State Representative
State Representative District 3


2-year term. The House is one of two chambers that make up the Texas Legislature. The representative is one of 150 representatives. They make and vote on laws, decide where the money goes within the state government, serve on committees such as agriculture and livestock, business and industry, elections, higher education, energy resources, etc. Bills for raising money must originate in the House. Only the House can impeach a statewide officer. Current salary: $7,200 plus $190 per diem when in session.

Candidates (choose 1):

Cecil Bell Jr.
Party: Rep

No response received from candidate.

Lisa Seger
Party: Dem

Website: http://lisaforhd3.org | Facebook: http://facebook.com/LisaForHD3/ | Twitter: twitter.com/LisaForTXHD3 | Email: lisaforhd3@gmail.com | Video: https://www.youtube.com/v/zVV467n1Oac

Questions:

Q: Background: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?
A: I am a farmer and small business owner. I co-founded, and sit on the board of, a women’s health charity. I have spearheaded community support projects after our two biggest natural disasters in the district. All of these have honed my problem solving skills and legislation is, when done correctly, solving people’s pressing problems.

Q: Education: What specific changes should be made to public school financing and why?
A: Since 2008, the state portion of public school funding has dropped from roughly 50% to 39%. The cost to educate our kids has not declined, pushing the balance onto individuals via increased property taxes. The lege must start paying its fair share and stop shifting the burden to individual citizens. Key to financing this is to revisit the Equal and Uniform provision allowing large commercial property owners to pay less in taxes than the fair market value of their property would dictate.

Q: Economy: What state legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions?
A: I support an increase in the state minimum wage to $15/hour, implemented over four years. 42% of the workforce is earning less than this amount, making meeting their basic needs more or less impossible with only one job. A fair Texas does not force people into multiple low-wage jobs just to survive.

Q: Health care: What state legislation is needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.
A: The easiest, most overdue thing we can do is to expand Medicaid as allowed when the ACA was passed. Texas is one of only 17 states not to take advantage of the billions of federal dollars available for this. In addition to covering some 845,000 Texans who fall into the coverage gap between Medicaid and ACA marketplace availability, insuring more Texans will reduce insurance costs for all Texans.

Q: Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?
A: With the impending census and the legislative redistricting that will follow, it is of paramount importance to end the practice of partisan gerrymandering. Nothing is more undemocratic than treating the apportionment of representation as the spoils of war. Districts should be drawn impartially and compactly in a way that ensures all voices are heard equally. What this means, legislatively, is implementing a non-partisan, citizen-led redistricting commission, which I endorse.
State Representative District 15

Description: What Do They Do? A short video explanation of state elected offices: https://youtu.be/uqd9IWpSgXl
2-year term. The House is one of two chambers that make up the Texas Legislature. The representative is one of 150 representatives. They make and vote on laws, decide where the money goes within the state government, serve on committees such as agriculture and livestock, business and industry, elections, higher education, energy resources, etc. Bills for raising money must originate in the House. Only the House can impeach a statewide officer. Current salary: $7,200 plus $190 per diem when in session.

Candidates (choose 1):
Lorena Perez McGill

Party: Dem
Website: http://www.lorenafortexas.com | Campaign Phone: (281) 944-5503 | Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/lorenafortexas | Twitter: twitter.com/lorenafortexas | Email: info@lorenafortexas.com

Questions:

Q: Background: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?
A: As legal counsel at the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., I gained expertise in resolving disputes involving governments, private entities, and individuals. I also believe a representative must engage everyone across her community, from both ends of the political radius, and the bedrock of our democracy is an informed electorate.

Q: Education: What specific changes should be made to public school financing and why?
A: The state's contribution to public education must be restored to pre-2011 funding levels and the 86th legislative session must tackle school finance reform. This should include re-tooling the failing recapture, or "Robin Hood," funding program and controlling property tax increases on homeowners and small businesses. Closing the "Equal and Uniform" corporate tax loophole that allows large corporations to under-pay on property taxes would adequately fund education at the state level.

Q: Economy: What state legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions?
A: Texas already offers great opportunity to improve residents' economic positions; this is only one piece of the prosperity puzzle. Our citizens' health and bright futures should be considered, and right now our education and health-care systems are in crisis. I support school finance reform to restore public education funding to its fullest without raising property taxes. And Medicaid expansion will save hospitals and local governments millions while offering Texas families crucial healthcare.

Q: Health care: What state legislation is needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents?
A: Health care is a basic human right not a privilege, and pre-existing conditions shouldn't limit the healthcare one can afford. I will fight to expand Medicaid to protect our most vulnerable neighbors: children, the disabled and the elderly. Medicaid expansion and incentives to encourage insurers to participate in health care exchanges will result in reduced health care costs for all Texans by improving the uncompensated care crisis bankrupting our public hospitals.

Q: Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?
A: Texans deserve to see property tax reform made a priority by our legislators. However, to enact successful property tax reform, we must first find another source of revenue to fund our schools. Closing a tax loophole called the "Equal and Uniform" provision, which shifts tax responsibility away from thousands of big corporations onto the shoulders of homeowners and small businesses, will result in billions of property tax dollars and potential school funding revenue.
Steve Toth

Party: Rep
Website: http://www.SteveTothForTexas.com | Facebook: http://Steve Toth For Texas | Twitter: twitter.com/Toth_4_Texas | Email: Steve@SteveTothForTexas.com

Questions:
Q: Background: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?
A: I have 34 years of experience in the marketplace. I am a small business owner here in Montgomery County. I have been doing marriage and family life counseling in our community for over 20 years as a Pastor and Elder. I served House District 15 in the past as your State Representative garnering the 5th most conservative voting record in the House.

Q: Education: What specific changes should be made to public school financing and why?
A: The Maintenance and Operations of our public schools should be shifted away from local property owners to the State of Texas. Funding our schools through the property tax is taxing elderly people on fixed incomes out of their homes. The shift would lead to a 60% decrease in property taxes with a small increase in the sales tax which would be carried by a broader portion of the tax base. There would also be more accountability on the part of the ISD’s on how money is spent at the local level.

Q: Economy: What state legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions?
A: Property tax reform; 1) Move ISD M&O to the State. 2) Eliminate Appraisal Districts and base a home’s value at the purchase price.

Q: Health care: What state legislation is needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.
A: Healthcare is federally controlled. Buying across State lines, Tort Reform, perscription drug pricing and free market solutions can only be drafted at the Federal level. While expanding Medicaid looks initially like a viable option it would eventually cripple the Texas budget.

Q: Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?
A: School safety. Hardening our local schools towards anyone who wishes to harm our kids is imperative. Coordinating local law enforcement as we have done here in Montgomery County is an exercise that needs to happen Statewide.

State Representative District 16


2-year term. The House is one of two chambers that make up the Texas Legislature. The representative is one of 150 representatives. They make and vote on laws, decide where the money goes within the state government, serve on committees such as agriculture and livestock, business and industry, elections, higher education, energy resources, etc. Bills for raising money must originate in the House. Only the House can impeach a statewide officer. Current salary: $7,200 plus $190 per diem when in session.

Candidates (choose 1):
Will Metcalf

Party: Rep
Website: http://www.willmetcalf.com | Campaign Phone: (936) 827-4770 | Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/WillMetcalfTX | Twitter: twitter.com/willmetcalftx | Email: will@willmetcalf.com

Questions:
Q: Background: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?
A: If elected, I will be entering my third legislative session and fourth term as State Representative. In previous Sessions I have focused on issues of importance to my community, which I believe every member of the Legislature should do. I have a proven record of successfully advocating on behalf of my constituents.

Q: Education: What specific changes should be made to public school financing and why?
A: The House tried multiple times last Session to address school finance, unfortunately to no avail. We need to address the inequity of Robin Hood payments where we are robbing Peter to pay Paul. We also have to address skyrocketing property tax bills, largely driven by school taxes. The best way to do this is address the state's share of education funding. We can lower property taxes while more equitably funding our schools.

Q: Economy: What state legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions?
A: The most visible tax we pay as Texans is the property tax. You get a bill every year telling you exactly how much you owe. I filed legislation to address property taxes though appraisal reform, supporting revenue caps, and giving citizens a greater voice in selecting their local taxing officials.

Q: Health care: What state legislation is needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.
A: As a state, the most effective thing we can do is ensure that our insurance market is strong and competitive and increase the opportunities for medical professionals to practice within the state to address the shortage of rural healthcare coverage.

Q: Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?
A: In light of the recent school shootings, school safety will be one of my top priorities. This is a complex and nuanced issue that will require efforts on multiple front. We have to make buildings more secure and increase law enforcement presence. At the same time, on the front end, we need to address mental health and intervention to hopefully prevent these incidents from ever occurring in the first place.

Mike Midler

Party: Dem

Website: http://MikeMidlerTexasHouse.com | Campaign Phone: (832) 693-4519 | Facebook: http://Mike Midler, Democrat for Texas State Legislature, District 16 | Twitter: twitter.com/MikeMidlerHD16 | Email: mikenidler.texashouse@gmail.com | Video: https://www.youtube.com/v/bHHVO_V6EsY

Questions:

Q: Background: What training, experience, and background qualify you for this position?
A: I served in the Vietnam War with the US Marine Corps then returned to the States to serve in HMX-1, the President’s Helicopter Squadron. After my service, I earned my Bachelors Degree with a double major in Political Science and Criminal Justice Administration from Indiana University. I then began my 40 year career in public education.

Q: Education: What specific changes should be made to public school financing and why?
A: Texas public schools educate one out of every eleven students in this nation. Our student population is increasing at 80,000 students a year. Yet our Texas Legislature has cut public education funding each of the last 10 years. Local property tax increases and bond issues then must make up the difference. The legislature then spends the money that should be going to education on other unrelated items. It's time for the state legislature to get its head out of the bathroom and into the classroom!

Q: Economy: What state legislation would you support to help Texas residents improve their economic positions?
A: Small business in the form of sole proprietorships employ the largest segment of our state workers. Providing regulatory assistance and a skilled and educated work force will assist our local businesses, as well as continued exemption from the franchise tax. Locally in Montgomery County, infrastructure improvements are needed in the areas of water and sewage and more and better access roads along FM routes and roads leading to and from new housing developments, allowing small businesses to grow.

Q: Health care: What state legislation is needed to increase availability of affordable health care for Texas residents? If none, please explain.
A: The state needs to accept federal assistance to increase Medicaid to cover children and disabled adults. To turn down federal funding for Medicaid for purely political reasons is unconscionable. We need universal healthcare. The state can certainly assist the federal government in coming to an arrangement that is financially feasible to provide affordable healthcare to all Texans.

Q: Other Issues: What other issues do you believe will be most pressing in the next session of the Texas Legislature, and what is your position on these issues?
A: Flooding has not been addressed since Hurricane Harvey caused so much damage locally. “Studying” the problem for two years is not a satisfactory solution. Action to prevent the recurrence of such devastation requires the immediate attention of the legislature. Also, as the fastest growing county in the nation, Montgomery County needs planning and funding for new and expanded roads, water and sewage systems, schools, and police and fire protection. The State Legislature can provide funding help.

