



# VOTER

## Highlights

### **April**

- 12 Forum: RISD - CANCELED
- 26 Forum: City of Richardson City Council

### **May**

- 2 Early voting begins
- 7 Last day to apply for ballot by mail
- 10 Early voting ends
- 10 LWV-R Membership Annual Meeting**
- 14 Election Day
- 17 11:30-1:00pm Redistricting Forum

## **FROM THE BOARD**

The May 14<sup>th</sup> election is fast approaching. We hope that you have been or will be able to attend at least one of the forums through-out the city.

Our **VOTERS GUIDE** for the City Council election will be available by the end of the week and online soon thereafter. Copies will be mailed to our contributors and our members will be sent a link to access it on the League website. Paper copies will also be distributed to the Richardson library.

Volunteers are needed to help with our City Council Forum, April 26<sup>th</sup>. If you can help, email Ellen Steger at [voterservice@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvrichardson.org).

Mark your Calendar: LWV-R is cosponsoring a meeting on the topic of redistricting on May 17, 11:30-1:30 p.m. at the Center for Community Cooperation in Dallas. Keynote Speaker is Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair of the City of Dallas Redistricting Committee and former Provost of SMU. A flyer will be sent closer to the date. Lunch reservations will be available for \$10.00.

The Guide to Elected Officials has been updated with the representatives and senators who took office in January 2011. It is available in print and on our website at [www.lwvrichardson.org](http://www.lwvrichardson.org).

Save the date! LWV-Texas Summer Seminars. June 4<sup>th</sup> in Montgomery County, June 25<sup>th</sup> in Irving and July 9<sup>th</sup> in Austin. For more details visit [www.lwvtexas.org](http://www.lwvtexas.org).

Please plan to attend our Annual meeting which will be held May 10<sup>th</sup>. Details to follow soon.

## VOTER SERVICE

### Ellen Steger and Jean Richards

**Richardson ISD Board of Trustees Forum Cancelled** ..... <http://www.risd.org>

Richardson Independent School District voters elect seven (7) board members to serve three-year staggered terms, ensuring that board membership includes experienced members. All seven are elected at-large and serve without compensation. Service on the board is voluntary and members must complete extensive orientation as well as continued training throughout their terms.

The Board of Trustees has the executive power and duty to govern and oversee the management of RISD. Acting as a collective body, the Board sets the direction for the school district. Some of the Board's general responsibilities include:

- Setting district policies and supporting administrators and teachers in the execution of those policies.
- Employing and evaluating the superintendent.
- Adopting the annual budget.
- Levying/collecting taxes and issuing bonds.
- Performing specific duties imposed by the state.

Place 6 and Place 7 seats are uncontested in the May 14, 2011, election. Candidates filing for those positions:

<u>Place 6</u>	<u>Place 7</u>
Kim Quirk	Karen Ellis

The 2011 Richardson ISD Board of Trustees who remain on the board:

<u>Place 1</u>	<u>Place 2</u>	<u>Place 3</u>	<u>Place 4</u>	<u>Place 5</u>
Luke Davis	Kim Caston	Kris Oliver	Lanet Greenhaw	Karen Holburn

There are no contested races; therefore, there is no election.



**Richardson ISD Bond Election** ..... [www.risd.org](http://www.risd.org)

The Richardson ISD bond election will not appear on the ballot in Collin County.

The Richardson ISD Board of Trustees has called a bond election for May 14, 2011. If approved by voters, the general obligation bond proposal is \$170 million between 2011 and 2016 to fund infrastructure, capital improvements and equipment for RISD students, schools, facilities and programs. The proposed bond election would not increase the school tax rate.

Texas law provides school districts to pay for infrastructure and capital items associated with maintaining buildings and equipping schools and programs. Only items with an expected life in excess of one year may be paid for through a bond program. Bond funds cannot be used to pay for ongoing operating expenses, such as staff salaries or energy costs.

#### Ballot wording

Proposition: ~~The~~ issuance of \$170,000,000 school building bonds and the levying of a tax in payment thereof and to pay the costs of any credit agreements executed in connection therewith.+

Propuesta: ~~La~~ emisión de bonos para la construcción de escuelas por \$170,000,000 y la imposición de un impuesto para su cancelación y para el pago de los costos de cualquier acuerdo de crédito firmado en relación con ellos.

**Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees** ..... [www.pisd.edu](http://www.pisd.edu)

Richardson voters living in Collin County will vote for Plano ISD Board of Trustees.

