

#### League of Women Voters Arlington Area

## VOTERS GUIDE

### Arlington, Texas ELECTION DAY: MAY 14, 2011

Early Voting: May 2—May 10

This Voters Guide is funded and published by the League of Women Voters—Arlington Area. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that works to promote political responsibility through active, informed participation of all citizens in their government. Neither the League nor the Education Fund supports or opposes any political party or candidate.

This Voters Guide lists all candidates in races in Arlington and the Arlington Independent School District, and includes responses to questionnaires sent to candidates in contested races. Candidate replies are printed without editing or verification. Candidates were given strict word limits. Replies exceeding the word limit are indicated by ellipsis (...). Candidates were also asked to avoid references to their opponents. Candidates with no photo failed to submit one.

This Voters Guide is organized by office, with candidates listed in the order they appear on the ballot. The names of unopposed candidates are also listed.

This Voters Guide is available on-line by visiting the Web site at www.LWVArlington-Tx.org.

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**You may bring this Voters Guide to the voting booth!** In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials in polling places, such as voters guides, was ruled unconstitutional.

#### **Qualifications for Voting**

- You must be a citizen of the United States.
- You must be at least 18 years old on the day of the election.
- You must be registered to vote.
- You may register to vote at any time. However, in order for you to vote in a particular election, your application for registration must be postmarked or received by the registrar at least 30 days before that election.
- You may not have been declared mentally incompetent by a court.
- You must not be on parole, probation, or in prison for a felony conviction.

#### Where to Vote

- <u>During Early Voting May 2-10</u> you may vote at any early voting location in Tarrant County.
- On Election Day May 14, you must vote in your precinct of residence. Your precinct is listed on your registration card, or you may find out where to vote by calling 817-831-8683 or going online with your county elections administrator: www.tarrantcounty.com/ evote.

#### Required I.D.

You need a Voter Registration Card or other proof of identification such as a driver's license or passport. Call 817-831-8683 or go online with your county elections administrator: www.tarrantcounty.com/evote for all types of acceptable ID. You do not have to have your Voter Registration Card to vote.

#### **HELPFUL WEBSITES:**

LWV of Arlington www.lwvarlington-tx.org 817-472-5982

League of Women Voters of Texas www.lwvtexas.org

League of Women Voters (U.S.) www.lwv.org

Texas Secretary of State www.sos.state.tx.us

#### EARLY VOTING FOR MAY 14, 2011 JOINT – GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS

#### EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE DAYS AND HOURS

May 2 - 6	Monday - Friday	8:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.
May 7	Saturday	7:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.
May 8	Sunday	11:00 a.m 4:00 p.m.
May 9 - 10	Monday - Tuesday	7:00 a.m 7:00 p.m.

#### **Locations open Full Days and Hours** MAIN EARLY VOTING SITE,

Tarrant County Elections Center 2700 Premier Street Fort Worth, Texas 76111 \*Emergency ballots available at this location only.

#### Arlington

Bob Duncan Center 2800 South Center Street Arlington, Texas 76014

Elzie Odom Recreation Center 1601 NE Green Oaks Boulevard Arlington, Texas 76006

Fire Training Center 5501 Ron McAndrew Drive Arlington, Texas 76013

#### South Service Center 1100 SW Green Oaks Boulevard

Arlington, Texas 76017

Tarrant County Sub-Courthouse in Arlington 700 E Abram Street

Arlington, Texas 76010

Mansfield

Mansfield Sub-Courthouse 1100 East Broad Street Mansfield, Texas 76063

#### Temporary Branch Early Voting Locations—Please Note Days and Hours of Voting

May 3-5 Tuesday-Thursday 8:00-5:00 Arlington

#### UTA

E.H. Hereford University Center 300 West 1st Street Arlington, Texas 76019

Dalworthington Gardens City Hall 2600 Roosevelt Drive DWG, Texas 76016

Pantego Town Hall 1614 South Bowen Road Pantego, Texas 76013

#### **EARLY VOTING BY MAIL**

TO RECEIVE A BALLOT APPLICATION OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL TARRANT COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATION: 817-831-8683

Applications for a ballot by mail must be submitted between March 15, 2011 and May 6, 2011 with one of the following requirements:

- 1. Age of voter is 65 or over on Election Day.
- 2. Voter is disabled.
  - For #1 or #2, the ballot must be mailed to the voter registration residence address/mailing address or to a hospital, nursing home/long-term care facility, retirement center or address of a relative. The relationship of the relative must be indicated.
- 3. Voter is confined in jail ballot must be mailed to the jail or address of a relative. The relationship of the relative must be indicated.
- 4. Voter expects to be out of the county on Election Day and during the regular hours for conducting early voting ballot must be mailed to an address outside the county.