**County Judge**

**Montgomery County Judge**

**Description:**

Presides over county commissioners court (non-judicial), which has budgetary and administrative authority over all county government operations. Additionally, the county judge is responsible for overseeing elections and for civil defense preparedness and disaster response. 4-year term.

**Candidates (choose 1):**

**Mark Keough**

Party: Rep

No response received from candidate.

**Jay Stittleburg**

Party: Dem

**Biographical Info:**

- **Address:** P.O. Box 392 Porter, TX 77365
- **Web Site:** http://www.jaystittleburg.com
- **Email:** jayforcountyjudge@gmail.com
- **Age:** 1/8/1973
- **Facebook:** http://www.facebook.com/JayStittleburg4CountyJudge
- **Twitter:** twitter.com/jaystittleburg

**Questions:**

Q: 1. Identify what you think are the two most important issues affecting county governance and the residents of Montgomery County and give specific examples of measurable actions you will take to address these issues?

A: Montgomery County faces development and infrastructure challenges related to a growing economy and the population growth that comes with that success. As County Judge, I would prioritize creating a strategic plan that addresses how the county will deal with public safety, flood mitigation, mobility and infrastructure in relation to our population growth. The county does not currently have a strategic plan that proactively puts it in a position to address the issues related our expanding population and the many issues that come as a result. My second action would be to visit with every county department in order to get a good understanding of each department’s structure, function, and responsibilities. I’ll then ensure that we are developing a county budget reflecting the functionality of each department, provides sufficient resources and services for those departments, and ensures that we have standardized policies with respect to budget creation, salaries and resource requirements.

Q: 2. Based on the recent flooding disasters, what worked well and what steps would you take to improve emergency preparedness and disaster response provided to Montgomery County residents?

A: Over the past several years, the county has learned several valuable lessons related to flooding in the area, such as pre-staging equipment prior to events, but this is a risk as one can never be sure exactly where resources will be needed when disaster events occur. If elected, I understand that the safety of the county’s residents is our top priority, and I will also work with the departments and commissioners to ensure that the county government is utilizing the best and most efficient methods of communication to keep the citizens of the county informed and help direct them to safety. I will work to ensure that the Department of Emergency Management has robust Emergency Response Plans in place that incorporate the lessons learned over the last several years and that we are
communicating those updates with all county first responders. I will also work closely with the SJRA and HCFCD to ensure that we are aligned in preparations and responses to severe weather and flooding events.

Q: 3. What infrastructure plans do you feel are needed to address the large population growth we are experiencing?
A: As the county population continues to rise, we need to focus on how we are going to improve mobility, both north and south as well as east to west. As more people move into the county and more development occurs, our roads are going to struggle with increased traffic and changing traffic patterns; we need to utilize existing traffic studies and evaluate trouble areas that haven’t been studied in order to develop a project plan in coordination with TXDot, the state, and federal programs that can help fund these projects. Based on existing studies, and extrapolating for other areas, the county has $6+ billion dollars of infrastructure projects that need to be executed over the next 20-25 years, and the planning for those projects needs to begin now.

Q: 4. How do your skills and experiences qualify you to be the best candidate to preside over the Commissioners Court?
A: I am an Iraq War veteran, Naval Academy graduate, a submarine warfare officer and served over 14 years in the US Navy. I hold a master's degree in engineering management, am a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and have worked as a project manager in the oil and gas industry for the past 11 years. The daily responsibilities of County Judge involve understanding the management of projects and the relationship between cost, schedule and scope. It requires a leader that understands how to identify areas of improvement, ensuring the right people are in the right jobs, and ultimately understands that the job is about managing county business. The County Judge works on improving the quality of life of the citizens of the county and striving to provide efficient services at the best cost. My professional career has been spent leading through example and managing projects, delivering results on time and on budget, and I know I can bring that expertise to our county government.

Q: 5. What steps will you take to demonstrate to the voters transparency and accountability of county government operations by the Commissioners Court?
A: I will continue holding regular town hall meetings around the county to make myself available to answer questions and listen to public concerns. I will avoid conflicts of interest by ensuring that the county has a robust procurement process that utilizes an approved vendors list and directs how companies get on and stay on the approved list. I'll work to ensure that the contract bidding process is structured to evaluate equivalent vendor bids to ensure county vendors are providing a quality product that meets the requirements and is at the best cost. Vendors will be expected to provide project updates in the form of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and will be held accountable for failing to meet expectations. I will ask tough questions and expect tough answers, but I will ensure that the decisions I make as County Judge will be based on sound facts and data, and that the local government’s decision-making process is transparent to the citizens of the county.

District Clerk
 Montgomery County District Clerk
Description:
Duties include custodial care and safekeeping of all court records for the District Courts and County Courts and accounting for money paid in as deposits on civil cases waiting disposition and monies awarded to minors in court actions that are paid into the registry of the court. Coordinates jury process. 4 year term.

Candidates (choose 1):
Melisa Miller
Party: Rep
No response received from candidate.

John Brandon Pierre
Party: Dem

Biographical Info:
Address: 30 Dovewing pl. The Woodlands, TX 77382
Campaign Phone: 858-442-0504
Web Site: http://Jbp4mcdc.com
Email: Info@jbp4mcdc.com
Questions:

Q: 1. Identify what you think are the two most important issues negatively impacting the District Clerk’s office service to Montgomery County (residents and legal personnel) and give specific examples of measurable actions you will take to address these issues.
A: - The prioritization of time sensitive documents. Make documents filed by citizens (and lawyers representing them) which provide immediate security a priority, being filed within 24-48 hr. This increases safety for domestic violence victims and those being stalked. It also saves them money as they will only have to file once. - Implementation of new technology I will begin working with our partners at the Texas Association of Clerks to help sift through new filling technology and processes so that our 60 clerks can work more efficiently using up to date systems allowing for an increased workload to address the strain of the County’s population growth. An efficient office saves tax payers money and la

Q: 2. What actions can the District Clerk’s office take to support mobility and other special physical needs of prospective and selected jurors?
A: The District Clerk can make sure that disabled persons are able to serve equally as jurors due to their involvement in determining the juror pool. Making the court room accessible is a matter the District Clerk can bring up to the County judge to be implemented.

Q: 3. What negative impact did the recent natural disasters have on the District Clerk’s office’s ability to serve the district during and in the months following the disasters and what changes would you implement to minimize the impact of natural disasters in the future?
A: Natural disasters can have a devastating impact on all offices which are out of date in their methods of filing and backing up their court documents. This means lost documents, corrupt files, and more payments for tax payers and lawyers who have to start over with the filing process. This put an unexpected and monumental financial burden on the tax payer. I will bring our office up to date to include safe and secure storage and backups for the documents and data we are trusted with. If we are proactive in this regard we will be a vital key in maintaining and repairing our judicial system after a devastating natural disaster.

County Treasurer
Montgomery County Treasurer

Description:
Treasurer receives and deposits all county revenues, acts as chief liaison between the county and depository banks, prepares the payroll, and disburses funds upon the order of the Commissioners Court. Records receipts and expenditures and reconciles bank statements. 4 year term

Candidates (choose 1):
Melanie Bush
Party: Rep
No response received from candidate.

Mandy Sunderland
Party: Dem

Biographical Info:
Address: 15 Stanwick Place The Woodlands, TX 77382
Campaign Phone: 281 826-2340
Web Site: http://mandyformontgomery.com
Email: mandyformontgomery@gmail.com
Age: 9/5/1959
Questions:

Q: 1. What opportunities will you pursue to ensure the County Treasurer’s office serves the best interests of the people of Montgomery County?
A: The County Treasurer’s office is using outdated technology and manual systems to support many of their business functions, and has failed to keep up with the times. Montgomery County recently committed to the adoption of a new Enterprise Resource Management System (ERP). This new system will integrate operating systems across many county departments, and will require major, near term investment for installation, training and transition of existing systems. Once the system is up and running, it should provide better service and long-term savings to taxpayers. During my 25+ years working as a health, safety and environmental professional for major oil companies, I helped lead implementation of ERP systems and was also an end user of these systems. I will draw on this experience to lead ERP implementation for the County Treasurer’s office.

Q: 2. What improvements would you implement to provide the residents of Montgomery County with useful and timely information regarding the status of county funds and disbursements?
A: As the treasurer, just as in my career, I intend to make the work of the office completely transparent. Taxpayers deserve to know how the County conducts its business and how our money is being spent. Monthly financial reports will be posted on the County website and submitted to the Commissioners Court as required, on time and without fail. In the event of an open records request, proper materials will be provided in a timely manner, and redactions will not be necessary.

Q: 3. Do you see additional ways to promote and encourage public transparency and trust in this office?
A: I believe it’s the duty of public servants to make decisions and conduct business with integrity. This means doing the right thing for constituents without undue allegiance to outside interests such as family, colleagues, or political movements that may not represent the beliefs of the total community. Nepotism will no longer be an acceptable way of doing business in Montgomery County. It’s time for new leadership in the Treasurer’s office. We need someone who can administer the business of the County with fairness, openness and total accountability to the voters. As I am not connected to the party that has been in power for the past 25 years, my allegiance and independent voice will be to the voters, only, guaranteed.

Commissioner Precinct #2
Commissioner Precinct 2

Description:
Each county in Texas is divided geographically into four commissioner precincts. Only voters residing within a precinct may vote for that precinct’s Commissioner. Members of the Commissioners Court control courthouses and jails, appoint/employ personnel, adopt county budget, call bond elections, authorizes contracts, builds/maintains roads, bridges, libraries and parks and administer within their precinct. 4 year term.

Candidates (choose 1):
Ron Keichline

Party: Dem

Biographical Info:
Address: PO Box 130742 Spring, TX 77393
Campaign Phone: 832-792-8601
Web Site: http://VoteRonK.com
Email: ron@VoteRonK.com
Age: 12/21/1968
Facebook: http://VoteRonK

Questions:
Q: 1. Identify what you think are the two most important issues affecting the residents of Montgomery County and give specific examples of measurable actions you will take to address these issues?
A: We must ensure that we can move people, goods, and services throughout our region efficiently and safely. The 2017 growth rate for Montgomery County was 10.04% and will continue. The 2016 Montgomery County Thoroughfare Plan is the best tool we have to reasonably and proactively manage mobility. Developed in conjunction with the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) and the City of Conroe, the plan ensures regional integration so that growth works for the betterment of all residents and businesses. Similarly, flood resiliency must take the entire watershed into consideration to ensure that projects in one locale do not cause worsening problems either up- or downstream. There are in fact 9 Counties that feed the San Jacinto River watershed. The San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA) has a Flood Management Division and I would work to ensure SJRA has uses best science available to consider and advise the counties that make up the watershed.

Q: 2. Are there current contracts for county services you would not recommend for renewal based on the results to date (value not realized, inability to optimize, burden to tax payers)?
A: I am unaware of any specific contract that is not performing. However, I plan to audit our existing contracts and preapproval process to ensure that we have ethical, high-quality vendors who will meet County expectations at an agreed price. I have made zero-tolerance for corruption a core of my campaign and I know that it has long been suggested that there are County contracts that were not fully and transparently vetted. I expect to focus my audits on those contracts most at risk of corruption and make my recommendations to the full Commissioner’s Court if any deficiencies are identified.

