

ECRW NEWSLETTER



Per the Pres..... by Rachel D. Minor

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Tom Giovanetti	2-3
August Pfluger	4-7
Scholarship Recipients	7
Border Patrol Donations.	8
Recipes from the Right	9
Local Sales Tax	10
By-Laws Committee	11
Membership Mingle	12-13
Caring for America	14
May Speakers	15-16
Ector County Republican Party	17

Special points of interest:

- Membership Renewals
- **Stay in the know!**
Facebook: ECRW
Email: ecrwTexas@gmail.com
Website: www.ecrwodessa.com
- Caring for America
- May Speakers
Mayor Javier Joven and Victor Avila

Happy May!

The year is flying by, and I expect May will be a blur, with graduations, planning summer vacations, and our social events being allowed again. The Texas 87th Legislative session has also been busy and will be wrapping up at the end of the month. We have seen some real victories thus far, but that does not mean we can let our guard down. We will continue to send out "Action Alerts" for you to act by calling and writing our representatives.

The words "hold the line" keep coming to mind when I think of our responsibility as conservative citizens. We have numerous lines around us being crossed, our borders, the right to life, the fiscal responsibilities within our city and so many more. I admit, I sometimes find myself overwhelmed with

information and not feeling like I am doing enough to make a difference, but I want to encourage you to not get overwhelmed but to persevere and stand. *Eph 6:13-18 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand, stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*

We need to reach our membership goal of 585, so I want to encourage you to share with your friends, co-workers, people next to you in the checkout line at the grocery store. about joining ECRW. To stand and hold the line we need people, we need relationships to develop, knowledge to be shared and our republican platform to spread. We need to gather the troops for the next election cycle, not to wait until it is upon us but to be educated, engaged and ready to expand our influence.

May 26th is our next luncheon date before we take a break for June and July, but that does not mean we are going to be stagnate during the summer months, rather prepare to kick off in August with several exciting events and happenings. So be watching for more information on events and areas you can get involved to make a difference in Ector county, Texas and the USA.





*April Luncheon
April Speaker, Tom Giovanetti
& guest Addie Crimmins*



Individual liberty isn't perfect, but it's the best we can do in a secular society. And it's our society's morality has declined, it's not government's fault – it's our religious institution's fault!



Tom Giovanetti, April Speaker

The Founders Weren't Wrong!

There are two political philosophies today in the US that believe that the Founders were wrong.

Founders saw all of the problems with an unlimited monarch and a weak parliament. They also saw the problems of religious wars, state churches, etc.

Also terrified of majority rule. Runaway democracy. And they were proven right by the French revolution.

A society with religious freedom but also with religious toleration. Right to practice but no state religion.

Founders created a system where **individual liberty is the highest goal.**

They really did think about these things, and they concluded that, for a secular society that doesn't impose a single religion, individual liberty is the best we can do.

Jefferson quote: I would rather be exposed to the inconveniences attending too much liberty than those attending too small a degree of it.

Constitution restrains government as a means of guaranteeing individual liberty.

1. The Progressive Movement thought, and thinks, that the founders were wrong. They want an unconstrained government that can do whatever those in power think ought to be done.

Woodrow Wilson, traditional understandings of the Constitution, especially those relating to separation of powers and popular consent, were obstacles to be overcome.

"The Constitution was founded on the law of gravitation. The government was to exist and move by virtue of the efficacy of 'checks and balances.' The trouble with that theory is the government is not a machine, but a living thing! No living thing can have its organs offset against each other, as checks, and live."

Obama in his interview disparages the Constitution as merely "a charter of negative liberties. It says what the states can't do to you. Says what the federal government can't do to you but doesn't say what the federal government or state government must do on your behalf." He believes—and he's right—that changing this is the way to bring about "redistributive change."

1. The Common Good Conservatism movement thinks the founders were wrong. Gay marriage, drag queen story hour, transgender movement and kids getting hormone blockers.
 - a. Patrick Deneen, Why Liberalism Failed
 - b. Adriane Vermule, should have had a state religion
 - c. Josh Hammer, blessings of liberty, not liberty. First Amendment has gone too far.

I would probably be quite happy living in a world where their view of the common good prevailed. BUT if we give government the power to impose someone's idea of the common good on the country, it won't be us or them who gets to define the common good.



