



VOTERS GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area



RACES INCLUDED

This 28-page Voters Guide has been produced by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi for the November 8 General Election. Featured are Democratic and Republican candidates **who are opposed** in their respective races. Included in this guide are:

- Congressional District 27
- Texas Senator, District 20
- District Judge, 214th Judicial District
- District Attorney, 105th Judicial District
- Nueces County Sheriff
- Nueces County Commissioner, Pct. 1
- Justices of the Peace, Pct. 1 & 2, Place 1
- Corpus Christi Mayor and City Council
- Corpus Christi ISD
- Del Mar College Regents

See Page 27 for list of VOTE CENTERS

November 8, 2016 General Election

**Early Voting
Polling Stations:
October 24-November 4**

Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday, Oct. 24-28: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 29: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 30: 12 Noon - 5:00 p.m.
Monday-Friday, Oct. 31-Nov. 4: 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

BANQUETE ISD (Admin. Building)
4339 Fourth St., Banquete, TX

BISHOP COMMUNITY CENTER
102 W. Joyce St., Bishop, TX

CALALLEN ISD (Administration Building)
4205 Wildcat Dr., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/30

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT (BUILDING 8)
308 Crecy Street, Corpus Christi, TX

CORPUS CHRISTI CITY HALL
(1st Floor Utility Section)
1201 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/29 & 10/30

CORPUS CHRISTI ISD (Administration Building)
801 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/29 & 10/30

CORPUS CHRISTI CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
6602 S. Staples St., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/29 & 10/30

CORPUS CHRISTI CITY HALL
1201 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX

DAVID BERLANGA COMMUNITY CENTER
1513 2nd St., Agua Dulce, TX

DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CENTER
5151 McArdle Rd., Corpus Christi, TX

DEL MAR COLLEGE
(Heldenfels Administrative Building)
101 Baldwin, Corpus Christi, TX

ETHEL EYERLY SENIOR CENTER
654 Graham Rd., Corpus Christi, TX

FLOUR BLUFF ISD (Maintenance Building)
2510 Waldron Rd., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/29 & 10/30

GREENWOOD SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER
4040 Greenwood Dr., Corpus Christi, TX

HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER
11425 Leopard St., Corpus Christi, TX

JOHNNY S. CALDERON COUNTY BUILDING
710 E. Main St., Robstown, Texas

LONDON ISD (HIGH SCHOOL)
1306 FM 43, Corpus Christi, TX

Continued on Page 2

MAIN POLLING LOCATIONS FOR EARLY VOTING

(Continued from Page 1)

(Main Polling Location)

NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
(1st Floor Atrium) 901 Leopard St.,
Corpus Christi, TX

PETRONILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Cafeteria)
2391 Co. Road 67, Robstown, TX
Closed 10/24-10/26 & 10/30

PORT ARANSAS COMMUNITY CENTER
408 N. Alister St., Port Aransas, TX

ROBSTOWN ISD (Administration Building)
801 N. First St., Robstown, TX
Closed 10/29 and 10/30

ROBSTOWN CITY HALL
101 East Main, Robstown, TX
Closed 10/30

SCHLITTERBAHN (MAIN ENTRANCE)
14353 Commodores Dr., Corpus Christi, TX

TAMU-CC UNIVERSITY CENTER
(Legacy Hall Rm 124)
6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX

TMISD (Administration Building)
9768 La Branch, Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/29 and 10/30

VALENCIA HALL
6110 Ayers St., Corpus Christi, TX

VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL
3750 Cimarron Blvd., Corpus Christi, TX

WEST OSO ISD (Administration Building)
5050 Rockford Dr., Corpus Christi, TX
Closed 10/30

New Procedures for Voting in Person



All citizens wishing to vote in the November General Election must still be on the official list of registered voters. *For the November 8th election, the deadline to register was Tuesday, October 11, 2016.*

Voters may still use one of seven (7) forms of photo ID, listed below. **IDs may be expired up to four years.** (Previously IDs could be expired no more than 60 days.)

- Driver license
- Texas Election Identification Certificate (EIC)
- Texas Personal Identification Card issued by Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS
- US military identification card containing the person's photograph
- US passport

- US citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph

ADDITIONALLY, **new procedures** allow registered voters without photo ID to sign a simple form* and present one of the following documents to **vote a regular ballot**:

- **Valid voter registration certificate (card)**
- **Certified birth certificate**
- **Current utility bill**
- **Bank statement**
- **Government check**
- **Paycheck**
- **Any other government document with the individual's name and address**

*The one-page form is called the "Voter's Declaration of Reasonable Impediment or Difficulty."

TEMPORARY EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT
(BUILDING 8)
308 Crecy Street, Corpus Christi, TX
Dates/Hours: 10/24 & 10/25, 8 AM-5 PM;
11/2 & 11/3, 7 AM-7 PM

TAMU-CC UNIVERSITY CENTER
(LEGACY HALL RM 124)
6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi, TX
Dates/Hours: 10/26 & 10/27 8 AM-5 PM;
10/31 & 11/1 7 AM-7 PM

BANQUETE ISD (ADMIN. BUILDING)
4339 Fourth St., Banquete, TX
Dates/Hours: 10/27 & 10/28, 8 AM-5 PM;
10/31 & 11/1, 7 AM-7 PM

DAVID BERLANGA COMMUNITY CENTER -- 1513 2nd St., Agua Dulce, TX
Dates/Hours: 10/28, 8 AM-5 PM;
10/29, 11/3 & 11/4, 7 AM-7 PM

LONDON ISD (HIGH SCHOOL)
1306 FM 43 Corpus Christi, TX
Dates/Hours: 10/31 & 11/1,
7 AM-7 PM

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

The League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area, is a nonpartisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

Texas Congressional District 27

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Regardless of which presidential candidate is elected in November, what three issues will be among your priorities as Congress begins its work in January 2017?

In your opinion, what should the American people who have fallen behind economically expect from their congressional leaders to help them improve their standard of living?

What action will you take to help achieve that expectation?



**BLAKE
FARENTHOLD (R)**

I've been a communicator, lawyer & computer guru. I worked in radio since I was a teen as a DJ & talk show commentator. Radio showed me how to think on my feet and communicate my beliefs. Practicing law taught me our legal system, further preparing me for the job. Owning a computer firm, I learned the struggles of running a business, making payroll and a profit. My computer skills also help me improve government service and save taxpayers money.

My priorities are keeping America safe, improving the economy and bringing honesty back to government making it more efficient, effective and transparent. Safety starts with secure borders, defeating ISIS and protecting the 2nd Amendment. For a healthy economy, we need to get rid of excessive government regulation including Obamacare, reform tax law and meet our transportation needs to create jobs. We must support veterans and first responders.

Americans need the government to get out of their way. Entrepreneurship, innovation and hard work are keys to success. Less government regulation; lower, fairer, flatter simpler taxes; better transportation and security are also important. We should also re-examine how we fight poverty by incentivizing those who can work to work, improving skills and schools and demanding results just like we should with all of government.

I generally support House Republican's A Better Way agenda (Google it). I support getting rid of oppressive government regulations from unelected bureaucrats at an alphabet soup of federal agencies like the EPA, FDA, DOL, CFPB and dozens more; a fairer, flatter and simpler tax code with lower taxes that encourage investment in the United States; more local control and choice in education; investment in infrastructure and balancing the budget.



**RAUL (ROY)
BARRERA (D)**

Having been in law enforcement for over 35 years, and right now work as a Special Deputy/Court Security Officer at the Federal Court House in Corpus C. Tx. With my background in Law Enforcement the exposure to civil, criminal cases and Bankruptcy cases, where citizens are being foreclosed of their properties and repossession of their automobiles etc. This has given me a lot of experience of all the true and daily things that is happening in life.

Main three issues would be the utmost proper care of our Veterans, build a Veterans hospital in C.C. so veterans don't have to travel to San Antonio. Social Security, come up with a plan to keep the Federal Govt. from dipping into our Social Security. Education, try and make education for scholars more affordable so that everyone that wants to get more education can do it and not end up with a big old DEBT when they finish their schooling.

I will try and work with local officials, county and state leaders to try and make housing more affordable. Americans can expect lower income taxes to stretch their current pay checks. Try and create better paying jobs so that the lower class people can catch up or match up with the middle class way of life. Propose to the other members of the house to raise the minimum wage from \$7.25 per hour to about \$15.00 dollars per hour.

(1.) introduce legislation for improving the infrastructure of roads, bridges and utilities via Federal job contracts etc., creation jointly with state and local governments. (2.) introduce legislation to work across aisle to lower personal income taxes for middle income families. (3.) Introduce legislation for creation of tax credits for housing industry, to build more affordable housing for those that are really in need.

STATEWIDE VOTERS GUIDE: The League of Women Voters of Texas has published a Voters Guide in English and in Spanish featuring statewide candidates seeking office in the November 2016 General Election. Please visit the LWV-Texas website at www.lwvtexas.org or the LWV-Corpus Christi website at <http://www.lwv-cc.org>.

Texas Senate District 20

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Due to previous cuts in education and lack of direction by the courts, how would you address the diminished funding for public schools?

Do you believe that Texas would benefit or suffer by expanding Medicaid as several other states have done? Explain your response.

What is your opinion of "Campus Carry" and do you think it is fair for private universities to opt out, but not our public universities?



**VELMA
ARELLANO (R)**

With my strong leadership and 19 years in the legal profession, an adjunct instructor at Del Mar College, and appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas to serve as Commission Member on the Judicial Branch Certification Commission overlooking four professions and former board member of the Court Reporters Certification Board, and as a previous owner of a court reporting freelance firm, I am qualified to be your next Texas Senator.

