



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF RICHARDSON**

Editor: Brenda Boston

# VOTER

<b>April, 2015</b>		
8	7pm	Local Program Planning Meeting; PM Realty Board Room in Promenade Tower, 300 N Coit in Richardson. All members are welcome.
9		Last day to register to vote in the May 9, 2015, election
9	6-7:30pm	Dover Elementary School Health Fair, 700 Dover Drive, R75080
11	various	Meet the candidates for Collin College and Plano ISD; Sponsored by LWV-Collin County; Christopher A. Parr Library, 6200 Windhaven Parkway, Plano, TX 75093; See flyer on page 4
14	7pm	Richardson Mayoral and City Council Forum sponsored by LWV-Richardson; Grand Hall, Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho in Richardson 75080; See flyer on page 3
18	9am-noon	Application help session; St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church, 1220 W. Belt Line Road, R75080
22	7pm	LWV-R Board Meeting; PM Realty Board Room in Promenade Tower, 300 N Coit in Richardson. All members are welcome.
24	7pm	“Global Gendercide and Women’s Empowerment for Sustainable Growth” lecture by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen; Edith O’Donnell Arts & Technology Lecture Hall at UT-Dallas, 800 W. Campbell road, R75080; Tickets: \$30
27-May 5		Early voting for May 9 election
30		Last day to apply for ballot by mail (received) for May 9 election
<b>May, 2015</b>		
9	7am-7pm	Joint Election - COR Mayor/City Council Election; RISD Board of Trustees Elections were cancelled since none of the places were contested.
11		Mothers’ Day
13		LWV-R Annual Meeting and dinner; PM Realty Board Room in Promenade Tower, 300 N Coit in Richardson. All members are welcome
25		Memorial Day

Our sympathies go to the family and friends of Sue Sloos, who passed away on March 17 after a long illness. Sue was a member of LWV-Richardson since 1968. A Sustainers Plaque in the LWV-Texas office recognizes Sue for her significant service to the Richardson League and the community.





Ellen Steger, *President*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

**It's election time!** Be an informed voter for the May 9, 2015 Joint Election.

On Tuesday, April 14, 7pm, in the Grand Hall of the Richardson Civic Center, your League of Women Voters of Richardson is sponsoring a forum for Richardson City Council candidates.

- Bob Townsend and Rick Wilder (*listed in ballot order*) are running for Place 1.
- Mabel Simpson and Claudia E. Tatum (*listed in ballot order*) are running for Place 4.

See the flyer on the next page for details about the forum.

On Saturday, April 11, at the Christopher A. Parr Library in Plano, the League of Women Voters of Collin County is sponsoring a Meet and Greet for candidates in Collin County elections. If you live in Richardson in Collin County, in addition to voting for Richardson City Council candidates, you will be voting for

- Collin County Community College Board of Trustees Places 7, 8, and 9
- Plano Independent School District Board of Trustees Places 4, 5, and 7

See the flyer on page 4 for details about the Meet and Greet.



We're still verifying election details with the Dallas and Collin County Election Departments, and will send out a special-edition VOTER with complete election information soon.



Your Richardson League is off to a good start with its Finance Drive. If you haven't contributed yet, please consider doing so. See page 8 in this newsletter.

A lot is happening in the area of Children's Health Insurance. Be informed! The League wants to ensure that state budget cuts do not undermine children's access to health care. Volunteer opportunities are coming up April 9 and 18. See page 9 for details.



Friday, April 24 at 7pm at UT-Dallas, is the "Global Gendercide and Women's Empowerment for Sustainable Growth" lecture by Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen. More information on pages 10-11.

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF RICHARDSON

# Richardson Mayoral and City Council Candidate Forum

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015  
7:00pm**

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

*Candidates are listed as they will appear on the ballot.*

**Place 1**

Bob Townsend  
Rick Wilder

**Place 2**

Mark J. Solomon\*

**Place 3**

Scott Dunn\*

**Place 4**

Claudia Tatum  
Mabel Simpson

**Place 5**

Paul Voelker\*

**Place 6**

Steve Mitchell\*

**Place 7, Mayor**

Laura Gibbs Maczka\*

\*Unopposed candidates will not participate in the question-and-answer part of the forum, but will be given the opportunity to make a closing statement.

Do you have a question you want the candidates to answer at the forum? Email it to [voterservice@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:voterservice@lwvrichardson.org)  
Questions that are emailed 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*

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.

The following press release has been distributed:



**For Immediate Release**

April 4, 2015

**Claudia Tatum declines to participate in LWV-Richardson's forum**

This election season, the League of Women Voters of Richardson has planned a forum for Richardson City Council candidates. The forum will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, 2015, in the Grand Hall of the Richardson Civic Center.

