

Republican Women of Gregg County

January 2026 Newsletter: Vol. 5, No. 1

Region 5 District 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

As we welcome a new year, I am deeply honored and grateful to begin my service as President of Republican Women of Gregg County. Together, we step into this season with renewed purpose, shared values, and a strong commitment to both principles and people.

While we are proud to be a political organization grounded in conservative values, we are also, and just as importantly, a service organization. Our work extends beyond meetings and elections into the heart of our community. We stand alongside our veterans, support our schools, partner with hospitals and healthcare professionals, and serve our neighbors in meaningful and compassionate ways.

Republican Women have always been leaders - women of courage, conviction, and service. In the year ahead, may we continue to strengthen our organization, support one another and be a visible force for good in Gregg County. Together, we will serve with integrity, lead with heart, and make a lasting difference.

As we look ahead, I believe this year calls us to be especially mindful of mental health and healthcare - for our veterans, our first responders, our educators, our families, and one another. Strong communities are built when we care for both the mind and the body, and when we lead with empathy, compassion, awareness, and action.

Wishing each of you and your families a healthy, hopeful, and blessed New Year!



Linda Bobo, President
Republican Women of Gregg County



TWO MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN JANUARY!

SPECIAL MEMBERS-ONLY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

THE JALAPENO TREE, LONGVIEW

ARRIVE BY 11:30 IF YOU PLAN TO ORDER LUNCH!

THE BUSINESS MEETING WILL START AT NOON.

ORDERING YOUR LUNCH BY 11:30 IS IMPORTANT SO WE CAN HAVE A QUIET ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH TO ADDRESS IMPORTANT ISSUES REGARDING THE CLUB'S FUTURE.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2026

GUESTS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WILL BE WELCOME AT THE
REGULARLY-SCHEDULED MEETING ON
JANUARY 21, 2026 AT THE JALAPENO TREE.

A BUSINESS MEETING WILL FOLLOW THE SPEAKER.

THERE WILL BE A VOTE AT THE END OF THE MEETING,
SO PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION
AND STAY FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING ON THE 21ST.



2026! THE YEAR OF AMERICA'S 250TH BIRTHDAY!

CELEBRATIONS WILL OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, CULMINATING IN THE
BIG SHOW AT MOUNT RUSHMORE ON JULY 3RD!

CHECK OUT AMERICA250.ORG TO LEARN ABOUT THE MANY INITIATIVES MARKING THIS
HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT! ONE OF THE PROGRAMS IS "AMERICA GIVES" - A NATIONWIDE
INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO MAKE 2026 THE LARGEST YEAR OF VOLUNTEERISM IN U.S.
HISTORY. ADD YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS TO THE NATIONAL TOTAL, AND YOU COULD WIN A
CHANCE TO HELP DECIDE WHERE \$1 MILLION IN CHARITABLE DONATIONS WILL GO!!!

"THE STORY OF AMERICA MAKES EVERYONE FREE."

- PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

Republican Women of Gregg Co present:



Candidate for Texas House District 7
Christian. Conservative.
Republican.

Come hear about her priorities:
Protect Your Family
Protect Your Wallet

Wednesday, Jan 21
Jalapeño Tree at Noon
Arrive at 11:30 to order



“For informational purposes only and does not represent or constitute an endorsement by this Club.”

Legislative Update

Congressman Nathaniel Moran

This week, House Republicans passed [H.R. 6703](#) – the *Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act*. The goal of this legislation is straightforward: lower healthcare costs for every American, not just the 7% who are using ACA plans—and certainly not the big insurance companies, who are the ones that have been benefitting the most from the bad policies of the past. The *Lower Health Care Premiums for All Americans Act* will drive down health care insurance premiums while also protecting our pro-life values. **All Americans deserve a health care system that puts patients first. This vital legislation provides more access, more choice, and more affordable, quality care.**

Here are the common-sense health care solutions included in this bill:

- Lowers premium costs by 11% through cost-sharing reduction payments.
- Brings Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) transparency and removes hidden costs of prescription drugs.
- Allows small business owners and independent workers to form association health plans.
- Provides more choices for employers to customize their health care plans.
- Protects small businesses from costly regulatory overreach.

This bill lowers health insurance premiums by helping working families who rely on Affordable Care Act (ACA) coverage. It strengthens cost-sharing support that lowers deductibles, copays, and out-of-pocket costs. Independent estimates show this approach reduces premiums by roughly 11 percent.