Restoring school funding will be a priority. Texas is ranked 38th in the country in per-pupil public education spending. According to figures compiled by the National Education Association, Texas schools are spending an average \$9,559 per student in the current school year. That is well under the national average of \$12,040. Texas public schools are funded by federal funds, state funds and local school district property taxes 45.6% of revenue

I do not favor the expansion of the Medicaid program based on the existing federal guidelines. They encourage states to expand participation and then gradually reduce federal financial assistance. At the end of 10 years the federal responsibility to support Medicaid would be shifted to the state. Expanding Medicaid is not beneficial to the people of Texas, our location on the border with Mexico makes it incentive for families to illegally cross.

Since 2007 there have been over 60 people killed on college or university campuses in the US. Private universities were allowed to opt out of the law, while public universities were allowed to designate gun-free zones on part, but not all of campus. In my opinion, private universities should not be allowed to opt out on campus carry. Students, faculty and staff should be allowed to decide if they want to campus carry for self-defense.



**JUAN 'CHUY'
HINOJOSA (D)**

As a Vietnam USMC Veteran, an attorney practicing law, & your State Senator since 2003, I have the experience necessary to continue leading District 20 towards a successful & prosperous future. As Vice Chair of the Senate Finance Committee, I have put South Texas at the forefront of critical discussions & secured millions of dollars in funding that has helped stimulate our local economies. Experience matters. Leadership makes a difference.

Education is the best equalizer. Knowledge empowers our children to succeed. We cannot continue to cut school funding that results in decreased academic performance. We must make smart investments in our students, teachers & schools. Our current school financing system is inadequate & fails to distribute funds fairly among school districts in wealthy & poor areas. I will work towards creating a system that provides equitable funding for all students.

Healthcare is a necessity, not a luxury. I support expanding Medicaid and believe Texas would benefit greatly. Texas has 6.2 million uninsured people, the highest in the nation. Expanding healthcare coverage to include our working poor would bring in billions of federal dollars available under expansion and insure over 2 million Texans. Healthcare for our children is key to our future and prevention is needed to prevent ER visits & higher costs.

I support the rights of Texans to own and use firearms as guaranteed by the Constitution. However, I am opposed and voted against Campus Carry. Private universities are exempt because they are on private property not owned by the state and not supported by public funds. As a responsible Concealed Handgun License (CHL) holder, I will continue to support legislation promoting public safety, training and education to firearms owners and the public.

VOTE411.ORG
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

Find your personalized ballot by going to VOTE411.org. Enter your zip code and you will see the ballot as it will appear on Election Day in your precinct. You will also see the same information and questions to candidates with their answers that appear in this printed Voters Guide. All of this with your tablet or laptop in the comfort of your recliner!

214th District Court Judge

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What attributes make you the best choice for District Court Bench?

Describe two major concerns that District Court Judges face in 2017 and what action is needed to address those concerns.



**INNA
KLEIN (R)**

As trial counsel, I tried almost 100 cases to a jury. I have prosecuted thousands of cases as an assistant District Attorney. As a public defender intern, civil attorney, family law attorney, ad litem and prosecutor, I have worked on just about every type of case that comes into District Court. I have presided over thousands of adult and juvenile cases, including trials, as Municipal Court Judge during the 3.5 years at the City of Corpus Christi.

I am an immigrant and was not born with the constitutional rights we have here. I learned English by watching TV as I took care of my brother while my parents worked to provide for us. I have worked since I was 14 years old. I put myself through college and law school by working and taking out loans. I have reputation for being even tempered and hard working. The safety of our community is important to me. I stand for justice and equality for all.

Two critical issues are the epidemic of family violence and improving transparency and efficiency in our courts. I have been involved with family violence cases as a prosecutor and a judge, by prosecuting and serving emergency protective orders. Efficiency and transparency can be addressed by a court having its files electronically available to lawyers and parties. Appointment of lawyers through a random process will reduce bias and favoritism.



**JOSE
LONGORIA (D)**

- Served as a Judge on the bench of the 214th District Court for 16 years.
- Presided over more than 20,000 cases.
- Prior to that practiced law for 23 years, handling civil, criminal, and family law cases.
- Serve as Presiding Judge of the Council of Judges.
- Serve as Judge of Divert Court (non-violent first offenders).
- I have managed this court's complicated docket successfully, and my decisions have overwhelmingly been upheld.

- Qualified: With 16 years on the bench and 39 years as a lawyer, I am by far the most experienced and qualified candidate.
- Integrity: I do what is right and follow the law, regardless of the consequences.
- Hard work: I have put in countless of hours of work as a Judge.
- Demeanor: I treat all litigants and attorneys with respect. I maintain respect and civility in your court.

Family violence:

- A specialized Family Violence Court should be implemented
- As a Judge I hold everyone accountable under the law
- The police and prosecutors know that I'm going to require thorough and professional work to ensure a just result
- Criminals convicted of family violence know I am going to punish them

Managing an ever-expanding docket:

- Hard work
- Excellent staff
- Working with fellow Judges to share cases and dockets: Teamwork

FREE BUS RIDES FOR EARLY VOTING AND ELECTION DAY

Corpus Christi Regional Transportation Authority (CCRTA), including the B-Line, will offer free bus rides on the following days:

Early Voting

October 24, 2016 – November 4, 2016

All voters can ride for free with their valid voter registration card.

Election Day

Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Everyone will ride for free.

Curbside Voting for voters who are unable to leave their vehicles will be available November 8 at all Vote Centers located in Corpus Christi unless otherwise stated. If questions, please call the County Clerk's office at 880-0580.



Nueces County District Attorney

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

With no prior experience as a district attorney, what attributes will you bring to that office that make you the best choice?

Describe the major changes you will implement as the District Attorney.

In your opinion, what do local residents expect from the DA's Office?

Under your leadership, what could the office of the District Attorney do to curb the local epidemic of domestic violence?



JAMES O. GARDNER (R)

I bring prosecutorial experience and proven leadership to the office of District Attorney. I am an honorably discharged USAF veteran. I was the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of Physical Therapy Services when my enlistment was over. I was an Assistant District Attorney/Gang Prosecutor in Nueces County for 5 years and a U.S. Justice Advisor to Afghanistan for over two years. My record of public service is unmatched.

I will make the process of case in-take more efficient. I will change the current chain of command and supervisory structure. I will bring experienced former prosecutors back to the office. I will emphasize training and mentoring and will strive to have all prosecutors "board certified." Domestic Violence cases will be "fast tracked" and the victims of domestic violence will not be re-victimized by the criminal justice system.

Nueces county residents expect the Office of the District Attorney to be responsive to their needs: Information, justice, and professionalism are but a few of the expectations the public deserves from the Office of the District Attorney. Crime victims and their family members, witnesses, and the family members of the accused all deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. Service to the community must be prompt and professional.

Domestic Violence negatively affects us all. Domestic violence cases will be "fast tracked" so the accused can face justice without delay. The victims of domestic violence will not be made to wait months and months for justice. The Office of the District Attorney-with help from the Woman's Shelter, and local law enforcement-will ensure domestic violence prevention is taught in all of the school districts in Nueces County.



MARK A. GONZALEZ (D)

For the past ten years, I have tried complex, high-level cases week in and week out, trying 27 last year and 15 already this year. The experience I've gotten from these cases is invaluable, because it affords me with a wealth of knowledge on both how cases are proven and what is required for an ethical and professional prosecution. I'm the best choice because I will bring a fresh perspective to a system that's long been broken and ineffective.

The primary things I plan to change are the process of filing cases and the exchange of information between the District Attorney's Office and law enforcement. I intend to implement a non-arrest system where law enforcement will have the discretion to cite and release on some Class B misdemeanors, allowing officers to respond to higher-level offenses and emergency calls. My supervisors and I will also be back in the courtroom trying cases.

Residents expect that the District Attorney is tough on crime, but prosecutes ethically and professionally. I think residents also expect the District Attorney's Office to be smart on crime and to use its resources efficiently. The DA is expected to try cases, lead by example, be open to the public, and be visible in the community. Finally, I think residents expect the DA's Office to advocate for justice for those victimized by crime.

Two things: 1) file cases immediately, so that some kind of intervention occurs to both victim and defendant; 2) and holding offenders accountable. If you hurt our mothers, our daughters, or our loved ones, you're either going to 16jail or prison. That's the only way I, as the District Attorney, can send a message to people engaging in this kind of behavior. It's just that simple.

Nueces County Sheriff

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What new initiatives in jail management, if any, are you developing for 2017 and beyond?

With continuing budget constraints on all aspects of countywide services, how can the Sheriff's Office make its budget extend farther to maintain jail facilities?

Identify your top priorities regarding the Nueces County Sheriff's Office.



**JIM
KAELIN (R)**

I have served as your Sheriff for 10 years. Prior to that I served with the Texas Dept. of Public Safety (29 years). I retired in 2001 with the rank of Lieutenant, Commanding Officer. I graduated from Del Mar, and I am also a graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. I have had extensive experience managing budgets. Since my election I have always returned money back to the Nueces County General Fund.

I will continue to work on alternatives programs rather than incarceration. Not everyone needs to be in jail and I will develop a plan to redirect non-violent inmates to other methods of punishment besides confinement in the Nueces County Jail. This has the potential to save the County Hundreds of thousands of dollars. To will continue to operate the Sheriff's Office efficiently and effectively as I always have.

We operate and manage our resources with the dollars we have. I have taken the jail commissary fund to a new high and turned it into a major source of funding to reduce the costs of operating the jail. I currently have over one million dollars in this account, even as I spend over 300 plus thousand dollars each year on things outside of the monies provided by the county budget. This is effective management of your county resources.

