

# Rockwall County Republican Hispanic Club



## February 2022 Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 1, 2022

*All Communities Are Welcomed!* **#LET'S WORK TOGETHER!**

Hola Amigos!

RCRHC was truly honored to host Justice Eva Guzman and U.S. Congressman Louie Gohmert—both candidates for Texas Attorney General at our January meeting. Each of the Republican candidates were invited to attend. Commissioner George P. Bush declined to attend as did incumbent Attorney General, Ken Paxton. Both Justice Guzman and Congressman Gohmert are strong leaders who shared their plan to secure the border, fight the overreach of the federal government, stand up for Election Integrity and the 2nd Amendment, and protect the unborn.

We were also honored that U.S. Congressman Pat Fallon presented a valuable Legislative Report. We were privileged that Senator Bob Hall donated U.S. and Texas flags to our club. Senator Hall supports the RCRHC principle that we “*serve all communities as one community*” in advancing the values of the Republican Party of Texas.

We are looking forward to hosting candidates for Texas Land Commissioner, Texas Senator Dawn Buckingham, Wes-

ton Martinez, Victor Avila, Don Minton, and Ben Armenta for RCRHC’s February 5, 2022 Saturday meeting at 8:30 a.m. at The Center, 108 E. Washington. RCRHC will focus on Five Priorities:

- Election Integrity
- Secure the Border
- Sanctity of Life
- Anti-Vaccine Mandate
- Parents’ Rights & Banning Critical Race Theory in our Schools

*How does RCRHC plan to advance the principles of the Republican Party of Texas?* By informing the electorate of valuable conservative message; securing conservative speakers to educate our community; partnering with lawmakers; teaming-up with GOP clubs in our community; and doing our part with phone banks and block walking. The principles are accepted, endorsed, and supported by ALL conservative and freedom-loving communities in Rockwall and North Texas. Thank you for your support.

*Edna Cecilia Sullivan*

*Edna Villarreal Sullivan—  
President*

*Betsy Gallagher—  
Vice President*

*Victor Carrillo—Secretary*

*Donna Rolater—Treasurer*

*Doug Roth—  
Community Outreach Chair*

*Jose Nunez Legislation Chair*

*Michael Aldas, Susan Aldas  
Boots on the Ground*

*Amy Johannesen, RISD  
District Liaison Chair*

*Joel Medina Media Chair*

*Mark Russo—Sanctity of Life  
Chair*

*Clarence Jorif—  
Public Relations Chair*

*Tina Heathington, Patty Fleck  
Hospitality*

*Matias Barcelo Spanish  
Translator*

*Newsletter Editors—Victor  
Carrillo, Misty Gajewski*

### U.S. Congressman Pat Fallon— Border Security

Right now, there is a crisis at our southern border that is being inappropriately neglected. In November alone, Customs and Border Patrol apprehended over 170,000 migrants trying to cross our border illegally. Let me be clear—this is a problem created by an Administration that decided to disregard any success achieved by their predecessor and instead, announce open borders to the world.

President Biden paused deportations for illegal immigrants, stopped border wall construction, and reinstated the Obama-era catch and release program. These actions, along with a laundry list of others, have led to almost 1.8 million illegal immigrants being apprehended

at the border in 2021 and enough fentanyl to kill every American seven times over flooding into the United States.

The time to secure our border and make our communities safer is well overdue. It’s not until this Administration recognizes that border security is national security, that we will begin to make progress. In the meantime, I can promise you this—as long as I am your representative in Congress, I will do everything in my power to secure our southern border!



For Texas & Liberty -  
**Congressman  
Pat Fallon**

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### Senator Dawn Buckingham—Candidate for Texas Land Commissioner

**Dr. Dawn Buckingham** is a Republican senator, an experienced oculoplastic surgeon, an avid hunter, a seventh-generation Texan, and a lifelong conservative fighter. In 2016, Buckingham made history by becoming the first woman elected to represent Senate District 24, a 17-county of West Texas and the Texas Hill Country, and first ever Republican from Travis County to serve in the Texas Senate. In the Texas Senate, Buckingham continues to work tirelessly to secure our border, defend our constitutional rights, protect the unborn, and uphold our traditional Texas values.

During the past legislative session,

Dawn helped pass one of the most conservative legislative agendas in history, including constitutional carry, landmark election integrity reforms, banning the teaching of Critical Race Theory in our schools, stopping liberal cities like Austin from defunding the police, and passing the Texas Heartbeat Protection Act - the strongest pro-life law in the nation. Buckingham is the proud author of the only piece of legislation that protects Texas' historical monuments like the Alamo and passed a law requiring all professional sports teams in Texas to honor our veterans by playing the Star-Spangled Banner before taking the field.