The Plano ISD Board of Trustees consists of seven members elected to serve, without compensation, for overlapping terms of three years each. Elections are conducted annually in May. While candidates run for specific places, they do not represent specific geographical areas; rather, each represents Plano ISD at large. Following the annual election, the board elects a president, vice-president and secretary to serve for one-year terms.

The Board is charged with the responsibility of providing the finest educational program possible for the students in the district. School trustees make all final decisions regarding school district priorities, policies, personnel, textbooks, expenditures, and growth management. Trustees adopt a budget which is necessary to maintain and operate the schools, levy taxes to support the budget, and submit bond issues to the citizens of the district to finance construction projects.

Candidates on the ballot (in ballot order):

<u>Place 4</u>	<u>Place 5</u>
Paul P. Kaminsky	David S. Stolle
Steve Day	Bart Ridley
Michael Friedman	

The 2011 Plano ISD Board of Trustees who remain on the board:

<u>Place 1</u>	<u>Place 2</u>	<u>Place 3</u>	<u>Place 6</u>	<u>Place 7</u>
Tammy Richards	Carrolyn Moebius	Nancy Humphrey	Marilyn Hinton	Missy Bender



**Richardson City Council** ..... [www.cor.net](http://www.cor.net)

Voters approved a home rule charter in 1955 establishing a Council/Manager form of government. The Council/Manager form of government is the system of local government that combines the strong political leadership of elected officials in the form of a council, with the managerial experience of an appointed local government manager. A representative system of government is established where all power is concentrated in the elected council and where the council hires a professionally trained manager to oversee the delivery of public services.

Members of the City Council are elected for two-year terms on a nonpartisan basis. The Council is made up of seven members: one resident from each of the City's four quadrants and three others at large. All seven members are elected by the entire city. Once elected, council members choose the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem from among the elected members.

Council members are responsible for hiring the City Manager, appointing the City Attorney, City Secretary, Municipal Court Judges, City Health Officer and citizens to the City's boards and commissions. The Council is also responsible for passing City ordinances, planning for capital improvements, issuing and selling municipal bonds, purchasing and selling property, establishing City departments, determining City services, approving the annual budget, and setting the City's tax rate. The City Manager is responsible for the City's daily operations, hiring department heads, supervising the City personnel, directing and coordinating all municipal programs, enforcing all municipal laws and ordinances, and recommending an annual budget.

The following candidates will be on the May 14<sup>th</sup> ballot (*listed in ballot order*):

<u>Place 1</u>	<u>Place 2</u>	<u>Place 3</u>	<u>Place 4</u>
William Gordon	Mark Solomon	Scott Dunn	Laura Gibbs Maczka
Bob Townsend	John A. DeMattia		Karl Voigtsberger
 <u>Place 5</u>	 <u>Place 6</u>	 <u>Place 7</u>	
Kendal Hartley	Steve Mitchell	Diana Clawson	
Dennis Stewart		Amir Omar	
		Alan North	

## VOTER SERVICE

### **In-person early voting**

*at Richardson ISD Administration Building*

*at Richardson Civic Center*

May 2-7 8am - 5pm

May 8 1pm - 6pm

May 9-10 7am - 7pm

### **In-person early voting - RISD Mobile Voting**

May 3 4pm - 9pm

*at Richardson High School*

May 5 4pm - 9pm

*at JJ Pearce High School*

May 9 4pm . 9pm

*at L.V. Berkner High School*

May 10 4pm . 9pm  
*at Lake Highlands High School*

### **Election day voting**

May 14 7am . 7pm

*Vote in your precinct.*

#### Visit

Dallas County Elections Department

214-637-7937

[www.dalcoelections.org](http://www.dalcoelections.org)

- ✓ for a complete list of polling places
- ✓ to check your voter registration status  
to determine your precinct number



For complete election information, including

- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions
- ✓ links to other information sources

visit the League of Women Voters of Richardson website at [www.lwvrichardson.org](http://www.lwvrichardson.org)

*Follow the League of Women Voters of Richardson  
on Twitter*

*@LWVRichardson*





# **Richardson City Council Candidates Forum**

**Tuesday, April 26, 2011  
7:00pm**

**Richardson Civic Center  
Grand Hall  
411 W. Arapaho Road  
Richardson, TX 75080**

Do you have a question you want to ask the candidates at the forum?

E-mail it to [voterservice@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvrichardson.org)

Questions that are e-mailed are given the same consideration  
as questions submitted at the forum.