Reducing the county jail population. I will place into operation an additional 144 beds at the McKenzie Annex. This expansion will be paid for by housing Federal Inmates. These inmates will fund this jail expansion without cost to our taxpayers. This will make our jail a safer place for our correctional officers to work and it will make it a more safe environment for the inmates confined there. Our jail was a National Embarrassment in 2006.



**LARRY
OLIVAREZ, SR.
(D)**

I have 40 years of combined Law Enforcement and Management experience including 10 years as County Sheriff. This incorporated operational and administrative responsibilities for 324 employees and the safety and welfare of over 1000 inmates. Graduate of the FBI National Academy, FBI-LEEDA Crisis Management, Texas Sheriffs Management Training, Texas Jail Standards Management Training, CCPD Academy, Del Mar College.

Initiate CALEA, a national Accreditation program to improve the delivery of Public Safety services primarily in maintaining a body of national standards for Department and Jail. Strengthening Crime Prevention and control capabilities, Initiate Body Cameras for all jail personnel, Hire a Mental Health Director for jail, Initiate a Mental Health/Suicide Jail Crisis Team, Initiate a Rocket Docket to reduce inmate population.

Starting by better managing the jail and personnel through Training and Technology. Redeploying personnel into re-prioritized areas of jail services and Department. Capitalizing on Federal reimbursement programs in the jail with Social Security, Housing US Marshals Federal Inmate program, Law Enforcement Block Grants, augmenting officer training and equipment costs by working closer with DEA and FBI, and better utilization of Inmate Account.

Collaborating with local, state & Federal Agencies in keeping our citizen's safe in their homes, workplace, schools, & churches. Initiate a comprehensive plan to stop and prevent further deaths (15) in the jail; Stop & prevent further Federal Civil Rights Law suits filed (33) against this Sheriff and Jail; Create a Career ladder for Employees; Sponsor scholarships for jail employees who want to obtain their Texas Peace License.

REMINDER TO VOTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY ...

On your ballot, you may see other races and candidates, but because of space limitations, they are not included in this Voters Guide. There are candidates seeking election to area school districts' Board of Trustees, including Banquete, Robstown, and London ISD, and candidates seeking election to the Nueces County Drainage District #2. Be sure to read the entire ballot and vote!



Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 1

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What are the top challenges in 2017 for county commissioners?

What opportunities do county officials see that might attract new industry and new jobs for our region?

Do you support or oppose the consolidation of the City-County Health District into a purely county entity as the Citizens Advisory Health Board has advised?



**MIKE
PUSLEY (R)**

I have served two (4) year terms as Nueces County Commissioner. I was elected to the Tuloso-Midway School Board in 1986 and served three (3) year terms, including two year as President and two years as Vice-President of the Board. I served on the City Storm Water Advisory Committee and the City Technical Advisory Committee and then was appointed to the City Zoning and Planning Commission and served six years in that position.

The County is doing very well, we just completed our budget process and set the tax rate for the 2016/2017 budget year. As a result of paying close attention to expenditures for the last several years the county was able to lower its tax rate once again. Since 2009 when I first took office we have lowered the County tax rate by five cents. That's a big savings for County taxpayers and our biggest challenge is to continue watching expenditures.

The Port of Corpus Christi continues to grow and attract new industries which we fully support. Working with our EDC and providing them with funding we are helping them focus on finding new job creating industries for Nueces County. The County's support of the new Harbor Bridge project will help to bring jobs to Nueces County by opening up our Port to larger more diverse ship traffic and the possibility of Cruise Ships within the next 5 years.

County Judge Loyd Neal has ask me to lead a joint City /County study group to determine if consolidation is in the best interest of everyone served and if so how we would facilitate that process. We have been meeting for a few weeks and our goal is to have a recommendation to present to the City Council and County Commissioners before the end of 2016.



**ROBERT G.
HERNANDEZ
(D)**

I have operated my own business for over 30 years. I understand what it means to work hard and manage a budget. I ran this business while working full-time for Nueces County. I have seen first-hand the wasteful spending and mismanagement of taxpayer money. I know how important it is to make county employees the top priority. I will be a common sense vote for the best interest of Nueces County.

The top challenges in 2017 will include managing the budget and stopping the wasteful spending. Projects such as the ADA improvements and Harbor Bridge renovations will be very costly. It is impossible to put an exact number on it so we will have to be careful. Stopping wasteful spending on the county airport and other projects will help in the budget process. Better management of grant money is also important.

To attract new jobs to Nueces County we should work to have the ability to welcome cruise ships to our port. We should also build on projects which are already in existence. With the decision to build the outlet mall in the Robstown area, we should look to encourage additional businesses to build the surrounding area. As always, continuing to focus on the education of its workforce is important to attracting new businesses.

The issue of indigent care is a very costly and important issue. It appears that the continued collaboration of city and county officials would be more beneficial to the citizens of this community. The burdens should not fall on a single governmental entity. We should continue to be jointly responsible for dealing with the issues of indigent care.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1, Place 1

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What makes you more qualified than your opponent for this office?

Now that the truancy law has changed, how do you plan to incentivize parents of students who are not attending classes?



**MANUEL 'MANNY'
RANGEL (R)**

As the Voters Guide went to press, Mr. Rangel had not responded to the League's questions nor submitted a photograph.



**JOE
BENAVIDES (D)**

Served in the USMC for over 21 1/2 years as a Chief Administrator. Taught 5 years as a GED instructor for CCISD. HS Diploma, Bachelors in Business Management, Human Resources and Associates in Business Administration. My platform is built upon a model of excellence, fair but firm with all. My life-time service to my country, my community, as well as on the bench make me the candidate and incumbent that is best suited for the position.

My military, civilian and judicial experience have provided the public with a proven track record of dedicated service to God, country and community. The experiences that have shaped my decisions on the bench relate back to my community work with seniors, children and the business community. These collective experiences provide me with a superior insight than my opponent into the needs of the constituents that shall appear in front of me.

Truancy laws have lost some of the strength of the former law, parents are still responsible for attendance of their child. I will continue to work with parents, teachers and law enforcement through my continued appearances at schools to speak with students about truancy. I will work with parents to discover the root cause of absences in order to maintain positive change in school attendance.

UNOPPOSED LOCAL CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT ARE FEATURED IN VOTE 411 BUT NOT IN THIS GUIDE

Robert Cisneros (D), Nueces County Constable, Precinct 1
Mitchell Clark (R), Nueces County Constable, Precinct 2
Frank Flores (D), Nueces County Constable, Precinct 5
Rudy Garza Jr., Corpus Christi City Council, District 5
Robert Bobby Gonzales (D), Justice of the Peace, Precinct 5/Place 1
Nanette Hassette (D), District Judge, 28th Judicial District
Abel Herrero (D), Texas House District 34
Todd Hunter (R), Texas House District 32
Susan Hutchinson, Del Mar College Board of Regents, District 2
Laura Garza Jimenez (D), Nueces County Attorney
Kevin Kieschnick (R), Nueces County Tax Assessor-Collector
John Marez (D), Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 3
Missy Medary (R), District Judge, 347th Judicial District
Jimmy Rivera (D), Nueces County Constable, Precinct 3
Robert Sherwood (R), Nueces County Constable, Precinct 4

VOTERS, BE SURE TO READ TO THE END OF THE BALLOT

The November 8 Election Ballot is lengthy, with national, state, county, and local candidates seeking election...plus propositions from the City of Corpus Christi, Del Mar College, and Corpus Christi Independent School District. The City of Corpus Christi has 12 Propositions, including nine amendments to the City Charter, two propositions involving sales tax and the Crime Control District, and one Bond Election not to exceed \$18,350,000. Corpus Christi ISD has one Bond Election totalling \$194,565,000. Del Mar College has one Bond Election in the amount of \$139,000,000.

Go to www.VOTE411.org for exact wording of the propositions featured on the Nov. 8 ballot.

Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2, Place 1

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What makes you more qualified than your opponent for this office?

Now that the truancy law has changed, how do you plan to incentivize parents of students who are not attending classes?



**JO
WOOLSEY (R)**

I have more than forty years of professional legal experience working on a large and diverse range of cases. I have owned and managed Woolsey Legal Services for over thirteen years and have worked in the Justice Courts of thirty-one counties in south Texas, presenting over 1,000 cases. My outstanding record of success is due to my extensive knowledge of the applicable laws and rules of procedure that apply in Justice Court.

I am not a perennial politician seeking just any elected political position. I am running for the one position for which I am highly qualified. My vast experience in the legal field will serve me well. My track record proves I am hard-working and dedicated. I am not just looking for a "position," but have a genuine desire to serve the citizens of Nueces County as your Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2, Place 1.

First I will determine the reason for the absences, and then consider the recommendation of the school officials. A judge can choose from many options, not necessarily punitive, to help the parents work toward better school attendance. Each case must be considered on an individual basis. There is no one solution. It takes time, knowledge of the options and mature judgment to render a decision in the best interests of the student.



**ALEX
GARCIA (D)**

With my BBA, I worked as a Mortgage Banker handling consumer Real Estate/Business Law transactions and responsible for all facets of a Loan portfolio. Owning multiple businesses and managing HEB/Wal-Mart Stores, is where I gained valuable experience in leadership, budgeting and accountability. Having been both a victim and defendant while seeking court resolutions has afforded me the comprehension and compassion to be fair and impartial fair JP.

As endorsed candidate by the CCPOA & NC Sheriff Off. Assn. along with 40 plus years of being a hands on Business/Property Owner and Manager has helped me comprehend the importance of gathering all the facts while acting with expediency and clear communication. As JP I will be a pro-active mentor finding programs/partners to help deter the truancy epidemic. I WILL NOT have any conflict of interest with any business that I own or have interest in.

As JP and the first line of defense I will pursue all avenues to contact parents, work/home/school visits to notify them of absences and consequences. I will work with current school based programs and help create other Outreach solutions that help educate parents with challenging students. I am committed to reach one family at a time to explain the importance and value of full participation in the truancy prevention program. Vote Alex Garcia.