Applications must be received at the following address NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2011

STEVE RABORN, EARLY VOTING CLERK PO BOX 961011 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76161-0011

FOR VOTERS WITH ONSET OF AN ILLNESS ON OR AFTER MAY 5, 2011, EMERGENCY BALLOT APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED NO LATER THAN 5 PM, ELECTION DAY, AT THE ELECTIONS CENTER, 2700 PREMIER STREET, FORT WORTH, TX 76111 (SEC. 102.001, TEXAS ELECTION CODE.)

#### **Arlington Independent School District Board of Trustees**

- Describe your personal experience and/or involvement with the public schools that qualify you as a school board candidate. Why did you decide to run for
  office this year? (50 word limit)
- 2. How should public schools respond to the issues of teenage sexuality, student pregnancy, and the need for child care for children of students? (70 words)
- 3. Do you support the use of public tax money through vouchers for private or home schooling or for charter schools? (50 words)
- 4. Since M&O taxes are capped at \$1.17 and Arlington is currently taxed at \$1.04, are you willing to increase tax rates to cover the budget shortfall? If so, how much? If not, what would you cut to address the budget shortfall? (70 words)
- 5. What are your top five objectives, if elected to the school board? (70 word limit)

#### PLACE 6 CANDIDATE

#### **BOWIE HOGG**

Unopposed.

#### PLACE 7 CANDIDATES

#### **BRIDGETT DAVIS** Web site:

**Answer 1:** As an educator for over twenty years, I gained knowledge and an understanding about managing school expenditures during my principal coursework and internship. My educational experience and community service (Workforce Diversity, Site-Based Decision Making, NAACP Education Chair, and Petition Drive) in Arlington allowed me the opportunity to embrace this position.

**Answer 2:** A public education is required by law for all students and it is the responsibility of the school district and community to provide educational alternatives to address sexuality and teen pregnancy. Venture is the only school in the district that embraces teen pregnancy by providing child care. Our community has an obligation to embrace these students with opportunities that will yield successful experiences to obtain their high school diploma.

**Answer 3:** I believe parents have a right to choose whatever educational endeavor they deem appropriate for their child's academic needs. Although my husband and I have had our daughters in private school, we totally support the opportunities public school offers and embrace the high standards of achievement afforded to our children.

**Answer 4:** As a community, we are obligated to collaborate and defeat this devastated budget crisis. My family is against raising taxes, but will do whatever it takes to provide a quality education for students. We will embrace a 13 cents TRF to cover any future shortfalls. If we refuse to attack this deficit problem now, it will flow into next year's budget cycle and the debt load will spin out of

**Answer 5:** I will monitor budget spending more closely and reduce the district's debt load. As an educator, I will advocate for the rights of students. I will offer suggestions on closing the achievement gap. I will hold administrators and teachers accountable and to higher standards to achieve academic success for all. I will work with city officials to create stronger community partnerships in mentorships/educational opportunities to embrace the student body.

#### **CRAIG FORSTER** Web site:



**Answer 1:** Exercising my civic duty and conscience, I decided to run this year in order to make a difference and impact in the lives of the children in our schools. My recent district committee memberships include: Financial Futures Committee, Bond Advisory Committee, Citizens Advisory Committee, Citizens for Arlington PAC, Treasurer.

**Answer 2:** When addressing the issues of teen sexuality, public schools should promote abstinence as the first choice, and direct talk of the consequences of unprotected sex. Pregnant students should have the choice of home tutoring, or an alternative school to meet their special needs. Child care for the children of students could be provided at little or no cost to the parents through state agencies, community grants, or local churches.

