



NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN

Potpourri

An Award-Winning Federated Club
Houston ~ North Harris County
Founded June 1974

www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org
info@northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org

TFRW Region 17, Senate District 7

May 2026

Volume 51, Issue 5

NEXT MEETING Monday, May 11, 2026

Place: Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, 77090
Time: 11:30 a.m. Call to Order, Lunch, Business meeting, 1:00 p.m. Adjournment

Reservations: Click [HERE](#) by 9:00 am, Fri. May 8, 2026

Contact Judi Thompson with questions: 832-368-6848

Lunch \$32.00, or \$5.00 for beverages and meeting only.

Walk-ins and late reservations \$37.00

Make checks payable to "Shirley Acres."

To pay 2026 dues, see Kathy Crosby, 2nd VP/Membership at the membership table.

1ST VP/PROGRAMS

Paige Harr

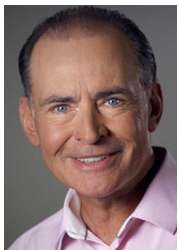
MARK YOUR CALENDARS, BRING A FRIEND, AND RESERVE YOUR SEAT!

At the May 11th general meeting, NWFRW will host a Forum for the Republican candidates for the Harris County Judge Runoff Election, Warren Howell and Orlando Sanchez, with HC Justice of the Peace, Lincoln Goodwin, Precinct 4, Place 1, serving as the moderator. The club looks forward to a friendly exchange and engaging questions to assist voters in making an informed vote in the Runoff Election on May 26, 2026.

THE CANDIDATES:



Warren Howell is a lifelong Harris County resident and United States Air Force Veteran. He began as a partner at Beckner-Howell Building Corp. He led more than 100 employees in the local manufacturing of roofing products before selling the company and moving into insurance. Today, Mr. Howell is President and owner of Employers Risk Insurance. He also serves his community as President of the Shadow Oaks Civic Association, representing more than 1,000 homes in Spring Branch, where he has lived for 40 years.



Orlando Sanchez came to Houston as a child, fleeing Communist oppression in Cuba with his family. He is a graduate of Bellaire High School and the University of Houston. Mr. Sanchez is also a veteran of the United States Air Force and the Texas Air National Guard. He served 6 years on Houston's City Council and was assigned to the Council's Budget Committee. Elected as Treasurer for Harris County for 12 years, he served as the vice-chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee for the County

Treasurers' Association of Texas. During his time as County Treasurer, he received his certification as a County Investment Officer.

Plan to attend. Plan to Vote. Plan to keep Republican candidates in the winning column!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lauren Lothringer Maywald



The Texas Republican Party Convention, taking place right here in Houston, June 11-13, is just a few weeks away! This important gathering brings together Republican delegates from across the state who have advanced through their Precinct and Senate District conventions to participate at the state level. Delegates

will take part in shaping the direction of the Texas GOP by voting on updates to the party platform and rules, and by electing key leadership positions, including the Chairman and Vice Chairman, along with other members of state party leadership. It is an exciting and impactful opportunity for grassroots voices to be heard and for dedicated Republicans to help set the course for the party moving forward.

The Primary Election Runoff, scheduled for May 26, 2026, is also quickly approaching! Early voting begins on May 18 and continues through May 22, giving voters several opportunities to make their voices heard ahead of Election Day. **This is a critical time for engagement, as many important local and state races will be decided in the runoff, and we need to elect the candidate with the best chance of defeating the Democrat in November.** NWFRW is fortunate to have many members who are actively involved in the process and hosting meet-and-greet opportunities with the candidates, providing valuable chances to connect directly and ask questions. **Be sure to RSVP for the club's May meeting, where we will hear directly from the two candidates for Harris County Judge.**

As we move into the final stretch before summer, Harris County Republicans have a real opportunity to build energy and momentum at every level. With the Texas Republican Party Convention taking place right here in Houston, the club's local presence will be on full display, and it's critical to show up strong, organized, and engaged. This is a time to connect with fellow Republicans, support our candidates, and ensure preparations are in place for the challenges ahead in November. **Every conversation, every volunteer hour, and every voter contact matters. Let's use these next few weeks to stay involved, grow our network, and keep Harris County moving in the right direction.**

*Our Momentum Sticks
Stand Strong in '26!*



NWFRW BOARD 2026 OFFICERS

President

Lauren Lothringer Maywald

1st Vice President Programs

Paige Harr

2nd Vice President Membership

Kathy Crosby

3rd Vice President Political Activities

Marcia Fitzpatrick

Secretary

Susan Thompson

Treasurer

Amy Uribe

PAC Treasurer

Gaynell Lira

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Americanism/Caring for America