STAY CONNECTED!

- Follow the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi on Facebook ... www.Facebook.com/LWVCC
- Visit the LWV-CC website at www.lwv-cc.org

Mayor, City of Corpus Christi

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

With desalination as a component of future potable water, what role should government play in supporting the increase in water supply and overseeing the environmental impacts of brine disposal and water intake systems?



**NELDA
MARTINEZ**

My proven leadership roles as your Mayor, council member at-large, in statewide leadership positions, and years of volunteerism enable me to build consensus on a broad range of initiatives. I have in-depth experience in balancing budgets and leveraging cost inefficiencies. Long term water planning has yielded good paying jobs. I have a track record as a successful business woman and am a graduate of The University of Texas, Austin.

(1) Addressing aging infrastructure and forty years of deferred maintenance, with emphasis on identifying resources for reconstructing residential streets; (2) Stabilizing utility rates through strategic planning of investments in capital improvements to minimize impact on rate-payers; and (3) Building and retaining departmental staff through proper employee-retention efforts, market competitiveness in recruitment, and departmental assessments.

Yes. Our vacancy rate is reflective of the challenges in recruiting and retaining qualified staff. We need to implement the recommendations from the Engineering Department Management Review completed this year including workload, staffing, organizational structure, and operating processes. In addition, the Water Department will need to work with peer group guidance to recruit staff with specific water expertise and technical certifications.

Water supply is a critical role in city policy-making and has been one of my top council priorities. Our long term strategic water planning has been the reason for our competitive position in the global economy. Water equals jobs, and water resources have been the catalyst for our tremendous job growth. We cannot put any water supply project forward, including desalination, without having solutions related to the environmental impacts.



**DAN
MCQUEEN**

I am dedicated, educated and experienced. I am a Navy combat special operation veteran, I have bachelor degrees in Engineering and Management and a Master's degree in Computer science. I have managed multimillion dollar projects and businesses. My experience crosses all business aspects; non-profit, government and for profit enterprises. I will bring the most value to Corpus Christi.

Corpus Christi has 3 main issues with respect to the revenue needed in resolving the decaying infrastructure. We have lost major jobs, decreased sales revenue and are inefficient in overspending tax dollars. I intend to increase the VALUE of Corpus Christi in Business, Infrastructure and Government processes. I will use Lean Six sigma processes, my military network and my strong technology foundation to bring jobs and VALUE to Corpus Christi.

Many of you have been working hard and you would expect a pay increase, Invested in the stocks & expect profit. So when you look at the investment in our city, Do you see the VALUE of your tax dollars? We have a leadership issue in Corpus Christi which is impacting our city staff sustainment process. Much like any key business (Google, Apple, Boeing) there must me a strategic plan for retaining and recruiting the most talented personnel.

Government and particularly Corpus Christi water management group, needs to oversee the value to current residents in utilizing the water supply for industrial processes. The location of Corpus Christi is at the end of the natural water flow system. So it becomes imperative that we as leaders hold industry responsible for developing processes in their production that does not impact the quality of life for the residents that built this city.

Corpus Christi City Council At-Large

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Top 3 vote-getters will be elected to serve.



MARGARETA FRATILA

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Corpus Christi resident 34 years; Small Business owner 30 years; Served on City Boards; Graduated from # Universities with Master in Horticulture. MBA-Management & HRD' Member of CC Executive Association. Raised 2 children-Dr. Antonio Fratila, Anesthesiologist in CC and Ana Maria, CPA, CFA, VP at Hedge Funds in NYC; Participate in City Council Meetings and I am familiar with the issues and challenges. Ready to devote time and effort to serve community.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

1. Aging Infrastructure—Downtown deterioration—prepare comprehensive land use sector plan. o Create Tax Increment Financing of Public Improvements Districts.
2 Residential Street Reconstruction—implement a mandatory residential street reconstruction program. Direct charge to owner's tax statement. City issue revenue bonds to cover the cost.
3. Public Safety-Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities. Identify priority projects for water supply.

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

Most definitely we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff. We need to remain competitive with and conduct a salary study to determine how to effectively address this challenge. Job descriptions need to be reviewed, salary and benefits for the work required and budget for positions accordingly. Create a welcoming and supportive work environment.

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?

The concept of Contractor At Risk provides for the sharing of risk on each project by the contractor in order to insure that projects are completed within a scheduled time frame at or under estimated costs. I believe in the use of Best Practices in the construction of capital improvements. If you leave things as they are, nothing will improve.



JOHN GARCIA

I'm a dedicated and committed public servant. I work for you every day through my continued support for the City and through the many organizations that help to make our city special, including Board of Director for the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, Vice President of the Corpus Christi Greater Hospitality Association, member of the Westside Business Association and organizer of the phenomenal Corpus Christi Food Truck Festival.

Infrastructure/Streets: Assess updates and recommendations by city staff and ultimately make the decision after great considerations and dialogue from a diverse set of stakeholders. City policies/innovation: Innovative ways to find solutions is a mandate from the people; creation of a city app that will providing a wealth of open data that allows emerging entrepreneurs including programmers to create innovative apps that keep residents informed.

City Staff should work in a collaborative effort with workforce solutions to oversee hiring interns that will ultimately result in obtaining full-time in the engineering department. Working closely with our local engineering schools to select talent will boost our talent pipeline and keep our educated students in Corpus Christi. It is right at our fingertips. We should be front line and center on recruitment of young talent.

Stewardship of our assets is vital to the sustainability of our city. Again, a long term vision with a strategic plan in place that assesses these assets and how they come into play with capital improvement projects will bring clarity to our residents and city staff. We must provide the leadership and help bring a balance to the rigors of the challenges that await us as city leaders.

Corpus Christi City Council At-Large

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**PAULETTE
GUAJARDO**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

I am a former successful business owner with 15 years of experience. This gives me tools that will benefit my peers and the council as a whole. I have served my community via non-profit boards and earned many accolades while I owned my agency. I have a very strong will and have always been a customer service oriented person. My service will be to the citizens of Corpus Christi and I plan on putting forth full time hours to be educated/informed.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Infrastructure, shortage of public safety/first responders and economic growth. Infrastructure is crucial to our city thriving. Without it in order, we will not have economic growth. And without economic growth we have very little options to create revenue that will pay for the additional officers we need on our first line of defense. All three are equally important and I plan on working hard w/my council peers to find resolution.

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

Yes. I consider staff infrastructure and without a strong core we cannot move forward. Let's look over our benefit packages offered to employees, lets really screen the people we are hiring. Do they fit in on paper only? They must fit into the environment needed, not just the "job description." I propose having project drawings done in advance of the project starting. This saves time and keeps projects on schedule.

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?

Getting the project shelf ready to build. City engineers are aware of which streets are a priority. By having this ready IN ADVANCE, being that it can take 3-4 months, we will be ahead of the game and the planning will become more precise, therefore making the entire project more streamline.



**MICHAEL
HUNTER**

I am currently on city council. I have spent nearly half of a year on city council completing an unfinished term. For a decade I volunteered at the Texas State Capitol for my father, State Representative Todd Hunter. When I returned to Corpus Christi after college I got involved community organizations, which include: Texas State Aquarium, Texas A&M Corpus Christi, Young Business Professionals, Corpus Christi Regional EDC, and the CC Rotary.

Infrastructure, water, and the budget. Streets need a significant amount of maintenance, many need to be reconstructed, and we need to implement a plan that will prevent the current situation from happening again. We have the western-hemisphere's largest cable-stayed bridge coming to Corpus Christi. It's total value will be around \$1 Billion. We need to do our best to prepare for this and the opportunities in industrial growth. We need to ensure that our city //

Yes. I have not taken a final position on this issue. I am currently studying this issue. I am looking into how competitive we are relative to other cities. This includes taking in several different factors.

I think that the world today moves too fast and that we need to speed up our local process. This could lead to us losing out on great opportunities, specifically at such a pivotal point in Corpus Christi's history.

Corpus Christi City Council At-Large

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**REYNALDO RAY
MADRIGAL**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Veteran Honorably Discharged 808 engineers, former Seadrift Municipal Court Judge, Graduate of Leadership Corpus Christi, Graduate of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice, graduate of Del Mar College as Legal assistant, 45 years of as a business man of ray's Photo Studio, Barber, I served on the Ethics Commission, Sister city Commission, Human Relations Commission, and the Transport Advisory Commission.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

I see the need for good drinking water for all residents of Corpus Christi and the area towns, repair and resurface the streets, (I have experience-808 engineers,U.S. Army) and affordable housing for growth in our community. The action I would take is to hire Certified water experts. I would have better quality material for our streets so that they would last longer, affordable housing would go up in the districts that want them.

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

Yes, we need to promote people that are here already and can do the job plus give them a pay raise so they do not leave town. I would encourage them to continue their education in their field of expertise.

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?

The need for an improved and expedited capital improvement to completion is very important, so that people do not forget in 10 years what the project was all about. I do not think that 10 years is a good idea for any project. we had a project at Horne road between Ayers and Port Avenue that lasted several years that created many problems for the area there.



CHAD MAGILL

As a proud husband & proud new father, I humbly ask to continue to serve you as your City Councilman At-Large. The servant-leader, teamwork approach best describes me. Over many years in our community, I have served as Chairman of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Texas, Chairman and Re-Elected Chairman of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of numerous boards & committees throughout our region & Executive Committees across Texas.

1) Infrastructure: Streets, Water, Wastewater, & Public Safety. It's no secret, for many years we have seen our infrastructure crumble. The last few years we have invested, maintained, and reconstructed more than ever. 2) Budget Needs Before Wants: We began year 1 of Zero Based Budgeting & we need to continue to prioritize Needs before Wants. 3) Communication: Our city needs to continue to improve our communication with our citizens, every day.

