



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®] OF RICHARDSON

Editor: Diana Lace

VOTER

Calendar	
DATE	EVENT
Oct. 4	Vice presidential debate
Oct. 5	LWV-R Board meeting – members welcome
Oct. 9	Second presidential debate
Oct. 11	Deadline to register to vote in Nov. election
Oct. 15	CHIP Help Session, St. Barnabas, 9am-noon
Oct. 19	Third presidential debate
Oct. 24	Early voting begins
Oct. 28	Last day to apply for ballot by mail

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jean Richards

I'm sure that every member of the League of Women Voters of Richardson is as proud as I am of the work that has been done this election season by Voter Service Vice President Ellen Steger. She has scheduled and staffed a large number of voter registration events and is working hard to keep our community informed about how to go about voting in the General Election.

In the pages that follow, Ellen has included a LOT of information. Please read through this issue of the VOTER, and be sure to share important information with family and friends. If you have any additional questions about voting that are not answered below, visit the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page of the official Texas online source for voting information.

As you get ready to vote, be sure to read up on ALL the candidates you'll be voting for. The LWV-R [website](#), is updated frequently. There, you can find links to personalized sample ballots and to [VOTE411.org](#), the national League of Women Voters site that compiles all LWV-produced Voters Guides. These sources allow you to see exactly which offices will be on your ballot when you go to vote, and to read candidates' answers to LWV-prepared questions on a wide variety of issues.

If you know someone who is worried about casting a vote in a particular race this year, or who doesn't think they know enough to vote in down-ballot races, please remind them that you are not required to vote in every race on the ballot. You can leave some races blank, and your other votes will still count.

Finally, please encourage everyone you know who is an eligible voter to register and vote this year. Let's do all we can to Make Democracy Work.

Liberty is calling!



Why is it important to vote?

- ✓ Your vote does count...but only if you vote. In the 2012 Presidential Election,
 - Dallas County had 1,182,432 registered voters, but only 60% voted.
 - Collin County had 462,102 registered voters, but only 65% voted.
- ✓ Learn the process and pass your knowledge on to others.
- ✓ Elections determine leaders and policies.
- ✓ Your life and the lives of your family members will be affected by who is elected.
- ✓ Democracy only works if we vote.
- ✓ Voting is power.

Answer with your vote!

Be an informed voter! The League of Women Voters of Dallas VOTERS GUIDE, which includes races in all of Dallas County, will be available in mid-October.

November 8, 2016, General Election *What's on my ballot?*

Did you know????!!!!????

Did you know that in the November 8, 2016, General Election, your ballot will allow you to vote for a President and Vice President from one of 4 national parties (Republican, Democratic, Libertarian, or Green) that appear on your ballot **or** you may write in one of 13 properly-file declared write-in candidates?

Write-in candidates

Write-in candidates are permitted in Texas general elections. The Texas Secretary of State's website outlines the procedures that must be followed in order for a candidate for [President](#) (bottom of page) or [other offices](#) to be certified as a "Declared Write-In Candidate."

Can I write in anyone's name?

No, you can only write in the name of a candidate who has been certified through the process outlined in the links above.

How do I write in a candidate's name?

For races in which there is at least one Declared Write-In Candidate, there will be a line on your ballot in which you can write a candidate's name. Be sure to follow the directions at the top of your ballot if you wish to write in the name of a candidate.

Where can I find a list of Declared Write-In Candidates?

The Texas Secretary of State's office has published a [list of properly-filed declared write-in candidates](#) for statewide and district offices (including President and Vice-President).

What else is on my ballot?

In the November 8, 2016, General Election, you may also be voting for US Representative, Railroad Commissioner, Supreme Court Justices, Court of Criminal Appeals Judges, State Representatives, 5th Court of Appeals Justices, District Judges, Criminal District Judges, Sherriff, and County Tax Assessor-Collector.

To view your personalized ballot:

Dallas County:

- Go to www.dallascountyvotes.org
- Click on "Voter Information"
- Click on "Voter Lookup and View Personal Sample Ballot"
- Fill in your (first/last name and birthdate) **or** Voter Unique Identification Number, then click on "Search"
- Click on "View Sample Ballot"

Collin County:

- All Richardson residents in Collin County will vote Ballot Style 17. [Click here](#) for a sample ballot.

November 8, 2016, General Election Early Voting In-Person – When and Where?

In-person Early Voting in Texas is October 24th through November 4th. Early Voting by personal appearance is conducted by your County Elections Department. All registered voters may vote in person during the Early Voting period. You may vote at any Early Voting location in your county (Dallas or Collin).

In anticipation of high voter turnout for the November 8, 2016, Presidential Election, both Collin County and Dallas County have increased the number of early voting polling locations. Dallas County has also lengthened the hours of early voting.

Dallas County



Hours of Early Voting In-Person in Dallas County	
October 24 – 28 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm
October 29 (Saturday)	7am – 7pm
October 30 (Sunday)	1pm – 6pm
October 31 – November 4 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm

The only In-Person Early Voting Location in the City of Richardson is at the Richardson Civic Center at 411 W Arapaho Road. However, during Early Voting, you may vote at any Early Voting Location in Dallas County.

For a complete list of **Dallas County** Early Voting locations, dates, and times, [click here](#).

Collin County



Hours of Early Voting In-Person in Collin County	
October 24 – 28 (Monday – Friday)	8am – 5pm
October 29 (Saturday)	7am – 7pm
October 30 (Sunday)	1pm – 6pm
October 31 – November 4 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm

For a complete list of **Collin County** Early Voting polling locations, dates and times, [click here](#).