Questions will be screened according to  
*League of Women Voters of Texas Guide to Candidates Forums*

This forum is sponsored by:  
League of Women Voters of Richardson  
Richardson ISD Council of PTAs

**Visit [www.lwvrichardson.org](http://www.lwvrichardson.org) for election information.**



**Follow the League on Twitter @LWVRichardson**

Funded by the League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund through donations from  
Richardson area residents and businesses.

Richardson City Council Forums  
As of March 30, 2011

<p><b>Reservation and JJ Pearce HOA Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. <b>Wednesday, March 23</b> Mohawk Elementary School 1500 Mimosa Drive G. Scott Waddell, (972) 644-2053 <a href="mailto:president@jjphoa.com">president@jjphoa.com</a></p>	<p><b>Richardson Chamber of Commerce Council Candidate Forum (Lunch included)</b> 11:30 a.m. . 1 p.m. (Lunch 11:15 a.m./Forum 11:45 a.m.) <b>***PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED \$20***</b> <b>Tuesday, April 19</b> Holiday Inn 1655 N. Central Expressway Molly Ulmer, (972) 792-2811 <a href="mailto:molly@richardsonchamber.com">molly@richardsonchamber.com</a></p>
<p><b>Owens Park NA Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. <b>Tuesday, March 29</b> Richardson East Church of Christ 1504 E. Campbell Road John Wallberg, (469) 233-0793 <a href="mailto:johnwallberg@gmail.com">johnwallberg@gmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>American Muslim Alliance Council Candidate Forum</b> 6:30 p.m. <b>Thursday, April 21</b> Dallas Central Mosque . Multipurpose Hall 840 Abrams Road Jay Ghulam Jangda, (972) 897-2437 <a href="mailto:j@furn.net">j@furn.net</a></p>
<p><b>Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association and Neighborhood Protection Alliance of Richardson (NPAR) Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. (Reception 6:30 p.m.) <b>Tuesday, April 5</b> Math/Science/Technology Magnet School 450 Abrams Road Shelley McCall, (972) 234-5898 <a href="mailto:rickmccall@hotmail.com">rickmccall@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p><b>Mark Twain HOA Council Candidate Forum</b> 4 p.m. <b>Saturday, April 23</b> Mark Twain Elementary 1200 Larkspur Drive Julie Alexander, (972) 974-5036 <a href="mailto:mrsjuliealexander@sbcglobal.net">mrsjuliealexander@sbcglobal.net</a></p>
<p><b>Friends of Richardson Council Candidate Forum</b> 6 p.m. . 7:30 p.m. <b>Wednesday, April 6</b> Dallas Chinese Community Center 400 N. Greenville Ave., #12 Johnny Lee, (972) 713-8888 Ext. 111 <a href="mailto:jlee@jleecpa.com">jlee@jleecpa.com</a></p>	<p><b>League of Women Voters of Richardson Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. <b>Tuesday, April 26</b> Richardson Civic Center . Grand Hall 411 W. Arapaho Road Ellen Steger, (972) 470-0584 <a href="mailto:voterservice@lwvrichardson.org">voterservice@lwvrichardson.org</a></p>
<p><b>Turquoise Council Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. (Reception 6:30 p.m.) <b>Thursday, April 14</b> Turquoise Center 1416 E. Collins Blvd. Vepa Rejepov, (972) 375-8472 <a href="mailto:dallas@turkishhouse.org">dallas@turkishhouse.org</a></p>	<p><b>Dallas County North and Richardson Republican Women Council Candidate Forum</b> 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. <b>Wednesday, April 27</b> Canyon Creek Country Club 625 W. Lookout Drive Kerry Gaines (214) 675-1849 <a href="mailto:rrw1958@gmail.com">rrw1958@gmail.com</a></p>

The League of Women Voters of Plano/Collin County is sponsoring a free public forum to meet the candidates for Plano City Council and ISD on Saturday, April 9, 2011 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The forum will be held at Schimelpfenig Library at 5024 Custer Road, Plano 75023.

Session 1: 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. features invited Plano City Council candidates: Place 3--André Davidson, Cathy Fang; Place 5--Jim Duggan, Russel Head, Matt Lagos; Place 5-- Greg Myer, Pat Gallagher, Mark Greer.

Meet and Greet with all candidates takes place between 11:30 a.m. and 12 noon.

Session 2: 12:00 - 12:45 p.m. Plano ISD invited candidates are: Place 4--Paul Kaminsky, Michael Friedman, Steve Day; Place 5-- David Stolle, Bart Ridley

LWV P/CC Voters Guide will be available April 16, 2011, at [www.lwvcollin.org](http://www.lwvcollin.org)

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League NEVER supports or opposes any party or candidate.

