



# Wichita County Republican Women

Newsletter  
October 2015

## President's Remarks



The primary season has begun in earnest. Two Republican debates have occurred, with a third scheduled for October 28th. We still have 16 candidates battling it out for your attention, your donations, and ultimately your vote. It is still early though, with almost five months and seven debates prior to the March 1<sup>st</sup> Texas Primary. Remember, at this time in 2011, Herman Cain was the front-runner and in 2007 it was Rudy Giuliani. This is the time to listen to what the candidates say, compare their positions on issues, and their ability to effectively defend their positions. One is unlikely to find a candidate on which you agree with 100%, but among the current field there should be a candidate that you can get behind. Use this Primary season to respectfully share your views with others, especially young voters. I endorse the position of Arthur C. Brooks, author of The Conservative Heart that Republicans should take back the words “fair” and “compassion” in discussing our positions. It is both fair and compassionate to want each individual in America to share in the pride, satisfaction, and joy that comes with meaningful work.

Annette Barfield  
President

## Next Meeting

When: **Monday, October 19, 2014**  
Time: **11:30 – 1:00**  
Where: **Luby's Cafeteria, 1801 9th St.**

## Program Notes

**September 21, 2015 – Nancy Schulze**, founder of the Republican Congressional Wives Speakers in Washington and one of the



co-founders of the American Prayer Initiative ([www.americanprayerinitiative.com](http://www.americanprayerinitiative.com)) spoke to members on the topic “America – What Happened, and What Will it Take to Turn it Around?” Schulze, whose mother resides locally, is married to former Congressman Dick Schulze (PA). She noted that our country has become extremely polarized and Conservatives are losing the culture war. Changing this will require the prayer and involvement of all dissatisfied with this direction.

**Marty Rowley**, State Board of Education Representative for District 15 announced that he intends to run for reelection to the post.



**October 19, 2015 – Senator Craig Estes**, Texas Senator representing the 30<sup>th</sup> District, will speak on the accomplishments of the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session and look ahead to the 85<sup>th</sup>.



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## 2015 Calendar of Events

- Oct. 13 Board Meeting (*Sharp Iron*)
- Oct. 19 Regular Meeting (*Luby's*)
- Nov. 5-7 TFRW Convention (*Lubbock*)
- Nov. 10 Board Meeting (*Sharp Iron*)
- Nov. 16 Regular Meeting (*Luby's*)

*No Meetings in December*

## Impact of Prop 1 in Wichita County

If passed by voters on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the homestead exemption will increase \$10,000 – from \$15,000 to \$25,000. Depending on the school district the home owner lives in, this could mean a reduction in annual property taxes of \$123-\$148. County Tax Assessor-Collector Tommy Smythe noted that **the increase in the homestead exemption, and therefore the reduction in taxes has already been incorporated in the school tax bills that were or will soon be mailed to property owners.** If Proposition 1 fails to pass, an additional tax bill of \$123-\$148 will be issued to property owners claiming a homestead exemption.

## Fill the Red Box

Please bring paper goods (**paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, etc.**) to fill the Red Box and benefit Faith Refuge. Our donations help to offset expenses involved in running the shelter.

## Legislative Update

*By Susan Morris, Legislative Chair*

There are 7 state propositions on the ballot this November 3<sup>rd</sup>. You can view the propositions to amend the Texas Constitution with analyses of the amendments along with pro/con statements written by the Texas Legislative Council at the following web page:

<http://www.tlc.state.tx.us/pubsconamend/analyses15/analyses15.pdf>

### **Proposition 1 – SJR 1**

The constitutional amendment increasing the amount of the residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation for public school purposes from \$15,000 to \$25,000, providing for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for those purposes on the homestead of an elderly or disabled person to reflect the increased exemption amount, authorizing the legislature to prohibit a political subdivision that has adopted an optional residence homestead exemption from ad valorem taxation from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption, and prohibiting the enactment of a law that imposes a transfer tax on a transaction that conveys fee simple title to real property.

**Synopsis:** Amends the Tax Code to provide for the \$10,000 increase in the mandatory school district residence homestead exemption and to implement the required reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed by a school district on the residence homestead of an elderly or disabled person and establishes the procedure for assessing and collecting school district taxes imposed for the 2015 tax year to implement the increased exemption and reduced limitation for that year's taxes. It also prohibits the governing body of a school district, municipality, or county that adopted an optional residence homestead exemption for the 2014 tax year from reducing the amount of or repealing the exemption before the end of the 2019 tax year. *Finally,*

*(Continued on Page 4)*



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## Can you Define the Word Fun?