Q: 3. When disaster strikes, how will you address the impact on the current county budget and future budget cycles?
A: I would review the County’s performance during Hurricane Ike and Harvey to compare how our disaster response has (presumably) improved over that period, and evaluate how efficiently services were provided to residents. Obviously, disasters on these enormous scales are unprecedented and stretch resources to their limit. Foremost priority in these situations must be to preserve life – but then we need to ensure we get people back on their feet and back to normal as soon as we can. I will continue to support Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management in their vital work in this area. If we have any benchmark metrics that are unsatisfactory, I will challenge those officials and our partners to develop a performance improvement plan and ensure we put resources where they are most needed to ensure we provide disaster services on-time and within budget.

Q: 4. How will you balance the concerns of our urbanized areas with our areas that are primarily rural?
A: We are indeed a diverse County but I think that it is a false dichotomy to imply that we must choose between urban vs rural. We are one County and all residents deserve equal representation. The step-wise implementation of projects may temporarily appear to focus on rural areas for a time, or urban areas, but in total we need to make certain all residents see the benefits of infrastructure investment through transparency.

Charlie Riley
Party: Rep

No response received from candidate.

Justice of the Peace #3

Justice of the Peace #3

Description:
Has jurisdiction over criminal misdemeanor cases punishable by fine only, e.g. assault, bail jumping, criminal mischief, bad check writing, public intoxication, theft; hears civil cases involving up to $10,000. Handles miscellaneous complaints, performs marriages, issues commitment papers for the mentally ill, issues search and arrest warrants and conducts inquests. 4 year term.

Candidates (choose 1):
Matt Beasley
Party: Rep

No response received from candidate.
Claire Lindsay

Party: Dem

Biographical Info:
Address: 223 Simonton Conroe, Texas 77301
Campaign Phone: 2818251325
Web Site: http://claireforjp3.com
Email: claireforjp3@gmail.com
Age: 4/21/1980
Facebook: http://facebook.com/claireforjp3
Twitter: twitter.com/claireelindsay

Questions:
Q: 1. What skills do you possess that make you especially well-qualified to serve as Justice of the Peace?
A: I am a licensed attorney and for over eight years have been representing families and children in our community. For the past five years I have been representing children who are in foster care. I am a graduate of The Woodlands High School. I have a business degree from Trinity University and a law degree from New York Law School. My education and professional accomplishments allow me to have both the smarts and the heart for this court both on the bench and on the administrative side. I am the only candidate for Justice of the Peace with a law degree. Precinct 3 has the highest caseload of any JP court in our county and needs someone to step in on day one knowing courtroom decorum, procedure and the law.

Q: 2. The Justice of the Peace (JP) courts are frequently described as the "People's Courts." How would you ensure this role is fulfilled in your JP court?
A: Justice of the Peace’s require a unique combination of having both smarts and hearts and I possess both of those and have used them in both my personal and professional lives. Justice of the Peace courts are the foundation of our community’s judicial system and this requires JPs giving due consideration and even application of the law to each case. As a licensed attorney, and member of the State Bar of Texas I have studied and interpreted laws and contracts on a daily basis. People want fairness and the only way to get fair rulings is to apply the law; and, to apply the law you have to know the law. Also, in my over eight years of being a lawyer I have dealt with people in difficult situations and I have a way of getting down to the root of the problem to find a workable solution. I feel that this is extremely helpful especially with working with juveniles.

Q: 3. What changes, if any, are needed in court processes and procedures in your precinct to make the court more efficient and effective in fulfilling its duties?
A: I plan on making mediations common in small claim cases involving a business. In my law practice I have found that mediation is an extremely effective tool (both money and time) to resolve conflicts. Most people don’t actually sit down with their opposing party to attempt to hash out their differences. However, once they actually communicate with a qualified mediator trained in conflict resolution most of the time they are able to resolve most or all of their issues. Having cases resolved at mediation reduces the number of cases on the court’s docket. This in turn makes cases be resolved in a timely manner. I will continue to use the Montgomery County Collections Office and the electronic document system that is used by the County Clerk. Both of these save taxpayer’s money and makes the courtroom more efficient and streamlined. Of note, I use the electronic document system in my law practice.

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 2

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 2

Description:
The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) manages and protects groundwater resources of Montgomery County and works with other entities to ensure a sustainable, high-quality, and cost-effective water supply. The LSGCD’s board of directors consists of seven directors that are to be elected for the first time on November 6, 2018. Place 1 is a director elected by voters of the Montgomery County Commissioners (MCC) Precinct 1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large;
Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum of three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):

Gary Oakley

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 159 Kate Place Court Montgomery TX 77316
Campaign Phone: 9367273397
Web Site: http://link @ GE Oakley | Professional Profile - Linkedin
Email: garry.oakley@att.net
Age: 12/23/1949
Facebook: http://garry.oakley@att.net
Background: Command Civil and Environmental Engineer U.S. Department of Defense

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: The near term & long term challenges of Montgomery County’s water supply is the exponential population growth. Pumping requirement in 1975 was 1 Million gallons a day. Today the requirement is 25 billion gallons per year (or 68.5 million gallons per day) Quite a difference. This is not our parents Texas, its probably not even our Texas, but rather our children and our grand children. Water is the most precious resource in the world. Every organism that exist on earth depend on water. Water represents over 70% of the world surface and the genesis of life. We must do all within our power to preserve this precious resource so that it will available for the generation to follow. We should pursue alternative sources other than ground or river (rain harvesting, gray water, storm water capture, & indigenous plants to name a few). Landscape water represents 50% of most household. The other 50% is used for interior consumption. Of the remaining 36% can be redirected as a source of gray water.

Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: The most affective ways to provide the voters a better understanding the complexity of providing a high-quality-cost effective water resource is to Educate, Educate, Educate. Most people have their own perception of how LSGCD is performing its mission to create a sustainable, renewable resource. Some good - some bad. Perceptions right or wrong have to be dealt with in a way that can generate a positive reflection as possible. The best way is to educate with facts to the subject matter. Demonstrating a transparency by open dialog and impartiality by ensuring all residences (not just special interest or governmental or corporation lobbyist) are treated fairly and with dignity that is deserved. Enforcing the open meeting act. Involve residence into the day to day activities of the board and LSGCD. Provide a medium from which local volunteer organization can participate and multiple manpower resources. (i.e demonstration plots that show how alternative resources can be employed.

Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: LSGCD has quarterly meetings with members of the GMA 14 community. An open dialog is maintained. The manager of LSGCD is the chair of the GM 14. Relationships between LSGCD and SJRA is more complicated, members of the board for SJRA are appointed by the governor & members of LSGCD are now elected. Governance and authorities differ. Many of the requirements by SJRA appear to be from LSGCD to most residence. These roles must be clearly identified to the public. Again as previously stated Educate. Educate not just to the public but to all interested parties (i.e., LSGCD about SJRA, SJRA about LSGCD, GMA 14 to both SJRA & LSGCD and visa versa). There great opportunities that cross section these organization. Aquifers don't follow city or county lines. What happens up stream can greatly affect down stream. As a matter of fact, most things aren't happening directly below our feet, but many miles up stream. A Joint Agency could be effect in collaboration between all organizations.
Jim Spigener

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Age: 10/24/1951
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Questions:
Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: The main challenges is to first assess the existing operations of Lone Star and to understand with a third party audit what the present situation is with the organization. Then to complete the upcoming five year plan as mandated by the state within the constitution of Texas. Longer term we will have to drill some monitoring wells and do core samples of the Jasper aquifer to determine likelihood of subsidence. We will assess the need for ground water vs surface water based on science and Texas law.

Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: I will open all meetings to the public and televise them. We will then develop a social media outreach for the citizens so they can easily access the workings we will communicate the reasons for everything we do and back it up with science and data. We will also publish all financial data for the public to be able to see our use of their money. Finally I will work to see if we can remove the provision in the law that was passed giving Lone Star a free pass on conflicts of interest. No government agency should be able to freely have conflicts of interest.

Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: There are many opportunities to collaborate and share information. We will separate the agencies so that there are no conflicts of interest between agencies. SJRA has their director on the Lone Star Board. This is unacceptable.

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 3

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 3

Description:

The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) manages and protects groundwater resources of Montgomery County and works with other entities to ensure a sustainable, high-quality, and cost-effective water supply. The LSGCD’s board of directors consists of seven directors that are to be elected for the first time on November 6, 2018. Place 1 is a director elected by voters of the Montgomery County Commissioners (MCC) Precinct 1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large; Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum of three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):

Jon Bouche
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.
Questions:

Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: Near-term challenges include revisiting pumping restrictions, but not causing irreversible damage by doing so. Additionally, with the new board, we will need to agree on a project plan for the near-term. This will be difficult with differing views and agendas, but I believe it can be accomplished. Additionally, I would like to use the power of social media to bring more awareness on conservation efforts. Long-term plans: I work as a clean energy attorney and have worked in-house for publicly-traded companies and private companies where accountability for budgets and performance of departments were measured. My intent is to balance interests with policy while remaining compliant with the law in Place 3. We must follow the law and get our legal expenses under control so we can focus on maintaining the water supply with our partners in the MUDs and SJRA. My focus will be on maintaining our water supply for generations to come by not draining the aquifers.

Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: "Complex" understates the issues at hand. Transparency of the legal issues and legal opinions should be more readily available to our residents on the website. I understand the key roles our partners play in delivering high-quality and cost-effective water to our residents, but many do not. We need to do more on educating our residents, particularly on conservation opportunities.

Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: Joint planning amongst the organizations will allow us to accomplish our shared long-term goals. My intent is to balance interests with policy while remaining compliant with the law in Place 3. Place 3 is only one piece of the puzzle. Not only does this board represent the interests of our Montgomery County community, but also beyond the LSGCD and for generations to come. All of the organizations need to continue to work together on shared initiatives so that no downstream issues affect us or our neighboring communities.
1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large; Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum of three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):
Gail Carney
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Questions:
Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: To provide clean fresh water to residents for now and to ensure that our water supplies are protected for future generations. We need to conserve our resources and explore additional sources of water so that we can continue to provide water even through prolonged droughts.
Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: I would like to see a website maintained with all of the current information on water issues. I would like to make sure that all issues are reported in a user friendly manner, with the average resident being able to understand all the issues without needing specialized knowledge.
Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: Water is an issue which affects everyone. It is in the best interest of the residents for all of these organizations to work together. It is through the spirit of cooperation which would allow these organizations to work together and to minimize the duplication of services so that we can have the best product for now and for the future.