**Answer 3:** I do not support the use of public tax money for home schooling. I do support the use of public tax money for private, special needs schools, such as those providing for autistic children, or those with severe discipline or emotional disabilities. I do not support charter schools youchers.

**Answer 4:** I am willing to personally pay a higher school tax rate of \$1.17 in order to help cover the budget shortfall. Also, I am willing to call a Tax Ratification Election in order to give the citizens of Arlington an opportunity to decide themselves if a higher tax rate can help cover the shortfall. If the TRE should fail, I would not cut classroom instruction, only redundant administrator positions.

**Answer 5:** My top five objectives, if elected, include: encouraging more parental involvement in their child's school and classroom, giving the instructional staff the tools they need to do their jobs properly, insist on in-depth annual performance reviews for all district employees before contract renewals are offered, balance the M & O budget with every resource possible, and encourage mutual respect among all district stakeholders, the taxpayers, staff, parents, and students.

#### **Arlington Independent School District Board of Trustees (cont.)**

- Describe your personal experience and/or involvement with the public schools that qualify you as a school board candidate. Why did you decide to run for
  office this year? (50 word limit)
- 2. How should public schools respond to the issues of teenage sexuality, student pregnancy, and the need for child care for children of students? (70 words)
- 3. Do you support the use of public tax money through vouchers for private or home schooling or for charter schools? (50 words)
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- 5. What are your top five objectives, if elected to the school board? (70 word limit)

#### **TONY POMPA** Web site:

**Answer 1:** I have served on numerous PTA boards, the AISD Financial Futures Committee and on the Bond Election Committee in 2009. I want to make sure that despite the budget problems we are currently facing, we continue to deliver the highest quality education possible for all the children in Arlington.

**Answer 2:** I believe that the first place for these issues to be dealt with is in the home; however, a comprehensive sexuality education can be an effective tool in dealing with the issues of teenage pregnancy. While not glamorizing pregnancy, the district should allow pregnant girls to attend their regular schools for as long as they can to allow them the opportunity to graduate.

**Answer 3:** I support home schooling and private schools to provide families alternatives to traditional public education. I don't support vouchers for charter schools. They receive state funding from the FSP. I support some form of credit to families who choose private schools as long as this doesn't reduce public school funding.

**Answer 4:** I would like to see what the final state funding numbers will be and what our administration can do in terms of cutting spending. If even after all the severe cuts that have already been made, we still show a deficit, then I do support calling for a TRE and if we do, it only makes sense to go to \$1.17.

**Answer 5:** a.) Deliver the highest level of education and continue to increase the number of exemplary ranked schools in Arlington. b.) Operate the district more like a business driving performance improvement at all levels through the use of metrics that measure performance, efficiency and results c.) Review all district programs to determine effectiveness and ROI d.) Balance the budget e.) Encourage aggressively competitive teacher compensation while implementing strong performance measurements.

#### Mayor, City of Arlington

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
- 5. Do you believe Arlington's tree canopy is adequately protected? If not, how would you enhance safeguards? (50 words)
- 6. What other important issue(s) should council be prepared for in Arlington, and how would you address them? (100 word limit)

#### CARL SCRIVNER Web site: CelebrateAmericaVote.org



**Answer 1:** My financial and management skills include: UTA accounting graduate; IRS Enrolled Agent; and financial manager with 30 years experience. My community involvement includes: member of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce; the Kiwanis; the 2010 AISD Citizens Advisory-Financial Futures Committee; and the Tarrant Alliance for Responsible Government PAC.

**Answer 2:** Redistricting is required by law. The effect is to equate population to five districts. I do not see any negative effect. Council contact is achieved through individual appointment or town hall meetings. Also, neighborhood associations and home owner associations provide feedback to the council.

**Answer 3:** Arlington needs private modal transportation, a combination of automobile, taxi, bus and rail. The transportation is to be profitable and Arlington will receive a franchise fee for use of its roads and other city

facilities. Taxpayer money should not be thrown at something that nobody wants to use.