November 8, 2016, General Election What kind of ID do I have to have to vote?



In-person Voting

On August 10, 2016, Texas Secretary of State Carlos H. Cascos announced that voters will have additional options to prove their identity when voting in-person (early or on Election Day) in the November 8, 2016, Election.

What kind of identification?

If you have one of the following government-issued photo IDs*, **use it.**

- ✓ Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- ✓ Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- ✓ Texas Personal Identification Card issued by DPS
- ✓ Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS
- ✓ U.S. Military Identification Card containing the person's photograph
- ✓ U.S. Citizenship Certificate containing the person's photograph **-OR-**
- ✓ U.S. Passport

**With the exception of the U.S. Citizenship Certificate, the approved photo ID must be current or have expired no more than four years before being presented for voter qualification at the polling place.*

Government documents which include a photo must be original and cannot be copies.

If you are not able to obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID listed above, on the day you go to vote in-person (early or on Election Day), you will vote a regular ballot **and** you will have to do the following 2 things:

1. sign a Reasonable Impediment Declaration, where you
 - a. note what the reasonable impediment is to obtaining an acceptable form of photo ID
 - b. state that you are the same person as the person in the supporting form of ID
2. provide one of the following forms of supporting documentation for identification:
 - a. certified birth certificate (must be an original)
 - b. valid voter registration certificate
 - c. copy or original of a current utility bill
 - d. copy or original of a bank statement
 - e. copy or original of a government check
 - f. copy or original of a paycheck **-OR-**
 - g. copy or original of any other government document that shows your name and address

Ballot By Mail (absentee voting)

No ID is needed if voting absentee (Ballot By Mail).

Registering Voters

Your League of Women Voters of Richardson has been active getting eligible Dallas County and Collin County residents registered to vote.

What are the requirements to be registered?

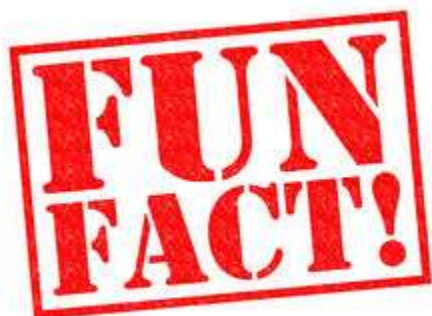
In order to register to vote, you must be

- a U.S. citizen.
- a resident of the Texas county in which application for registration is made.
- at least 18 years old on Election Day.
- Not finally convicted of a felony, or, if so convicted, must have (1) fully discharged the sentence, including any term of incarceration, parole, or supervision, or completed a period of probation ordered by any court; or (2) been pardoned or otherwise released from the resulting disability to vote; **and**
- Not determined by a final judgment of a court exercising probate jurisdiction to be (1) totally mentally incapacitated; or (2) partially mentally incapacitated without the right to vote.



The Richardson League sponsored 8 voter registration drives:

Location	# voters registered
Saint Barnabas Health Fair	32
Forestridge Elementary	11
Islamic Association of North Texas Women's Group	3
First United Methodist Church	4
Appletree Court	14
Lake Highlands Junior High	10
Richardson ISD football games	51
Dallas County Voter Registration Day	7
Total	132



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In the 2012 Presidential Election,

- there were 1,182,432 registered voters in Dallas County. As of September 29, 2016, there are 1,266,864 registered voters in Dallas County. **That's an increase of 84,432 registered voters in Dallas County!**
- There were 462,102 registered voters in Collin county. As of September 29, 2016, there are 526,700 registered voters in Collin County. **That's an increase of 64,598 registered voters in Collin County!**

CHIP | Children's Medicaid UPDATE

Martha Dorris

The RISD academic school year is off to a great start, as are we, with four families attending our first help session at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church on Sept. 17, 2016. We had the assistance of John Stack, Community Partner Navigator from Network of Community Ministries, who made appointments with all the families for the following week since the web site was not available for online applications. Also assisting were Susan Majors, Amelia Palmer, and Debbie Rowley, the latter two who volunteered after hearing about our CHIP efforts at the LWV-R ice cream social last month.

On Sept. 8 at Hamilton Park Pacesetter during a "CHIP and Salsa" session we described the insurance programs to a group of 9 families, one of whom completed the application online with the help of Diana Lopez from the Community Council of Greater Dallas. She was our Spanish speaking Outreach Specialist for the evening. Debbie Rowley and Martha Dorris distributed information and invitations to attend the Sept. 17 event.

On Oct. 15 we will cosponsor another help session at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church from 9 am until noon, and on Oct. 20 we will discuss the insurance programs with families at their picnic at O. Henry Elementary School from 5:30 to 7:30. Volunteers are always welcome.

The Health and Human Service Department has introduced a new web site and a modified application form that shortens the process. **On Nov. 12 John Stack will train all volunteers in using the new form and will in addition discuss disability Medicaid.** Please make plans to attend this very important meeting at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church and share the information with anyone who might be interested. St. Barnabas, is located at 1220 West Belt Line Road, Richardson, TX 75080 – the northeast corner of Belt Line Road and Mimosa Drive, adjacent to Richardson High School. We will have coffee and bagels at 9 am to get us started and plan to finish around 11 am. Thank you for your continued support for these programs that are important in helping our children become and stay healthy and our families to be able to afford the cost of medical care.

LWV-R Members

Have you paid your dues for 2016-17?

If not, please mail your check in.

Membership form is available [here](#).