As Texas Land Commissioner, Dawn will protect our proud Texas history and fight back against the Biden Administration's assault on our state's oil and natural gas industry. Buckingham will honor our brave veterans by providing them with the help and resources they deserve and manage the state's Permanent



School Fund to provide every child in Texas with a quality education.

Dawn and her husband, Ed (also a surgeon) have two children in college and reside in Lakeway, Texas.

### Weston Martinez—Candidate for Texas Land Commissioner

Weston Martinez, a fourth generation Texan, is a proven conservative leader born and raised in the Alamo City. He is running to be Texas' next Land Commissioner and has the experience and track record to serve the great state of Texas.

Weston has already served as a statewide Commissioner, having been appointed as Real Estate Commissioner by former Governor Texas Governor Rick Perry, the U.S. Secretary of Energy under President Donald J. Trump. Martinez, during his term in office served under both Governor Perry and Governor Greg Abbott. Weston worked with the Legislative and Executive Branches of Texas government to oversee licensing,

regulation and enforcement related to Realtors, Inspectors and Appraisers. Martinez has a diverse professional career. In oil and gas business development, as a government affairs strategist, and vice president of business development at a major Texas Law firm. Over the course of 26 years in the regulated telecommunications industry at Southwestern Bell and AT&T, Weston served in various roles including outside plant design engineering lead manager for the Southwest United States section. He reported directly to the Office of the President overseeing resolution of Public Utilities, Attorney General

and BBB complaints. Weston brings a strong corporate background from the oil and gas industry as the President of a leading oil and gas service company where he held his own unique operator's license with the Texas Railroad Commission. Weston established the P5 operating company in Texas as CEO. His conservative pro-business,



free-market approach has proven successful. Weston and wife Geneva have five beautiful children. The Martinez family reside in San Antonio.

### Victor Avila—Candidate for Texas Land Commissioner

Victor Avila is a retired Supervisory Special Agent with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations, 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 for his exemplary service and profession accomplishment while serving as Special Agent at the El Paso Field Office and as an Assistant Attache assigned to the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez and U.S. Embassies located in Spain Portugal, and Mexico City.

Mr. Avila conducted international com-

plex 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 Secu-

rity Investigations including several Law Enforcement awards. Mr. Avila began his very successful law enforcement career as a United States Probation Officer for the U.S. Courts and as a District Officer for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Avila holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at El Paso.



Mr. Avila's book Agent Under Fire may be purchased at amazon.com, from the University of Texas.com, Barnes & Noble.com; and libertyhillpublishing.com.

### Sanctity of Life Chair - Mark Russo

RCRHC's Sanctity of Life event on Saturday May 14th will truly be a special night that makes a difference in our community. We are excited to announce the night is coming together nicely. First, National Motivational Speaker and Heath resident Philip Hatfield will be our Master of Ceremony and Adryana Aldeen has agreed to be our keynote speaker. We will also be honoring individuals from our community with awards.

RCRHC 1st Annual Sanctity of Life with Reverend Cruz was a special occasion. This year, we, again, plan to support a Pregnancy Center and make a difference with unplanned

pregnancies.

We are pleased that the Committees have remained in-tact. As a matter of fact, we have added individuals to help with this very important cause. We are honored that Shari London has agreed to be Vice-Chair and Frances White is Sanctity of Life Silent Auction Chair. Betsy Gallagher is RCRHC Sanctity of Life Advisor as well as RCRHC Vice President. Betsy has also taken on a very important role in the Rockwall Republican Party Co-Chair of the "*Reagan on the Ranch Gala*" with Alma McClintock.

RCRHC remains committed to help

women with unplanned pregnancies. It is an honor to be involved with Sanctity of Life. We hope you will join us with our efforts.

RCRHC in 2022 will be an exciting year with our focus on Sanctity of Life as one of our Priorities. We look forward to seeing you at the 2nd Annual Sanctity of Life Event. Please **Save The Date—May 14th, 6:30 p.m.**



at The Center in Rockwall, Texas. The event will include dinner and a meaningful occasion.

### Ben Armenta —Candidate for Texas Land Commissioner

Ben grew up in Round Rock, Texas. After graduating from Westwood High School in 1997, Ben went on to Texas A&M to study Education. While at A&M he served in the Corps of Cadets and as Freshman Class President and Student Body Vice President. During this time Ben met and married his wife, Kristi.

After spending a few years residing in Cincinnati, Ohio; Ben and Kristi

returned to Houston in 2006. During his time, Ben started his career in business consulting with Accenture, where he has advised some of the largest companies in the world on efficiency and effective management, reducing waste, and realizing untapped value for their employees and customers. In 2015, Ben accepted a position as Houston Managing Principal for Credera, a leading innovative firm.

Today, Ben and Kristi have been married for 21 years and now reside in

Katy, Texas where they attend St. Faustina Catholic Church with their 2 children, Lilly and Jack. They also enjoy spending time with their 2 dogs, Penny and Holly.