All candidates, whether in a contested race or not, were invited to attend. Only contested candidates, in Places 1 and 4, were invited to participate in the question-and-answer portion of the forum.

Claudia Tatum, a candidate for Place 4, has declined to participate in the forum. Her opponent, Mabel Simpson, has agreed to participate, but it is the League's long-standing policy that at least two candidates for a given office must be present to proceed with a forum for that office. Therefore, if Ms. Tatum does not agree to participate, Place 4 will not be included in the question-and-answer portion of the forum.

The Place 1 candidates (Bob Townsend and Rick Wilder, listed in ballot order) have both agreed to participate, and we will proceed with a question-and-answer session between those two candidates. All uncontested candidates, with the exception of Mayor Laura Maczka, have agreed to attend and give closing statements. Ms. Simpson will be asked to give a closing statement as well.

As an organization that seeks to educate the community it serves, the League of Women Voters expects candidates for office to participate in nonpartisan public forums. By declining to participate, candidates deny the community an opportunity to learn more about them and their positions on the issues.

We strongly urge Ms. Tatum to reconsider her decision not to appear. Voters should have an opportunity to question the candidates in this important race.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen Steger".

Ellen Steger, *President*  
*League of Women Voters of Richardson*

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972-470-0584 • [league@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:league@lwvrichardson.org) • [www.lwvrichardson.org](http://www.lwvrichardson.org) • Twitter: @LWVRichardson

## **Expected Richardson Mayoral Vacancy**

### Background

On April 2, 2015, Richardson Mayor Laura Maczka announced by way of a post on her Facebook page that she would decline the office of mayor following the May 9, 2015 election. The full text of her announcement read:

*There have been questions about my role as mayor for the City of Richardson for the next term. After much prayer and conversations with my family, I have made the decision that I will not serve as mayor for the 2015-2017 term and intend to submit a declination of such office at the city council meeting at which the election canvass will be conducted. My focus will be on my family, my health and professional career. I'm proud of what we as a community have accomplished. I am confident that Richardson will continue to be a successful community to live, work, play and invest.*

Because Ms. Maczka is the only candidate on the ballot for Place 7 (mayor), she will be elected to office.

### City of Richardson Response

The City of Richardson posted a news item on its [website](#) outlining the process that will be followed to fill the vacancy created if Ms. Maczka declines the office to which she is elected. This process is dictated by provisions of the City Charter.

The city web page referenced in the previous paragraph describes the somewhat complicated process thoroughly. As a result of this process, the newly-elected council members will have chosen one of their members to serve as mayor for 2015-2017 (which will leave a council seat vacant) and another member to serve as mayor pro tem for 2015-2017. City Council will then determine when to act to fill the vacant council seat.

### Richardson City Charter

[Article 3](#) of the Richardson City Charter governs the City Council.

Section 3.03 outlines the process for choosing the mayor pro tem.

Section 3.07 outlines the process to be followed in the event of vacancies on the council.

The full text of the City Charter is [here](#).

Please join us for an informative public forum

**Meet the Candidates**  
**Collin College**  
**Plano City Council & ISD**

Saturday, April 11, 2015

Christopher A. Parr Library  
6200 Windhaven Pkwy, Plano 75093

Candidates Invited:

<b>Session 1: Collin College</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.</b>
Place 7	Steve Cone, Mike Gould, Collin Kennedy, Jim Orr
Place 8	Dr. J. Robert Collins, Ken Roberts
<b>Meet &amp; Greet:</b>	<b>11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Session 2: Plano ISD</b>	<b>11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.</b>
Place 4	Michael Friedman, Sharon Hirsch, Yoram Solomon
Place 7	Missy Bender, Paul Kaminsky
<b>Meet &amp; Greet:</b>	<b>12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Session 2: Plano City</b>	<b>12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.</b>
Place 5	Ron Kelley, Matt Lagos, Mike Mansfield
Place 7	Tom Harrison, Jim McGee

Sponsored by:



**League of Women Voters of Collin County**

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

Voters Guides for Allen, Frisco, McKinney, Plano, Wylie and Collin  
College available on website and [www.VOTE411.org](http://www.VOTE411.org) **April 13, 2015**

**Local Program Planning Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2015**  
**7pm**  
**PM Realty Conference Room in Promenade Tower**

The League of Women Voters is best known by the public for its Voter Service activities, such as producing *Voters Guides* and candidate forums. However, another important part of the League's mission is 'Program'. Article IX, Section 2 of the LWV-R Bylaws states:

The program of LWV-R shall consist of:

- a. action to protect the right of every citizen to vote;
- b. those governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Local Program is the study and action on issues that can be addressed at the local government level. For LWV-R, that is the City of Richardson and the Richardson ISD. (For other local governmental districts, LWV-R can work with other Local Leagues in that district.)