Answer 4: The interests of the gas drillers, the producers and the residents are similar, which are money. Constant monitoring of safety standards and the application of new knowledge for best practices are needed for all gas facilities. Safety is a primary concern. Answer 5: Ordinances which support new and "re" development provide for tree substitution which does not relate to a canopy. In more established neighborhoods, trees are older and larger. New development has new trees that will, with time, be larger. The tree canopy moves. A citizens committee is suggested to enhance safeguards.

**Answer 6:** Our long-term local government debt is \$2.4 Billion. Arlington budgets approximately \$14 million for interest each year on debt that is not related to essential city services or the stadium. This subject debt is for improvement projects which should be prioritized and completed as cash becomes available. With prioritization, debt can be eliminated. Debt is bad and very bad for the future of our children. Our children deserve a debt-free future. My supporters consider me the "No Debt" with "No Tax Increase" candidate for Arlington mayor.

#### **ROBERT CLUCK** No reply received.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 3**

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
- 5. Do you believe Arlington's tree canopy is adequately protected? If not, how would you enhance safeguards? (50 words)
- 6. What other important issue(s) should council be prepared for in Arlington, and how would you address them? (100 word limit)

#### **ZACK MAXWELL** No reply received.

#### MARVIN SUTTON Web site: ElectMarvinSutton.com



Answer 1: I'm a visionary with the intellect and due diligence to navigate through complex local issues and base my decisions on sound and effective solutions. As an air traffic controller, community crime watch coordinator, UTA honor graduate, and United States Air Force veteran, I possess the skills, commitment, and confidence.

Answer 2: Redistricting allows Arlington to effectively redistribute the workload in the larger single member.

**Answer 2:** Redistricting allows Arlington to effectively redistribute the workload in the larger single-member districts. The minority population now represents half of the Arlington population. This increase will allow minorities to determine the council members in certain districts. Therefore it may lead to an increase in the diversity in our local government.

**Answer 3:** I think Arlington should have mass transportation. The solution to this complex issue is to locate private investors who are willing to develop a targeted above ground rail system. This system will be limited to certain districts before being developed citywide.

**Answer 4:** Safety has to be our most important concern. I think we can effectively balance the rights of the industry while maintaining the safety of our citizens. The distance and pollutants are of a major concern for most of our residents. By increasing the distance to at least a 1000 feet and having a third party oversee monitoring equipment, we can ensure the safety of our citizen while minimizing undue hardship on the industry.

**Answer 5:** No, I don't believe the tree canopy is adequately protected. Arlington does have a tree ordinance that minimizes some of the problem. We should encourage developers to develop plans that are consistent with conserving a large portion of our tree canopies.

**Answer 6:** Council should be prepared to attract quality jobs to the area. Our local economy has declined and two years ago we lost National Semiconductor. Quality jobs would minimize and offset a lost in sales tax revenue and help maintain our property tax base. We can work closely with the Chamber of Commerce to develop a plan to lure quality companies to our great city. Our police force is understaffed for a city our size. By realigning, redistributing the work force equitably and adequately haring more officers, we can effectively provide the required level of response needed to service our city.

#### **ROBERT RIVERA** Web site: VoteRobertRivera.com

**Answer 1:** Since 1990 I've been an active Arlington volunteer serving in just about every sector of our community. The decades of efforts for an improved Arlington have resulted in 3 terms as Council Member with almost 70% of the vote in 2009.

**Answer 2:** Redistricting will even the population in each district which will balance the work load from the larger populated districts council members. Citizens will still have quality city service.

**Answer 3:** Light rail connected to DFW Airport, Downtown Fort Worth and Dallas would help our tourism efforts. Local, regional, state, and national funding opportunities could be explored.

**Answer 4:** Safety is the number one issue regarding drilling. The entire drilling process requires the cooperation of several. The city having a proactive hand in the entire drilling process to protect Arlington is vital.

**Answer 5:** Our trees are important and should be protected. Equally important is the need to plant new trees across Arlington, which is exemplified by our LEAF program..