Sarah Disbro, Merry Keith

Awards

Nancy Baines

Bylaws

Carolyn Rogers

Chaplain

Tracie Anderson

Historian

Linda Connell

Hospitality

Mary Ann Vandermark

Legislative

Pat Fass

Liaison to Council

Dana Khan

Alternate to Council

Tracine Gibson

Newsletter

Katie Radcliffe

Parliamentarian

Tracine Gibson

Publicity

Sierra Johannessen

Reservations

Judi Thompson

Scholarship

LaDonna MacDonald, Nicole Peters

Voter Registration

Gay Garrett, Barbara Young

Website and Social Media

Heidi Furlong, Nancy Radcliffe

Yearbook/Directory

Ana Carson

Immediate Past President

Nancy Radcliffe

MINUTES, April 13, 2026

Susan Thompson

Call to Order. President Lauren Lothringer Maywald called the NWFRW General Meeting to order at approximately 11:30 AM on Monday, April 13, 2026.

Invocation was led by **Chaplain Tracie Anderson**, and the **Pledges** to the American and Texas Flags were led by Constable Mark Herman, Harris County, Precinct 4.

Welcome. 3rd VP Political Activities Marcia Fitzpatrick greeted, then introduced elected officials and their representatives, candidates, all military veterans, and members of other clubs.

Meeting Program. 1st VP Programs Paige Harr introduced speaker Judge Ryan Patrick, Chief Executive Officer for Texans for Lawsuit Reform (“TLR”). Judge Patrick also served as United States Attorney for the Southern District of Texas from 2018 to 2021 and as a former state felony prosecutor and Texas district judge. Judge Patrick discussed TLR’s focus on tort reform and the potential positive impact on the business climate in the State of Texas. He also emphasized the importance of the midterm elections, particularly with respect to Texas house and judicial positions and TLR’s support of conservative candidates. Judge Patrick responded to questions from members.

LUNCH

Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of the NWFRW March 9, 2026 General Meeting were approved as printed in the *Potpourri* and will be filed with the secretary.

Treasurer Amy Uribe gave the Treasurer’s report, and it will be filed with the minutes.

On behalf of PAC Treasurer Gaynell Lira, Treasurer Amy Uribe gave the PAC Treasurer’s report, and it will be filed with the minutes.

1st VP Programs Paige Harr announced that at the May 11, 2026, general meeting, NWFRW will host a Harris County Judge candidate forum with Republican runoff candidates Warren Howell and Orlando Sanchez to assist members in making an informed vote in the runoff election on May 26, 2026.

2nd VP Membership Kathy Crosby encouraged members to pick up the 2026 Directory. Directory corrections and additional new members will be included in an August addendum. She thanked the decorating committee, who turned the room into a festive celebration of the nation’s 250th birthday. She concluded by announcing that Donnie Lubeck and Tom Kikis were winners of the most patriotic attire and Nancy Radcliffe was acknowledged for referring the most members for 2026.

3rd VP Political Activities Marcia Fitzpatrick provided the following election dates:

May 2 Special Elections (SD 4; Klein FD Tax Rate Cap; Certain MUD Districts)

May 18-22 Primary Runoff Early Voting

May 26 Primary Runoff Election Day

COMMITTEE REPORTS

On behalf of Scholarship LaDonna MacDonald and Nicole Peters, Secretary Susan Thompson announced that four students applied for the \$1,500 Priscilla Petty Scholarship. The scholarship committee conducted interviews last week. They will present their recommendation at the upcoming board meeting, and the scholarship will be awarded at the May general meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Lauren Lothringer Maywald announced that based on Club members’ participation, Wreaths Across America will send a \$600 donation to Camp Hope.

On April 22 at 5:00 p.m., Governor Abbott will join Brett Ligon at the Honor Cafe in Conroe for a Get Out the Vote rally in support of Brett Ligon in his race for Texas SD 4.

NWFRW Board Meeting – April 20, 2026; 6:30 PM GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Dr, Spring, TX 77379

Special Election Early Voting (SD 4 - Creighton Unexpired Term) – April 20-April 28, 2026

Special Election Day (SD 4; Klein Fire Dept ESD16 Tax Rate Cap; Certain MUD Districts) – May 2, 2026

NWFRW General Meeting – May 11, 2026, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090

Primary Runoff Early Voting – May 18-22, 2026

Greater Houston Council – May 19, 2026; 8:30 AM, Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston, TX 77055

Primary Runoff Election Day – May 26, 2026

Republication Party of Texas (RPT) State Convention – June 11-13, 2026, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX 77002

ADJOURNMENT

President Lauren Lothringer Maywald adjourned the meeting at approximately 1:00 PM.