Jonathan Prykryl
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 5
Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 5
Description:

Roles and Responsibilities: The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) manages and protects groundwater resources of Montgomery County and works with other entities to ensure a sustainable, high-quality, and cost-effective water supply. The LSGCD’s board of directors consists of seven directors that are to be elected for the first time on November 6, 2018. Place 1 is a director elected by voters of the Montgomery County Commissioners (MCC) Precinct 1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large; Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):
Francis Bourgeois
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 6194 Hickory Hollow Ln Conroe, TX 77304
Campaign Phone: 713-899-6497
Email: morningp@consolidated.net
Age: 1/5/1942
Background: 8 years on Montgomery County Hospital District (elective office), BS/MS Math, 33 years in international petroleum exploration, executive of geophysical company, educator, realtor, mediator, arbitrator
Questions:
1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?

A: The main challenge is to resolve the lawsuit which a court has rendered the LSGCD’s ability to regulate the groundwater usage as invalid. I advocate a mediated settlement agreement among the City of Conroe, the LSGCD and SJRA rather than an expensive and protracted appeals process. Until the lawsuit is resolved the LSGCD is crippled and will not be able to function as mandated by enabling legislation. If it is resolved, scientific bases for the amount to be sustainably withdrawn needs to be examined; in addition the possibility of subsidence in Montgomery County needs to be understood.

2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?

A: The concept of supplying water cheaply and sustainably is a complex issue involving geology, hydrology, engineering, transportation, economics and politics. It is the job of the District to educate the public. To that end, hold meetings at convenient times for citizens to attend, make all information immediately available on the website, and continue the education program that the District maintains.

3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?

A: There is already cooperation between LSGCD and GMA 14. The SJRA currently treats and supplies water to a number of users in the County. A relationship has been established with the Harris County Subsidence District. A more formal partnership needs to be established, all having the same goal of supplying clean water on a sustainable and economically prudent basis.

Harry Hardman

Biographical Info:
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Background: I have over 30 years of experience and leadership in the Networking and Telecommunications industries, where I held various executive positions with multinational companies such as Brocade Communications, Foundry Networks, Nortel Networks and Cabletron Systems. Moreover, I have over 15 years of water utility board experience, having served as President of Cy-Champ PUD and as a board member of other Developer MUD’s within Harris County prior to moving to Conroe. I believe this body of experience will serve well on the LSGCD board, and I am anxious to put it to work for Montgomery County. My campaign is focused on the following issues: 1. Bringing full transparency, accountability and fiscal responsibility to the LSGCD Board. 2. Calling for a complete, independent audit of LSGCD to review all facets of the District to determine how and where the District can run more effectively. 3. Ensuring that the new Board work tirelessly to find as many ways as possible to bring back affordable water rates to the citizens of Montgomery County. 4. Earning the trust of my constituents and to give them the confidence I will do everything in my power to protect their private property rights, lower rates and reestablish the credibility of the LSGCD.

Questions:

Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?

A: The major challenge for MoCo water usage (both short and long term) is to determine the true amount of groundwater that can be safely and sustainably taken from our aquifers. The current rate (64,000 acre feet/year) has been determined to be unreasonably low by both the LSGCD (in a settlement statement with the City of Conroe) as well as a recent verdict handed down by the 284th District Court. Effectively managing our groundwater (which by several studies is virtually unlimited based on historical pumpage) and leveraging surface water when necessary (and not as dictated by an entity who sells water as a commodity) will significantly reduce water rates and allow all citizens (not just the wealthy) to afford to use water. I will look at independent data to discern what is indeed reasonable and sustainable from a utilization perspective.
Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?

A: The first order of business is to insure the new board works within the law, which is currently not the case. We will focus on the key charters of the District, respecting and protecting private property rights and working to educate the citizens about different conservation techniques. From a transparency perspective, I will work to make sure meetings are televised live and posted on our website for review and also to post the District’s financials to the website as well.

Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?

A: The current relationship between LSGCD and the SJRA is unnaturally close and I believe there is a significant conflict of interest between the two entities. Moving forward, I will work to make sure that the board focuses on what is best for the LSGCD and the citizens of MoCo, not necessarily the SJRA. Regarding GMA 14, we need to enjoy the same rights and privileges as our neighboring counties do with regard to utilization of the aquifer. Currently, LSGCD is the ONLY district with a self-imposed restriction on groundwater utilization. It is a common aquifer, and I believe (as does the State of Texas) in equal share access of that resource. I will work to ensure GMA recognizes those rights as well.

Gregg Hope
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 6

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 6

Description:

The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) manages and protects groundwater resources of Montgomery County and works with other entities to ensure a sustainable, high-quality, and cost-effective water supply. The LSGCD’s board of directors consists of seven directors that are to be elected for the first time on November 6, 2018. Place 1 is a director elected by voters of the Montgomery County Commissioners (MCC) Precinct 1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large; Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):
Jackie Chance
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Webb Melder
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 7

Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District Place 7

Description:

The Lone Star Groundwater Conservation District (LSGCD) manages and protects groundwater resources of Montgomery County and works with other entities to ensure a sustainable, high-quality, and cost-effective water supply. The LSGCD’s board of directors consists of seven directors that are to be elected for the first time on
November 6, 2018. Place 1 is a director elected by voters of the Montgomery County Commissioners (MCC) Precinct 1; Place 2 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 2; Place 3 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 3; Place 4 is a director elected by voters of MCC Precinct 4; Place 5 is a director elected by voters of the district at-large; Place 6 is a director elected by voters of the City of Conroe; and Place 7 is a director elected by voters of The Woodlands Township. 4-year term, maximum three terms, and compensation by per diem for meetings.

Candidates (choose 1):

Emery Gallagher
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Questions:
Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: To ensure the data used to determine the aquifer yield is best available. This is the concern of the other organizations with lower aquifer yields, cost of the water supply will increase.
Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: The data used will be the best available, but some are estimates that may be conservative or liberal numbers used to determine aquifer yields. These numbers can be used to generate confusion and mistrust. The mission of all water supplier is to provide high-quality and cost effective water supply for there customer, but if the water suppliers need to change to surface water, there will be an increase to the cost of the water to the customer and less control by
Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: Have open conversations, build trust, understand the other organization concerns.

Kent Maggett
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 1837 Lake Terrace Court The Woodlands, TX 77380
Campaign Phone: 713-478-0588
Email: kent@teamgolf.com
Age: 6/22/1942
Questions:
Q: 1. What are the main challenges to the near-term and long-term plans for Montgomery County’s water supply and what actions will you take to address them?
A: The near term challenge is to eliminate the lawsuits between the City of Conroe, The LSGCD, and The SJRA. Unfortunately they all have unlimited funds(taxpayer dollars and increases to citizens water rates) so the principals have no incentive to resolve the suits. The long term water supply issue will not be resolved until the various factions can agree on the amount of groundwater that is available for Montgomery County residents. We now have three numbers: 64,000 ac.ft./yr, 100,000 ac.ft./yr and Conroe’s contention that the resource is unlimited. I will insure any consultants hired by the LSGCD are technically competent and the studies they conduct will not start with an answer and work backwards.
Q: 2. Given the many entities and the complexity involved in providing high-quality and cost-effective water supply from its source to the tap of Montgomery County residents, how will you provide voters with an understanding of the actions taken by the LSGCD Board to accomplish its mission, demonstrating transparency and impartiality?
A: Ten years ago LSGCD consultants determined the sustainable groundwater availability in the County was 64,000 ac.ft./year. Over 80,000 ac.ft./year was being produced so a 30% reduction was ordered by the LSGCD. Not many people understood the financial consequences of this order. Once the LSGCD issued the order they washed their hands of the issue and told the water customers to go figure out how to comply and gave them a January 1, 2016 deadline. GRP agreements were signed with over 100 entities that allowed SJRA to build a $500 million surface water treatment plant. Once people began seeing the consequences of the original LSGCD order in their water bill the complaints and lawsuits began. Now the LSGCD consultants have determined the 64,000 ac.ft. number is in error and it is really 100,000 ac.ft. If this in fact now a good number the SJRA surface treatment plant should never have been built. The new LSGCD Board must determine true amount of groundwater available in Montgomery County.
Q: 3. What opportunities are there to optimize cooperation between the LSGCD, Groundwater Management Area 14 (GMA 14), San Jacinto River Authority (SJRA), and other organizations?
A: The LSGCD and the SJRA need to determine if they are serious about ground water conservation. The SJRA has built a $500 million surface water plant. They produced the plant at 40% of capacity in 2018 to "save" money. The plant would immediately become profitable if they cut their raw water charge that they use to fund other operations such as flood control. The charge is currently 15% of their total GRP fee. If they cut their raw water fee in half the plant would immediately become profitable. The LSGCD needs to decide how much groundwater is available for
Montgomery County consumers. After 10 years using one number that has resulted in construction of a $500 million plant they have suddenly increased the availability by 56%. The need for groundwater conservation has suddenly been pushed back a few years. The other GMA 14 members don't agree. Hopefully we won’t settle the lawsuits with the City of Conroe and then face another round of lawsuits from our fellow GMA members.

Larry Rogers
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Lone Star College System Trustees
District Number 8
Lone Star College System Trustee

Description:

The Lone Star College System (LSCS) Board of Trustees establishes the vision for the LSCS through the policies it sets. Each trustee of the LSCS Board is elected from a single-member district and serves without pay. Major responsibilities of the LSCS Board include appointing the Chancellor, establishing policies, contracting assets, ratifying employment contracts, approving business activities, establishing tax rates, setting official budgets, and monitoring and reviewing the performance of the LSCS. 6-year term.

Candidates (choose 1):

G. Puente

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Email: will.puente@gmail.com
Age: 1/18/1984
Facebook: http://Facebook.com/vote4lscfootball
Twitter: twitter.com/votelscfootball

Background: I am an Adjunct Professor of Decisions and Marketing at Lone Star College. I am also the Broker/Owner of Expert Way Realty. I am on my 4th year as a PhD student in organizational leadership studies. Proud father of two beautiful daughters (6 and 2)

Questions:
Q: 1. Assess the current vision for the LSCS and identify the key challenges you see to that vision.
A: I have witnessed LSC working as a Professor since 2015. It is a majorly funded institution with a very high enrollment. We surpass Ohio State and Texas A&M in enrollment with 95,000 students. However, we have very low name recognition. This is crucial for students who want to apply to positions while being competitive with the rest of the other candidates. Blinn is a 2 year college with much lower budget and enrollment, and it has a much more recognized name as a college. This is due to a successful JuCo football program. We spend millions on marketing and advertising through billboards and other means. Let's spend these funds wisely on another major way to get the brand name across the country, a football program. This is exactly how the names of USC, Notre Dame, Blinn do it. I also plan to incorporate a state wide focused Lone Star Online program, and a in district discount to Veterans.

Q: 2. Assess the current performance of the LSCS and highlight opportunities you would pursue if elected to continuously improve the LSCS.
A: The current performance of LSCS is adequate and somewhat above average for a typical 2 year college. But this should not be the standard for LSCS. We are one of the best funded institutions in the country, we should find innovative ways to save the Taxpayer while creating new opportunities for students. This is the win-win innovation that LSCS should always attempt to initiate. LSCS should have a duty to their taxpayers to increase their ROI, and
find a way to pay for their programs through other means. A football program could get the name out about this unique institution. A state wide Online program could increase enrollment which would increase revenue. These two ideas alone could save the Taxpayers thousands in their taxes.

