

Coppell Republican Women

Texas Federation of Republican Women Region I

Senate District 16

President's Newsletter

April, 2019

Volume 6, Issue 3

UPCOMING EVENTS

CRW Meeting

Thursday, April 4
6:30 p.m. Social & 7 p.m.
Meeting

★★★★★★★★★★

Saturday, April 13

Dallas County GOP
**Legislative Workshop
101**

10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
at

University Park Library
[Click Here for more info and
to register.](#)

★★★★★★★★★★

Wednesday, April 24

Belles 'N Boots
6 - 10 p.m.
Scholz Garten, Austin, TX

★★★★★★★★★★

Thursday, April 25

State Legislative Day
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Sheraton Austin Hotel at the
Capitol
Austin, TX

THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Friends, Bill and I experienced a life-changing event Friday night. Several Catholic organizations reserved SEVEN theaters at NorthPark AMC for the emotionally stirring movie, [Unplanned](#). Unfortunately, most people have not heard of *Unplanned*, and that needs to change.

Unplanned is the true story of Abby Johnson who worked at Planned Parenthood in Bryan, Texas for eight years. Abby rose through the ranks from volunteer escort to become one of the youngest clinic directors in the nation. She was awarded the Employee of the Year in 2008, in part for running a clinic that was highly profitable due to her churning out record numbers of abortions. But all the while, Abby had not actually seen what her hard work and dedication was facilitating. Not until she was asked to assist in an ultrasound-guided abortion.

In [an article with Fox News](#), Abby shares: "Everything changed.... Some images stick with you forever, images that you can't unsee. The photo of the first responder carrying the limp child in his arms after the Oklahoma City bombing. The photos of the Twin Towers falling. These images burn in your mind, causing you to replay them over and over again. That was what I saw on the ultrasound screen... head, arms and legs... abortion instrument... life ended and... a black empty uterus. In that moment, I saw for myself what I was supporting for the last eight years and it broke me."

Friends, abortion is a terrible, terrible thing and as uncomfortable as it is, we must expose the truth. I beg you to go see this movie. Like Bill and I, you won't be able to "unsee" what we saw, and what Abby saw that fateful day.

For our May meeting, we are pleased to announce our speaker will be Pamela Whitehead, Projects Manager for [And Then There Were None](#), a registered nonprofit organization founded by Abby Johnson. Mark your calendar for May 2.

But first, we hope to see you at our April Meeting. See below.



Kit Whitehill

April Meeting - "The Attack on America's Religious Liberty"

Join us on Thursday, April 4, when our guest speaker will be Keisha Russell from First Liberty Institute. Keisha Russell is Associate Counsel with [First Liberty Institute](#), concentrating on religious liberty matters and First Amendment rights.

Russell attended Emory University School of Law, where she was involved in Emory's prestigious Center for the Study of Law and Religion. She served on the Emory Journal of Law & Religion. She was a law clerk for the Center's Restoring Religious Freedom Project. In her final year of law school, Russell worked as a law clerk for the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) on national and international matters affecting Israel. [Click here](#) to read more about Keisha Russell.

First Liberty Institute is a non-profit organization that concentrates on religious liberty matters and First Amendment rights. Social time will begin at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7 p.m. at the Cozby Library & Community Commons, 177 N. Hertz Rd., Coppell.




Keisha Russell



TFRW's Legislative Day - April 24-25, 2019

A veritable sea of red will descend upon Austin as TFRW women from all across the state attend this biennial event. First, kick up your heels at Belles & Boots! This fun filled evening takes place at the historic Scholz Beer Garten and includes food, drinks, live music by Branded Heart, and a live auction. Tickets are \$40/person.

Next, plan for a FULL day on the 25th beginning with a trip to the Capitol where you can meet with legislators and their staff, sit in the gallery during session, and take part in the official TFRW picture (be sure to wear red)! Then it's back to the hotel for the legislative luncheon and breakout sessions with political speakers and office holders. Go to TFRW to register and for a complete listing of events and speakers.