Yes, we need to work with our City Manager to guide City policies that retain, recruit, and develop talent throughout all departments within the city. It is possible, we have seen some improvements in a few departments already. As we continue with Zero Based Budgeting we will be able to focus funding on the core mission of our city & free up revenue to develop competitive total compensation & benefit packages without further burdening taxpayers.

The Capital Improvement Program needs improvement. One of the best CIP's I have seen is in Bryan, Texas. It INCLUDES the public & has predictable scoring for prioritizing the most common sense NEEDED projects first. A logical, predictable methodology that increases the level of communication and certainty for taxpayers...the people that pay the bill, would be a great improvement! I have already been working with our City Manager on this process.

Corpus Christi City Council At-Large

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**JOE
MCCOMB**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

Corpus Christi native, married, 5 children and 10 grandchildren, graduated SFASU w/Business degree, Pres.-Owner of McComb Relocation Services, Council member- 8 yrs.; County Commissioner-12 yrs. Member/deacon of First Baptist Church; Chairman of Workforce Network, Inc.; board member of Texas Search and Rescue (TEXSAR); member of the So. Central TX Water Advisory Committee; Founded "Operation Paintbrush."

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

* Reduce debt: Quit adding to current \$1.66 billion debt. Must be reduced!
** Re-establish City's Engineering Department to IN-HOUSE Eng. Dept. to direct and oversee City projects. Authorize Manager to redirect funds from vacant budgeted positions to engineering department to get city competitive, hire personnel needed for fully staffed department.
*** Re-focus city efforts to provide basic city services which will restore public confidence.

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

Yes! See answer to question # 2.

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?

Get the Engineering Department functional, and direct the City Manager to expedite the plans and specifications for bond approved projects ready to bid. NO additional debt, until all existing bond approved projects are in progress.



**JIMIE
OWSLEY, M.D.**

Trauma and general surgeon. Advance trauma life support instructor. Masters in Pathology. Lifelong over achiever. I'm a dedicated mother of two. I own a home and rental property. I started my first small business in 2007 in Corpus Christi. Owner and operator of new independent bookstore called By the Book and new time-share office space called Uospace. International humanitarian and Iraq war veteran with 17 years military service.

(1) Budget (2) Taxes (3) Taking care of people. First, I will not vote to raise the budget. Look for ways to become more efficient and eliminate waste. Search and apply for outside funding. Look for cost neutral solutions. Second, I will not raise taxes. In addition, #1, encourage more homeownership by increasing utilization of city current homeownership incentives, lower unemployment and more small business owners. Third, above and listen.

Yes, not unique to the city staff. Competitive pay and increase quality of work environment. We hold an individual responsible when we have asked them to do more with less. If we had an unlimited budget, staffing would not be an issue, nor our streets or water because it would already be fixed and maintained. But we do have a budget as our constituents do. We need to be better communicators of our limitations not as an excuse but be realistic.

Limited by budget, unexpected cost and bureaucracy. Capital improvement projects are interesting because really we should anticipate decaying infrastructure and build it into the cities growth plan. At some point, the south side will look like the west side if we continue with short-sided and reactionary plans. Maintenance and annual re-evaluation process projects is the way. We cannot get ahead without anticipating and planning.

Corpus Christi City Council, District 1

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Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?



**RYAN
SCHROEDER**

I have a bachelor degree in finance from Texas A&M Corpus Christi. I have worked as a service person my entire working career from yardwork, landscaping, home remodeling, fence work, custom woodworking, oil field rental service, and my current job as a core analysis. Being one who has made a living on service, I believe I am qualified for this position.

First is water supply. Best way is to evaluate the entire system and work on replacement and make room for future expansion. Second are streets. Street repairs will have to be a balance of materials and cost to be done once and correctly for a long term use. Third is taxes and fees. Frivolous, improper, and vision lacking spending has caused deficits and extended time lines to complete projects with new fees for residents.

Having a qualified staff is a must have. Better oversight on projects and accountability for decisions are needed. It needs to be evaluated to see if the work load is too much, the person/persons are not the best qualified, or there are too many overseeing said projects.

Having a 10 year plan is a good thing to have. Set goals and deadlines for the future vision of this city. Efficiency is the key when dealing with this and having a city workforce and contractors working together will be the greatest challenge. However, it can't be rushed to quickly because that can cause poor results or more expenditure in the future.



**CAROLYN
VAUGHN**

I think my ability to run a company that is debt free is my greatest credential for serving on the council. It is the citizens' money not ours and we need to carefully examine every purchase that is made and try to cut where we can. We need to live within our means not spend more than we take in. Remember it is needs no wants.

I believe the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term belong to the infrastructure of the city: the roads, utilities, Wastewater Plants, and a safe water supply. The Council is already addressing these issues with the formation of the street committee, for example who's final analysis and plans are already being implemented. Safe water is a number one priority and we are addressing this problem with the city staff as well.

We definitely have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff, we have many positions that need to be filled in these departments. The city needs to offer engineers a competitive salary that is competitive with the private sector for both of these departments.

When you hire qualified engineers, field inspections, and a department head with a supporting staffed department with all involved having a clear understanding these projects are to be completed in a timely manner, I believe you will see a vast difference in these Capital Improvements Projects being completed. Our staff needs to be responsible for accepting the final completion of these projects and hold the con-

Corpus Christi City Council, District 2

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?



**BEN
MOLINA**

I've been married for 11 years, have 2 children, and I'm a small business owner. I have dedicated my life to serving our city. I served on the Board of Habitat for Humanity, holding many offices until terming out as President. I served on the Board of Young Business Professionals, and currently serve as President of the Westside Business Association. I was a 40 Under 40 Honoree and graduate of Leadership Corpus Christi Class 42.

Proactive improvements to our infrastructure.
Fiscal responsibility including debt reduction.
Constructive communication among council and staff is the third challenge and essential for the first two.

While our debt continues to grow, less money is available to fund most city departments, making it difficult to recruit and retain. We must take a stronger stance on our debt rate to return money to the operations of our departments.

Improving our ability to recruit and retain qualified staff, particularly in the Engineering Department is the first step. The department needs to properly scope projects to get better estimates before design and bid. Voter approved bond projects should be ready to bid upon voter approval.



**BRIAN
ROSAS**

Currently I am the City Councilmember for District 2. I have experience as a Child Protective Services caseworker, Teacher/Coach, Mechanic/Production Supervisor and sales manager. All of my experiences have allowed me to be more sensitive and more culturally diverse. I am also a husband, father, stepfather and grandfather to 4 wonderful children. I hold both a Bachelors and a Masters Degree from Texas A&M Corpus Christi University.

First I will continue to work heavily within my district with the projects that have been completed like the senior centers and two major arterials. Infrastructure projects throughout the city. 2nd I plan on being cognizant of tax paying dollars and working with downtown management to help revitalize and help the economic boom. 3rd Bring more jobs to Corpus Christi. I plan by engaging with EDC and other partners to entice businesses.

Yes. The problem is a lack of a succession plan that the city has yet to incorporate. Thus, you see the same people being brought in after retirement as contractors to continue the projects. Now with the new city manager we will continue to explore newer ideas to help treat the deficiencies.

Strategic planning and better scoped projects will help expedite such capital improvement programs. Currently we are trying to implement CIP's in advance to help mitigate futuristic problems. It is a huge problem for the community because it does not allow healthy planning in the area and it slows down advancement of that community.

Corpus Christi City Council, District 3

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?



RICK GOMEZ

I have been a successful business owner and broker since 2009, and I am a college graduate with a degree in Theology. I have served on multiple boards such as Crimestoppers and Grow Local and currently serve on 3 boards. I volunteer and donate regularly to various organizations, political and otherwise such as our Animal control organizations. I am a father of two children and was born and raised in Corpus Christi, as was my family.

The 1st challenge is our ballooning debt. The actions that must be taken to rectify this are to be careful with our votes not to add additional debt without serious consideration. The 2nd challenge is our streets and infrastructure. We must raise the money without creating a permanent tax or fee that will never go away. The 3rd challenge is for the CC to work together to control our animal issue. Cooperation with Captain Broyles is essential.

We absolutely have this problem. To fix this we have to make Corpus Christi a more attractive place to live. Ridesharing, and bringing in more unique businesses with tax abatements and incentives would greatly help. We also need to reduce debt in order to increase the General Fund which will allow for pay to be raised. Collective Bargaining has also led to an increase in pension contributions by the city and will go a long way to keeping staff.

If we can finish our projects with a faster completion date, not only will that save us money, but it will also allow us to take on more Capital Improvement projects in order to hasten Corpus Christi's growth. If we allow it to stay the same, then we will always be behind cities of similar population, and will foster a reputation as a city that is slow to change or improve. Our systems should be improved for greater efficiency and cost savings.



LUCY RUBIO

I have lived in Corpus Christi my entire life and dedicated the last 25+ years of it serving this community. I started in PTA, holding positions from local to state level for over 10 years. I then served as CCISD School Board Trustee, District 2 for almost 15 years before joining the City Council last January. If re-elected as Councilwoman for District 3, I will continue to ask the tough questions and push status quo.

Three major challenges are water, wastewater and public safety. As a Council Member, my duty is to ensure these key issues are on our agenda for discussion and provide direction to the City Manager. As the City Manager is responsible for the daily operations of the City, I look forward to working more closely with her to find ways to improve our City and our processes, in a cost-conscious and effective manner.

When I came into office on January 13, 2015, the new Council Members were debriefed on the City's major problems. In order for us to solve these issues, we must significantly change how we run our city government. We need to hire qualified staff to do the job right and hold them accountable if they don't (which didn't always happen in previous years). I believe with our new City Manager in place, things will improve.