Q: 3. How will your skills and experiences enable you to best serve as a LSCS Board Trustee?
A: I am a small business owner that teaches business college classes. I must be fiscally conservative by nature in order to succeed in my business practice. This means maximizing every dollar invested on any transaction. Which means that innovation is critical for success. It also means that you question any activity and measure its effectiveness. I can bring this skill which I have done in the past 10 years with my business. Return on everything is a true measurement for any institution. And right now, the taxpayer is our main investor. Let’s return to them a good recognized name of Lone Star College. And more than anything, let’s bring our students a football program which could take LSC to a new height.

Mike Sullivan
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Web Site: http://www.MikeSullivanCampaign.com
Email: Mike@MikeSullivanCampaign.com
Age: 9/9/1957
Facebook: http://MikeSullivanHTX
Twitter: twitter.com/MikeSullivanHTX
Background: Former Humble ISD Trustee, Houston City Council Member, and Harris County Tax Assessor-Collector. Self employed for almost 40 years, and currently employed by a Fortune 300 public company.

Questions:
Q: 1. Assess the current vision for the LSCS and identify the key challenges you see to that vision.
A: My goals are to be an honest steward of taxpayer funds, and hold Lone Star to its core missions in education and workforce training.
Q: 2. Assess the current performance of the LSCS and highlight opportunities you would pursue if elected to continuously improve the LSCS.
A: I will use both my private and public sector experience to help Lone Star achieve its mission, while ensuring taxpayers' interests are represented.
Q: 3. How will your skills and experiences enable you to best serve as a LSCS Board Trustee?
A: In my private sector experiences, I had to make payroll, build a workforce, market products and services, and deal with burdensome government regulations. In my public sector experiences, my goals were always to represent taxpayers' interests, run government like a business, and do it all as efficiently as possible.

Conroe ISD Trustee Position 1

Description:

School board members ensure the creation of a vision and goals for the district and evaluate district success, adopt policies that inform district actions, hire a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the district, and evaluate the superintendent's success. Board members also approve an annual budget consistent with the district’s vision and communicate the district’s vision and success to the community. 4 year term

Candidates (choose 1):
Kathleen Harmatuk-Swisher
Meeting the needs of 1,500 new students per year and current students is always the challenge. I have a vision for the district to be the envy of other school districts. Keeping the vision of all students achieving academically, while providing choices. Some critics say it takes away money from local school districts, others argue they are needed for all CISD students. The call for voucher options are from those who want an innovative approach to education. They want something different than the local public school.

We have a continually expanding district which challenges us to find innovative solutions to continue to meet the need of all of our students. I began my career as a School Counselor in 1988 and have worked in the CISD schools, and other public and private schools. I am currently a Licensed Professional Counselor in Private Practice. My experiences as a School Counselor in CISD (until 2010) and in other public and private schools, as well as my current role as a Licensed Professional Counselor in Private Practice, make me uniquely qualified to meet these challenges that CISD faces. Our students, teachers, and schools need optimal learning environments to thrive. I hope to assist with the enhancement of the learning environments so that all CISD students become productive, happy citizens and reach their full potential. I also volunteer for the Montgomery County Women’s Center facilitating a Women’s Empowerment Group and worked the hotline taking calls from women seeking emergency shelter. I am a member of the Woodlands Kiwanis Club helping children in our community in a variety of ways, including mentoring with the high school students in Key Clubs. I started and co-facilitated “The Third Option Marriage Enrichment Program” at my church, St. Anthony of Padua. I served as Secretary on the Board of the Houston Licensed Professional Counselors Association (HLPFA). In addition, I have been a CISD PTO Board Secretary and facilitated a Parenting Group in one of the district elementary schools. I am also a member of The Woodlands Mental Health Professionals Organization. I earned a Master’s Degree in Counseling, Emphasis in School Counseling, from the State University of New York at Oswego and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Syracuse University. I am trained/experienced as a Life Coach and certified in “The Third Option Marriage Enrichment Program” at my private practice. Make me uniquely qualified to meet these challenges.

I am running for a trustee position on the CISD School Board because I want to be a voice for all CISD students, our teachers, and our community. I believe all students can learn and all students matter. As a trustee on the school board I will bring my two greatest passions, children and learning, to address the important policies before us, in a nonpartisan way, to best serve ALL the CISD Students. Public Schools have a big and important role in our society which include providing safe and secure learning environments, valuing our teaching staff, and producing well-educated graduates who will enter our workforce and assume leadership in our society. We have a continually expanding district which challenges us to find innovative solutions to continue to meet the need of all of our students. I began my career as a School Counselor in 1988 and have worked in the CISD schools, and other public and private schools. I am currently a Licensed Professional Counselor in Private Practice. My experiences as a School Counselor in CISD (until 2010) and in other public and private schools, as well as my current role as a Licensed Professional Counselor in Private Practice, make me uniquely qualified to meet these challenges that CISD faces. Our students, teachers, and schools need optimal learning environments to thrive. I hope to assist with the enhancement of the learning environments so that all CISD students become productive, happy citizens and reach their full potential. I also volunteer for the Montgomery County Women’s Center facilitating a Women’s Empowerment Group.

The district currently has demographers collecting data from all the schools and feeder zones to ascertain if another bond referendum is needed as our district receives 1,500 new students per year. The next priority would be to utilize any surplus to support other capital projects, reduce bond debt requirements, and cover any unforeseen expenditures.

First, I would like to see the district continue to be fiscally responsible and keep the school tax the same as last year. CISD is the envy of other school districts. Keeping the vision of all students achieving academically, while meeting the needs of 1,500 new students per year and current students is always the challenge. I have a vision for the district to be the envy of other school districts. Keeping the vision of all students achieving academically, while providing choices. Some critics say it takes away money from local school districts, others argue they are needed for all CISD students. The call for voucher options are from those who want an innovative approach to education. They want something different than the local public school.

Q: 1. What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: The Capital needs for the 2018-19 school year are the newly opened Grand Oaks High School and Clark Intermediate. The district currently has demographers collecting data from all the schools and feeder zones to ascertain if another bond referendum is needed as our district receives 1,500 new students per year. The next priority would be to utilize any surplus to support other capital projects, reduce bond debt requirements, and cover any unforeseen expenditures.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: First, I would state the CISD district has done an outstanding job overall. Most programs are "Continuous Improvement Plans" which means that we will never reach perfection. That being said, I would like see funds go towards identifying students’ needs to feel safer, looking for proven approaches, and directing resources to remedy their concerns. For example; focusing more attention on a comprehensive District wide anti-bullying program and violence prevention programs. This school year, the district started a pilot violence prevention program at Austin Elementary and Grangerland Intermediate. At years end, the data will be looked at to see if the program should be expanded to other schools. I would like to see more focus or study groups involving the community to address these issues. If we haven’t done it, polling our students of their needs. Our students need us to work collaboratively. We must work together. We are better together.

Q: 3. Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Current school funding in CISD appears to be working at this time. The quality of education in CISD has been recognized by TX Smart Schools and has received an award for 9 years in a row, which were given for high academic achievement and concurrent cost effective operations. The district has a $6.8 M budget surplus. We also have the lowest tax rate at $1.28 per $100 assessed to our area peer group. Our district receives 1,500 new students per year and still has met the challenge of being fiscally responsible and keeping the vision for high academic achievement for all CISD students. The call for voucher options are from those who want an innovative approach to education. They want choices. Some critics say it takes away money from local school districts, others argue they are needed for education of students that need something different than the local public school.

Q: 4. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: First, I would like to see the district continue to be fiscally responsible and keep the school tax the same as last year. CISD is the envy of other school districts. Keeping the vision of all students achieving academically, while meeting the needs of 1,500 new students per year and current students is always the challenge. I have a vision for the district to be the envy of other school districts. Keeping the vision of all students achieving academically, while providing choices. Some critics say it takes away money from local school districts, others argue they are needed for all CISD students. The call for voucher options are from those who want an innovative approach to education. They want something different than the local public school.
CISD which includes an active partnership with all constituents (students, parents, teachers, administrators, community and business community) working together, being role models for our students, leading the way for them. I have a vision where all CISD students feel safe, wanting to attend school, thriving in safe learning environments, ready for college or the work force and becoming happy, productive citizens giving back to society and their communities. To accomplish this, we must work together. We are better together.

**Dale Inman**

Biographical Info:
- **Address**: Conroe, Tx
- **Campaign Phone**: 281-460-4900
- **Email**: Dale77304@yahoo.com
- **Age**: 7/14/1964
- **Background**: I grew up in a lower income economic environment. I attended my senior year of high school at George Washington Carver high school in the acres homes area of Houston. I put myself through college, earning both a BBA in Marketing and an MBA specializing in Finance. Wealth comes from work, our students should be given every opportunity to succeed.

Questions:

Q: What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: CISD has several capital needs. Paramount in these needs is the need in making all schools as safe as possible. Are schools need to be hardened to mitigate dangerous scenarios. Secondly, Schools are expensive to build. Deferred maintenance on our school buildings will cost more in the future in repairs, than in maintenance today. Third, I would work to make sure that all areas of CISD have equitable funding, this includes East County.

Q: Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: I think the school district needs to invest in more opportunities so that every student has a chance at success. This includes investing in vocational, career, college, and other options so that EVERY student is prepared to succeed. Also, teachers have told me that we must work on getting more discipline in the classroom. Discipline needs to come from the administration, it should not be an additional duty please don’t teachers. They are far too busy as it is.

Q: Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: I hold the current school funding is too top-heavy in administration and staffing and that not enough taxpayer dollars are finding their ways to the teachers and into the classroom. School funding is the highest expense to the state, and is the highest expense to the taxpayer on your property taxes. We must use taxpayer money more affectively and more efficiently. The quality of public education has decreased from what it was in past years. I’ve taught a college for a number of years, and have seen firsthand the decline in students entering college. Schools must get back to teaching the fundamentals, if that opens the door to vouchers, I am not opposed to that plan. We education and Montgomery County must consistently strive toward excellence. The goal would be that every student as an opportunity to succeed in life after graduation.

Q: Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: The desired state of education in Macgomery County is that every single student is given the opportunity to succeed in their goals. This includes career, locational, college, and other options for the students to be successful in life upon graduating. We must MPower teachers, to teach students according to their needs and not teach do a test.

**Paul Piper**

Party: NP

No response received from candidate.
Biographical Info:
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Web Site: http://TheresaforCISD.org
Email: info@TheresaforCISD.org
Facebook: http://Theresa Wagaman for CIS

Background: Theresa Wagaman has actively supported CISD, its students, teachers and administrators for 14 years. She has served on multiple PTO Boards as a member and president, multiple scholarship committees supporting high school seniors in S. Montgomery County, high school and returning students at Lone Star Community College and continuing education programs for teachers. She currently serves as Program Chair for The Woodlands HS PTO.