It also increases transparency around Pharmacy Benefit Managers so that employers are able to negotiate better contracts with health plans. By requiring clearer reporting and accountability, this bill helps ensure savings go where they belong and help keep drug prices and premiums in check.

Just as important, the bill restores and enforces long-standing Hyde protections to make sure that taxpayer money is not used for abortions. The Affordable Care Act was written in a way that allowed taxpayer dollars to support insurance plans covering elective abortion, despite claims to the contrary. **This legislation ensures cost-share reduction payments cannot be used to pay for abortions or abortion coverage, while still lowering costs and protecting access to care.** That is the principled approach East Texans expect.

Read more Moran Minutes at:

<https://moran.house.gov/news/email/>

TRICIA OXTON – 2ND VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

New year – a new chapter, new verse,
or just the same old story?

Ultimately, we write it. The choice is ours.

Alex Merritt

 **HAVE A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!** 

RWGC is looking forward, stepping out and aiming high to reach a record goal of 100 members in 2026! To achieve this goal everyone will need to get involved. If you want to be a part of this effort to grow our membership and help with on-boarding and/or mentoring new members please let me know.

All RWGC Membership applications for 2026 are due before 2-27-2026.

Please make sure that you turn in your membership application and dues for 2026 by 2-27-2026 since dues are delinquent on March 1st. There is an application in this newsletter for your convenience. Please fill in all the blanks on your application including the questions highlighted in yellow. Please mail your application and dues to RWGC – P.O. Box 5 – Longview, TX 75606 or bring it to one of our meetings on January 14th or January 21st.

We look forward to seeing you at the special meeting on January 14, 2026, The Jalapeno Tree, Longview. Arrive at 11:30 a.m. to order lunch. Meeting begins at noon.



Gail Apple 1-9 Davy Bridges 1-11

Marty Rhymes 1-13 Teresa Cook 1-15

Michelle Gilley 1-17 Connie Wade Gipson 1-19

Joanna Bounds 1-22

Political Campaign Activities

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

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

March 3 PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

In the Spotlight



Meet Teresa Cook 1st Vice President

Teresa was an Air Traffic Controller for almost 30 years. She married her high school sweetheart and together, they have raised a family.

Since joining RWGC, Teresa has held the office of Secretary, and was just elected to her second term as VP of Programs. Teresa also stepped up to oversee check-in of more than 400 people at RWGC's November 1st Veterans Appreciation Event, "A Salute to Heroes" at Maude Cobb.

Teresa's message to fellow RWGC members:

"You don't have to have held a lot of important positions within our party, although we love those superstars! What we need are women willing to roll up their sleeves. Can you think outside the box? Are you looking for ways you can make a difference? This organization offers a variety of volunteer roles, and there is sure to be at least one that is a perfect fit for you! We will encourage you every step of the way."

"The best thing you can do is to be proud that you're a Republican and be prepared to tell others why, in an engaging way. Let's all do what we can to make the world a better place for our children and our grandchildren."



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE

Forum

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF GREGG COUNTY

JANUARY 19, 2026 | 2PM-4PM

NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
1105 FOSTER DR | LONGVIEW, TX 75602



Americanism

Gail Apple - Chairman

The last line in the speech at the unveiling of the Statue of Liberty, October 28, 1886



"There is room in America and brotherhood for all who will support our institutions and aid in our development. But those who come to disturb our peace and dethrone our laws are aliens and enemies forever."

- QUOTE ATTRIBUTED TO CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, U.S. SENATOR AND LAWYER, KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT THE STATUE OF LIBERTY DEDICATION CEREMONY, OCTOBER 28, 1886

THIS QUOTE INDICATES A "STRICT SOCIAL CONTRACT" REGARDING IMMIGRATION, A MESSAGE THAT CONTRASTS WITH THE MORE UNIVERSALLY KNOWN SENTIMENTS OF LAZARUS'S POEM *THE NEW COLOSSUS*. ("Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses . . .")

REPUBLICAN WOMEN OF GREGG CO PRESENT:



JAY DEAN

REPUBLICAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 7

**Proven conservative record
delivering results. Proud to bring
\$28 million in sales tax surplus to HD7.**

**Wednesday, Feb 18th
Jalapeño Tree at Noon
Arrive at 11:30 to order**



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DECEMBER IS ALWAYS A BUSY MONTH FOR RWGC MEMBERS!

