me grounded and focused on what truly matters. Like many families across Comal County, we value faith, responsibility, and service to others. Those values shape not only who I am, but how I approach my role as Justice of the Peace.

I am honored to serve as the Justice of the Peace for Precinct 4 in Comal County. While many people recognize the title, they are often surprised to learn how broad and impactful the responsibilities of a Justice of the Peace truly are. The JP court is often the most accessible level of the judicial system and - for many residents - serves as their first interaction with the courts.

Precinct 4 covers a large and diverse portion of Comal County. The precinct includes well-known landmarks and communities such as Gruene, Landa Park, Canyon Lake, Fischer, Sattler, and the Hunter Road area. From established neighborhoods to rural properties and rapidly growing areas, Precinct 4 represents a wide cross section of our county. Because of this diversity, our court addresses a wide range of legal matters, and it is my responsibility to ensure that everyone who comes before the court is treated fairly, respectfully, and with dignity.

The Justice of the Peace court handles eviction cases and civil disputes involving amounts up to \$20,000. These cases can have a significant impact on families, landlords, and small businesses. Our goal is to ensure that each

matter is handled fairly and efficiently, while helping all parties better understand the legal process and their rights under the law.

In addition, the court handles all Class C misdemeanor offenses, including traffic citations and other fine-only offenses, as well as truancy cases involving school-aged children. In these matters, we strive to balance accountability with education, particularly when working with young people and their families.

One of the most serious responsibilities of the Justice of the Peace involves death investigations. When a death occurs under certain circumstances, the Justice of the Peace is legally responsible for determining the cause and manner of death. This duty often brings me into direct contact with families during some of the most painful moments of their lives. These situations require not only careful legal and factual determinations, but compassion—listening, offering reassurance, and helping families navigate an unfamiliar and emotional process.

The Justice of the Peace also works closely with local law enforcement agencies. This includes reviewing and issuing warrants and handling matters related to seized property. Collaboration with law enforcement is essential to maintaining public safety while ensuring that all actions are legally sound and properly overseen by the court.

Another important, and often lesser-known, responsibility involves working with animal control. In cases where animals are not being properly cared for, the Justice of the Peace may be involved in authorizing the seizure of animals to protect their safety and well-being.

Article by Ashley Evans

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These cases require a balanced approach that safeguards animals while respecting due process for owners.

Beyond these responsibilities, one of the most joyful duties of serving as Justice of the Peace is performing weddings. It is truly an honor to be part of such an important milestone and to help couples begin their married lives together.

Since taking office, I have made it a priority to improve the efficiency and accessibility of the Precinct 4 Justice of the Peace office. We have worked to streamline operations and make the court more user-friendly for the public. Residents can call in to ask questions, pay tickets, and receive assistance without unnecessary barriers. Our staff is committed to clear communication and connecting individuals with appropriate legal resources when needed.

I am deeply grateful for the continued trust the residents of Precinct 4 have placed in me. That trust is reflected in the fact that I am currently unopposed in my reelection campaign. I do not take this confidence lightly, and I view it as a responsibility to continue serving with integrity, fairness, and dedication to the people of our community.

At its core, my mission is to ensure that the Justice of the Peace office in Precinct 4 operates with professionalism, efficiency, and compassion. Justice should not feel intimidating or confusing—it should be accessible, understandable, and centered on service to the people of Comal County.

It is an honor to serve the residents of Precinct 4 and Comal County, and I remain committed to upholding the law, supporting our

Article by Ashley Evans continued

community, and ensuring that our court reflects the values of fairness, respect, and accountability.

Ashley Evans,
Justice of the Peace, Precinct 4

Ashley Evans, because of her excellent service to our community, has neither a primary nor a general election opponent in the upcoming election.



IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES
Mar 3, 2026 - PRIMARY ELECTION

Feb 2 Last day to Register to Vote

Feb 17 First day of Early Voting in person

Feb 20 Last day to apply for a Ballot by Mail (RECEIVED, not postmarked)

Feb 27 Last day of Early Voting in person

Mar 3 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY



Committee Chair Positions Available

I encourage you to take the time and read past editions of The Wave! It is an amazing history of our club, and you can 'meet' fellow members through the articles they have written, be in awe of the hours they have volunteered, and learn what the various chair positions do for our club. We are a powerful force within our community and we invite you to be a power within CLRW.