**Answer 6:** A few of the most important issues facing Arlington are public safety, economic development, neighborhood quality of life. Supporting our public schools should also be a top priority for significant short and long term reasons. Our city council and entire community (faith based organizations, businesses, neighborhoods, and schools) focused collectively on all these issues will enhance our bright future.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 4**

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
- 5. Do you believe Arlington's tree canopy is adequately protected? If not, how would you enhance safeguards? (50 words)
- 6. What other important issue(s) should council be prepared for in Arlington, and how would you address them? (100 word limit)

#### **KATHRYN WILEMON** Web site:

**Answer 1:** I have represented District 4 for the past eight years, serve on many nonprofit boards and been involved in decision making policies that have helped grow and enhance the quality of life in Arlington.

**Answer 2:** Because of population growth Arlington will have increased state and possibly federal representation that will reflect the changing demographics of the city. On the local level of redrawing district lines the challenge will be to serve a larger more diversified population and equitably meet their needs.

**Answer 3:** Mobility challenges are increasing with traffic congestion. Moving more people in a timely convenient manner will become apparent with our population growth. We will strive to bring alternative modes of transportation and innovating financing solutions to the public for a decision

**Answer 4:** It is incumbent upon the council to protect private property rights of citizens who own their mineral rights and wish to access them. However, we must also be cognizant of health issues and future impact on land development.

**Answer 5:** We are aware of our tree canopy and the importance of it. We have policies in place to enhance and mitigate when necessary. I favor a timely review for continued protection

**Answer 6:** The issues facing future councils include: population growth, maintaining high quality core services, such as public safety, strong neighborhoods, clean safe water supply, good roads and helping grow the economy while keeping taxes low. Planning, prioritizing, partnerships and implementation are keys to progress.

#### **KELLY CANON** Web site:



**Answer 1:** I graduated from Texas A&M University, majoring in Environmental Design (Architecture), in 1982. As an interior designer and facilities space planner, I plan to bring 29 years of real-world experience in the building construction industry to the council, and I hope to play an integral part of Arlington's future.

**Answer 2:** Redistricting should have a positive effect on Arlington, as the ratio between each representative and their constituents is more proportional across all districts. Arlington currently gives each of its citizens the opportunity to vote at least five council members or a majority of the council.

**Answer 3:** Arlington should not have a mass-transit system, as evidenced in the results of the last three referendums on this issue. Opposition increased with each election. The voters have already have spoken. The TRE's recent cancellation of Sunday service is evidence that mass-transit in the DFW metroplex is significantly

under-utilized.

**Answer 4:** I think it's great that there is such a large natural energy resource right under our own lawns! I am for all property owners enjoying the economic benefits of their mineral rights for gas well drilling. I also feel that every consideration should be given to the safety and health well-being of our citizens. Ordinances should be uniformly implemented throughout the city, with respect to distance, noise levels and air-quality of the wells. Moreover, more attention should be paid to the aesthetics of each well, ensuring that they have a better street appeal over the next 25 years of operation.

**Answer 5:** I feel that the current tree canopy protection ordinances are adequate for Arlington.

**Answer 6:** I feel that the Thoroughfare and "Hike & Bike" plans currently being considered by the council are wrong for Arlington, as they are currently designed. The plans call for over 200 miles of our city streets to be downsized from 4 lanes to 2 lanes of traffic, so that a bicycle lane can be added to each direction. This will only foster a major safety hazard, mixing bicycles with motor vehicles, while also increasing vehicle congestion of our streets. The plans represent a back-door path to mass-transit, and I will vote against them if given the opportunity.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 5**

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
- 5. Do you believe Arlington's tree canopy is adequately protected? If not, how would you enhance safeguards? (50 words)
- 6. What other important issue(s) should council be prepared for in Arlington, and how would you address them? (100 word limit)

#### TERRY MEZA Web site: facebook.com/MezaForArlington



**Answer 1:** A fourth generation Texan and forty-year Arlington resident, I have degrees from UTA and TWU Law School. I've volunteered in the community over thirty years and have experience in building better neighborhoods and a better city as an executive director in economic development, historic preservation, neighborhood revitalization, and job creation.

**Answer 2:** A main priority is balancing districts by population with new lines drawn keeping in mind communities of interest. Twenty years ago, East Arlington advocated for single-member districts. The way the districts were drawn, the city still does not have fair and uniform geographic representation.