My role has been, and will continue to be, to challenge our City Manager to think strategically and creatively. It's pretty obvious the old way of doing things no longer works. We need to move things forward faster, more efficiently. The problems with the old protocol is it drives costs up. When we wait a few years to get a project started or completed, the materials and manpower become more expensive than initially budgeted.

Corpus Christi City Council, District 4

Candidate responses to the LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the three major challenges for the City Council in the next term? What actions will you take to meet these challenges?

Do you think that we have a problem in hiring and retaining qualified city staff? For example, having enough engineers to oversee approved street bond projects and technicians to correct water treatment deficiencies. If so, what do you propose to solve these problems?

What role do you see for an improved and expedited Capital Improvements process to bring projects to completion in advance of the traditional 10-year track record? What problems, if any, do you see for the community in allowing this protocol to stay in place as is?



GREG SMITH

I have served on numerous public boards including the City's Island Strategic Action Committee as Chair, the Windstorm Task Force as Vice Chair, the Nueces County Beach Management Committee as Chair. This has been invaluable in understanding public service at the City, County & State level. My business, Pioneer RV is a community with its own streets, water & sewer connections giving insights to infrastructure issues along with staffing & budgets.

Residential streets are the number one problem. The City should adopt the recommendation of the street committee to increase funding by \$17 million per year. Two, wastewater upgrades need to be addressed by starting on the identified projects that have the greatest cost benefit ratio. Three, the City needs to improve its transparency and service to the citizenry.

The City's turnover rate is unacceptably high in some departments. It results in the loss of all important institutional knowledge ensuing in less efficient and costlier operations of those departments. I would look to the City Manager to identify and report to Council the high turnover departments and steps to remedy the issue. This is the part of my number three priority issue.

City staff should present a timeline to Council and the citizens for bond projects as part of the process prior to a vote. Projects should be designed to a level that allows for a reasonable estimate of cost. All projects should be ready to start during the time of the bond cycle. Delayed projects result in cost overruns, higher debt costs, poor taxpayer value and most importantly citizen dissatisfaction with our city.



DR. LLOYD STEGEMANN

My professional life has been all about service and results. As a bariatric surgeon I serve the needs of my patients, as a former Naval Officer I served my country, and as a former teacher I served our youth. I have held numerous leadership positions in professional organizations all of which have led to tangible results for the organization. My life experience has taught me is that to be a good leader one must be a good listener.

1. Restoring trust and confidence in our city government: Create transparency through more effective communication and serving with honesty and integrity.
2. Creating and funding definitive long-term plans to address our crumbling infrastructure: Work collaboratively with other Council Members along with City Manager
3. Support, strengthen, and diversify our economy: Support/develop areas of tourism, Port, NAS/CCAD, and TAMUCC.

One only needs to look at the number of City Managers that have passed through in the last 10 years to know there is an issue. My business experience has taught me people leave for two reasons: money or morale. My business and Naval experience has taught me the importance of hiring good leaders, supporting them, and then getting out of their way. I will not micromanage our City Manager but I will support her and then hold her accountable.

It should always be our goal to finish Capital Improvement projects early and at or below budgeted costs. Because we are dependent on the energy sector for a significant portion of our revenues, we are subject to the volatility of those markets as evidenced by our \$8MIL deficit this year. I would like to see us create a more diverse economy that better withstands changes in the marketplace thereby making our revenue streams more predictable.

Corpus Christi ISD Trustees At-Large

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Top 3 vote getters in this At-Large race will be elected.



**A. TOTSY
ARMADILLO**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

I bring the parent prospective. I am a Mother first and past LULAC District Director, I am active in Local/State/National Communities. I have personal experience and active participation in education and with PTA/PTSA/Communities in Schools/RMHS Alumni / C C L G B T / MALDEF/LNESC and other organizations. I am committed to doing what is right for children. Teachers built my character. My civic involvement has helped with the education of my own children.

What do you see as the biggest challenges to the CCISD and how do you plan to address them?

Safety: As a Trustee, I would commission a study of officers that students may require per campus. Safety cases need to be investigated in a timely manner.

In the past there has been excellent community involvement regarding school consolidations and closures. How will you ensure that this practice continues?

I strongly DISAGREE. I was a PTA Officer/parent of a student when Lozano/Shaw consolidated. There was NO community input. Community input came to late. From one day to the next schools consolidated/children were stuffed in portable buildings like sardines/teachers misplaced/neighborhoods ruined. Afternoon tea with Superintendent/Principals/PTA meetings/Forums/letters/robocalls/block walkers. All need to start at 6pm so that community can attend.

In light of the recent realization that High School graduates are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all grade levels?

We need to hire teachers who can specialize in testing areas and take the load off of teachers to focus on core standards. Children's needs are not being addressed and they are not prepared for collage and the real world. Community Schools would be a program that would partner with community resources to focus on academics, health, social services and youth. Parent and Community engagement. Student Engagement. Curriculum quality/access is needed.



**S. JAIME
ARREDONDO**

My career has spanned 37 yrs. I served as teacher, principal, Montana State Migrant Director, T.E.A. staff consultant, doctoral fellow at UT Austin and School Director in CCISD for 22 yrs. retiring in 2006. My extensive background and experiences in leadership, management, school board relations, evaluation of campus operations and instructional implementation, as well as knowledge of district operations will be a key asset as a Board member.

1. School Boundaries: The school boundaries discussions must begin as soon as Feb., 2017. Strategic planning must occur to minimize uncertainty and be transparent in addressing this issue to gain community support in all areas potentially affected.
2. Fiscal accountably: Insure that specific instructional program funds are appropriately utilized in support of student needs. Timely plan for key facilities needs. Effectively utilize tax revenues.

1. Require Superintendent to provide a detailed plan to the board on closures and consolidations.
2. Be transparent with timing and develop an aggressive communication plan. Areas being impacted, projections, plan for community meetings, and process for input from community and parents.
3. Garner community and parents support on locations being impacted.
4. Establish timeline on final decisions for the Board to finalize plans.

1. Emphasis on building a sound foundation in the primary grades. (Pre-K through 2)
2. Increased writing skills must be integrated with reading initiatives.
3. Ensure that Superintendent has a detailed instructional plan to address reading and writing at all grade levels, provides appropriate instructional materials, provides for quality professional development and provides campus leadership and teacher support.
4. A yearly District priority.

Corpus Christi ISD Trustees At-Large

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**JANIE
BELL**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

I am graduate of University of Texas at Austin. My husband and I have lived in Corpus Christi for 38 years raising 4 children, graduates from W.B. Ray High School. I have been a volunteer, PTA and Booster club member In CCISD for 28 years. I am a proactive, involved CCISD Trustee and the current Board President. The knowledge gained over the past 4 years is the expertise I bring to the next 4 years to move this district to be exceptional.

What do you see as the biggest challenges to the CCISD and how do you plan to address them?

State Funding – Proactively working with our legislators to insure adequate funding.
Accountability – Should not tie teacher evaluations to STARR test. We need to work with our legislators to develop a new system to balance innovation and accountability to measure student learning and progress.
Academic Challenges - With a diverse student population we must research and be data driven to implement programs meeting the needs of all students.

In the past there has been excellent community involvement regarding school consolidations and closures. How will you ensure that this practice continues?

A bond package is developed by studying different scenarios and based on several factors: age and safety of school, cost, population shift, traffic, location and alignment to feeder schools. Once developed it is taken to the public for their education, input and discussion. There are several presentations scheduled for Bond 2016. If it passes we meet with the affected communities for further input before finalizing our design, locations etc...

In light of the recent realization that High School graduates are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all grade levels?

Our administration has a laser-like focus on improving and strengthening the curriculum and addressing the specific needs of our students. Our reading and writing scores are lacking. There are gaps in our early grades. We are implementing programs which have been thoughtfully researched specifically targeting reading and writing. We will benchmark throughout the year and will make adjustments if needed.



**MARTY
BELL**

I am a proud product of CCISD. I retired in May after being a classroom teacher and coach for 34 years, the last 18 were serving the students at Carroll High School. I was able to represent CHS's faculty on the DAT and the coaches and athletic trainers on the Consultation Committee. I was elected vice chairman and co-chairman respectively. My intimate knowledge of the classroom and experience in running our district best qualifies me to serve.

Chronic absenteeism is a big issue. We need to intervene earlier as a district and meet the needs of the students and family to get the students to school. We also need to decrease the gap between the school board vision and actual campus implementation. I will be able to do that because I have a greater understanding of how a school works. Technology needs to work at a high level, new programs need to be 100% ready before implementing.

As a district we must develop a long term plan for new facilities, consolidation and closures. This can start with our CAT. For maximum buy-in and understanding, the facilities vision needs to have input from all stakeholders before moving forward. The board and administrative team must constantly refer to the building blueprint when putting a bond issue out. We need to develop a plan, communicate our plan and then work our plan.

In order to raise the level of preparedness for students, teachers must have the freedom to provide the necessary rigor in the classroom and have grading integrity. Currently, our students have multiple chances to complete assignments, retest and redo course work even after the six weeks has ended to receive course credit. We want our students to raise their level of daily performance to meet their future college and career challenge.

Corpus Christi ISD Trustees At-Large

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**DR. JOSE
CAVAZOS**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

My credentials include a B.S. in Elementary Education, an M.S. in School Administration, and a Ed.D in School Administration from the University of Houston (1973). My experiences include serving as a teacher at CCISD, an assistant principal, a principal, and the Director of all Elementary Schools, and Evaluator of all Elementary Principals, as well as some middle schools and high schools.

What do you see as the biggest challenges to the CCISD and how do you plan to address them?

