



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS[®]
OF RICHARDSON**

Editor: Diana Lace

VOTER

Calendar	
Date	Event
Oct 3	TRE Public meeting; 7pm BHS Lecture Hall
Oct 5	LWV-Dallas TX House 114 Forum 7:30am
Oct 5	Social, 9am @ Promenade Conference Room
Oct 5	Charter Review Committee; 10am @ Promenade Conference Room
Oct 6	LWV-Collin County Forums; various times
Oct 8	Voter Registration @ UTD
Oct 9	Last day to register to vote in November Election
Oct 13	TRE Public meeting; 9am RISD Admin Bldg
Oct 19	LWV-Dallas DA & County Comm Forum 7:30am
Oct 20	CHIP Help Session @ St B
Oct 22- Nov 2	Early voting in person for Nov 6 Election
Oct 25	LWV-Dallas US House 32 Forum 7:30am
Oct 27-28	Huffhines Art Trails

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Ellen Steger

October is Voter Education month. LWV-Richardson Voter Service Vice President Jean Richards has been extremely busy holding voter registration events, a mock election, and preparing a Pro-Con Voters Guide for the Richardson ISD Tax Ratification Election (TRE). Many thanks, Jean, for all the work you've done to keep us informed.

Jessica Hook has gotten the City Charter Restudy Committee off to a good start. It's not too late to join us at the next meeting at 10am on Friday, October 5, following a 9am social hour in the Promenade Tower Floor "B" Conference Room.

Don't miss out on the fun! Come join us at one of our many socials, restudy meetings, or CHIP volunteer opportunities! And...see you at the polls!

**Since March 2018, Texas has added 400,000 registered voters.
LWV-Richardson is doing its part!**

Voter Service Report

By Jean Richards

It's October and the Midterm Election is finally upon us. The registration deadline to vote in the November 6 election is October 9th, and Early Voting begins on October 22nd. In just over a month, we will all know the results of this highly anticipated election.

How can I register before October 9th?

Our League has members who are Volunteer Deputy Registrars (VDRs) for both Dallas and Collin Counties. A VDR uses a special application form. Once it's filled out and signed, the applicant is registered to vote and has a receipt he or she can show at the polls to prove that fact. To contact a VDR or to get one of the applications listed below, email voterservice@lwvrichardson.org.

In our office, we have mail-in applications for Dallas and Collin Counties, as well as generic mail-in applications that can be used for other Texas counties, or you can [print an application](#).

We have a limited number of applications to vote by mail, or you can [print one](#). To be eligible to vote by mail in Texas, you must be 65 years or older; be disabled; be out of the county on election day and during the period for early voting by personal appearance; or be confined in jail, but otherwise eligible. The deadline to apply for a ballot by mail is October 26th.

So, what will be on my ballot?

Well, that depends on where you live. All voters in Richardson will be voting on the following races:

- United States Senator
- United States Representative
- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Attorney General
- Comptroller of Public Accounts
- Commissioner of the General Land Office
- Commissioner of Agriculture
- Railroad Commissioner
- Justice, Supreme Court, Place 2
- Justice, Supreme Court, Place 4
- Justice, Supreme Court, Place 6
- Presiding Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 7
- Judge, Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 8
- Member, State Board of Education, District 12
- State Representative
- Chief Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 2
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 5
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 9
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 10
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 11
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 12
- Justice, 5th Court of Appeals District, Place 13

If you live in the Richardson Independent School District, you will be voting on the Tax Ratification Election (TRE) to raise school property taxes by 13 cents per \$100 valuation.

The RISD will hold 2 more public meetings at which members of the public may submit questions about the Tax Ratification Election:

- Oct. 3, 7 p.m. – Berkner HS – Lecture Hall
- Oct. 13, 9 a.m. – RISD Administration Building

If you live in Collin County, you will be voting on three bond propositions (none of which is expected to raise the county's property tax rate).

In addition, whether you live in Dallas or Collin County, you may be voting on:

- State Senator
- District Judges
- Criminal District Attorney
- County Judge
- Sheriff
- County Judges (Court at Law, Criminal, etc.)
- Constable
- District Clerk
- County Clerk
- County Commissioner
- Justice of the Peace

To view a sample ballot that shows only the races for YOUR precinct, go to the [Dallas County](#) Elections Department website and enter your information, or go to the [Collin County](#) Elections Department website and use the precinct number on your voter registration card to find your ballot.