FROM DELIVERING CHRISTMAS FOOD BOXES TO VOLUNTEERING WITH "WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA" TO PLACE CHRISTMAS WREATHS ON VETERANS' GRAVES, MEMBERS OF OUR CLUB SHOWED LOVE AND APPRECIATION FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES. HELPING VETERANS IS ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING ACTIVITIES IN WHICH WE PARTICIPATE, AND WE'LL BE DOING MORE FOR VETERANS IN 2026! STAY TUNED FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!





CLUB MEMBERSHIP MEANS VOLUNTEERING!

Literacy Committee – Help school kids who are struggling to learn to read. How rewarding!

Communications Committee: Outreach to RWCG members via phone calls, texting, and the monthly newsletter.

The Newsletter Chair position requires basic “Word” editing skills. Committee chairs submit reports each month, and the newsletter chair incorporates these into the newsletter, along with additional club information provided by the President. Training will be provided.

Other volunteer opportunities will be featured next month!

RWGC Social Groups

Girls on the Go: Enjoy outings with members

Gals & Guns: Making Shooting Fun Again!

Bowling: Making Bowling Great Again!

Call Jennifer for more information 903-445-8627

Republican Women of Gregg Co present:

BIBLICAL CITIZENSHIP CLASSES

Take a deep dive into our
Constitution through the eyes of
of our Founding Fathers

11:30a - 2:30p

Wed, Feb 25, 2026 -

Wed, May 27, 2026

In-Person Class



At these workshops it is not required to attend all of them.

[Just Say Know/I Govern Classes](#) - Enhance your knowledge of how to use your voice as an effective activist with a few simple steps.

Classes resume in February!

Turn Your Talking Points into Turning Points

[Text Gail Apple 903 235 4149 for more info](#)



QR code for access to our website!!



Important Dates in January

January 1 – Last day to register to vote for the March 3 primary elections

January 1 - First day to apply for a ballot by mail for upcoming elections

January 19 – Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday

January 19 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Republican Candidate Forum

sponsored by the Republican Party of Gregg County

2:00-4:00 p.m., New Zion Baptist Church, 1105 Foster Drive, Longview

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Wisdom for the leadership and members of RWGC
- Linda Lafferty's husband
- Protection and guidance for Turning Point leaders and staff
- Gratitude for VDRs, Poll Workers, Poll Watchers, and Greeters, Precinct Chairs heeding the call to serve
- For all members, friends and family who are missing a loved one
- Protection, wisdom, and guidance for our national and state leaders

**PLAN TO JOIN US FOR OUR January 21st MEETING AT THE JALAPENO TREE.
ARRIVE AT 11:30 TO ORDER LUNCH**

January 21st Program:

Melissa Beckett Candidate for HD7 Texas State Representative

**LET'S BE A POLITE AUDIENCE – KEEP SIDE CONVERSATIONS TO A MINIMUM, AND IF
YOU MUST TAKE A CALL OR HAVE A DISCUSSION, *PLEASE LEAVE THE ROOM*. YOU
MAY THINK NO ONE NOTICES, BUT OUR SPEAKERS AND GUESTS DEFINITELY DO!**

AS PRESIDENT TRUMP SAYS, "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER!!!"

Political advertising paid for by the Republican Women of Gregg County PAC. Contributions are not federal tax deductions as charitable contributions. Corporate contributions are not permitted. RWGC PAC can be contacted at P.O. Box 5, Longview, TX 75606. The information listed herein is not an endorsement of any candidate and is intended for information purposes only.

Republican Women of Gregg County

Membership Application

2026 Membership Information

Date: _____

Please check one: \$40.00 Active Membership includes Voting Privileges
 \$15.00 Associate Men (no Voting Privileges)
 \$15.00 Associate Women with Active Membership in another Republican Women's Club
(Not eligible to vote in RWGC)

Name: _____ Birthday (xx-xx-xxxx) _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Birthday (xx-xx-xxxx) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email Address _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

If retired, former Occupation _____ County Voting Precinct _____

Are you a member of another Republican Women's Club? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, which club? _____

Active Member in that club _____ OR Associate Member in that club _____

Check if applies: **Allow:** RWGC use of my photo Sharing my contact info with members

OPT-IN: RWGC can post my name, email, and phone number on members only
section of the RWGC website.

I AM INTERESTED IN THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES

Campaign Activities _____ Fund Raising _____ Literacy _____ Building Membership _____

Legislative _____ Caring for America _____ Telephone _____ Outreach _____ Publicity _____

Other Talents, skills or interests you have _____

(Use back for additional information you want us to know.)

Contributions to Republican Women PAC are not deductible for tax purposes.

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TO 2026