**Answer 3:** Voters demand to see the need and the economic benefit of transportation. We need to show that there will be a return on the investment. Rather than being a financial drain on the taxpayer, transit must demonstrate

that it will result in economic development, job creation, and environmental benefits.

**Answer 4:** The authority of municipal government is somewhat limited in passing ordinances regarding the gas well industry. Much of the authority belongs to the State. Within the city's authority is land use and zoning. The council should enact ordinances as strong as it possibly can to protect the health and safety of its residents, as well as protecting quality of life. Once the requirements are set for drillers and producers, exceptions to the rules should be extremely rare. TCEQ should monitor wells regularly, as frequently as weekly, which they're doing with the sites near UTA.

**Answer 5:** I spoke in favor of the tree ordinance representing the League of Women Voters when it was first enacted. The ordinance, as it is currently written, is not strong enough. By percentage, it still allows developers to remove most of the trees from a property. The standards need to change.

**Answer 6:** District 5 is Central Arlington, and as the original, historic part of Arlington, it has challenges different from other districts. It has parks, streets and neighborhoods facing neglect. As our city reaches build-out, our priorities should shift to revitalizing and caring for our aging infrastructure. The challenge facing Arlington is whether it can redevelop without sacrificing historic preservation and neighborhood stabilization. The economic crisis deepens problems in 76010, some of the worst in Tarrant County. Arlington is no longer a small town or suburb, and we need to face that we have some of the problems of a big city.

#### LANA WOLFF Web site:



**Answer 1:** Council District 5 representative since 2003 and Mayor Pro-Tem 2008-11. 16-years experience in local, state and national Economic Development arena; Downtown/University District management, marketing, and planning of new development and redevelopment initiatives. Major community leadership includes River Legacy Foundation; Arlington Jr. League; Tarrant County Youth Collaboration; Convention & Visitors Bureau. **Answer 2:** New district lines will be not be in place for this 2011 election. The 2012 municipal elections for Districts 1 and 2 will reflect the new boundaries. Districts 3, 4, and 5 will be phased in by the 2013 election. Growth in Districts 2, 3, and 5 is predicted.

**Answer 3:** Yes. It is essential to the viability of this community and that of the entire region. But what would it look like? Bring everybody to the table. Identify the objective; establish the operational and financial plan; and identify and collaborate with partners who could help us meet the objective.

Answer 4: Arlington is blessed to be within the boundaries of the Barnett Shale. Natural gas revenues have positively impacted the community. Efforts to drill and transport this important natural resource affect our citizens, businesses and visitors. I support legislative changes to grant local government additional authority and oversight over gas pipelines located within municipal boundaries. Arlington's newly revised local Gas Drilling Ordinances will address permitting processes, land use, safety and environmental issues. Inspections and ordinance compliance should fall to city staff, yet adequately funded by the gas drillers. A fair and balanced regulatory process must be adopted.

**Answer 5:** The Parks & Recreation Department implements the City's goal 'to preserve and enhance one of the community's most valuable natural assets – its municipal forest of trees on *public* property, including boulevards, parks and other city properties.' They have done a good job. The Tree Ordinance addresses *private* sector issues.

Answer 6: Constantly changing economic conditions affect City fiscal planning. Every budget item is considered relative to its priority. Setting priorities relative to the budget process will most likely be the most important issue. The last three City budgets were prepared and executed during a time of unprecedented financial uncertainty. Tough choices were made based on the Council's commitment to good fiscal management. Council must review the national and state economy, as well as our local economic picture. Strategizing and developing creative solutions to balancing the budget not just for one fiscal year, but for the foreseeable future will be critical.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 5 (cont.)**

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
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#### CHRISTOPHER MCCAIN Web site: VoteChrisMcCain.com

**Answer 1:** I come from a very diverse background; I know how to work with different cultures of people. I'm currently a member of Leadership Arlington, as well as a student of the District's University. I've served on United Way's Grant Committee as well as Blue Print Project.