I am still looking for Committee Chair positions for several spots on our Board! If you have wanted to support our cause, please reach out! We need you!

I have included several segments on chair positions to the right.

Deborah Collins,
President

“In the end, you’re measured not by how much you undertake but by what you finally accomplish.”
Donald Trump

Americanism Chair

CLRW, in accordance with the NFRW and TFRW Americanism programs, seeks to promote respect for the American flag and foster allegiance to the United States and its customs and institutions. The Americanism Chair leads us in carrying out this mission through educational and inspirational programs, newsletter articles, and projects. She also recruits volunteers to lead the pledges and prayer at the monthly business meetings.

Community Engagement/ Caring for America Chairs

The purpose of the Caring for America and Community Engagement programs is to change lives and show how Republican women care about our community by being a giving and loving organization and showing we can make a difference.

The Caring for America Chair will oversee one large Caring for America Project. The Community Engagement Chair provides information and resources to members to highlight ways to show the Community that we care.

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee prepares and implements a plan, which the Executive Committee shall approve, to raise funds in order to meet CLRW's revenue needs. The Committee will notify the Treasurer of all Fundraising Committee meetings, and the Treasurer may attend each one.

Leadership Chair

The Leadership Chair advises members of resources, materials, workshops, and other training and mentoring opportunities to state and club leaders, as well as to the general membership. She also coordinates delegates and alternates for the conventions.



Celebrating the Heritage of Women Patriots

As we are approaching the 250th birthday of our nation, we

remember the contribution of three courageous and fearless women during the Revolutionary War. Their participation in the war and nation-building often extended well beyond the traditional household responsibilities of their era. These are authentic accounts of the essential roles three American women played during the Revolutionary War.

Molly Pitcher (Mary Ludwig Hays)

Mary Ludwig Hays achieved American Revolutionary War renown through a single act. Known widely as "Molly Pitcher," she has become emblematic of female patriots.

According to legend, during a sweltering June day in 1778, Mary worked tirelessly on the battlefield at the Battle of Monmouth, bringing water to soldiers. This service earned her the moniker "Molly Pitcher." When her husband, who had been operating an artillery piece, collapsed from heat exhaustion or injury, Mary stepped in, loading and firing the cannon alongside the men as bullets whizzed past her.

Prudence Cummings Wright

Prudence Cummings Wright was a vocal, determined patriot who stepped into leadership when her town's safety was threatened. In 1775, intelligence reached Pepperell, Massachusetts, that couriers were passing through with information beneficial to British forces. Prudence and several local women decided to locate and intercept the Loyalist spies. Wearing their husbands' clothing and carrying weapons from their households, these Pepperell women, subsequently called the "Minutewomen of Pepperell," established an ambush at Jewett's Bridge, intercepted the

spies, and seized them along with their intelligence. The confidential documents were delivered to American military authorities.

Deborah Sampson

Deborah Sampson ranks among the most renowned figures of the American Revolution. Born in Massachusetts in 1760, Sampson concealed her identity and joined the Continental Army under the name Robert Shurtliff in 1782. During an era when women were prohibited from military service, Sampson risked everything to become a soldier in the United Colonies' army. She served with the 4th Massachusetts Regiment and participated in active combat during the war. She sustained battle wounds, and to avoid revealing her identity as a woman, she tended to her own injuries. She used a penknife and needle to extract the musket ball from her thigh and stitched the wound closed.

Eventually, illness led to hospital treatment, where her identity was revealed. Rather than facing punishment, she received an honorable discharge from General Henry Knox in 1783.

The female patriots of the American Revolution contributed substantially to the independence movement, though history has largely overlooked them. These three women represent just a fraction of those who transcended conventional roles, serving as spies, messengers, nurses, fundraisers, and even soldiers in male disguise. They fulfilled critical functions in supporting the Continental Army and defending liberty principles during turbulent times. These patriots helped establish the foundation of a new nation.

Donna Lancon,
Americanism Chair

Did You Know?



The Facts About Maduro

There is nothing I dislike more than waking up to a new day, hoping to hear some good news when I turn on the news for the day, but NO... just more bad news hits me first thing, like a bucket of ice has been thrown in my face.