May 3, 2021

President Biden's Joint Address Fueled the Flames of Socialism

During his Joint Address to Congress last week, President Biden outlined his plans to radically change America and push us farther down the path of socialism.

The speech came as the President reached his 100th day in office. In that time he has reopened our border, roped us back into the disastrous Paris Climate Accords, eased sanctions on our adversaries, halted the Keystone XL pipeline, imposed overburdensome regulations on the oil and gas industry, bailed out locked-down states, added \$2 trillion in spending and announced plans to raise corporate taxes and capital gains.

The enormous federal programs he proposed total trillions in new spending and will require higher taxes. The welfare state will only grow and power will be further centralized in Washington, D.C. The President spoke of bipartisanship, yet over and over again Republicans in Congress have been blocked from participating in an open, transparent debate to speak up for our constituents.

Even more telling, was that President Biden's remarks were completely void of any mention of the humanitarian disaster on our southern border. Yet again, he completely brushed off the real suffering of our communities as a result of his failed policies and rhetoric.

I will continue doing what's right for the people in the 11th District of Texas.

We must stand firm in protecting our freedoms for our children and future generations.



Biden's Border Crisis Continues to Spiral

Last week we received the disturbing news that 33 Guatemalan citizens were found in a home inside the Midland city limits.

Make no mistake—this is no longer a crisis at the border, this situation is impacting communities across the entire interior of the country. I fear there are many more houses just like this one across the United States. It is time for the Biden Administration to reverse course.

This fiscal year alone, over two million illegal immigrants are expected to cross the U.S.-Mexico border and be released into the interior of the country unvetted. Communities like ours will be paying the price. For this reason I introduced the American Border Rescue Plan to help offset the costs local communities and law enforcement agencies are incurring due to the influx of illegal immigration.

There is no question President Biden's reckless actions have incentivized the massive surge to our southern border, and his refusal to acknowledge and address the crisis is putting American families at risk.

I am again imploring President Biden and Vice President Harris to acknowledge the severity of the crisis, to come to the border and affected communities like Midland, and take immediate action to secure the safety of American families.

Standing Up for Farmers & Ranchers

American farmers and ranchers don't stop working. Not in a pandemic. Not ever.

Despite Texas' successful reopening, the Biden Administration is forcing Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) facilities to remain closed to in-person visits—exacerbating the struggles of farm families across our state.

I signed a letter to Ag Secretary Vilsack imploring him to re-open these facilities and provide farmers and ranchers the assistance they so greatly need as they work to feed and clothe our nation.

RONNY JACKSON
13TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

118 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3708

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4313

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES
COMMITTEE
HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE
HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

April 26, 2021

The Honorable Thomas Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Secretary Vilsack,

We write to you regarding our concerns for the Biden Administration's workplace safety decision-making, to urge this administration to follow local guidelines and re-open Farm Production and Conservation (FPAC) facilities to an operable capacity, and to request a meeting with you to discuss these matters. At a time when our nation's farmers are battling the uncertainty of an unprecedented pandemic, years of trying production and market conditions, and severe winter storms, we should be utilizing every tool we have to get them the aid they need. However, this administration's restrictions on re-opening FPAC facilities have exacerbated the struggles of farm families across the country.

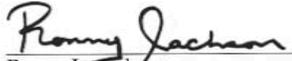
As you know, through FPAC, the U.S. Department of Agriculture helps to implement programs designed to mitigate the significant risks of farming through crop insurance services, conservation programs, technical assistance, commodity programs, lending, and disaster programs. One key component of FPAC is the Farm Service Agency, which helps to provide America's farmers with a strong safety net through the administration of farm commodity and disaster programs.

However, due to this administration's COVID Workplace Safety Plan, these facilities are required to maintain staffing at low levels for the entire agency and telework is being strongly encouraged. While the intent behind this plan may be noble, farmers and ranchers have expressed dissatisfaction with the widespread setbacks they have experienced in your offices' ability to process relief nationwide, due to the limits imposed. Moreover, many farmers struggle with accessing reliable broadband, further aggravating the difficulty that they face in engaging their local FSA office by computer. These challenges could greatly impact the farm families that we represent, which is why we are urging you to reconsider the restrictions.