Where can I find information on candidates and issues?

The League of Women Voters has a one-stop website where you can find *Voters Guide* content for the candidates and issues that will be on YOUR ballot.

Beginning next week, you can enter your address into the [VOTE411](#) website to view ONLY the races that will appear on your precinct's ballot. Then you can compare candidates' qualifications and answers to questions about the issues side-by-side to determine which candidates you want to vote for.

Also on [VOTE411](#) for this election is a Pro-Con *Voters Guide* about the Richardson ISD Tax Ratification Election (TRE). Produced by the League of Women Voters of Richardson, this *Voters Guide* provides some background information, then lists arguments made by both supporters and opponents of the TRE's passage.



When and where do I vote?

Early Voting In-Person

In-person Early Voting in Texas is October 22nd through November 2nd. 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 22 – 26 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm
October 27 (Saturday)	7am – 7pm
October 28 (Sunday)	1pm – 6pm
October 29 – November 2 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm

The only Dallas County In-Person Early Voting location in the City of Richardson is at the Richardson Civic Center at 411 W Arapaho Road. Other voting locations in the Richardson ISD include

- Fretz Park Library; 6990 Belt Line Road, Dallas 74254
- Richland College Main Campus (Guadalupe (G) Building); 12800 Abrams Road, Dallas 75243
- Bethany Lutheran Church; 10101 Walnut Hill Lane, Dallas 75238

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](#).

Hours of Early Voting In-Person in Collin County	
October 22 – 26 (Monday – Friday)	8am – 5pm
October 27 (Saturday)	7am – 7pm
October 28 (Sunday)	1pm – 6pm
October 29 – November 2 (Monday – Friday)	7am – 7pm

Collin County



The only Collin County In-Person Early Voting location in the City of Richardson is at Methodist Richardson Medical Center, 2831 E President George Bush Freeway. During Early Voting, you may vote at any Early Voting location in Collin County.

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

Election Day Voting

Dallas County



If you live in Dallas County and wish to vote on Election Day, November 6th, you must go to your local precinct polling place to vote.

To find your local precinct polling place, type your information into the [Dallas County Elections Department](#) website.

Collin County



If you live in Collin County and wish to vote on Election Day, November 6th, you may vote at any county Election Day Vote Center. To view a list of these Vote Centers, visit the [Collin County Elections Department](#) website.

Will there be any League-sponsored candidate forums?

The League of Women Voters of Richardson and cosponsor RISD Council of PTAs had planned to hold two candidate forums, for Texas House Districts 102 and 112. We invited all candidates to attend these forums, but the two incumbents, Linda Koop and Angie Chen Button, declined our invitation despite our offer to try to reschedule at their convenience.

Over the last month, we have publicly urged both incumbents to reconsider their refusal to participate in a League-sponsored candidate forum prior to the November election. Unfortunately, neither candidate has indicated a willingness to participate.

We regret that we have to announce the cancellation of both planned forums. The League of Women Voters has a long history of conducting fair and balanced candidate forums, but this isn't about the League – it's about the voters. We want to provide a platform for voters to learn about the people who will be on their ballot.

Research conducted on voter behavior shows not only that the public expect candidates to participate in voter education activities, but also that voters are more likely to vote when they know who the candidates are and where they stand on the issues. When candidates choose not to participate, it's the voters who lose and our democracy that is harmed.

We hope that in future elections, all candidates will recognize the importance of their participation in League of Women Voters candidate forums and *Voters Guides*.

See pages 6 – 8 below for information on candidate forums sponsored by LWV-Collin and LWV-Dallas.