Tuesday, April 8, 2015, is LWV-R's Local Program Planning Meeting, the first step in the 'program' process. At this member meeting, the local league reviews all their current local positions. LWV-R has 8 local positions. The members may recommend to keep as is, restudy, or drop current positions and may consider topics for new studies.

The changes to existing positions and proposals for new studies coming out of the Local Program Planning meeting are reviewed by the board at its next meeting, which will be April 22, 2015. The board discusses each new topic for study and designates each as either "recommended" or "non-recommended."

All **new** topics voted on by the members present at the Local Program Planning meeting are considered at the Annual Meeting.

Plan to attend! Be part of the process!



## *Finance Drive Is Underway!*

The 2015 Finance Drive is well underway. Letters went out at the beginning of March to past donors and prospective donors. Let us know if you did not get yours.



Join those who have already donated to LWV-Richardson's 2015 Finance Drive:

Nancy Barlow	William & Susan Frensley	Robert Nusser
Dr. Christopher Barnes	Michelle Funk	Kris & Libby Oliver
Ruth Boswell	Linda Grigsby	Donna Outhouse
Dr. Carolyn & Ramon Bukhair	Jack Grimes	Joan Pask
Bob & Kim Caston	Tony Harkleroad	Kim Quirk
Terri Chepregi	Liz Harling	Dr. Marilyn Rice
Art & Julia Cooper	Lyn Hurt	Richardson Environmental Action League
Ed Curran	Elaine Klobe	Debbie Smelko
Art & Jane Daboub	Bob & Jean Macy	George Skidmore
Martha Dorris	Tom & Susan Majors	Nancy Sullivan
Margaret Duncan	George & Dorthy McKearin	Bob & Ginger Tonne
Chuck & Ann Eisemann	Steve & Karen Mitchell	Jim & Gayla von Ehr
Jean Felsted	The Honorable Ray & Cynthia Noah	Nancy Wilson

There are two ways to donate:

- ✓ You may make a **tax-deductible** contribution to the **LWV-Texas Education Fund-Richardson**. LWV-Richardson may only use these funds for educational activities.
- ✓ You may make a contribution to **LWV-Richardson** for the local organization to use to support any League activity. These donations are not tax deductible.

Even better—donate to both!

Send your donations to LWV Richardson, 300 North Coit Rd., Suite 125. Richardson, TX 75080

*Questions???* Contact Diana Lace, Finance Drive Chairman at [finance@lwvrichardson.org](mailto:finance@lwvrichardson.org)





## ***Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)/Children's Medicaid***

by Martha Dorris

***Texas is planning its budget***, and there seems to be a desire from the leadership to reduce taxes before the budget is finalized which seems counter-productive to me. In the last LWV-TX legislative newsletter Grace Chimene, who is following Child Health Care, states that the League wants to ensure that the state budget cuts do not undermine children's access to health care. Therefore, ***please urge your state representatives and senators to plan accordingly.***

There are a number of bills of interest to advocates of Child Health Care which are summarized in the latest Legislative Newsletter (Vol. 23, No. 5), some of which we can support and some of which we are watching. Please refer to the Newsletter for details.

**HB 839** (Naishtat) SUPPORT has been referred to Public Health. It allows each child under 19 leaving a state facility to have presumptive eligibility to access and apply for a health care plan (CHIP or Medicaid) and identifies the benefits and services that child will need.

**HB 1339** (Gutierrez) SUPPORT has been referred to Insurance. It decreases the waiting period for CHIP.

**SB 847** (Rodriguez) SUPPORT would establish a no waiting period for CHIP in Health and Human Services Committee Expanding Medicaid and closing the Coverage Gap.

The following we can SUPPORT. All of these expand Medicaid and have been referred to either Appropriations or Health and Human Services: **HB 977** (Collier), **SB 423** (West), **HB 1138** (Israel), **SB 89** (Ellis), **HB 116** (Martinez Fischer). We also SUPPORT **HB 3445** (Coleman) which continues Medicaid eligibility for women for 6 months after a birth. This has been referred to Public Health. There are 7 other bills which we are watching.

***Meanwhile, we have been busy on the local level with the following activities:***

**March 21:** St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church application help session. 9 am to noon. Three families completed application forms. Martha Dorris (LWV-R), Gail Johnson (St. Luke's Lutheran Church), GeorgeAnn Dukes, Scott and Ginette Woolridge (St. Barnabas), and Brenda Santacruz [Community Council of Greater Dallas (CCGD)] volunteered for the morning. Brenda supplied us with information on a Get Kids Fit event that we arranged to distribute.