The biggest challenges include the focus on student learning and ensuring that all of our schools have the resources and tools to meet the needs of all of the students. As a board member, I will strongly support accumulating all possible resources to achieve this goal. Another challenge is the 194 million bond to consolidate Cunningham and South Park Middle Schools. Other schools affected include Haas, Cullen, and Baker. I support the bond issue.

In the past there has been excellent community involvement regarding school consolidations and closures. How will you ensure that this practice continues?

When addressing school consolidation and closures, I believe that community involvement is vital. Parents of respective communities must be fully informed at every level about board decisions. Addressing closures is always an emotional issue for parents, students, teachers, and administrators. Consequently, all aspects of closures should be transparent and within the law.

In light of the recent realization that High School graduates are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all grade levels?

In order to address the problems of high school graduates having a need to take remedial courses in reading and writing, I strongly propose that language arts be emphasized in pre-k through 5th grade. I will make every effort to ensure that resources and tools are available at the elementary grades to facilitate the mastery of reading and writing skills. This process will continue through the middle schools and high schools.



**JAMES
GOLD**

I have a Psychology MA and worked in the education and child development fields for 35+ years. I understand how students learn and have extensive knowledge of Federal, State, and local education policies and operations. During my 16 years at CCISD I worked with every department, campus and the School Board analyzing data and translating the information into policies and actions. My experience and knowledge uniquely qualifies me for the Board.

We must upgrade our expectations and curriculum beyond STAAR, and provide the instruction and resources necessary to meet student education needs. We should Pilot a "Community School" to serve students with significant educational and basic needs, increase academic accountability by evaluating major programs, increase fiscal accountability through better planning to avoid cost overruns and develop a facilities plan based on valid information.

At CCISD I was heavily involved in locating and/or consolidating campuses. I provided data for public hearings, answered questions at the hearing and responded to community questions via a web page. I would require the Administration to prepare a facilities plan that includes several sets of hearings to both inform the community and gather timely feedback from the people affected. Public input is critical to a smooth consolidation process.

Since 30% of our graduates are academically deficient it appears STAAR success does not equal post secondary success. The District needs to realign the K-12 curriculum and instruction to better reflect student academic reading and writing needs beyond STAAR and high school. There needs to be less testing, more quality instruction, an emphasis on innovative and higher order thinking with reading and writing emphasized across the curriculum.

Corpus Christi ISD Trustees At-Large

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Top 3 vote getters in this At-Large race will be elected.

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

What do you see as the biggest challenges to the CCISD and how do you plan to address them?

In the past there has been excellent community involvement regarding school consolidations and closures. How will you ensure that this practice continues?

In light of the recent realization that High School graduates are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all grade levels?



**ROBERT
HINOJOSA**

My Education in Texas Law enforcement Qualifies me in Dealing with the public and dealing with life and death situations I also worked as a juvenile detention officer parttime and had a school within the institution I know what children need ccisd truancy problems can and will be improved by better training our truancy officers Drop-out rate also a problem I've witnessed it firsthand we can and will improve or slow down the dropout rate.

We need to stop wasteful spending. Our tax payers deserve better without hurting our progress in ccisd we need to work closer with the courts on truancy losing state Grant money because of our truancy problems and drop out. Better training our truancy officers.

We need to study the problems if any exist or if old school are obsolete and need to build bigger more modern and most importantly community input and involvement.

We have professional Teachers with degrees BBA, MASTER, PHDS, The curriculum can and must get harder too better prepare our graduates and more college training in high school.



**HECTOR
SALINAS**

I have been an educator for over 40 years. I have coached and taught at the middle school, high school, and college level. Because I have been a teacher and a coach, I understand what goes on in the school, in the classrooms, and behind the scenes. I also know what colleges are looking for in students. My experience affords me the opportunity to provide a perspective from all levels.

Truancy & graduation are issues that cannot be resolved overnight, but they must be addressed. Since they are primarily handled at the campus level, we must ensure that our campuses have the proper tools needed to help decrease truancy and increase graduation rate. We must provide adequate support for teachers, administrators & truancy officers. Also, look at other programs that are successful and proven to show increase graduation & decrease truancy.

I am a strong advocate for community involvement. We cannot run schools without the assistance of our community. Campuses depend on business in our community to continue programs. We depend on mentors within the community to mentor students. Our community has a vested interest with their children, nieces, or nephews, grandchildren or friends who have children who attend our schools. Not only is community involvement crucial but communication is vital.

We must continue with vertical learning communities in order to communicate in order among our schools and continue to provide professional development for our teachers. We need to listen to our teachers to continue to make good use of technology. There are programs to assist our teachers in assisting our students become better readers and writers. We need to adequately and properly train our teachers and provide the support they need.

Corpus Christi ISD Trustees At-Large

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Top 3 vote getters in this At-Large race will be elected.



**JOHN
STEARNS**

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to hold this office.

I believe there are several key things. I'm a product of CCISD schools, a parent volunteer and a financial advisor-- all of which give me a unique perspective. The bottom line is I'm not a politician. I'm parent and volunteer with a unique background in finance that helps me to see how we can best balance our assets to benefit those who matter most--our children.

What do you see as the biggest challenges to the CCISD and how do you plan to address them?

I believe we are starting to head in the right direction but one area where I feel we could use some work is communication. My experience as a parent has shown me that sometimes decisions are made at the top level of the district but don't trickle down to teachers, parents or the community. That comes across as a lack of transparency and inclusiveness. There needs to be a clear, relevant, measurable plan of action.

In the past there has been excellent community involvement regarding school consolidations and closures. How will you ensure that this practice continues?

Again, I think this comes down to communication. We need to make sure the community is well informed and allow them input. That oversight is our check and balance. We have to have a solid plan in place to be able to answer questions about why decisions are being made. I think it is important to note that no administration, or board, for that matter has all the answers. What makes the process work is collaboration and cohesiveness.

In light of the recent realization that High School graduates are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all grade levels?

I think the problem is two fold. We are pushing our students to become more effective test takers than independent learners. We need to find a balance. Recently we have heard a great deal of collaboration between upper level institutions and our schools in regards to technical workforce training and its working. More students are going thru these programs and on to higher paying jobs. Are we having the same conversations about basic academics?



**ALICE
UPSHAW-
HAWKINS**

Master's Composition and Rhetoric; Retired educator 25 years. 3 years in petroleum industry; 12 years in Tele Communications—outside plant engineering; 25 years education--grades 6-12; 2003-2016 Del Mar College adjunct faculty. As an educator past and present, I have the unique perspective of understanding the challenges facing our students in the classroom, the challenges parents face at home and in the community and the trial and tests classroom//

One of the greatest challenges that CCISD faces is trying to teach students how to be real problem solvers while teaching to the high stakes testing environment? It causes undue stress on students, teachers, and creates hostile environments for classroom teachers as administration exert undue pressure and stressful working environments.

To the best of my understanding and in light of recent past, I question the "excellent community involvement" regarding consolidations and closures. Recent practice refutes this idea. I believe that only after plans had been made and announced regarding certain elementary campuses that //

The first thing that I would question and take a look at is the curriculum; second the pedagogy, and third classroom environment: i.e. class sizes, teacher training, student discipline, attendance.

Del Mar College Regents At-Large

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your leadership skills and personal attributes that make you the best candidate.

If the proposed southside campus is not supported by voters, what other alternatives are available to college officials to enhance and/or expand the two available campuses?

What evidence would you seek to ensure Student Learning Outcomes implementation and evaluation are faculty driven?

In light of the realization that high school students are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all ages?



**TREY
MCCAMPBELL**

I am a graduate of Leadership Corpus Christi, and have deep experience leading, facilitating, and chairing governing boards. As a product of our local schools from kindergarten to graduate school, I am passionate about high quality education that is affordable and accessible. Having served as a Regent for two terms, I am the only CPA/accountant serving, and bring to the Board 30 years of business experience and acumen.

Del Mar is committed to meeting the needs of our local community and the workforce requirements of business and industry. Credit enrollment has already exceeded the State's projection for 2020 and workforce non-credit enrollment grew 75% in 5 years. While meeting those needs will be challenging without new facilities to accommodate enrollment/program growth, we will strive to find solutions on our existing campuses or other external partnerships.

Faculty are key to student's successful learning. Del Mar College is blessed with highly qualified faculty—the number of faculty with doctoral degrees has increased from 21% to 27%. Faculty participate in a robust College “shared governance” system that ensures they have a voice in SLO's. The College is implementing a software system that will provide real-time feedback to Faculty about how individual students are doing toward their goals.

In addition to high school students entering with developmental needs, many individuals start at Del Mar years after they graduate high school. They too have need to strengthen their reading and writing skills. Identification of students with needs, good counseling, strong mentoring and tutoring are all important. And it is imperative that developmental courses be available to any student and at all campuses—when and where they need it.



**LAURIE
TURNER**

I currently serve on the State Board of Educator Certification. Worked in public education for twelve years; serving various committees such as District & Campus Improvement committee; AVID; department chair (budget & collaboration); professional development, community involvement; and Safety 1st. as well as curriculum and assessment development. Hold a doctorate in Education Leadership: Education Law & Policy. Served on many community boards.

To Determine alternative options, a feasibility study - data- must be conducted that focuses on our community growth rate, a viable location that can be utilized, accessible, and provide educational opportunities for all community members as well as community and business needs. Taking care of our infrastructure; building on what is already in place and meeting the needs of each department should be our first priority-not its last.

First, I would need to review each course's learning objectives and design within each department. Based on the objectives and design, the evidence I would seek would be program completion rates verses drop out rates, percentage of degree plans fulfilled as well as percentage of students transferring to other higher education colleges with low degree of remedial coursework, certification exam scores, as well as faculty and students evaluations.