In recent years, the agriculture industry has dealt with numerous setbacks which have created a need to bring relief and support to the food and agriculture industry. Unfortunately, this administration's one-size-fits-all approach to staffing only amplifies these setbacks and will have grave implications if they are not rectified immediately. As such, we request a meeting with you to discuss these implications, and we urge this administration to reconsider these actions and to

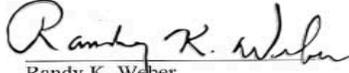
make a commitment to our farmers and ranchers by opening these aid facilities through an exemption to your COVID Workplace Safety Plan.

Thank you,


 Ronny L. Jackson
 Member of Congress


 Michael Cloud
 Member of Congress


 Jodey C. Arrington
 Member of Congress


 Randy K. Weber
 Member of Congress


 Pete Sessions
 Member of Congress


 Tony Gonzales
 Member of Congress


 Louie Gohmert
 Member of Congress


 August Pfluger
 Member of Congress

Standing Up for the Unborn

Last week, I co-sponsored the **Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act**. This bill would outlaw aborting fetuses 20 weeks or older with the exception of saving the life of a pregnant woman or in the case of incest or rape.

I remain committed to supporting and advancing pro-life policies. Recently, I signed a discharge petition to bring the Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Act up for a vote. This legislation would protect the lives of babies born-alive during an abortion, by requiring health care professionals who are present at the live birth to immediately step-in and act to preserve the life and health of the child.

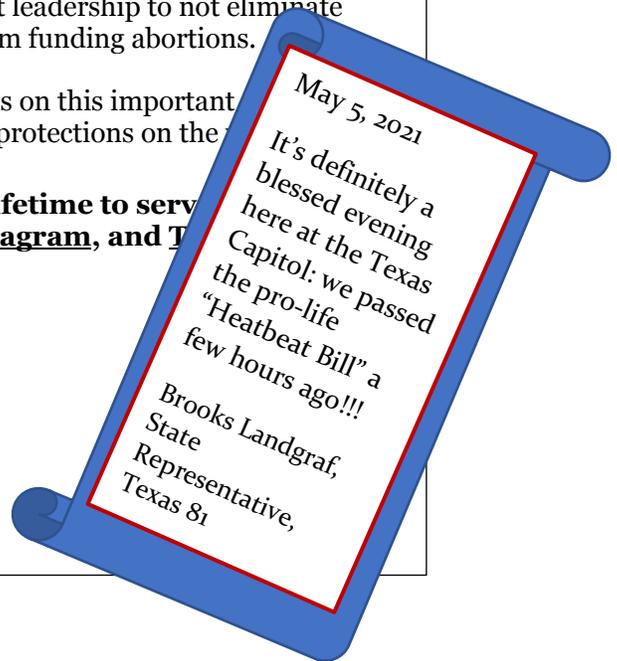
I have also co-sponsored seven pro-life bills and signed onto two letters declaring my support for protecting life, including the 'Save Hyde' letter which was signed by nearly 200 GOP lawmakers and calls on Democrat leadership to not eliminate or weaken provisions preventing taxpayer dollars from funding abortions.

All life is sacred, and I am proud to join my colleagues on this important that will uphold the sanctity of life and place further protections on the

Thank you for reading. It is the honor of my lifetime to serve Congress. Please follow me on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for daily updates.



Rep. August Pfluger
 Member of Congress





ECRW Scholarships

By: Dottie Chavez

2021 ECRW Scholarships were presented at the April ECRW Monthly Luncheon. The Scholarship Committee was comprised of Judy Calloway, Dottie Chavez, Traci Gregston, and Debi Hays. The scholarships are given to female current high school seniors graduating in May 2021. All scholarships awarded were based on essays submitted over given topics.

If there is any inclination of how to reach our youth, all of the scholarship winners chose to write on the topic of censorship:



Censorship and why it matters to you. Provide an example of how dictators/communists have silenced citizens. How does the First Amendment protect your freedom and liberty in America?

The submissions touched on past and current issues. A majority of the students addressed what is happening in modern history, from how the Chinese Communist Party has been suspected of gathering personal information from American Citizens through technology from apps such as TikTok to our own American censorship by giant social media outlets, Facebook and Twitter, especially targeting Trump and his supporters. The Scholarship Committee enjoyed reading the essays and gaining knowledge through the eyes of our youth.