**Answer 2:** We have to make sure that redistricting gives a fair opportunity for those who want to serve in their district. Each district should be represented by a person who directly represents that those people. If this doesn't happen, the representative will have a narrow perspective of the needs of the...

**Answer 3:** Yes. 1. Develop a better infrastructure for our city (more business and community friendly) 2. Get people who support it to vote (people have to be involved) 3. Bring in enough tax revenue to support it, without raising taxes.

**Answer 4:** My number one goal is to keep our citizens safe. I will not support any regulation that jeopardizes their safety. Second, I have a question about Arlington's future. Arlington has reached its lateral development point, and we will have to look to new methods of development; more than likely, we'll begin to build up, and not outward. The question is, what areas of the city do we plan to further develop or redevelop? I support drilling as long as it does not compromise the two above mentioned goals.

**Answer 5:** I have not been in the discussions regarding this issue; therefor, I'll withhold judgment. However, I will say, I believe in cleaner air and more energy efficiency

**Answer 6:** The Hike and Bike Plan-I do have some concerns, but for the most part, I strongly support the "Hike and Bike plan." I do feel that: UTA is growing- Many students who don't have cars still need to get around. Obesity- Arlington has a high obesity rate; not everyone can afford, nor do they have the time to go to the gym; cycling is an alternative. Family environment- People should be able to see the beauties of their city; riding bikes allows them to slow down and take time to explore Arlington's scenery. Safety-Our streets are not safe...

#### JULIE M. DOUGLAS Web site:

**Answer 1:** I have lived in Arlington since 1953 and graduated from AISD. I have supported myself for over 40 years, relying on the knowledge taught to me by my parents of adhering to a strict budget.

**Answer 2:** I think the current districts should be left as is.

**Answer 3:** Arlington voters have thrice voted down mass transit – let's move on.

**Answer 4:** It's about time that we drill for natural gas here in the United States, instead of constantly importing, with the cost going up, up, up. Now property owners can take advantage of the economic benefit of drilling on their properties. Ordinances should be strictly implemented and enforced city-wide.

**Answer 5:** The current tree canopy protection ordinances are adequate, but there is always room for improvement.

**Answer 6:** The current "Hike and Bike" plan is a total waste of time and money, as evidenced by the \$250,000 already spent on the feasibility study. As residents are increasingly becoming aware of this plan, they are reacting

to the fact that less than 1% of the residents will use this plan on a part-time basis and 99% will have to bear the cost and consequences. Then there's also the unconsidered fact of drunk driver on these same streets. I have addressed this issue publically prior to the election, so residents citywide know my beliefs.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 5 (cont.)**

- 1. What training and experience qualify you for this office? (50 word limit)
- 2. What effect will redistricting have on Arlington? Why? (50 words)
- 3. Do you believe Arlington should have mass transportation? If yes, how will you work to achieve this? (50 words)
- 4. How would you balance the interests of gas drillers and producers and the interests of residents, especially those in close proximity to gas wells, compressors, gas gathering pipelines, or other facilities associated with gas drilling and/or production? (100 words)
- 5. Do you believe Arlington's tree canopy is adequately protected? If not, how would you enhance safeguards? (50 words)
- 6. What other important issue(s) should council be prepared for in Arlington, and how would you address them? (100 word limit)

#### CHRIS HIGHTOWER Web site: ChrisHightower.com



**Answer 1:** I have been involved with the civic life of Arlington for more than 30 years. I have a Masters degree in University Administration and serve on the Board of Directors for several local organizations, and I am a small business owner and a member of the local chambers of commerce...

**Answer 2:** Every District in Arlington will substantially change through redistricting. Tarrant County is gaining an additional Texas House seat and current plans include a new District in East Arlington. It is important for Arlington to maintain House Districts where a majority of the District is contained in Arlington and not fractionalized.

**Answer 3:** Arlington must address the issue of transportation. The Arlington economy will suffer if Arlington is bypassed by a regional rail system just as towns that were left off railroad lines were. Traffic congestion and road

maintenance issues will get worse as our population increases unless we address them now.