League of Women Voters Collin County

Candidate Forum

Saturday, October 6, 10:30–3:00

Location is Collin College Spring Creek Conference Room

2800 E Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano, TX 75074

Session 1 10:30-11:30 Debate*	US Representative, Dist. 3: Lorie Burch (D), Christopher Claytor (L), Van Taylor (R) TX Representative, Dist. 66: Sharon Hirsch (D), Matt Shaheen (R)
Session 2 11:45-12:45 Candidate Fair**	TX Senator, Dist. 8: Mark Phariss (D) TX Representative, Dist. 33: Laura Gunn (D) TX Representative, Dist. 67: Sarah Depew (D) TX Representative, Dist. 70: Julie Luton (D) TX Representative, Dist. 89: Ray Ash (D) State Board of Education, Dist. 12: Suzanne Smith (D)
Session 3 1:00-1:45 Debate*	County Commissioner, Pct. 4: Byron Bradford (D), Duncan Webb (R) District Clerk: Lynne Finley (R), Karmin Kirschner (D)
Session 4 2:00-2:45 Candidate Fair**	County Judge: Danyell Lanier (D) County Commissioner, Pct. 2: Tanner Do (D) County Commissioner, Pct. 3: David Azad (D) County Clerk: Stacey Kemp (R) Justice of the Peace, Pct. 3, PI 2: Ramona Brumfield (D)

*Debate: Two or more candidates for the same office respond to written audience question.

**Candidate Fair: Candidates talk informally with audience.

Forum is free and open to public
Find more information at LWVCollin.org/forums

League of Women Voters of Dallas Candidate Forums:



U.S. Congress Texas District 32
Thursday, October 25, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Featuring



Colin Allred



Pete Sessions

Moderator

Scott Orr

Chairman-Elect, North Texas Commission

At North Dallas Chamber of Commerce
10707 Preston Rd, Dallas, TX 75230
No charge to attend. Please RSVP at ndcc.org.

Co-hosted by





Texas House District 114
Friday, Oct. 5, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

Featuring Lisa Luby Ryan and John Turner
Moderator will be Ron Chapman, Ogletree Deakins

Dallas County Commissioner District 2
& Dallas County District Attorney
Friday, Oct. 19, 7:30 - 9:15 a.m.

Dallas County Commissioner District 2 at 7:30 a.m.

featuring Wini Cannon and J.J. Koch

Dallas County District Attorney at 8:15 a.m.

featuring John Cruzot and Faith Johnson

Moderator will be Lee Kleinman,
Dallas City Councilmember, District 11

At North Dallas Chamber of Commerce
10707 Preston Rd, Dallas, TX 75230
No charge to attend. Please RSVP at ndcc.org.

Co-hosted by



According to an article published in the Houston Chronicle on Thursday, September 27, 2018:



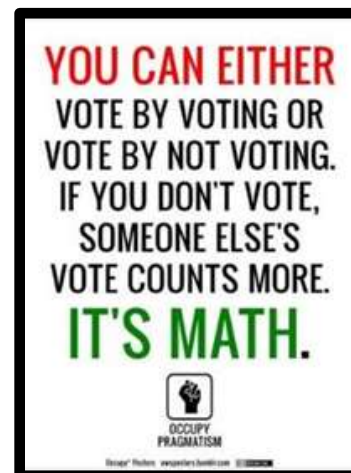
- The number of registered voters in Texas is at an all-time high: 15.6 million people.
 - This is a jump of 1.6 million registered voters since the last Texas midterm in 2014.
- From 2002 to 2014, Texas added, on average, just over 100,000 registered voters a year
 - Since March, 2018, Texas has added 400,000 registered voters.
- Since March, 2018, Texas' largest counties (Bexar, Harris, Dallas, and Tarrant), each saw their voter registrations grow about 2.4% on average.

LWV-Richardson Voter Registration Report

Volunteers from our League have been busy registering voters in the Richardson area. Not only did we register at the St. Barnabas Health Fair and Associa, Inc. last month, we have also registered voters at Lake Highlands High School and Richland College. In October, we will be registering voters at Berkner, J.J.Pearce, and Richardson High Schools, at the RISD Council of PTAs Candidate Meet and Greet event, and at the University of Texas at Dallas.

Many thanks to LWV-Richardson members Diana Lace, Ellen Steger, Keith Burgess, Jessica Hook, Nita Thomason, and Nancy Fisher. Thanks also to Volunteer Deputy Registrars who have helped us out: Pam Wren, Sarah Scott, Carol Stum, and Teri Brooks.