We kindly remind members that reservations, including those made for their guests, represent a financial commitment to the event. Therefore, we are obligated to process billing for all reserved seats, even in the event of unexpected changes or circumstances. We appreciate your understanding.

2ND VP/MEMBERSHIP*Kathy Crosby*

NWFRW had a wonderful April Membership recognition event, highlighted by a celebration of the nation's 250th Birthday! A special thank you is extended to Shirley Acres for the beautiful and delicious birthday cake. Most patriotically-dressed honorees were Donnie Lubeck, who looked fantastic, and Tom Kikis, distinguished patriotic gentleman. Congratulations as well to Nancy Radcliffe, who won the prize for bringing the most guests who became members for 2026. Currently, the club has 179 primary members with 35 associate members, for a total of 214. All of you who continue to bring a guest to the monthly meetings are greatly appreciated!

Attached at the end of the *Potpourri* newsletter is the 2026 membership form. Annual dues are \$45 for primary membership and \$30 for associate membership, which applies to women who are primary members of another federated club or to enlightened gentlemen. Name badges are also available for purchase at \$10. Please complete the entire membership form, include a signed check, and return it in an envelope as soon as possible, or bring it with you to the May meeting. If you have any questions, contact me at 713-501-1105 or kathyvcrosby@gmail.com.

Be sure to stop by the membership table at the May meeting if you have not yet picked up your 2026 Directory. An addendum for corrections and updates will be available in August. In the meantime, please email me as soon as possible with any corrections to your listing.

Remember, it is crucial in this primary election year, that all of our members reach out to Republican friends and invite them to attend a meeting to learn about what is happened politically and to find out more about NWFRW. Invite them to attend May 11th for an important forum featuring the two Republican candidates in the Runoff Election for Harris County Judge.

"Come a Guest, Leave a Member!"

**AMERICANISM /
CARING FOR AMERICA***Sarah Disbro
Merry Keith*

Thank you for the generous amount of donations in March and April! **Let's continue to "Spring" into action in May, and show the veterans how much they are supported and appreciated.**

Urgently needed items for May: Ohm Omneprazole Delayed-Release Tablets, 20mg (84 ct); Amazon Basic Care Maximum Strength Mucus DM, 12 Hour, 14 Tablets (2 pack); Q-Tips Cotton Swabs, Original, (500 count); Kirkland Signature Super B-Complex (2-Pack) with Electrolytes (2x500 Tablets); Nature's Bounty Super B Complex Vitamins with Vit. C & Folic Acid (150 Tablets); Wheat Straw Dinnerware Sets, 64-Piece Black Plates & Bowls Sets for 8 (Unbreakable, Reusable Plastic Dish Set); 6 Pcs Pop Up Hampers for Laundry, Foldable Mesh/Sturdy Handles (Black/White/Blue); Lysol Kitchen Spray Cleaner, Citrus Scent, 22oz., 2-pack; Drano Max Gel Drain Clog Remover & Cleaner, 80oz. 2-pack; Simply Air Filters: 18x20x1, 20x25x1, 20x30x1, 20x20x1, 14x25x1, 16x25x1 (MERV 8, 6-packs)

These items may be purchased on the Amazon website under the "Give Help tab; In-Kind Donation tab; Urgent Needs List" and will be sent directly to Camp Hope by Amazon. When purchasing on the Amazon website, be sure to include your email address and note that you are a member of Northwest Forest Republican Women. Thank you!

3rd VP/POLITICAL ACTIVITIES*Marcia Fitzpatrick*

**Getting ready for Round 2 - the Primary Runoff!
The final round will be November 3, 2026!**

Mark your calendars NOW for these important dates:

May 2nd will be the Runoff Election for Senate District 4 to fill Senator Brandon Creighton's unexpired term. The candidates are Brett Ligon (R) and Ron Angeletti (D). There is also a Klein Fire Department ESD 16 Tax Rate Cap election on the ballot. Go to the Harris County ESD 16 website for voting information and locations (www.hceds16.org). There may also be MUD Directors on the ballot in various MUD Districts.