Contact:

Janice Schieffer, [janice@schieffer.us](mailto:janice@schieffer.us)

Patty Jantho, [pnjantho@gmail.com](mailto:pnjantho@gmail.com)

[voterservice@lwvricharson.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvricharson.org)

## FINANCE DRIVE

### Jane Daboub

Rose Harp's name was drawn from our pledge cards to receive the big blue carry-all bag with the League logo and League of Women Voters of Richardson stitched on to the front. Rose was very pleased and surprised about winning the bag.



The finance drive is wrapping up. Thanks to the many League members who have pitched in we are on our way to raising enough money to carry out our mission for another year.

We are grateful to our diligent finance drive callers who've made all the difference. Without their important follow-up calls to finance drive letters, we would not be nearly as successful.

**They are: Louise Chandler, Ann Graeber, Linda Grigsby, Rose Harp, Susan Majors, Joan Pask, Barbara Presnall, Roxanne Rhinehart, Jean Richards, Martha Jean Schecter, Ellen Steger and Evan Thomas.** Thanks so much to each of you.

## PROGRAM OF EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

Margaret Duncan

### Now Is the Time!

The legislature is almost half over, and so far the \$27 billion budget crevasse is being filled almost exclusively with cuts in social services and public education. Just \$3.1 billion dollars have been allocated from the Rainy Day Fund to close the current biennium shortfall. Governor Perry's press release said "I remain steadfastly committed to protecting the remaining balance of the Rainy Day Fund and will not sign a 2012-2013 state budget that uses the Rainy Day Fund.

**Get Involved** Now is the time to let your elected officials know where you stand. Get involved. Call, visit, or email your representative. Call, visit, or email your senator. Call, email, or fax the governor. Let them know that you want the Rainy Day Fund used when and where it was meant to be used: to prevent the type of disaster that threatens Texas now.

**Join the Coalition** In addition to contacting state officials, join TexasForward, a coalition the League has joined to encourage our state legislators to use, among other alternatives, the Rainy Day Fund. TexasForward will hold a Save our State+day on Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>. Their goal is to get at least 10,000 Texans from around the state to go to Austin demanding a balanced approach to a balanced budget. They will have buses coming from twenty communities and a full day of activities planned for participants. For more details about Save Our State,+including a list of all activities and a link to register, visit their site [www.april62011.org](http://www.april62011.org).

**Go Online** Finally, the recent League Lobby Days panel discussion provided a series of concrete solutions to some of Texas' budget problems. For details, follow the link ([click here](#)) to a list of specific ways our elected Texas leadership can provide information to its citizens and make the budget process accountable. Promising budget bills, with a brief explanation of each, also are included.

**On March 30<sup>th</sup>**, a member education meeting was held at the home of Betsy Delgado. The program, "Reproductive Choice Issues", was led by Julie Lowenberg, LWV-Texas Program Chair. She updated us on the League position and discussed ways our members could have an impact on the bill before the current legislative session.

[program@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:program@lwvrichardson.org)

**CHIP**  
**(Children's Health Insurance Program)**  
**Martha Dorris**

We are busy and continue to have invitations to help families with health care. The following summarizes the latest activities:

Feb. 12, 2011— St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church: 3 volunteers trained  
Feb. 19, 2011— St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church: 9 families assisted  
Feb. 22, 2011— Mark Twain Elementary: 6 families assisted  
Feb. 24, 2011— Northlake Elementary: 13 families assisted  
March 5, 2011— Fiesta Stores, area wide: 569 families assisted (434 completed applications, 44 completed at the Spring Valley Store)  
March 24, 2011—Spring Valley Elementary: 8 families assisted  
March 29, 2011—Terrace Elementary: 4 families plus 3 providers assisted

We are invited to the following activities:

April 14—O'Henry Elementary, 6:30-8 pm  
April 21—Dover Elementary, 4:30-6:30 pm  
April 30—St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, 9 am to noon

Please consider volunteering at any of our events. You will enjoy meeting and helping the families access affordable health care for their children and get a real "feel" for the advocacy. One of the other important aspects of our advocacy involves constant vigilance at the state level for funding for this program. Now is the time to be calling our elected officials and registering our displeasure with the proposed budget. It is time to use the "rainy day" fund and to find other ways to increase revenue for services. The current cuts do not even allow for maintaining the status quo.

Thank you for your continued interest and support for this essential program. Please let me know if you would like to become more active.

[chip@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:chip@lwvrichardson.org)