Pictured here is LWV-Richardson member Keith Burgess working at our Richland College event. We celebrated National Voter Registration Day on September 25th at Richland, along with a number of other organizations. The campus-wide total of registrations on that day was 254. The next day, we joined with organizations all across the Richland campus as part of the Student Government Association's Election Awareness Event. We have not yet learned the campus-wide total for that day, but we're sure lots of new voters were added to the rolls.





By Martha Dorris (CHIP@lwvrichardson.org)

As reported by Anne Dunkelberg of the Center for Public Policy Priorities (cPPP), the proposed Public Charge rule change has not yet been published in the Federal Register. However, the Trump administration released preliminary language Saturday, Sept. 22 for changes that would strongly bias legal immigration toward higher-income persons. It would raise new high barriers for prospective immigrants if they have lower incomes or have used government benefits like Medicaid, food stamps, or housing subsidies. If the government anticipates that an immigrant might need benefits in the future—like Medicare’s sliding scale “extra help” with prescription costs for seniors—an immigrant could also be denied legal permanent resident status (Green Card) for that reason. The new policy will create higher barriers for persons with a chronic illness or disability to gain legal status.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Justice is separately considering changing its rules to more closely monitor Green Card holders to make sure they have not hidden health status or financial conditions that cause them to need benefits within 5 years of getting their permanent resident status. This will have a dramatic effect on extending the number of Texans subject to the “fear factor” discouraging access to health care and food security programs. The preliminary document is about 470 pages long, therefore, I am relying on the cPPP specialists to analyze and summarize the information.

Please be alert for these changes when they occur and contact your elected officials, write letters to the Dallas Morning News, share this information. Private citizens are the best advocates for those who are unable to advocate for themselves.

We had five families attend the first application help session at St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church (St. B) on Sept. 15, all of whom had children that were eligible for benefits. The Community Council of Greater Dallas specialist completed 3 applications on-line and John Stack visited with 2 families and started their applications. Both plan to follow up with him when they have the documentation that they need to complete the process. The Boys and Girls Club (bgc) staff was quite helpful in providing access to their computers and colors and coloring sheets for the children. The bgc are now using the space that was previously the “Friendship Room” at St. B. where our sessions have routinely taken place. Susan Majors and I lent our “moral support” and provided information about some details of the programs. We have application help sessions planned for Oct. 20 and Nov. 10 at St. B.

On Sept. 27 we attended a PTA meeting and open house at Forest Lane Academy. It was very well attended. The Community Council of Greater Dallas specialist and I talked to an estimated 25 to 30 parents, providing information, flyers to the Oct. 20 application help session, and information about programs for the parents.

Thank all of you for your support and dedication to helping our families access affordable health care for their children. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to visit any of the events and meet our families. As always, your time and effort are welcome!



We will once again be a part of Huffhines Art Trails this year. As in recent years, League volunteers will man a table just off the north parking lot at Huffhines, where we will answer questions and distribute *Voters Guides* for the November election.

An email will be sent to members later this month asking for volunteers to work shifts over the weekend of October 27th and 28th.

For more information on Huffhines Art Trails, visit the city's [website](#).



Membership Minute By Nita Thomason



The League of Women Voters of Texas has

- 21 Local Leagues, of which LWV-Richardson is one
- 9 Leagues at Large
- About 2,380 members. Many thanks to the 20 people who have joined LWV-Richardson for 2018-2019!

City Charter Restudy Committee
Meeting Summary
By Jessica Hook, Chair

The City Charter Committee has resumed work, and we welcome anyone who may have an interest!



Our first order of business will be to review our current position. We plan to study one or two items at a time with the goal of updating the current position in time for the annual meeting in May, 2019.

The committee meets on the first Friday of the month at 10:00am in the Floor "B" Conference Room in Promenade Tower, 300 N. Coit Road immediately following our monthly first Friday social hour. You are welcome to join us for the social hour and/or the committee meeting.

If you would like more information, please send an email to charter-restudy@lwvrichardson.org

Please join us!

Friday, October 5, 2018
Promenade Tower Floor "B" Conference Room
300 N. Coit Road
Richardson, TX 75080

9am

**For socializing
& refreshments**

10am

City Charter Restudy Committee