Early Voting for the Runoff Elections begins May 18th-May 22nd with Election Day May 26th. Please take the time to research the candidates, and VOTE! The ballot will include:

US Senator - John Cornyn, Ken Paxton
Attorney General - Mayes Middleton, Chip Roy
CD 38 - Jon Bonck, Shelly deZevallos
HD 126 - Kelly Peterson, Stan Stanart
Railroad Commissioner - Bo French, Jim Wright
Court of Criminal Appeals - Allison Fox, Thomas Smith
County Court of Appeals - Todd Frankfort, Zak Gibson
Harris County Judge - William Howell, Orlando Sanchez
Harris County Republican Chair - Don Hooper, Cindy Siegel
Harris County School Trustee - Beverly Barrett, Denise Dick

Remember to vote for the BEST Republican to win in November... However, if your candidate does not win the Primary Election...VOTE for the Republican candidate in November. When the slate is set for November, NWFRW will decide which races to work on as a group. Let's finish the job, and get ready for November. **Vote! Vote! Vote!**

SCHOLARSHIP*LaDonna MacDonald | Nicole Peters*

The 2026 Priscilla Petty Scholarship Committee (LaDonna MacDonald, Nicole Peters, and Georgan Reitmeier) received applications from four very qualified young ladies. The applications were carefully reviewed, and interviews were conducted. This was a challenging decision for the committee, as all of the applicants were impressive.



After thoughtful consideration, NWFRW is pleased to announce that Aubrie Austin has been selected as the recipient of the 2026 Priscilla Petty Scholarship. Graduating in May as the valedictorian of Tomball Memorial High School, Aubrie will be attending Texas A&M University in the fall.

Aubrie and her parents will be attending the June 8th monthly meeting, where she will be recognized and presented with the \$1,500 scholarship. Members will also have the opportunity to hear briefly from Aubrie and learn more about what makes her such a deserving recipient of this honor. **Congratulations to Aubrie!**

DICTIONARY PROJECT

Sue Kikis

Thanks to generous donors, NWFRW was able to deliver 4,416 dictionaries to third grade students in 9 Klein and all 25 Spring ISD Title 1 schools for the 2025-2026 school year. School donors were Northwest Forest Republican Women, Sue and Mike Mason, Peggy and John Field, Sue Ann Lurcott, Sue and Tom Kikis, Beverly Johnson, Judy Parsons, Nancy Radcliffe, and George Peckham. Classroom donors include John Cozart, Tia and Dennis Goodrich, Susan Langenheim, Mary Jane Brewster, Jo Konen, Pam Hughes, Cindy Eschenburg, Susan Thompson, Betsy Calabro, and Babette Moreno. Other wonderful donors were Mary Ann Vandermark, Anita Griffin, June Jones, Nancee Jackman, Melissa Conway, and Anne Harker.

A special appreciation is extended to NWFRW members and friends who helped deliver and give presentations this year. They were Sue Ann Lurcott, Gay Garrett, Winni and Jim Attaway, Tia and Dennis Goodrich, John Cozart, Judy Parsons, George Peckham, Mary Ann Vandermark, June Jones, Anita Griffin, Wanda Kanarr, and Sue and Tom Kikis. The dictionaries also contain the Declaration of Independence, U S Constitution, biographies of all U S Presidents, some third-grade math and science, and much more.

Sue Kikis has enjoyed chairing this project for over 10 years and would like to give someone else the opportunity for the 2026-2027 school year. Contact Sue at 281-379-6366 or suekikis@gmail.com.

LEGISLATIVE

Pat Fass

The Legislative preparations for the 90th Regular Session remain active during the interim. Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick released the second round of 2026 Senate interim charges on March 27, directing committees to study electric grid reliability with emphasis on large-load demands, property tax relief strategies, border security measures, economic development, prevention of government fraud and abuse, and options to close gambling loopholes. The directives build on an earlier set of charges focused on issues such as Sharia law influences and a Texas-first policy approach. **House Speaker Dustin Burrows issued interim charges on March 26, establishing three new select committees dedicated to governmental oversight, health care affordability, and general aviation.** Additional instructions require evaluation of data center expansion alongside water resource impacts, potential annexation of eastern New Mexico counties, local government preemption under the Texas Regulatory Consistency Act, workforce development programs, and implementation monitoring of legislation from the 89th Legislature. The charges also address foreign threats, artificial intelligence applications in government efficiency, and property tax reform options. Public hearings on these topics are scheduled to intensify through the spring and summer months. **These interim studies build upon recent legislative successes, including the Texas Education Freedom Accounts school choice program and layered tax relief initiatives. The recommendations will guide policy when the Legislature convenes in January 2027. Continuous engagement with runoff processes and interim reviews supports Republican objectives in Texas politics.**

PICTURE GALLERY

April Meeting



Visit www.northwestforestrepublicanwomen.org for useful information and informative articles.