For third grade students at three area elementary schools, “Fun” is defined as their very own encyclopedic dictionary. This week WCRW delivered 242 student dictionaries to third grade students at City View Elementary, Bradford Elementary in Iowa Park, and Electra Elementary. This is the second year that WCRW has participated in the Dictionary Project and it gets more rewarding each year. Each dictionary includes a copy of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, information about each President, each state, the planets, weights and measures and more. Several Electra third-graders said the dictionary will help them with the science project they are currently working on and many were earnestly practicing sign language (yes, that’s in the dictionary, too!) before we left.

## Volunteer Hours Due

Volunteer hours for the third quarter (July-Sept) are now due. If you did not turn in your hours in the previous quarter, they can still be submitted. While our regular meeting does not count, travel to and from the meeting does. Send your hours to Dr. Lauren Jansen at [lauren.jansen@mwsu.edu](mailto:lauren.jansen@mwsu.edu). Make sure WCRW gets credit for the hours you volunteered!



Electra  
Elementary



City View Elementary



Bradford Elementary, Iowa Park





## **Legislative Update** (Continued from Page 2)

*the bill amends the Education and Government Codes to provide for the reimbursement by the state of school districts for the revenue loss resulting from amendment.*

### **Proposition 2 HJR 75**

The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before the law authorizing a residence homestead exemption for such a veteran took effect.

**Synopsis:** Current law allows that the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died on or after January 1, 2010, is eligible to receive an ad valorem tax exemption if that spouse meets certain qualifications, while the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran who died before January 1, 2010, is not eligible to receive that exemption.

### **Proposition 3 – SJR 52**

The constitutional amendment repealing the requirement that state officers elected by voters statewide reside in the state capital.

**Synopsis:** The comptroller of public accounts, commissioner of the General Land Office, attorney general, commissioner of agriculture, and railroad commissioners, are required to reside in Austin while in office. This law was written in 1876 when state officers traveled to Austin by horse and buggy and has not been amended since.

### **Proposition 4 – HJR 73**

The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles.

**Synopsis:** Allows professional sports team foundations to hold raffles for charity and provides rules for the raffles

## **Legislative Update** (Continued from Column 1)

### **Proposition 5 – SJR 17**

The constitutional amendment to authorize counties with a population of 7,500 or less to perform private road construction and maintenance.

**Synopsis:** This is currently allowed in counties with a population of 5,000 or less. This will expand the population to 7,500.

### **Proposition 6 – SJR 22**

The constitutional amendment recognizing the right of the people to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife subject to laws that promote wildlife conservation.

**Synopsis:** The proposed amendment adds **constitutional protection** for the hunting and fishing tradition in Texas but does not alter the current of regulations applicable to the activities.

### **Proposition 7 – SJR 5**

The constitutional amendment dedicating certain sales and use tax revenue and motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue to the state highway fund to provide funding for non-tolled roads and the reduction of certain transportation-related debt.

**Synopsis:** This amendment requires that \$2.5 billion of state sales and use tax revenue that exceeds the first \$28 billion of those taxes collected during the fiscal year, and 35 percent of the state motor vehicle sales, use, and rental tax revenue that exceeds the first \$5 billion be deposited to the state highway fund to constructing, maintaining, or acquiring rights-of-way for public roadways other than toll roads and to paying certain transportation-related bond debt.

Depending on where you live, there may be other local propositions or bonds. Please check with your local newspaper.