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district’s capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: Finish the Security Measures at the last remaining campuses within the district. Assess the Special Education needs of each feeder zone, to add counselors, instructors and support staff. Assess and prioritize the 92 Tier 1 projects identified at the 9/4/2018 Board Workshop. Receive final numbers to update the CISD Fleet of Buses. Assess and prioritize the findings from the 2019 Bond Exploratory Committee.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: Due to cuts, caps and penalties brought on by the State, all Districts have had to limit access to students who could have possibly benefited from Special Education assistance. Special Education is the most underfunded department in every school district across the state. Due to Federal orders the state is currently looking at finding and dispersing aid to all districts. Until the money is allocated, individual districts will be forced to look within their own budgets to find the funds. The CISD 2018/2019 budget proposes 3 additional Special Education Support Staff. I will continue to ask for assessment of each feeder zone to add needed Special Ed Teachers, Counselors and support staff.

Q: 3. Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: School taxes are the largest portion of the Montgomery County Tax Bill. The school tax rate has not increased and was decreased in the years 2012-2014. Taxes have continued to increase due to the value of property in the county. CISD has worked diligently to make sure every dollar is used wisely, and I will continue to do the same. For the past 8 years CISD has received a 5 Star Rating from Texas Smart Schools and is one of only 3 Districts that continues to receive this rating. The state financing has caused more burden on individual/taxpaying households, but our district continues to do more with less and has not lowered the bar in educational standards. The calls for Voucher options are usually heard when a district has failed to follow fiscally responsible policies. Crumbling schools, bloated budgets and the inability to assess the needs of the district it serves. CISD continues to focus on the districts needs while anticipating the needs of the future.

Q: 4. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: All Still Means All under the guidance and leadership of our new Superintendent Dr. Null. CISD continues to assess each feeder zone within the district and adjusts as school populations change. I believe education in Montgomery County is striving to be the best in the state. CISD with the lowest tax rate in the county and with the largest student population goes above and beyond what most districts do to educate.
Candidates (choose 1):

April Andreski
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Kevin McZeal
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Ray Sanders
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Email: Raysanderslpc@gmail.com
Age: 9/14/1962
Background: BBA in Finance Sam Houston State MA in Counseling Sam Houston State Licensed Professional Counselor

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: As Conroe ISD continues to grow, the need for additional facilities will also increase. A District Planning Committee has been approved by the Board and will begin looking at all the District’s needs and will present updates to the Board. Additional schools and support will have to be the top priorities to assure student academic successes are met. The Board will review the District Planning Committee’s recommendations and then decide if a Bond Referendum should be presented to the voters for approval.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: Conroe ISD has done well in both financial transparency and academic success, but there is always room for improvement. I have been focusing on increased school safety, improving the graduation rate, and assuring that all students receive an excellent education. With my background in finance, I will also be focusing on continual improvements in efficient operations with effective outcomes through close monitoring of the District's budget process and financial condition. I would like to see Conroe ISD advocate more to the state legislature about ways to improve the school funding formula since Conroe ISD is negatively impacted by the Robinhood affect.

Q: 3. Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: I believe the state of education for Conroe ISD is very good. The District received a "B" in the first state accountability rating and only missed the "A" rating due to one elementary campus out of 60 schools in the District not meeting expectations. Many efforts are being made at that school to improve them and to continue to improve the District. I am a strong proponent that the state should be funding the majority of public education, with built in accountability for each District. The call for vouchers would not be needed if public schools were held to higher standards and if not met, then those lower performing schools should be consolidated with higher performing Districts. This is not popular though because people feel they lose local control.

Q: 4. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: I can only speak about Conroe ISD, since I live in that District. Conroe ISD has a graduation rate that is higher than the the state average, as well as SAT and ACT scores that are also higher. Graduates of Conroe ISD are well prepared to attend post-secondary schools at either the community college or four year college level and also has prepared students for immediate work with certifications that can provide them livable wages. The Conroe ISD also always has graduates that attend all of the military academies as well as has students who enter military service immediately after graduation. All of these, lead me to a conclusion that Conroe ISD works hard to assure that students receive a well-rounded, strong education that prepares them for future successes in life.
Candidates (choose 1):

Skeeter Hubert

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Campaign Phone: 713-478-9949
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Email: Skeeterhubert@gmail.com
Age: 11/10/1973
Facebook: http://Skeeter Hubert For CISD
Background: Married 22 years, 4 Kids, Montgomery County/CISD Resident since 1997. Current School Board Member

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: Capital needs: Update and refresh currently ages schools and school buildings. Possible new schools to accommodate the 1500 new students that enroll in CISD each year. Additional classrooms at existing schools to accommodate current students housed in aging portable buildings. Update life cycle equipment such as 30 year old roofs, and HVAC equipment.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: The district has done a great job in general, but we can be better in the following areas: Transportation: more buses, more routes, more drivers, seat belts on all buses. We need to continue to improve our route mapping and partnerships with private transportation companies. School safety: more focus on making sure ALL STUDENTS feel safe at all our schools. We need to continue to keep up with technology advancements that focus on school safety, programs that promote harmonious campuses, and continue to enforce our zero tolerance towards bulling.

Q: 3. Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: CISD consistently out performs the state in graduation rates, transparency in financing, dollar spent per student, and overall budgeting. A voucher system would help students who are zoned to under performing schools districts. The voucher, if allowed, would benefit private schools and possible take funding away from CISD. As a School Board Member, my role is to promote CISD and a voucher system could possible limit the programs offered to all CISD students. My desired state of education would be that every student who graduate s CISD is ready to engage in their desired future. Wither that be headed to college, starting a business, entering a skilled trade profession (Welding, EMT, Cosmetology) or going into the military, they are ready.

Q: 4. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: My desired state of education would be that every student who graduate s CISD is ready to engage in their desired future. Wither that be headed to college, starting a business, entering a skilled trade profession (Welding, EMT, Cosmetology) or going into the military, they are ready.

Jamie Quinn

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 3003 Felton Springs Spring, TX 77386
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Email: jamie@jamiequinn.com
Age: 4/12/1057
Background: Real Estate Owner/Broker Village Realty since 2011. REALTOR in Montgomery County for 20 years. Prior experience Operations Manager for Transamerica Commercial Finance. Past President Montgomery County Women's Council of REALTORS. Past volunteer mediator for Montgomery County Dispute Resolution Center. Foster dogs for Rescued Pets Movement

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: The district should proceed with further capital expenditures very slowly and very carefully. Under the leadership of my opponent, who has supported increased spending and opposed tax relief, the Board of Trustees has done little more than “rubber stamp” requests from the Conroe ISD administration for more building projects. Those projects cost a lot of money and, in the form of debt service, take money away from the taxpayers’ investment in instruction, which should become the core focus of the District. Every capital needs requires evaluation whether such expenditures should occur as a priority over instruction and teacher pay raises.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: The District should focus on strong basic education, excellent teacher compensation, and academics. In a community like ours, college placement and outstanding teaching of fundamentals should be the priority over developing a real estate empire for a government taxing authority.

Q: 3. Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Education in Montgomery County can only benefit from healthy and robust competition among schools for students. Vouchers are an excellent option, because they are a mechanism of providing financial resources to private institutions which will compete directly for students. Such competition will force public schools to excel or they’ll lose their student.

Q: 4. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Education should be the top priority in Montgomery County. It’s so important that we must act as careful stewards for any tax dollars we bring in for that purpose. Schools should teach fundamentals and ensure that children leave them with basic abilities to read, write, do mathematics, and understand the historical context of American and Texas society (from studying real history as opposed to some liberals’ revisionism). Conroe ISD appears too focused on building a real estate empire and padding the pockets of administrators. That must come to an end through a citizen Board of Trustees that puts a stop to the bureaucrats and provides real oversight.

Splendora ISD Trustee Position 4

Description:
School board members ensure the creation of a vision and goals for the district and evaluate district success, adopt policies that inform district actions, hire a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the district, and evaluate the superintendent’s success. Board members also approve an annual budget consistent with the district’s vision and communicate the district’s vision and success to the community. 3 year term.

Candidates (choose 1):
Rex Fry
Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 24715 Marks Road Splendora, Texas 77372
Campaign Phone: 281-593-9990
Email: rexfry@att.net
Age: 6/29/1959
Background: I am a 1977 graduate of Splendora High School. Employed at the Splendora Post Office for 40 years.start youth basketball league in Splendora. Played instrumental role in acquiring land to develop Baseball and Softball complex in Splendora. Volunteered in numerous organizations throughout Splendora. Served as Splendora I.S.D. trustee for over 15 years and is currently serving as trustee in position #4

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district’s capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: Splendora I.S.D.s major need at this time is the solution to overcrowding The board is in the final stages of closing on property and construction of a new elementary school .As we have become a fast growth district it will be difficult to keep up with the increasing student population

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: The district has done well in all aspects of education,safety and student involvement. We provide students the opportunity to earn an associates degree while still in high school at no cost to parents, numerous vocational
certificates for students choosing to go directly into the work force while still allowing them to experience the high school activities such as FFA and athletics.

Q: Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Under the current inequitable school funding plan Splendora I.S.D. receives less money per student than other districts across the state while still trying to maintain an exceptional educational environment. The district has been an advocate for school finance reform. The desired state of education in Montgomery county as well as in the entire state would be that all districts are funded equally and adequately to provide quality educational opportunities for all students regardless of the district in which they live.

Q: The Governor’s current school safety proposal outlines actions which include 1) providing for school safety, and 2) preventing threats in advance. Plans for school safety include increasing the number of individuals armed with guns on school campuses. Plans may also call for preventing threats in advance through increased mental health initiatives and resources. What are your thoughts on these two aspects of the proposed plan?
A: All threats should be taken seriously, however, I do not believe more guns in the hands of non-uniformed personnel on campuses are the answer. Under the school marshall plan in an active shooter situation a marshall could be mistaken by law enforcement in the heat of the moment as an active shooter thereby compounding an already tense situation. Any additional mental health resources would be welcome by all districts but will the state be willing to fund these additional resources or will the cost once again be put back on the local taxpayers.

Jason Sessum

Biographical Info:
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Age: 8/20/1979
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/voteforJasonSessum/?modal=admin_todo_tour

Background: Attended Lonestar College Kingwood, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Class B Wastewater and Ground water licensed operator. Over 100 Hours continuing education through Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) specializing in water and wastewater. Former board member and President of Splendora Youth Baseball Association. Former Secretary of Splendora FFA Alumni Board, Sam Houston Water Utility Association Member. Coach of Splendora youth basketball for four years, little league baseball for 9 years and little league softball for 3 years.

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district’s capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: Our districts capital needs are funding for campus expansions. We need to find ways to purchase land in area of growth and development to secure land and save cost on infrastructure needed for the school such as, roads, water, and wastewater. My experience in the municipal utility industry would help SISD make good sound decisions regarding expansion into areas where the infrastructure can support growth.

Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: Our school has done great in all areas. If I were to improve anything, it would be to help find businesses to recruit our students and help develop more programs in specialized trades. This would be beneficial for our kids to be better prepared for the work force straight out of high school.

Q: Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Funding is always an issue in public schools. With state funding consistently being reduced, school districts need to make good decisions and spend funds where they have the best return investment. SISD is growing at a rapid rate and decisions made now, will affect the district in the future. As a parent of three school age children, I believe the quality of education in SISD is above average. I do not believe in vouchers, because in my opinion, they harm school districts, and do not promote or support long term goals. I understand the reasons behind parents wanting vouchers, but if more parents became involved in their children’s education at their local school and provide input, schools would drastically improve.