Each day the stories are becoming more and more depressing, mainly because the entire news coverage is about the Democrats and how much they despise Trump. Not only is it annoying, but it is such a waste of time for our country.

The big story today is how the United States captured Nicholas Maduro, the illegitimate president of Venezuela.

The media has wasted no time in chiming in on how Donald Trump had no right to capture this person without Congressional approval. Protests were already being formed in cities across the country. Impeachment cries could be heard from the halls of the Capitol, and so-called journalists couldn't say enough about what a great guy Maduro is. Needless to say, I am in total disbelief that the country I grew up in and have loved my whole life is being "sucked" into Socialism.

Yes, I am a "Baby Boomer", but I happen to love being free to make my own decisions, to do what I want with my money and not have the government run my life! So, since I have been here longer than the Millennials, Gen X and Gen Z groups, here are the facts.

Nicholas Maduro is a dictator and a brutal one. For over 25 years, his regime has been

involved in mass corruption, removing freedoms and murdering opposition. He has been supporting drug networks throughout the country and turned a once-thriving country into one of the poorest. The leaders have become rich while destroying everything around them. There was even an election where the elected opposition wasn't even allowed to take power. Hmmm...sounds like Socialism to me!

And why is Trump catching all the heat? Almost every U.S. President in my lifetime has tried to take someone out that was a threat or dictator. Have we forgotten about Bin Laden?

I want peace just as much as everyone else, but the President has an obligation when he takes the oath of office to protect our country and its citizens. This has to be done with strength, as weakness is an open invitation for problems. I have seen the deterioration of our country unfolding before me for a while now, but it doubled in speed with Biden in office. Talk about a mess! Venezuela sent their gang members over here crossing the border, and Fentanyl was used to make their leaders rich while killing and destroying our youth. China, Russia and Iran have all had a foothold in Venezuela for their resources and to be right at America's back door. We don't need the oil from Venezuela. It's dirty and difficult to refine, but we needed to stop China, Russia and Iran from exploiting it across the world.

Trump did what a President should have. He tried diplomacy. He tried sanctions. He tried playing nice. He then was left with no choice but to take him out.

Our job now as a country should be to help Venezuela get back on their feet with a new

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government in place so that they can restore the freedoms they lost so many years ago. Then, we should pull away and allow them to move forward.

So, for the folks protesting over here that Maduro is their "hero" and he should be released, maybe you should go live in his country for a while, read some history, and get a job. I don't have to like everything our President says or does, but I am extremely glad he is the leader of this country right now. I sleep better knowing he has my back.

Carolyn Besselman

MLK Jr. Day - January 19

"Martin Luther King, Jr., ... expressed his vision in the eternal calls for justice, forgiveness, brotherhood, and love of neighbor recorded in Holy Writ. He frequently prayed, in the words of the prophet Amos, 'Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.'"

From R. Reagan Proclamation, Jan. 12, 1987



"We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

Homeland Security Report



ICE Arrests Worst of Worst Criminal Illegal Aliens

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) hired more than 12,000 officers to jumpstart 2026 efforts to remove criminal illegal aliens from our country. The Homeland Security website highlights the "worst of the worst". arrested throughout the country. Arrests made since the first of the year include drug traffickers, violent assailants, those committing theft and identity theft, and one monster with 13 convictions of indecency with a child.

"President Trump and Secretary Noem built a larger, stronger ICE for one reason: to make America safe again. Every day our officers put their lives on the line to arrest the worst of the worst criminal illegal aliens from American neighborhoods," said a DHS Spokesperson. "One of yesterday's arrests included a monster with 13 convictions for indecency with a child. These types of sickos have no right to be in our country and prey on innocent children. Thanks to President Trump and Secretary Noem, this pedophile will soon be OUT of our country."

ICE arrests made on January 5th included five of the "worst of the worst" from across the country. The scariest part is the worst of the "worst of the worst" was arrested in Guadalupe County!! That is too close to home for me. Raul Gonzalez-Lopez, a criminal illegal alien from Mexico convicted for 13 counts of indecency with a child was arrested in Guadalupe County, Texas on January 5.