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## Elected Officials

	Office	Name	Address	Phone	eMail
US Congress	Senator	John Cornyn	5001 Spring Valley Rd, Suite 1125 E Dallas, TX 75244	972-239-1310	
	Senator	Ted Cruz	B40B Dirksen Senate Office Bldg Washington, DC 20510	202-224-5922	
	Representative	Mac Thornberry	2525 Kell Blvd, Suite 406 Wichita Falls, TX 76308	940-692-1700	
Texas Congress	District 30 Senator	Craig Estes	State Capitol, Room 3E.18 P.O. Box 12068 Capitol Station Austin, TX 78711	512-463-0130 940-689-0191	
	District 69 Representative	James B. Frank	1206 Hatton Rd Wichita Falls, TX 76302	940-767-1700	<a href="mailto:District69.Frank@house.state.tx.us">District69.Frank@house.state.tx.us</a>
Wichita County	County Judge	Woody Gossom	900 7th St, Room 260 Wichita Falls, TX 76301	940-766-8101 W 940-631-9301 C	<a href="mailto:county.judge@co.wichita.tx.us">county.judge@co.wichita.tx.us</a>
	Place 1 Commissioner	Ray Gonzales		940-766-8106	<a href="mailto:Ray.Gonzalez@co.wichita.tx.us">Ray.Gonzalez@co.wichita.tx.us</a>
	Place 2 Commissioner	Lee Harvey		940-766-8106	<a href="mailto:Lee.Harvey@co.wichita.tx.us">Lee.Harvey@co.wichita.tx.us</a>
	Place 3 Commissioner	Barry Mahler		940-766-8106	<a href="mailto:Barry.Mahler@co.wichita.tx.us">Barry.Mahler@co.wichita.tx.us</a>
	Place 4 Commissioner	Jeff Watts		940-766-8106	<a href="mailto:Jeff.Watts@co.wichita.tx.us">Jeff.Watts@co.wichita.tx.us</a>
City of Wichita Falls	Mayor	Glenn Barham	P.O. Box 1431 Wichita Falls, TX 76307	940-691-2968	<a href="mailto:Glenn.Barham@wichitafallstx.gov">Glenn.Barham@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	District 1 Councilor	Stephen Santellana		940-781-5381	<a href="mailto:Stephen.Santellana@wichitafallstx.gov">Stephen.Santellana@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	District 2 Councilor	DeAndra Chenault		940-444-8447	<a href="mailto:DeAndra.Chenault@wichitafallstx.gov">DeAndra.Chenault@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	District 3 Councilor	Brian Hooker		940-244-4000	<a href="mailto:Brian.Hooker@wichitafallstx.gov">Brian.Hooker@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	District 4 Councilor	Tim Ingle		940-691-6564	<a href="mailto:Tim.Ingle@wichitafallstx.gov">Tim.Ingle@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	District 5 Councilor	Tom Quintero		940-386-2168	<a href="mailto:Tom.Quintero@wichitafallstx.gov">Tom.Quintero@wichitafallstx.gov</a>
	At-Large Councilor	Michael Smith		940-692-5288	<a href="mailto:Michael.Smith@wichitafallstx.gov">Michael.Smith@wichitafallstx.gov</a>

## Important Links

- [Wichita County Republican Women](#)
- [Texas Federation of Republican Women](#)
- [National Federation of Republican Women](#)
- [Republican Party of Texas](#)
- [Wichita County Republican Party](#)



## Your 2015 Board

Office or Committee	Name	Telephone
President	Annette Barfield	940-642-8420
Vice-President	Sandra Ross	940-781-0448
Secretary	Judy Baker	940-631-1318
Treasurer	Tamara Barfield	940-642-4682
Legislation	Susan Morris	940-704-9944
Campaign Activities	Dr. Lauren Jansen	940-782-6462
Telephone	Marianne Pattillo	940-867-7604
Parliamentarian	Delores Culley	940-733-0399
PAC Treasurer	Tamara Barfield	940-642-4682







WICHITA COUNTY
REPUBLICAN WOMEN
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
2015

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation/Name of Employer (Required by TEC) \_\_\_\_\_

New Member? \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor/How Did You Hear of Us \_\_\_\_\_

\$37 Active Membership
New member dues paid after October 1st will apply to the following year

\$20 Associate Membership
Any gentleman who would like to affiliate with this club may do so, but may not vote on club issues and cannot hold office in the club; however, they may serve on a committee. If a regular or associate member is a US citizen; they must be registered to vote.

\$20 Young Affiliate Membership
Persons aged 13-17 who want to affiliate.

Please indicate your preferred method of communication: [ ] Text [ ] eMail [ ] Telephone

Please indicate committees and/or events below in which you have an interest to participate:

- By-Laws Membership Committee
Campaign Activities Committee Public Relations
Events Telephone Committee
Legislative Affairs Committee

Please attach annual dues & mail to:
Wichita County Republican Women
P.O. Box 2565
Wichita Falls, TX 76307-2565

WCRW membership records are confidential and are for the sole use of WCRW. The above information will not be sold, traded, or distributed to any corporation, business, profit or non-profit organization/club or affiliated group, except as required by TFRW and the Texas Ethics Commission.

FOR USE BY WCRW OFFICE
Date Received \_\_\_\_\_ Amt Received \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Cash ? \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_
Received by \_\_\_\_\_ Card \_\_\_\_\_ OP \_\_\_\_\_