**Answer 4:** My first concern is for public safety and then for protecting personal property rights. As we rewrite the drilling ordinance we must address lessons learned from other cities. Realistic public safety guidelines must be incorporated into our gas ordinance. In addition, protecting personal property rights includes not only allowing owners to benefit from their property, but also protecting owners from eminent domain issues related to pipeline placements.

**Answer 5:** Arlington's LEAF initiative is a good start, but should be increased. Trees provide a substantial environmental benefit for the city and residents. Urban reforestation results in cleaner air, less energy usage and cleaner water. Arlington must do more to prevent aggressive and unnecessary trimming of existing trees by utility providers.

**Answer 6:** 80% of District 5 residents responding to a recent community survey stated they felt less safe in their neighborhoods today than they did 5 years ago. Our crime rate is 138% of the national average and the number of police officers in Arlington is below both the Texas and the national average. We must add additional police officers to combat our crime problem. Arlington streets are poorly maintained and have gotten worse over the last ten years. Only 43% of Arlington streets meet minimum acceptable standards. Delaying street maintenance issue results in increased costs and impacts Arlington drivers every day.

#### **Arlington City Council, District 8 (at-large)**

#### **GENE PATRICK** Web site:

**Answer 1:** I have had a long career in the theme park and sports entertainment industry and in those 40 years was constantly interacting with city, and county, governments in many cities beginning with Arlington. I have been involved with city projects since 1994 as president of Downtown Arlington Inc, 3 terms...

**Answer 2:** With the addition of 4 new districts, it is my hope that Texas, and it's cities will have some new influence. If Arlington should be divided and have more than one district would seem to be an advantage as well.

**Answer 3:** I believe Arlington would be best served by being included as a key part of the regional rail system being discussed and I am supportive of that plan both as an individual citizen and council member.

**Answer 4:** We are in the process of revising the gas well rules in Arlington and should continue to apply what we are learning about this subject to the new ordinances. I favor time limits on sups, morc, and better notifications and more public input, sooner in the process.

**Answer 5:** I am not sure we can ever do enough to protect the tree canopy, but, as we near "build-out" we should make sure the current safe guards are enforced and be prepared to add new ones if needed.

**Answer 6:** We need to renew our efforts to "get down to basics" like infrastructure, roads, recreation facilities and incentives for redevelopment. The stadium is up and running and is providing a strong boost to our sales tax base. Let's turn our attention to the wants, and needs of Arlington families and small businesses.

#### CHRIS DOBSON No reply received.

#### City of Arlington Special Election

#### Proposition

"The legal sale of mixed beverages in restaurants by food and beverage certificate holders only."



The League of Women Voters – at local, state, and national levels – works to educate policy makers and the public on pressing issues, and takes action to achieve positive change in our communities.

## **MEETING OUR FAMILIES' NEEDS**

- League conducts studies of issues that affect our community in order to take action for the benefit of all citizens.
- League works to inform citizens, register voters, and monitor public officials.
- League sponsors candidates' debates and publishes the Voters Guide before every election, and hosts public forums on issues of local concern.

# **BUILDING SAFE, HARMONIOUS COMMUNITIES**

- League's public forums bring citizens and community leaders together.
- League fights for clean air and water.
- League encourages informed citizen participation in important community decisions.

# STRENGTHENING CITIZEN IMPACT

- The League's Web sites connect citizens to their governments.
- League members serve as election volunteers and as official United Nations observers, and help build democracy at home and around the world.

Membership/Donation Form	☐ YES, I want to add my voice by joining the League of Women Voters— Arlington Area! Enclosed please find:	□ \$25 Friend of the Arlington League □ \$35 Student Membership □ \$60 Individual Membership	$\square$ <b>NO</b> , I do not wish to join the League at this time, but enclose:	\$ donation to LWV Arlington Area ( <i>Membership dues and contributions</i> are not eligible for a tax deduction under I.R.S. 501(c) (3) rules.)	\$ donation to LWV Education Fund (Donation checks payable to <b>LWV Edu-</b> cation Fund are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. These funds are used for educational projects such as this Voters Guide.)	Name Email address	Name (2nd in Household) Email address	Address City, Zip code	Primary phone number	Send your check with this completed form to: LWV—Arlington Area, P.O. Box 127, Arlington, TX 76004-0127
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