Tara Evans,
Homeland Security Chair

Last Month in Photos



On December 10th, Canyon Lake Republican Women held its Christmas Luncheon and Officer Installation for 2026 at St. Frances by the Lake Episcopal Church in Canyon Lake. Special Guest Cristi Craddick swore in the new officers.

PHOTO TO THE LEFT: (L to R) Cindy Payne - PAC Treasurer, Betty Pickard - Corresponding Secretary, Maria Seiler - Secretary, Jan Hunt - 2nd VP Membership, Regina McDaniel - 1st. Assistant VP Events, Beth Naumann -1st VP Programs, and Deborah Collins - President.



Last Month in Photos



Last Month in Photos



Last Month in Photos



Last Month in Photos



A special Thank You to everyone who helped make our float entry into the 2025 Sattler Christmas Parade a success!

Our theme this year was “The Greatest Gift is a Child.” What a joy it was to have the children on the float with us. Watching them blow bubbles and hearing them sing Christmas carols with us sure brought out the Christmas spirit!

Regina McDaniel,
Asst. 1st VP - Special Events



Last Month in Photos



Last Month in Photos





2026 CLRW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For New Members & Membership Renewal
 CLRW, P.O. Box 2751 Canyon Lake, TX 78133
 canyonlakerw.com

Please Print

Name:	Last:	First:	Spouse:
Physical Address:	House # & Street:	City:	State & Zip:
Mailing Address:	(If different from physical address)	City:	State & Zip:
Contact Information:	Phone:	Email:	
Other Information:	Membership Type: (Circle One) Full, Associate. or Affiliate	Occupation:	Senate District:

Have you been a member of a TFRW or NFRW club in the past? _____ If yes, please list the name & location of the club and when you were a member. (Leave blank if renewing membership in CLRW.)

Your information will be added to the private membership directory. If you do not want your information added to our directory, initial here. _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Please use a separate form for each person applying.)

Thank you for applying for (renewing) membership in Canyon Lake Republican Women!

- **Full Membership** dues - \$40/year for women aged 18+ (November of current year through December of the next year)
- **Associate Membership** dues - \$20 (men, women with another primary TFRW club)
- **Affiliate Membership** dues - \$10 (young women 13-17 years old)

****Eligibility for membership does not guarantee, and one cannot assume, automatic grant of membership****

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Received For Review Submittal # Directory Cash or Check



Report your hours!

Count ALL hours that are political in nature or support the Republican philosophy;

- ✓ Paid hours count!
- ✓ Elected official, staff, precinct chair, etc., all count.
- ✓ Going to a meeting? Count from the time you start getting ready (yep) until you return home; if you stop to shop or have Lunch, leave out that interim.
- ✓ Going to Convention? Count the hours from the time you start packing until you return home.
- ✓ All club and TFRW meetings count – door to door.
- ✓ Calling others to talk about an issue or planning a meeting?
- ✓ It all counts.
- ✓ If you are on social media for a fact-gathering mission and you spread those facts to others, count that time.
- ✓ Non-partisan activities also count if there is a Republican issue involved or a known-Republican running for office.
- ✓ Preparing food for a meal or club meeting? All that counts.

For more information, use the QR Code on the right or the link at the bottom of the page.



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2026 Executive Board

President	Deborah Collins
1st VP – Programs	Beth Naumann
Asst. 1st VP – Special Events	Regina McDaniel
2nd VP – Membership	Jan Hunt
Recording Secretary	Maria Seiler
Corresponding Secretary	Betty Picard
PAC Treasurer	Cindy Payne

Standing Committees

Americanism	Donna Lancon
Awards/Achievements	Jan Hunt
Caring for America	Vacant
Community Engagement	Vacant
Homeland Security	Tara Evans
Hospitality	Donna Lancon
Leadership	Vacant
Legislation	Carolyn Besselman
Newsletter	Barbara Harrell
Political Activities	Jeanne Slupik
Publicity	Belinda Frisk
Social Media	Carolyn Besselman
Website	Barbara Harrell

Special Committees

Armed Forces	Melinda Rapp
Bylaws	Ingrid Hanna
Scholarships	Ruth Diamond

Representatives

GSAC	Yvonne Clouser
SREC	Lucy Trainor & Michael Wheeler
District Director TFRW	Yvonne Clouser

For more information contact us at
president@canyonlakerw.com
 or call 719-337-0545