The scholarships winners and amounts awarded as follows:

Annie Adams: \$500.00

Madison Norrid: \$500.00

Eliberta Armendariz: \$250.00

Bindika Patel: \$250.00



Our March “Caring for America” sponsoring The Border Patrol received a lot of much needed donations. We kept hearing more and more what the Border Patrol, DPS and National Guard are going thru at our borders. Whatever we can do to help them, is much appreciated. Most importantly pray for them! Thank you for kind and generous donations.

If anyone has any suggestions for future “Caring for America”, please send the information to Donna Kelm, dkelm2005@att.net or call 432-413-8894.

SPICY STRAWBERRY-GOAT CHEESE CROSTINI

Credit: Antonis Achilleos; Food Styling: Chelsea Zimmer; Prop Styling: Christine Keely
Recipe submitted by Denise Swanner

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (12-oz.) French baguette
- 2 cups strawberries, chopped
- 1 tablespoon jalapeño chile, minced
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- ¼ teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon softened goat cheese (from 2 [4-oz.] logs)
- Fresh mint, chopped



DIRECTIONS

- **Step 1** Cut French baguette into ¼-inch-thick diagonal slices; place on a large baking sheet. Bake at 350°F until lightly toasted, about 10 minutes. Cool completely, about 20 minutes.
- **Step 2** Stir together chopped strawberries, minced jalapeño chile, honey, fresh lime juice, and kosher salt in a small bowl.
- **Step 3.** Spread about 1 rounded tsp. softened goat cheese on each baguette slice. Top goat cheese with 1 slightly rounded tsp. strawberry mixture. Sprinkle with chopped fresh mint.





NEWS RELEASES

Posted on: April 7, 2021

APRIL SALES TAX CHECK

The City of Odessa received its April sales tax check, in the amount of, \$3,355,377.84.

The City of Odessa received its April sales tax check, in the amount of, \$3,355,377.84. This amount includes the Economic Development sales tax of ¼ cent. The City of Odessa will receive \$2,684,302.27 and the Odessa Development Corporation will receive \$671,075.57.

The City saw an decrease in sales tax revenue with April's sales tax revenue total of \$2,684,302.27 which reflects a \$(1,177,332.57), or (30.49)% as compared to April 2020.

The year-to-date total sales tax revenue for fiscal year 2020-21 is up 13.59%, or \$2,709,365.96 as compared to budgeted amount expected at this point in the fiscal year.

In addition, the 2020-21 year-to-date amount is below the previous fiscal year-to-date amount by \$(8,065,972.17) or (26.26)%. The City has budgeted \$36,000,000.00 in net sales tax revenues for this current fiscal year.

Sales tax revenue is generated by sales tax revenue from two months prior to collection, i.e., April's collection is based on February sales.

By-Laws Committee

by: Judge Sara Billingsley



It's Bylaw time! The Texas Federation of Republican Women requires we update our bylaws every two years, so we are in the process of exactly that!

After careful thought, debate and discussion the bylaw committee presented the proposed amended bylaws to your executive committee last week. I am happy to report the changes were voted on and passed through the board unanimously. The next step is to present the proposed bylaws to TFRW for their approval. Assuming our bylaws are accepted without change, we will present them you all at the general meeting, May 26, 2021.

Can't wait to see you all there!



MEMBERSHIP MINGLE @ HOMEMADE WINES

An evening of pouring showers turned out to be a great time to gather inside at Homemade Wines for an ECRW mingle of members and guests. We had a glass of wine waiting for the members and guest(s) of the member, along with charcuterie boards of snacks, and door prizes. Fourteen of the guests became members of ECRW.

We are excited to continue the conversations and connections in future events such as this. If anyone has any suggestions or would like to host an event, please give me a call at 432-770-5813 or e-mail me at dottiec93@gmail.com

Thank you, Dottie Chavez
Membership Chair





Jill & Kelly



Lauren & Donna



Laura





May Caring for AmericaNeeds Your Help!

Lyn White Giesler will be at the May 26th meeting to inform us the needs of CASA. We have several volunteers in ECRW who volunteer for CASA in Midland and Odessa. CASA of the Permian Basin trains Volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in the court system to ensure that each child is placed in a safe, permanent and healthy environment.