**March 25:** Northlake Elementary School Health Fair. Sandy Schwartz (St. Barnabas member), Martha Dorris (LWV-R), and Sylvia Bernal (Community Council of Greater Dallas) visited extensively with 7 families who took application forms and directions for completing them, all of whom had children eligible for the insurance. Another parent took information to her work.

**March 25:** Liberty Jr. High School Health Fair. Diana Lace (LWV-R) and Geovanna Prieto (Community Council of Greater Dallas) distributed information to about 8 families. They reported they had a busy and productive evening.

If your schedule permits and you are interested in helping or observing, ***we have the following opportunities scheduled:***

**April 9:** Dover Elementary School Health Fair, 6 to 7:30 pm, 700 Dover Drive, Richardson 75080.

**April 18:** St. Barnabas Presbyterian Church application help session, 9 am to noon, 1220 W. Belt Line Road, Richardson 75080.

***Thank you for your continued support for CHIP. The time and effort you spend toward this advocacy is always appreciated by the families who are doing their best to provide for their children.***



Jaya Lecture Series

*Nobel Laureate*

# AMARTYA SEN

*“Global Gendercide and  
Women’s Empowerment  
for Sustainable Growth”*



**Friday, April 24, 2015**

**7 pm, Edith O’Donnell Arts & Technology Lecture Hall**

The University of Texas at Dallas, 800 West Campbell Road, Richardson, TX

Tickets: \$30, Free with a UTDallas Comet ID

Amartya Sen is a highly acclaimed economist, writer and philosopher who was awarded the 1998 Nobel Prize for his contributions to welfare economics. Professor Sen was the first person to measure gendercide and has long championed education for girls and the economic empowerment of women – as both a moral right and a tool for development. Regarded as one of the world’s foremost thinkers, Sen was featured on Time Magazine’s list of “World’s 50 Most Influential People Who Matter” and was named the “Third Most Influential Thought Leader of 2014” by Gottlieb Duttweiler Institute. #AmartyaSenDFW

Presented by:



School of Economic,  
Political & Policy Sciences



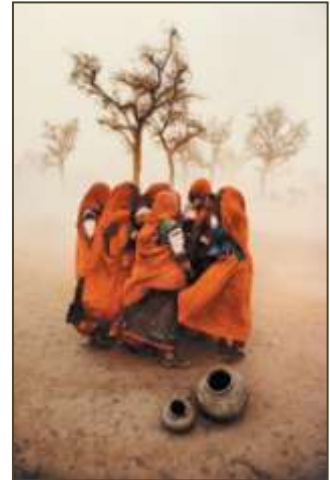
**Tickets & information at [utdallas.edu/asiacenter/jaya](http://utdallas.edu/asiacenter/jaya)**

Use Parking Garage 1, on Drive A. Visitors may park on the first level, white spaces. This is Pay-By-Space parking. Please visit [www.utdallas.edu/visitors](http://www.utdallas.edu/visitors) for directions, parking regulations and construction updates. For assistance call 972-883-2902 or Texas Relay Operator 1-800 RELAYTX. UT Dallas is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university.

## Articles by Amartya Sen

### [India's Women: The Mixed Truth](#)

This article begins with the infamous gang-rape that occurred a few years ago. He considers the prevalence of rape in India and evaluates recent legal reforms in prosecuting reported rapes and sex trafficking. He chastises the media for neglecting to cross class barriers to investigate sex trafficking. He moves on to a discussion of gendercide, the benefits of educating women, and the conundrum that highly educated women still prefer boys to girls. Sen examines sex ratios at birth in the various states of India, noting that a diagonal line divides the northwestern states with highly unnatural sex ratios from the south eastern states with sex ratios closer to normal.



### [More Than 100 Million Women Are Missing](#)

This is Sen's original 1990 article determining that more than 100 million women are missing.

## Interviews with Amartya Sen



### [Amartya Sen: A More Human Theory of Development](#)

This is an interview with Sen concerning the importance of his work, along with that of several others, in the UN Development Program's annual Human Development Report.

## Articles about gendercide

### [Gendercide: The war on baby girls](#)

"Killed, aborted or neglected, at least 100m girls have disappeared—and the number is rising" in *The Economist*, March 4, 2010.

### [Gendercide: The worldwide war on baby girls](#)

"Technology, declining fertility, and ancient prejudice are combining to unbalance societies" in *The Economist*, March 4, 2010.



# Famous Firsts by American Women

## Janet Yellen



**Born:** 13 August 1946  
**Birthplace:** Brooklyn, New York

In October, 2013, President Barack Obama nominated Janet Yellen to be head of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors.

She became its 9<sup>th</sup> Chair when she was sworn into office on February 3, 2014.

Yellen is the first woman to be Chair of the 5-member Federal Reserve Board.