Q: 4. The Governor’s current school safety proposal outlines actions which include 1) providing for school safety, and 2) preventing threats in advance. Plans for school safety include increasing the number of individuals armed with guns
on school campuses. Plans may also call for preventing threats in advance through increased mental health initiatives and resources. What are your thoughts on these two aspects of the proposed plan?

A: Every kid deserves to go to school and enjoy being there, and know they are at a safe place at all times. I believe we need to have armed law enforcement officers on every campus. I think our school law enforcement has done a great job with preparing for any threats and safety issues that have presented themselves to our students. I also believe mental health initiatives is a great way to foresee any threats, and help students who might be in potential dangerous state of mind.

Splendora ISD Trustee Position 5
Splendora ISD Trustee Position 5

Description:

School board members ensure the creation of a vision and goals for the district and evaluate district success, adopt policies that inform district actions, hire a superintendent to serve as the chief executive officer of the district, and evaluate the superintendent’s success. Board members also approve an annual budget consistent with the district’s vision and communicate the district’s vision and success to the community. 3 year term.

Candidates (choose 1):
Kenneth "Kino" Manzella

No response received from candidate.

Karen Smith-Frazier

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Twitter: twitter.com/K_Smith_Frazier

Background: Training and Educational Background: I have lived in Splendora since 1965. I attended Kindergarten at a home down Morgan Dr., taught by Mrs. Pope. I continued my education at Splendora ISD. Graduated Valedictorian from SHS in 1979. Earned my BBA in Business Education and my Texas Provisional Secondary Teacher Certificate with a Business Composite, from Sam Houston State University in 1983. After graduating from college, I worked for a door manufacturing company as their office manager for 2 years. Then in December of 1985 I began my teaching career at Splendora ISD. First 5 years of my teaching career I was at the Jr High where I taught 7th Grade Math and Cheer Coach. In 1990 I was given an opportunity to teach at SHS where I began teaching Business and Technology Classes. I started in 1995 the Future Business Leaders of America High School Chapter. The FBLA Chapter started with 5 members. By the time I retired in 2015, FBLA had over 100 members (10% of the student body), District and State Competitive Winners and National Qualifiers. I was also in charge of organizing and coaching UIL Accounting and Computer Applications. While at the High School I became a Microsoft Office Testing Administrator so that I would be able to get SHS students an industry certification. I was able to get over 200 students Microsoft Office certified either in Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint. I also became Advance Technical Credit Eligible in certain Business Classes so that SHS student that were Juniors or Seniors and met the requirements could earn college credit. I am currently teaching workshops at Region V and VI at their Child Nutrition Conferences during the summer. Since 2010 I have been the Testing Coordinator for the Texas Future Business Leaders of America. I am responsible for gathering and organizing over 60 competitive events for approximately 1500 students at the state competition. It takes detailed organizational skills to complete this task and the ability to collaborate with
I want to have a gun in my classroom. I would feel comfortable knowing that administrators on campus had a gun.

As a teacher, I know that non-uniformed personnel (such as administrators that are known by the students) on campuses would help. The non-uniformed personnel would need to go through intense training before issued the right to carry. I know as a teacher I would feel comfortable knowing that administrators on campus had a gun.

The Governor’s current school safety proposal outlines actions which include 1) providing for school safety, and 2) preventing threats in advance. Plans for school safety include increasing the number of individuals armed with guns on school campuses. Plans may also call for preventing threats in advance through increased mental health initiatives and resources. What are your thoughts on these two aspects of the proposed plan?

I believe that all threats should be taken seriously. I do believe more guns in the hands of non-uniformed personnel (such as administrators that are known by the students) on campuses would help. The non-uniformed personnel would need to go through intense training before issued the right to carry. I know as a teacher I would not want to have a gun in my classroom. I would feel comfortable knowing that administrators on campus had a gun.
Additional mental health resources should be provided to all districts. Funding for these additional resources should be paid for through the state, grants, or maybe internship programs from mental health institutes. I do not want to see our district completely pay for these resources. Research will need to be done by the leaders of the district to find out the best solution to provide these mental health resources. I support Gov. Abbots school safety initiatives.

Allen Wells

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Age: 10/24/1981
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Twitter: twitter.com/allen_wellsjr

Background: I am a fourth-generation resident of Splendora Texas and I am proud to call this place my home. I have been married to my beautiful wife Shellie since 2004. We have two wonderful children. Wade, who is 10 and in the 5th grade. Allie is 7 and is in the 2nd grade. They both attend Greenleaf Elementary. I am the current Treasurer for the Splendora FFA Alumni. A nonprofit that helps support the students involved with the Splendora FFA and Jr. FFA. My wife and I are supportive of our youth in the community by investing directly into their futures annually at the East Montgomery County Fair. We donate towards scholarships and to nonprofits that do the same. I am a graduate of Splendora High School class of 2000. My professional experience in the oil and gas industry has given me valuable experience in establishing budgets, and budget priorities. I am involved with developing company policies, marketing and design. I have a proven ability to manage projects in a collaborative manner within budget and deadline. Every day I manage cost, create efficiencies and manage operations in an effective manner. My professional experience would make me a valuable and effective member of the board.

Questions:
Q: 1. What are the district's capital needs at this time? How will you prioritize them?
A: For Splendora ISD, I would say new facilities is our most important capital need. We have seen 3-5% growth for the last several years. Our campuses are near capacity, we are facing increased class sizes and there is a strain being placed on transportation and every other service department. As far as prioritizing I would start with facilities. We need a new elementary school in a strategic location that will adequately service the community it will be built in. Second would be an intermediate school that could lessen the strain on the elementary and middle schools’ capacity. Third, our high school will need to be expanded. I am not a supporter of multiple high schools, I believe we need to expand the existing high school and utilize the property we already have. With growth, comes more need for transportation. Our need for more busses will be necessary and we will have to expand our bus fleet accordingly.
Q: 2. Where do you think the district has not done well and how would you remedy it?
A: According to the Texas Education Agencies, Texas Academic Performance Report for the 2016-2017 Campus Report, only 23.7% of our graduates are college ready in both mathematics and reading. This goes back to the basics, and this is how I would solve this issue. I would start with the elementary aged students, there would be increased focus on reading and mathematics by setting goal-oriented expectations for our students and teachers. If there is a student struggling with these subjects, I would like to see more tutoring, either 1 on 1 or in small groups. This is the building blocks for a successful student and education, we need to make sure we are not leaving any student behind. Second, I would increase the demand for more challenging assignments for the middle and high school aged students. We should expect more of both our educators and students. I believe a more rigorous curriculum would benefit our students and teachers alike in the long run.
Q: Describe the interaction in your view of current public school funding, quality of public school education, and calls for voucher options. Describe what you see as the desired state of education in Montgomery County.
A: Texas' education funding is a complicated issue for all Texans. As property values rise, the burden of funding public education is put more on the shoulders of the tax payers. For many years the states average funding for public education was over 60%. It is now only averaging nearly 38% while the taxpayer picks up the tab for the rest. With these tax dollars I believe that traditional public schools are the best providers of a quality education we can have. There are more opportunities than ever before for our students in traditional public schools, therefore I am not a proponent of the voucher system. Vouchers equal privatization of our education system. Privatization equals business, and with business comes sacrifices in education. Our students deserve the best education possible and I do not
believe that a business will put a student’s best interest above its own. As a parent with the financial ability to put my children in private school, I choose public school every day.

Q: 4. The Governor’s current school safety proposal outlines actions which include 1) providing for school safety, and 2) preventing threats in advance. Plans for school safety include increasing the number of individuals armed with guns on school campuses. Plans may also call for preventing threats in advance through increased mental health initiatives and resources. What are your thoughts on these two aspects of the proposed plan?

A: School safety is a top priority for me. Each school has its own needs, what works for one may not work for another. I support of the Capturing Kids hearts program, this builds a relationship between student, teachers and administrators. With these relationships come trust and an openness. This alone cannot protect a school though. I support having an ISD officer on every campus during the instructional hours and even extracurricular hours. Our district is near multiple police departments so our response time to an emergency is short. In other districts this may not be the case, so I understand the call for an increased number of QUALIFIED personnel being armed on campus. Again, this alone cannot protect a school. In today’s society there also needs to be a focus on mental health awareness. Preventing any violence or shooting by being aware and reporting suspicious activity or changes in a classmate’s behavior could save lives. I support Gov. Abbots school safety initiatives.

The Woodlands Township Position 2

Woodlands Township Position 2

Description:

The Woodlands Township is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Directors are elected by the community at large to serve two-year staggered terms without pay. The Board of Directors serves as the legislative body, sets policy, and approves the budget. Committees and task forces include: Audit Committee, Booking and Blocking Committee, Economic Development Committee, Investment Committee, and Task Force – Storm Drainage.

Candidates (choose 1):

Brian Boniface
Party: NP

No response received from candidate.

Treva Taglieri

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Email: campaigndirector2018@gmail.com
Age: 10/17/1968
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/TrevaforTownship/
Twitter: twitter.com/Treva4Township

Background: I hold a degree in systems engineering with 10 years of experience in the aerospace industry. I have lived in The Woodlands for more than a decade volunteering with my family of five. I have earned a reputation in both professional and personal circles for being measured, moderate, and effective.

Questions:
Q: What do you see as the two most important challenges for The Woodlands Township and what steps would you take to address those challenges?
A: 1. I would like to increase resident engagement in the Township by working to establish communication flows into each subdivision. I propose a new Township Community Engagement Committee where we collaborate with our village associations, community non-profits, libraries, schools, sports associations, etc. to be our eyes and ears in the community to learn how we can better represent residents with particular focus on integrated support for our
children's needs and mental health issues. I am concerned about partisanship in our community. We have challenges ahead but they should not be defined by our personal views on state or federal politics. I think residents should perform due diligence on Township Candidates as these are volunteer positions and should be held by those who want to promote the original vision of The Woodlands: a hometown community where we live, work, learn, and play. I will always listen and keep an open mind while working for solutions that benefit all.

Q: Describe your view of the role of the Township in supporting the Montgomery County Commissioners Court and other government entities to address the surge in the county's growth and the resulting impact on flood control.
A: The Township should be collaborating with the various entities that have jurisdiction over areas that affect Woodlands residents. Understanding and clarifying the issues/jurisdiction is the first step. Developing solutions will require strong technical expertise particularly with flood control issues. Consultation with experts will be necessary to deliver quality solutions. I think I can really be helpful here with program management—the necessary oversight required to set scope and design a plan that can then be implemented.