Volunteer today
to help an abused or neglected child



What is CASA? CASA is a national volunteer movement that began more than 30 years ago, when Judge David Soukup in Seattle decided he needed to know more about the children whose lives were in his hands. His solution was to ask community volunteers to act as a “voice in court” for abused and neglected children. These Court Appointed Special Advocates™ (CASAs) provided him with the detailed information he needed to safeguard the children’s best interests and ensure that they were placed in safe, permanent homes as quickly as possible. Today, the CASA movement has evolved into one of the largest volunteer organizations in the country. In Texas, there are 68 local CASA programs with more than 5,000 volunteers serving 20,451 foster children.



*Happy 80th Birthday
Jolene Hawkins*

**2021 OFFICERS
/BOARD**

President

Rachel D. Minor

Vice-President

Donna Kelm ph: 432-413-8894

Secretary

Jaye Nabarrette

Treasurer

Julie Adams

Campaign Legislative

Debi Hays

**Parliamentarian &
By-Laws Chair**

Sara Kate Billingsley

Badges

Jill Miller

Membership

Dottie Chavez

Chaplain

Margie Smith
Shaye Lane

Decorations

Anne Shugart

Brenda Denton

Hospitality

Denise Swanner

Judicial Liaison

Brooke Hendricks

Corresponding Secretary

Anne Darville

Phone Hospitality

Kay Whitefield

Media

Gina Hood

Social Media

Shelley Rodgers

Past President

Sherry Hurt

Campaign Activities

Jolene Hawkins

Awards

Judy Calloway

**Mayor Javier Joven and Former ICE Special Agent
Victor Avila will be our May Speakers**



Make your reservations now!

Luncheon on May 26th

**11:30 -1:00 for General Membership.
10:30 for VIP and Patron "Meet the Speaker"**



Mr. Victor Avila is a retired Supervisory Special Agent with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), under the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). ICE enforces federal laws governing border control, customs, trade, and immigration to promote homeland security and public safety.

Mr. Avila has been recognized by ICE and HSI for his exemplary service and professional accomplishments while serving as Special Agent at the El Paso Field Office and as an Assistant Attaché assigned to the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez and U.S. Embassies located in Spain, Portugal, and Mexico City. Mr. Avila served as an accredited diplomat and liaison to the aforementioned governments conducting international complex criminal investigations in a wide range of violations such as human trafficking/smuggling, drug trafficking, financial violations, arms trafficking, commercial fraud and counter terrorism.

While on official assignment in Mexico, Special Agent Avila suffered multiple gunshot wounds and survived a violent ambush by the Mexican Los Zetas drug cartel where Special Agent Jaime Zapata tragically lost his life.

Mr. Avila has been recognized for Excellence in Law Enforcement by the ICE Hispanic Agents Association; The Director's Award for Operation in Plain Sight in Mexico; Homeland Security Investigations Excellence in Public Service Award; The Valor Award by the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA); Medal of Valor for Outstanding Bravery by the National Latino Peace Officers Association; the Medal of Valor by the Hispanic American Command Officers Association (HAPCOA); and the NYPD Heroism Award by the Global Alliance of Hispanic Law Enforcement Professionals.

Mr. Avila began his very successful law enforcement career as a United States Probation Officer for the U.S. Courts and as a District Parole Officer for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at El Paso while focusing on the identity among Hispanic-Americans along the border. Today, he serves to honor the memory and the dedicated service of SA Jaime Zapata. Mr. Avila is an advocate for border security, immigration reform, human trafficking awareness and the protection of our sovereignty.

Mr. Avila has been featured on FoxNews, i24News, Univision, OANN, Telemundo and various Syndicated Radio and Podcast interviews. Mr. Avila's book **Agent Under Fire: A Murder and a Manifesto** (www.agentunderfirebook.com) is now available at libertyhillpublishing.com, amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com

Javier Joven was elected December 15th, to the Odessa City Council Mayor position and is serving as Mayor of the City of Odessa, Tx. Javier was born and raised in Odessa, TX. He is the youngest of three siblings born to Jose A Joven and Yolanda Joven (deceased) both of Del Rio, Tx.

Javier Joven is the first Hispanic to be elected in the history of municipal elections in Odessa, Tx. "Mayor Joven described the win as an improbable victory in the eyes of people, but a glorious victory with the help of God and his volunteers."

Javier Joven attended both Ector High School and Odessa High School. Upon graduation Javier attended Midland College. He also studied culinary arts and attained many accolades as Sous Chef, Pastry Chef in his 10 yrs. career traveling the country working for various corporate hotels and prestige's country clubs as far as New York State.