One of my goals as a board member would be to close the gap in reading, writing, and mathematics to ensure academic success for all incoming freshmen. I hope to create a committee that includes both higher education faculty and high school teachers that will identify needs, gaps, and resources that will align 9-14 academics; starting the conversations and continuing communicating to solve this problem.

Del Mar College Regents, District 5

Candidate responses to LWV-CC questions are reprinted verbatim and are not edited.

Describe your leadership skills and personal attributes that make you the best candidate.

If the proposed southside campus is not supported by voters, what other alternatives are available to college officials to enhance and/or expand the two available campuses?

What evidence would you seek to ensure Student Learning Outcomes implementation and evaluation are faculty driven?

In light of the realization that high school students are entering college in need of remedial reading and writing skills, what action do you propose to increase academic achievement at all ages?



**EDWARD LEE
BENNETT**

With undergraduate and graduate degrees in business administration and four decades in business as a C.P.A. and executive, I have motivated people to achieve results while understanding where the money comes from and how it is spent.

The Southside campus is not justified by either increased enrollment (as reported in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report), or by growth of the city population. While college students are attending more classes on-line, and Del Mar College enrollment is less than it was 25 years ago, we do not need to invest half a billion dollars on new buildings.

I would insist that the shared governance be enhanced to include more input from the faculty. The faculty knows how to teach and they need to be the leaders academically, not the administrators that may never have actually taught a college course.

With CCISD ranked in the bottom 25 percent of all Texas ISD's in recent years, I would propose that the boards of both organizations meet together with representatives of the faculty teaching remedial courses and representatives of the high school teachers to generate a plan that will result in graduating more literate high school students. The graduation of students that can not function at the high school level is very costly to the community.



**JIM
BOGGS**

Ten years of Board Experience at Del Mar College. George Hixon Award from Kiwanis. BBA Architecture Texas Tech University; Received Distinguished Graduate Award; Graduate Class I, Leadership Corpus Christi. Private business 31 years. Assistant Professor, Del Mar College, 10 years. Director Architectural Division Naismith-Hanson Professional Services, Inc. City of Corpus Christi, Facilities Architect. Wide variety of professional and community committees.

Sorely needed programs planned for the South Campus will not be initiated if the South Campus bonds fail. Our Board Voted 9-0 with the strong belief that it will receive voter approval. With the area's new industrial business many graduates can expect to earn a starting salary of \$58,000.00 annually. This far exceeds beginning salaries on just a few years ago.

The administration is prompt about keeping our Board informed about ensuring "Student Learning Outcomes" which are all by their nature "faculty driven."

In order to meet these special needs for "Unprepared" students we provide special remedial and tutorial classes for all ages. Our programs have been acknowledged as among the best in Texas. Age and maturity are key to "catching up" in those areas. Average age of our students is 26.

The logo for VOTE411.ORG features the word "VOTE" in red, "411" in blue, and ".ORG" in blue. Below "VOTE" is a red circle containing two white hands raised in a gesture of voting. Below the entire logo is the text "ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED" in blue.

VOTE411.ORG
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

VOTE CENTERS (Nueces County voters can vote at any one of these **Vote Centers on Election Day, November 8, regardless of where they reside.)**

Antonio Garcia Arts & Education Center--2021 Agnes St
Baker Middle School--3445 Pecan St.
Banquete ISD--4339 Fourth St. -BANQUETE
Ben Garza Gym--1815 Howard St.
Bishop High School—100 Badger Ln. - BISHOP
Bishop Primary School--705 W. Main St. - BISHOP
Blanche Moore Elementary--6121 Durant Dr.
Brooks A.M.E. Worship Center-- 2101 N Port Ave
Calallen East Elementary--3709 Lott Ave.
Calallen Middle School--4602 Cornett Rd.
Cimarron Senior Apartments--2802 Cimarron Blvd.
Club Estates Elementary--5222 Merganser Dr.
Cullen Middle School--5224 Greely Dr.
Cunningham Middle School--4321 Prescott St.
David Berlanga Community Center--1513 2nd St – AGUA DULCE
David Crockett Elementary--2625 Belton St.
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center--5151 McArdle Rd.
Del Mar College--101 Baldwin Blvd.
Driscoll I.S.D. -- 410 W. Ave. D, - DRISCOLL
Driscoll Middle School--3501 Kenwood Dr.
Ella Barnes Elementary--2829 Oso Parkway
Ethel Eyerly Senior Center--654 Graham Rd.
Fannin Elementary--2730 Gollihar Rd.
Fire Station #7--3722 S. Staples St.
Fire Station # 9--501 Navigation Blvd.
Fire Station # 11--910 Airline Rd.
Fire Station #12--2120 Rand Morgan Rd.
Flour Bluff ISD (Maintenance Bldg.) --2505 Waldron Rd.
Galvan Elementary--3126 Masterson Dr.
Gibson Elementary--5723 Hampshire Rd.
Gloria Hicks Elementary--3602 McArdle Rd.
Grace Presbyterian Church--6301 Yorktown Blvd.
Grant Middle School--4350 Aaron Dr.
Hamlin Middle School--3900 Hamlin Dr.

Harold T. Branch Academy--3902 Morgan St.
Hilltop Community Center--11425 Leopard St.
Island Presbyterian Church--14030 Fortuna Bay Dr.
John F. Kennedy Elementary--1102 Villarreal Rd.
Johnny Calderon Building. -- 710 E. Main St. - ROBSTOWN
Keach Family Library--1000 Terry Shamsie - ROBSTOWN
King High School--5225 Gollihar Rd.
Kiwanis Recreation Center--3933 Timon Blvd.
Kolda Elementary--3730 Rodd Field
Korean Presbyterian Church--4326 McArdle Rd.
Kostoryz Elementary--3602 Panama Dr.
La Retama Central Library—805 Comanche St.
Lindale Senior Center--3135 Swantner Dr.
London ISD Middle/High School--1306 FM 43
Lotspeich Elementary--1000 Ruben Chavez Rd. - ROBSTOWN
LULAC West Apartments--10702 IH 37
Luther Jones Elementary--7533 Lipes Blvd.
Magee Elementary - Star Annex--4201 Calallen Dr.
Menger Elementary--2401 S. Alameda St.
Metro E Elementary--1707 Ayers St.
MG Building Materials--7406 S. Padre Island Dr.
Mireles Elementary--7658 Cimarron Blvd.
Montclair Elementary--5241 Kentner St.
Moody High School--1818 Trojan Dr.
Nueces County ESD #4--5781 FM 666- ROBSTOWN
Oak Park Recreation Center--842 Erwin Ave.
Our Lady of Mnt. Carmel Mission--1080 S Clarkwood Rd.
Oveal Williams Senior Center--1414 Martin Luther King Dr.
Parkway Presbyterian Church--3707 Santa Fe
Peerless Cleaners--2806 Santa Fe
Petronila Elementary--2391 Cnty Rd. 67- ROBSTOWN
Port Aransas Community Center--408 North Alister-

PORT ARANSAS

(VOTE CENTER list continues on Page 28)



This Voters Guide is published by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area and is available free of charge at local and area libraries and public buildings. For more information, call (361) 445-4436.

VOTE CENTERS (Continued from Page 27)

River Hills Baptist Church--16318 FM 624 - ROBSTOWN
 Robert Driscoll Elementary--122 W. Ave. H- ROBSTOWN
 Ronnie H. Polston County Bldg. -- 10110 Compton Rd.
 Rose Shaw Elementary--2920 Soledad St.
 Saint John's Baptist Church--5445 Greenwood Dr.
 San Pedro Elementary--800 W. Ave. D- ROBSTOWN
 Schanen Estates Elementary--5717 Killarmet Dr.
 Schlitterbahn--14353 Commodores Dr.
 Scott Veters Scout Hut--3221 McKinzie Rd.
 Smith Elementary--6902 Williams Dr.
 South Park Middle School--3001 McArdle St.
 St. Anthony Violet Catholic Church--3918 Cnty. Rd. 61-
 ROBSTOWN
 T.G. Allen Elementary--1414 18th. St.
 The People's Baptist Church--1355 FM 665

Tom Browne Middle School--4301 Schanen Blvd.
 Travis Elementary-3210 Churchill Dr.
 Tuloso-Midway High School--2653 McKinzie Rd.
 Tuloso-Midway Middle School--9768 La Branch St.
 Valencia Hall--6110 Ayers St.
 Veterans Memorial High School--3750 Cimarron
 Villa of Corpus Christi – South--4834 Yorktown Blvd.
 West Oso Junior High School--5202 Bear Lane
 Windsor Park Athena School--4525 S. Alameda St.
 Woodlawn Elementary--1110 Woodlawn Dr.
 Yeager Elementary--5414 Tripoli Dr.
 Zavala Senior Center--510 Osage St.

*NOTE: Polling Sites Selected by Democratic and Republican Party Chairs; Approved by Nueces County Commissioners 7/13/16, with revisions approved later.
 Prepared by the Nueces County Elections Department*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:

Join us in helping make democracy work

The League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi Area, formed in 1945 and celebrating its 71st year, welcomes your support through annual membership.

Open to men and women 16 years of age and older, LWV-CC provides opportunities to participate in voter services projects; study local, state, and national issues; become better informed about public policy issues; and partner with individuals and organizations who believe in making democracy work.

Annual dues (June 1-May 31) are \$60 for an individual; \$90 for two individuals residing in the same household; and \$30 for a student. Other categories include "Friend of the League" (\$30) and "Sustaining Member" (\$100). Your check or money order gladly accepted; on-line Pay Pal also available at <http://www.lwv-cc.org>.

() YES, I want to join as a _____.

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ City/Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail Address _____

MAIL THIS FORM TO:
LWV-CC (Attn. Membership)
 PO Box 8276
 Corpus Christi, TX 78468
 or call 361-445-4436