25% of all proceeds from our Auction will be donated to Traffick911, a nonprofit combatting Human Trafficking!

BELLES 'N BOOTS
Silent Auction

The silent auction will be open until Wednesday, April 24, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. You may purchase items with a "Buy Now" bid until then. At that time the items that have not been purchased with a "Buy Now" bid will be open to live bidding onsite at the Belles 'N Boots event.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO GO TO THE BELLES 'N BOOTS SILENT AUCTION SITE

In his inaugural speech in 1989, President George H.W. Bush urged volunteers and community activists to become "a thousand points of light."

National Volunteer Week April 7-13

CRW has chosen **Boots to HeelsSM** as one of our service projects for the year. This program is part of the non-profit organization Attitudes & Attire[®]. Introduced in 2012, **Boots to HeelsSM** assists women in the military community with the transition from military to civilian life by focusing on job **readiness**. [Click here](#) to visit their website for more information.



How can you help? You may donate time, funds, or clothing. CRW will be collecting clothing for this program. [CLICK HERE](#) to see a list of clothing that the program is needing. You may also request a pickup or arrange a drop-off from this page. For questions about our club involvement in Boots to Heels, contact Sharon Kappers, our VP of Community Service, at coppellrepublicanwomen@gmail.com.

Help make a difference for female veterans!

KEEP TRACK OF WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Go to the website <https://capitol.texas.gov> (Texas Legislature Online or TLO) to find everything that is going on in the Legislature.

This page of FAQ's will answer 28 "How Do I" questions such as:

- [Find list of filed bills?](#)
- [Follow the status of a bill?](#)
- [Contact my legislator?](#)
- [Find how a legislator voted?](#)
- [Find when hearings are scheduled?](#)
- [View the text of a bill?](#)
- [Testify at a House committee hearing?](#)

There is much more information that you can find at Texas Legislature Online (TLO).

Be Informed!

Have you renewed your Membership for 2019?

It's time to start preparing for the 2020 Elections! Join the Coppell Republican Women and be informed. There are many opportunities to be involved. [Click here to visit our "Membership" page.](#)

CRW Board Members for 2019-2020

President - Kit Whitehill
 First VP of Programs - Karyn Brownlee
 VP of Membership - Beth Wilcox
 VP of Campaign Activities - Lynell Huffmaster
 VP of Legislation - Pam Varnell
 VP of Ways & Means - Maureen Vanacore
 VP of Awards - Lorraine Carroll
 VP of Community Service - Sharon Kappers
 VP of Americanism - Jane Anne Sellers
 Secretary - Jonica Cason
 Treasurer - Linda Mays

Republican Priority Legislation: To Be or Not to Be?



The 86th Legislative Session is at the halfway point, but much work remains to be done. This year, the State Republican Executive Committee's Legislative Priorities Committee created the Strategic Texas Activist Team (STAT) and five sub-committees, called "Working Groups," to track and lobby priority legislation. Priorities were determined by the 2018 Delegates to the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) State Convention.

Our top five priorities for 2019 (in short) are:

1. Pass Constitutional Carry
2. End Taxpayer-Funded Lobbying
3. Defend Pro-Life
4. Reform Property Tax
5. Ensure Religious Freedom & Privacy

(Full text of the five priorities can be read here. <https://www.texasgop.org/priorities/>)

The Legislative Priorities Committee and Working Groups have been busy constantly since the November election. They hold weekly conference calls, monitor legislative activities, and actively encourage lawmakers to favor or oppose bills that have been vetted and voted on. Many have traveled to Austin to testify at hearings, record their position on legislation, and visit with legislators and staff. All Republicans are highly encouraged to stay abreast of what's happening in Austin and join the fight.

The Democrats aren't just a threat during election seasons. They are a threat to our Texas values NOW, as legislation is made – or not made. To learn more, join and follow the "RPT Legislative Priorities: STAT" Facebook page.

Who are my elected officials?
[Click here](#) to find a list of county, state, and federal offices with website links.