This is not an endorsement by the President, the Campaign Chair, or the Club. It is information for members to be engaged and stay informed. Pol. Ad. paid for by Northwest Forest RW PAC, Gaynell Lira, PAC Treasurer, 15455 Canterbury Forest, Apt. 314, Tomball, TX 77377. Contributions are not federal tax deductible as charitable contributions. Corporate contributions are not permitted. Solicitations made by federal candidates and officeholders are limited by federal law. The federal candidates and officeholders are soliciting only donations of up to \$2800 from individuals and up to \$5000 from multi-candidate political committees. They are not soliciting donations in any amount from corporations, labor organizations, national banks, federal contractors, or foreign nationals.

April 20: NWFRW Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

May 2: Joint & Special Election Day (SD 4; Klein Fire Dept ESD16 Tax Rate Cap; Certain MUD Districts)

May 8: Reservation Deadline, 9:00 AM, Lunch Reservations link [HERE](#)

May 11: NWFRW General Meeting, 11:30 AM, Shirley Acres, 217 Woerner Road, Houston, TX 77090

May 15: Mail-in ballot application deadline for statewide runoff election

May 18: NWFRW Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, GHWB Community Center, 6827 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

May 19-22: Early voting for runoff election

May 26: Runoff election day

June 11-13: Republican Party of Texas Convention, George R. Brown Convention Center, 1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010

**NORTHWEST FOREST REPUBLICAN WOMEN
2026 MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL DUES FORM**

MUST BE A REGISTERED VOTER*

OCCUPATION REQUIRED*

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____ Date _____

Home Address: _____

City/Zip: _____ Subdivision: _____

Registered Voter? * Yes _____ Your Senate District # _____ Birthday (Month & Day) _____
*(Must be Registered Voter to join) **

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Cell Phone: * _____ Occupation: * _____

Email Address: * _____ Spouse's Name: _____
(NWFRW Newsletter and information, including National and State Federations, news is sent to you by email.)

Membership Fees:

Primary \$45 New _____ Renew _____ Check# _____ Cash _____ Credit _____ Badge \$10 _____

Associate \$30 New _____ Renew _____ Check# _____ Cash _____ Credit _____ Badge \$10 _____
(Available to men and to women who are primary members of another Federated Republican Women's club)

NWFRW offers many opportunities to volunteer. Please let us know your interests and your skills:

Please check the following committee(s) on which you may wish to serve:

- Americanism – Promote Patriotism
- Historian – Compile a scrapbook for the President's term of office
- Hospitality – Meet and greet members and/or collect money for luncheon
- Legislative – Track pending Bills in the Texas Legislature and Congress
- Membership – Record membership and plan occasional events
- Phone – Relay information to members
- Political Activities – Assist with getting Republicans elected to office and informing membership
- Publicity – Disseminate NWFRW information to the community
- Scholarship – Annual NWFRW Priscilla Petty \$1,500 Scholarship
- Voter Registration – Be deputized voter registrar
- Ways & Means – Help plan and execute a biennial fundraiser

Skills:

Attention to Details _____ Bookkeeping _____ Notary Public _____

Computer Skills: (Please list specifics) _____

Marketing _____ Organizational Skills _____ Planning _____ Public Speaking _____ Other _____

Signature: * _____ **Member who referred you:** _____

**Required to comply with the Texas Ethics Commission and publication of our members' info in our Directory.*

Please mail this form with your check, payable to "NWFRW PAC" to:

Kathy Crosby, 2nd Vice President Membership

2 Oak Hollow Circle, Cypress, TX 77429

Political Advertising paid for by Northwest Forest Republican Women PAC



HOUSTON COUNCIL
FEDERATED REPUBLICAN WOMEN

INVITES YOU TO A

Mother's Day TEA

CELEBRATION

HONORING MOTHERS. CELEBRATING SERVICE.
Building a Stronger Future Together.



TUESDAY
MAY 19TH



10:00 AM



TRINI MENDENHALL
COMMUNITY CENTER
HOUSTON, TEXAS

Join us for a delightful morning of tea, fellowship, and fun as we celebrate the amazing women who lead with heart, serve with purpose, and inspire every day.

WE CAN'T WAIT
TO CELEBRATE YOU!

BEST SPRING
TEA TABLE
DECORATING
Contest!

SPRING HAT
SHOWCASE

*Wear your
finest!*

BRING YOUR CREATIVITY, YOUR FAVORITE HAT,
AND YOUR LOVE FOR CELEBRATING WOMEN!

If interested in attending, please let Dana Khan (713-594-4106) or Tracine Gibson (713-829-8968) know.