### Don Minton—Candidate for Texas Land Commissioner

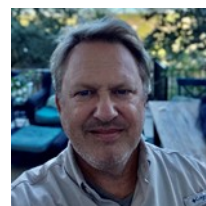
After graduating Valedictorian from Vidor High School, Don Minton received an appointment to West Point where he received his Bachelor of Science and was commissioned in the U.S. Army. Mr. Minton met his wife, Lourdes Villa, while stationed in Fort Bliss.

In 1993, Minton attended Law School at the University of Texas in Austin where he graduated with honors in 1996 with a JD. Upon graduation, Don passed the Texas and California bar exams. In 2000, he founded The Minton Law Firm in El Paso. The Minton's welcomed, son, Luke and daughter Claire in El Paso.

In 2003, Don Minton was appointed Associate Judge for the West Texas Counties of El Paso, Culberson and Hudspeth. In 2007, Minton was appointed by Governor Rick Perry as Judge of Criminal District Court No. 1 for El Paso County with primary jurisdiction for all state felony drug cases in the El Paso region, including border crossing with Juarez, Mexico.

In 2009, Don returned to private practice. In 2015, Don served as Sr. Assistant City Attorney for the City of El Paso. Don was responsible for providing legal advice to the Chief Financial Officer, Comptroller, and Director of Management & Budget. Don served as in-house bond counsel

During his time with the City of El Paso, Don secured his Master of Business Administration (with honors) through the University of El Paso in management. In 2016 Don was Director of Client Service at Automated Date Processing. In 2018, Don with friend, Country Music Artist Clay Walker joined All American Lithium as Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel. Don was instrumental in negotia-



tions to create a joint venture with Occidental Petroleum created TerraLithium. Don and Lourdes reside in El Paso and Galveston.



# ROCKWALL COUNTY HISPANIC Republicans

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### RCRHC PLAYLIST:

- “Mambo No. 8” Perez Prado
- “Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White” - Perez Prado
- “I Never Promised You A Rose Garden” Lynn Anderson
- “Wake up Everybody” Harold Melvin and The Blue Notes
- “Galveston”, Glenn Campbell
- “When the Lovelight Starts Shining” The Supremes

### BOOKS:

- Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes

### MOVIES:

- “Hangover” Alfred Hitchcock—A man (Tony Randall) drinking causes blackouts during which he ... *Watch to get the rest of the story.*

*“The person who agrees with you 80 percent of the time is a friend and an ally—not a 20 percent traitor.” Ronald Reagan*



1st Row: Victor Carrillo, Congressman Gohmert, Justice Guzman, Edna Sullivan, Betsy Gallagher; Moderators Joel Medina, Clarence, Victor  
2nd: Victor, Doug, Edna, Clarence, Betsy, Congressman Gohmert, Donna  
3rd: Justice Guzman; Congressman Gohmert; Congressman Pat Fallon  
4th Row: Victor Carrillo, Donna Rolater; Timers Frances White, Patti Muggeo, Pam Benedetto

### GOP Announcements:

**Royse City Republicans, February 1, 2022** Royse City—City Hall at 6:30 Meet & Greet; 7:00 Guest Speaker Greg Abbott for Texas Campaign Precinct Convention Training

**Republican Party of Rockwall Candidate Forum** February 1st & 10th Liberty Hall County Courthouse, 6:30 p.m.

**Republican Party of Rockwall — February 2, 2022**—GOP Lunch Bunch, Luigi’s, 11:45 a.m. 2002 S. Goliad, Rockwall

**Rockwall County Republican Hispanic Club - General Meeting February 5, 2022; The Center at 108 E. Washington Rockwall, Candidates for Texas Land Commissioner**—8:30 a.m. Texas Senator Dawn Buckingham, Weston Martinez, Victor Avila, Don Minton, and Ben Armenta

**Rockwall County Republican Men’s Club February 12, 2022** 8:00 a.m. The Center, 108 E. Washington, Rockwall, TX

**Rockwall County Republican Women Happy Hour, February 15, 2022** 6:00 p.m. Dodie’s Cajun Diner at The

Harbor, 2067 Summer Lee Dr. Rockwall.

**Royse City Republicans, February 22, 2022** Royse City—City Hall at 6:30 Meet and Greet; 7:00 meeting, Guest Speaker, Chad Prather

**Rockwall County Republican Party “Reagan on the Ranch” February 26, 2022** 4:30 p.m. VIP; 5:00 p.m. Registration, 7:00 Program 10350 State Hwy 205, Lavon.

**RCRW Sparkle for Scholarships RCRW Fundraiser**, Order by February 3, 2022 [www://touchstonecrystal.com/](http://www://touchstonecrystal.com/)