Javier is also the sole-owner of A1-Roofing and Framing and A1-Roofing and Construction.

Javier is a former City member of Odessa's City Council District 5 having been elected to two terms 1995-1997,1998-1999. He was the first Hispanic to be appointed to the Ector County Vice-Chair. From there he was elected Ector Co. Pct. Chair #204 since 2012-to Present. Javier has served on various governmental and non-profit boards through Odessa, TX. including these notable boards past and present:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| United Way | Floyd Gwyn Little League |
| Ector Co Republican Party Pct Chair 204 | Ector Co. Republican Woman |
| Mayors Drug and Crime Commission | Main Street Odessa |
| Odessa Firemen's Pension Plan | Gideons |
| Odessa Barrio Lions Club | First Night Odessa |
| Founder of the Fire Cracker Fandango | Boys and Girls Club |
| Pop-Warner Football | Odessa Youth Baseball |
| Holiday Heritage Christmas lights grant project. | |
| Founder and Sponsor of City of Odessa SOB Ordinance | |
| Advocate of Sanctuary City for the Unborn Odessa, Tx. | |

Javier is husband to Jo Ann Joven for 38 years and proud father to two adult sons and 5 grandchildren. Javiers quote goes as follows "Jo Annas been married for 38 consecutive years to the same lucky man."

Calendar of Events



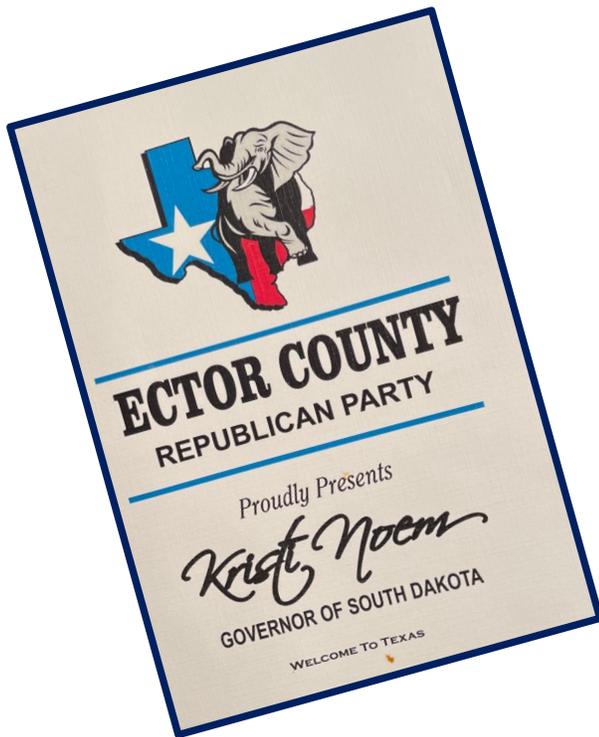
- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| May 26 th | General Meeting / Luncheon |
| June 7 th | Board Meeting |
| June (TBA) | Painting Party |
| July 5 th | Board Meeting |
| Aug. 2 nd | Board Meeting |
| Aug. 18 th | General Meeting / Luncheon |
| Sept. 7 th | Board Meeting (Not on 6 th - Labor Day) |
| Sept. 15 th | General Meeting / Luncheon |
| Oct. 4 th | Board Meeting |
| Oct. 27 th | General Meeting / Luncheon |
| Nov. 1 st | Board Meeting |
| Nov. 17 th | General Meeting / Luncheon |

- Board Meetings are held at 707 Jefferson, Odessa, Tx

Entertainment:
Jerry Dugan

Pledges:
Wallace Dunn

Innocation:
Pastor Bob Thayer
with Odessa Bible
Church



Ector County Republican Party Lincoln Dinner was a packed occasion! Bubba Saulsbury introduced Governor Kristi Noem!

As Karla Milson stated “What a badass Kristi Noem is! She is a great role model, not just for women but for everyone! She has asked us to:

1. Not be offended (understand why that person believes as they do)
2. Say yes (yes to a challenge)
3. Be Happy!

We live in the best country in the world and we need to work on our common core values that our Forefathers founded for us. *Our Governor needs to take a few lessons from her!”*

The Republican Party, Tisha, Jeff, Matt, Chris, Jolene, Judy and many more did an outstanding job.