Q: The Township is studying the option of incorporation in the future. What decisions will be proposed during your term regarding incorporation that are important to voters. If elected, how will you engage voters and do you propose further studies to provide information and answer questions since the decision to incorporate will be theirs?
A: I am running a lean, grass-roots campaign built on earned trust. My effectiveness as an organizer and communicator has been demonstrated in my previous volunteer work in The Woodlands and my professional career experience as an Aerospace Systems Engineer. If I am elected, it will be because the level of trust exists and I will continue to uphold it. I will work on developing an expanded communication flow with the voters, potentially through the proposed Community Engagement Committee. Incorporation is a complex issue and I have heard many viewpoints about it. I have not yet seen a comprehensive plan for incorporation that includes all of the concerns that have been voiced to me. I will work toward satisfying all the questions and then synthesizing the information so that voters understand the implications of the decision that will ultimately be theirs.

The Woodlands Township Position 4
Woodlands Township Place 4

Description:

The Woodlands Township is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Directors are elected by the community at large to serve two-year staggered terms without pay. The Board of Directors serves as the legislative body, sets policy, and approves the budget. Committees and task forces include: Audit Committee, Booking and Blocking Committee, Economic Development Committee, Investment Committee, and Task Force – Storm Drainage.

Candidates (choose 1):
Frank Dargavage

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
Address: 2 Libretto Ct The Woodlands, Tx 77382
Campaign Phone: 281-362-5252 832-260-3233
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Age: 9/18/1943

Questions:
Q: What do you see as the two most important challenges for The Woodlands Township and what steps would you take to address those challenges?
A: Incorporation decision. The Woodlands is being herded to a fork in the road (not a crossroads). Lots of misinformation or incomplete information regarding incorporation and the possible abandoning of a very successful growth model set down by Mr. George Mitchell. Residents have not been given accurate data/cost implications. Our current board representation is rushing an unnecessary process, spending hundreds of thousands of taxpayer’s dollars. We need a bottom line scenario as to why! Who is driving this bus? Transportation Flood issues.

Q: Describe your view of the role of the Township in supporting the Montgomery County Commissioners Court and other government entities to address the surge in the county’s growth and the resulting impact on flood control.
A: Need some time to digest current status of issue.
Q: The Township is studying the option of incorporation in the future. What decisions will be proposed during your term regarding incorporation that are important to voters. If elected, how will you engage voters and do you propose further studies to provide information and answer questions since the decision to incorporate will be theirs?
A: Slow down and get resident approval before wasting more time and money (we have lots of time). See how many constraining regulations would be imposed on The Woodlands as a result of becoming a General Law City? As opposed to the current status we enjoy as a Special Purpose District. Expose Mr. Bunch’s real motivation/ambitions, and whose hand is on his back. Too many YES people on our current board. My platform is based on my adoption of the Core Values of The United States Air Force - Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence in all I do. I Have adopted these values as my moral compass since October 1961. The decision to incorporate will always belong to the residents, ONLY. Further costly studies are not necessary at this time. Voters are currently being "herded". I'll be their voice and will be excessively transparent and approachable. After all, I'm retired! I'm not a politician.

Bruce Rieser

Party: NP

Biographical Info:
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Age: 1/15/1951
Facebook: http://facebook.com/rieserfortownship

Background: I am a 29 year resident of The Woodlands, married to my incredible wife Sarah for 32 years and have a daughter Katelin who lives and works in Houston. I retired after a 34 year career with British Airways in 2010 as Director Properties, the Americas where I was responsible for all of the corporate real estate and airport relationships in the Western Hemisphere. After I retired, I founded SKR Consulting Llc that provides tactical, operational and real estate advice to aviation community. I am currently engaged in representing the Foreign Flag air carriers at IAH airport in the $1.3b International Terminal replacement program. In my first term on The Township Board, I also chaired the Visit The Woodlands Board, which is the marketing arm of the Township. I also chair the Township’s Drainage Taskforce, and I also represent The Woodlands on the Woodlands Road Utility District 1 Board of Directors.

Questions:
Q: What do you see as the two most important challenges for The Woodlands Township and what steps would you take to address those challenges?
A: Clearly traffic/mobility and drainage are the key issues. Since drainage is covered in Q2, I will concentrate on mobility. We can handle our own internal growth, but the lack of mobility planning for the residential and commercial development around us is essentially non-existent. Despite repeated calls from The Township Board for a countywide mobility study, the county has yet to act. This lack of planning adversely affects The Woodlands residents and threatens property values. The current county boulevard plan calls for the the extension of Woodlands Parkway, and the extension and widening both Branch Crossing and Gosling Roads, all without the benefit of a formal traffic study, and over the formal protests of the last three Woodlands Township Boards. We must concentrate on moving traffic that is not originating within the Township around it through improvement to our natural ring roads, 1-45, FM2978, SH242, FM1488 and SH99.

Q: Describe your view of the role of the Township in supporting the Montgomery County Commissioners Court and other government entities to address the surge in the county’s growth and the resulting impact on flood control.
A: For the past two years I have chaired the Township’s Drainage Taskforce, so I am very familiar with what the Township can and cannot do. After Hurricane Harvey (the third 500 year flooding event in less than 18 months), Harris County got serious about reining in development by completely revising their building standards, and by persuading the voters to pass a $2.5b bond issue specifically for drainage mitigation. Montgomery County, to date, as neither revised their standards or taken any public stance on storm water mitigation. The Township has lobbied in Washington and Austin for both Federal and State funding for mitigation projects. I have publicly called for a "drainage summit" meeting between Montgomery County Judge Craig Doyal and Harris County Judge Ed Emmett, to openly discuss how they can partner to advance projects, and harmonize design standards in the Spring Creek basin.

Q: The Township is studying the option of incorporation in the future. What decisions will be proposed during your term regarding incorporation that are important to voters. If elected, how will you engage voters and do you propose further studies to provide information and answer questions since the decision to incorporate will be theirs?
A: We are in the midst of a comprehensive look at the processes, costs and benefits of potential incorporation. This study will not be completed until the Spring of 2019. The Board has incorporation sessions at each scheduled
Township Board meeting and we have also hosted a resident Town Hall on the progress so far. My cell phone is published on the Township website along with my email address. I am always open to answering resident questions and receiving feedback on any issue of concern. Let me be clear, the Township Board has no power to incorporate the Township, the only action they can take is to call for a resident referendum to decide on both incorporation and the maximum tax rate that the Township can impose. Ironically, the two issues most often identified by residents are traffic and drainage. As a special purpose taxing district, we have no direct control in either area.

City of Houston Charter Amendment

City of Houston Charter Amendment

Description:

City of Houston Proposition A  [Relating to the Creation of a Dedicated Funding Source to Enhance, Improve and Renew Drainage Systems and Streets]  Shall the Houston City Charter be amended to establish a Dedicated Pay-As-You-Go Fund, to be used for the enhancement, improvement, and ongoing renewal of Houston's drainage and streets, funded annually from the following sources: (i) developer impact fees; (ii) drainage charges, to property owners or users, to recover costs of providing drainage to benefiting real properties; (iii) a portion of the City's ad valorem tax levy; and (iv) third-party contracts, grants, or payments earmarked or dedicated to drainage or streets?

Proposition B
Shall the City Charter of the City of Houston be amended by adding a separate section that reads as follows: The City of Houston shall compensate City firefighters in a manner and amount that is at least equal and comparable by rank and seniority with the compensation provided City police officers including: a. Persons employed in the following firefighter classifications shall receive the same base pay as persons of like seniority employed in the following, similarly numbered police officer classifications: Firefighters- 1. Probationary firefighter, 2. Firefighter, 3. Engineer/Operator, 4. Captain, Inspector, Investigator, Communications Captain, Mechanic, 5. Senior Captain, Senior Inspector, Senior Investigator, Communications Senior Captain, Shop Supervisor,6. District Chief, Assistant Arson Investigator, Chief Inspector, Chief Communications Officer, Master Mechanic, 7. Deputy Chief, Arson Investigator, Assistant Fire Marshal, Deputy Chief Communications Officer, 8. Assistant Fire Chief, Fire Marshal, 9. Executive Assistant Fire Chief Police Officers- 1. Probationary Police Officer, 2. Police Officer, 3. Senior Police Officer, 4. Sergeant, 5. Lieutenant, 6. Captain, 7. Captain (with an additional 15% for parity), 8. Assistant Police Chief, 9. Executive Assistant Police Chief; In the event the title of any of the above classifications shall be changed, the new classification most similar in terms of qualifications and duties to the old shall be substituted therefore, to achieve pay parity; b. Firefighters employed in fire suppression shall receive the same incentive pay as police officers, of like seniority, employed as patrol officers; c. Firefighters shall receive the same training pay as police officers of like seniority; d. Firefighters employed as arson investigators shall receive the same investigative incentive pay as police officer investigative personnel of like seniority and investigative experience; e. Firefighters who serve as Field Training Officers shall receive the same Field Training Officer training pay as police officers who serve as Field Training Officers; f. Firefighters shall receive mentoring pay in the same amount and on the same basis as police officers; g. Firefighters classified as arson investigators, inspectors, communications captain, senior inspectors, senior investigators, communications senior captain, assistant arson investigator, chief inspector or chief communications officer shall receive the same weekend premium and shift differential pay in the same amount and on the same basis as police officers qualified to receive such pay; h. Firefighters shall receive educational incentive pay in the same amount and on the same basis as police officers entitled to receive such pay; i. Firefighters shall receive college tuition reimbursement in the same amount and on the same basis as police officers entitled to receive such reimbursement; j. Firefighters shall receive the same clothing allowance (or similar benefit) paid to police officers, in addition to any protective clothing and equipment provided by the City; k. Firefighters shall receive the same equipment allowance (or similar benefit) paid to police officers; l. The City shall make the same contribution to the Houston Professional Firefighters Association Medical Trust that it does to the Texas Police Trust; and m. To the extent that the names of any of the forms of pay or benefits identified above are changed, the requirement of parity for firefighters to police officers shall continue to apply; In addition, if any new form of pay or benefit is provided to police officers, the same shall also be provided to firefighters?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure
MUD 152 Special Election

Description:

Proposition for creation of district, elect a board, and vote for elements within the new MUD. Each proposition voted on separately.

Proposition A: District MC MUD No. 152

Proposition B: The issuance of $172,415,000 water, sanitary sewer and drainage facilities bonds and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment of the bonds

Proposition C: The issuance of $15,300,000 recreational facilities bonds and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment of the bonds

Proposition D: The issuance of $120,745,000 road facilities bonds and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment of the bonds

Proposition E: The issuance of $187,715,000 refunding bonds to refund bonds authorized by Article 16, Section 59 of the Texas Constitution and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment of the bonds

Proposition F: The issuance of $120,745,000 refunding bonds to refund bonds authorized by Article 3, Section 52 of the Texas Constitution and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment of the bonds

Proposition G: Maintenance tax not to exceed $1.50 per $100 of assessed valuation

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

MUD 9 Bond Election

Description:

Proposition A: The issuance of $19,000,000 bonds for water, sanitary sewer, and drainage and storm sewer systems and the levy of taxes, without limit as to rate or amount, in payment thereof

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Roman Forest MUD Bond Election

Description:

The Issuance Of $16,070,000 Bonds for the Construction of Facilities for waterworks Sewer and Drainage System and the Levy of Ad Valorem Taxes Adequate to Provide for Payment of the Bonds

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure