Bastrop County Republican Party

March 15, 2019

Hello everyone,

This is our first full newsletter of this term and we are excited to share a variety of news and events with you.

We have an active few months coming up for the party. First off is our March Monthly Meeting then our Spring Fundraiser, and finally participation in various community events. In addition there are several local City and ISD elections. Please check our [website](http://www.bastropcountygop.org) for more information on the various events we will be participating in and election information.

Finally, we have booked Lt. Col. Allen West as our Keynote Speaker for the 3rd Annual Boots and Barbecue Fundraiser. It will be held September 7th at the Bastrop Convention Center. Look for more information on our website.

Sincerely,

Dianna Greenwood

Chairman

**STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:**

[**HB 1177 – Constitutional Carry During Disasters**](https://www.legiscan.com/TX/bill/HB1177/2019)

* **Currently Pending in Committee**
* **Companion Bill is SB506**
* We already have this provision for long guns (all the time, not just disasters), but it's missing for handguns
* It applies to lawful gun owners -- not to those who are prohibited by state or federal law from possessing a firearm
* Being required to leave your gun in your home or your car creates an unsafe situation....you lose ability to protect yourself and others and leave more guns available for looters or burglars to get ahold of and use for bad purposes

[HB 3 – The Texas Plan](https://www.legiscan.com/TX/bill/HB3/2019)

* Adds $9 Billon in Funding
* Raises Basic Allotment from $5140 to $6030 per student
* Provides Property Tax Reform
* Introduced in House on 3/5/2019 and is scheduled for public hearings on 3/12/2019

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:**

[**H.R. 1 For the People Act of 2019**](https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/1)

* **Strips states of the power to run their own elections, a power granted in the Constitution.** There are over 30 new mandates in H.R. 1's election administration section - requirements that would override existing state laws. Among them:
* Automatic voter registration, including using many colleges and universities as voter registration agencies and registering 16- and 17-year-olds.
* Fifteen days of early voting, including minimum hours and requirements for locations.
* Automatically restoring the right of felons to vote after release from prison.
* No-excuse absentee/mail voting with signature comparison verification available to all voters.
* Provisional ballots cast outside a voter’s precinct must be counted.
* Congressional redistricting done by an independent redistricting commission.

**H.R. 1 expands opportunities for voter fraud.**

* Makes it nearly impossible for states to maintain the accuracy of voting lists by removing the names of voters who are ineligible by reason of death or change of address (as mandated under current law).
* Abolishes voter ID laws, and only requires a signature in the polling place to vote.
* Mandates online voter registration without protections to verify the eligibility of the voter.
* Mandates same day registration during early voting and on Election Day.

H.R. 630 Cost Estimates Improvement Act

* Introduced by TX Congressman Cloud (27th District)
* Requires CBO and Joint Committee on Taxation to provide the costs of servicing the public debt.
	+ Produces cost estimates of legislations
	+ List any duplicative activities covered by a bill.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

March Monthly meeting:

Our next meeting March 25th from 7-9 pm.  We will be meeting in the upstairs room of First National Bank Headquarters on Hwy 71 Bastrop.

Our featured speaker is Alice Trip a lobbyist with Texas State Rifle Association. She will be giving a presentation followed by a question and answer session. Light Refreshments will be served.

**April 13, 2019 – Spring Fundraiser**.

This is a free will donation event with hamburgers and hot dogs being served. We will be at Fisherman’s Park in Bastrop from 10 am to 2pm so stop on by and mingle with some of your elected officials. For more information please visit our website.

**April 16, 2019 – Bastrop Votes Forums for City Council Place 1 and 5**. It will be held at Bastrop City Hall from 6 – 7:30 pm. Come out and hear what your candidates for City Council Have to say.

**April 16, 2019 – Smithville Candidate Forum for City Council.** It will be held at the Smithville Recreation Center from 6:30 – 8:30pm

**INTERESTING ARTICLES:**

[Democrats who too Trump’s money in the past looking to topple him now.](https://www.politico.com/story/2019/03/05/2020-presidential-dems-trump-money-1202938)

[Climate Change – Some Republicans Joining the Hoax](https://www.yahoo.com/news/republicans-couldn-apos-t-beat-090000140.html)

[Senate Majority Leader Willing to Use Nuclear Option to Seat more Trump Judges](https://www.yahoo.com/news/republicans-couldn-apos-t-beat-090000140.html)

**Miscellaneous Items**

We have BCRP Shirts with our logo on it for a $25.00 dollar donation.

The Bastrop County Young Republicans currently have a food drive going on and have collected approximately 100 bags of food for the Bastrop County Food Bank as well as food for our animal shelter. If you’re interested in donating food please contact them at bcyr1234@gmail.com

**MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION**

**May 4, 2019 Municipal Elections -** Some important dates to remember:

1. *Thursday, April 4, 2019* - Last Day to Register to Vote
2. *Monday, April 22, 2019* - First Day of Early Voting By Personal Appearance
3. *Tuesday, April 23, 2019* - Last Day to Apply for Ballot by Mail (Received, not Postmarked)
4. *Tuesday, April 30, 2019* - Last Day of Early Voting By Personal Appearance
5. *Saturday, May 4, 2019* (election day) at 7:00 p.m. - Last day to Receive Ballot by Mail

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We need volunteers for our Spring Fundraiser on April 13th. If you’re interested, please contact us at bastropctyrepublicans@gmail.com.

FOUNDER’S QUOTE:

“Frugality is a great revenue, besides curing us of vanities, levities, and fopperies, which are real antidotes to all great, manly, and warlike virtues.” *John Adams Thoughts on Government (1776)*