

We are resolute in our views

Let's face it, some of the news from the past few weeks has been pretty crummy, including the Uvalde school shooting, the Jan. 6 hearings and the GOP platform in general. Many of us still need time to process our feelings.

At some point, though, the time for negative feelings passes, and the need to take concrete action takes its place. The Kendall County Democratic Party is resolute in our determination to change the status quo here in Texas.

The only thing that changes that status quo is your involvement now and your vote this November to elect new leadership. We cannot turn Texas blue without your votes.

In the November 2020 general election, a record number of Kendall County Democrats cast their votes for President Joe Biden. KCDP, in cooperation with our local club, the Boerne Area Democrats, is broadening our footprint of Democrats and the Democratic Party locally.

Democrats nationally have made great progress in President Biden's first year in office. Upon his inauguration, the president immediately rejoined the Paris Climate Accord, and last November he signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which will bring a \$35 billion investment into Texas.

KCDP will do absolutely everything we can to elect more Democrats so we can see more of these benefits here in our state. Democrats will not get elected to statewide offices without the votes in red counties like ours. Kendall and other rural counties are crucial to turning Texas blue. We must



convince our neighbors that votes for Democrats make a difference here.

Among other issues, Democrats work to achieve goals important to local residents:

- **Public education:** Just as in most rural communities, Boerne ISD is the largest employer in Kendall County. The public school district, its employees, and its activities form a nucleus of community activity.

As a result, most rural residents are strongly against any form of vouchers, which siphon off funds from public schools. KCDP will work hard to educate voters that only Democratic candidates are committed to fully funding public education and paying teachers what they deserve.

Per Holly Hansen at The Texan News, in January the governor doubled-down on his commitment to getting vouchers passed next year, and KCDP will do everything in its power to get more Democrats elected to forestall this disaster to public school funding.

- **Infrastructure:** Everyone wants better roads and a reliable electrical grid, and Democratic candidates are committed to providing them. After the last Legislative session where nothing substantial was done to fix our tottering electrical grid, the governor and lieutenant governor raked in almost

\$6 million in campaign donations in just two weeks from the oil and gas industry, per The Texas Tribune. Texans deserve better.

- **Local control:** KCDP will educate voters about the importance of local control. Democratic candidates will work hard to make sure local officials have the tools they need to manage development in their cities and counties from here – not from Austin.

During the last Texas Legislative session, KCDP worked closely with Kendall County Commissioner Richard Elkins on a bipartisan effort to pass a bill that would give Kendall County more control to ensure responsible development in our rapidly growing area, and we will support similar efforts again next year.

Unfortunately, despite considerable testimony in support of the bill, it never made it out of committee.

In this perilous time in the world, our country and especially our state, I'm asking each and every one of our volunteers sign up to help in the coming months so we can make sure to get out every single Democratic vote in Kendall County. We need volunteers to make phone calls, knock on doors, send text messages and write letters to the editor.

Working together, we can all make a difference. The time to get involved is now. For more information on how to elect new leadership this fall or how to get involved, call our office at 830-331-1243 or visit www.kcdems.us

Laura Bray is chair of the Kendall County Democratic Party.