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For questions about voting contact the League at Phone: (512) 451-6710 Email: LWVAustin@lwaustin.org Web site: www.LWVAustin.org

**ELECTION DAY**
Saturday, May 6, 2017
Polls open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

**EARLY VOTING**
Monday, April 24 to Tuesday May 2, 2017

**NEW PHOTO ID REQUIREMENTS FOR TEXAS VOTERS**
A court order issued on August 10, 2016 relating to photo identification requirements for Texas voters has changed the rules. With this court order, Texas voters have additional options when presenting ID at the polls for the May 6, 2017 election.

As provided by court order, "voters who do not possess an acceptable form of photo identification and cannot obtain one due to reasonable impediment may vote after signing the "Reasonable Impediment Declaration" and providing one of the acceptable forms of identification.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS CAN BE:**
- Valid voter registration certificate.
- Certified birth certificate (must be an original).
- Copy of or original current utility bill.
- Copy of or original bank statement.
- Copy of or original government check.
- Copy of or original paycheck.
- Copy of or original government document with your name and address (original required if it contains a photograph).

If a voter meets these requirements and is eligible to vote, the voter will be able to cast a regular ballot in the election.

If the voter has no ID from those listed, he or she can vote on a Provisional Ballot and cure it with one of the approved IDs up to 6 calendar days after Election Day. The voter must appear at the Voter Registrar’s Office in person to cure the ballot on regular business days during normal business hours.

YOU MAY BRING THIS VOTERS GUIDE INTO THE VOTING BOOTH! In 1995, the Texas law prohibiting use of printed materials, such as this Voters Guide, in the polling place was ruled unconstitutional (Texas Election Code, Section 61.011).

**WHERE TO VOTE:**
Vote Centers in Travis Co. and Williamson Co. are in effect for Early Voting and Election Day. You may vote at any polling location within your county of residence where you see a “Vote Here” sign. You can find more information about voting locations and ballots at Travis (votetravis.com) and Williamson (wilco.org/elections) County Clerk websites. Please note, however: Cedar Park and Leander residents who reside in Travis County must vote at Williamson County voting locations for early voting or election day. Additional information may be found at Bastrop (http://www.bastropvotes.org) and Caldwell Counties (http://www.caldwellcountync.org/elections).
Bastrop

Questions

Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Bastrop Mayor

(choose 1)

Willie DeLaRosa

No Response

Connie Schroeder

Background: 26 yrs civil engineering, construction, project and business management experience, public and private sectors, Planning and Zoning Commission 6 yrs.

Education: Honors graduate, Bacheloer of Science in Civil Engineering, The University of Texas at Austin, 1983

Website: http://www.connieimayor.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ConnieIMayorBastrop

Answers

A1: Utilize the City’s recently approved Comprehensive Plan as the roadmap for defining budget priorities, maintenance and major improvement projects. Support the City Manager and staff as they work to ensure all the City’s resources both financial and human are used prudently, efficiently and accountably to meet basic needs of every citizen in Bastrop. Actively partner with Bastrop Economic Development Corporation and Bastrop Chamber of Commerce to substantially strengthen the community economic footing and career employment opportunities through business recruitment and development.

A2: Staff and financial resources must be focused on increasingly urgent drainage, water/wastewater, streets and other essential service obligations of the City - as outlined in the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Once the neglect has been remedied and proactive maintenance is in place, the City must focus on future needs, from water sourcing to fiber optics.

Our City has and will see tremendous growth, we must address these needs associated without undermining the character of our community.

A3: I have children and grandchildren here, my commitment to the community and quality of life we all want to preserve is deeply personal. I will bring to the office of Mayor my education and professional expertise in civil engineering, project management and leadership. I bring as well my years of experience on the City’s Planning and Zoning Commission and as chair of the City’s Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and a deep love for the community I call my hometown.

Bastrop City Council, Place 3

(choose 1)

Rachel Corbett

Background: I am a Bastropian, my family settled in Bastrop in the late 1930’s. I have had the opportunity to see many changes through Bastrop.

Education: I am working towards a degree in psychology.

Facebook: http://RachelCorbettPlace3

Answers

A1: Before we can possibly consider the growth constraints we have top be realistic about projects left incomplete that are currently hindering the infrastructure. We need experienced engineers available to resolve these long postponed issues. I also feel by involving the residents in decision making that they will be able to participate not only in the planning but final stages of our growth and development. As a city government we need to take very seriously how we are handling peoples money. In our current economic climate it is a very pressing issue for everyone. Making things accessible, affordable and acceptable is of great concern. I intend to oversee those things and reach as many people possible to make fair and just decisions.

A2: We have a water issue. This is not a new issue however it needs immediate attention. This is water that has been polluted due to the recent floods and fires. We depend on water to sustain living. We must find a clean source of water and make a plan to keep it from being polluted in the future and make sure we will meet immediate needs and future needs. We are growing, Bastrop is the 11th fastest growing city in the State of Texas. We need affordable housing and I don’t mean just government housing- I mean housing that all minimum wage earning people can afford and still feed their families. We have to look to develop livable space.

This is and will for some time remain a critical point.

A3: I am seeking this office to see projects that have been incomplete, complete. I am also seeking office to protect our residents from raising property taxes and school taxes. I also want to gap the bridge between the residents and local government. This is a service position and that is what I am here to do, serve the people of this great community. I want the citizens to know they are part of the plan as well as the future of where we live.

Lee Harle

Background: Owner of Bastrop River Co and facilitator for Harle Enterprises rural leadership development programs. Past Experience: small business banker.


Answers

A1: Bastrop is experiencing unprecedented growth. It is imperative that our local economy continues to grow along side our rapidly increasing population. For Bastrop this means that our economic development partners must have a clear vision for supporting local business and tourism. The Bastrop EDC and soon to be formed Bastrop DMO are essential to helping the city promote and encourage continued growth in sales tax collections in order to meet the expanding operational and capital improvement needs of the city. As the steward of these partners funding sources, the city council has a responsibility to hold them accountable to their missions of creating jobs and attracting tourism dollars.

A2: Water and infrastructure are top concerns for any growing community. The city council needs to address policy that will allow Bastrop to effectively plan for growth rather than respond with linear attention to every individual development that comes along. The council needs to take action now to ensure the future preservation of our historical charm and hometown appeal. We need to take a “pedestrian first” approach to transportation planning, champion water conservation, pursue new sources of groundwater, and develop a plan that balances the need for repairing old infrastructure with the demand for new expanded infrastructure.

A3: Currently our city council is fracture and in need of some positive change. I believe that the keys to a highly functioning city council are communication, compromise, and respect. I love this town and I have a passion for serving my community. I have committed years of service to a number of local organizations: City of Bastrop Parks Board, Downtown Business Alliance, Comprehensive Steering Committee, and Chamber of Commerce. Through my experiences with these organizations I have learned a great deal about what is important to the citizens of Bastrop. I have a clear vision for the future, and the leadership skills necessary to work with other city leaders to help guide this community through the challenges ahead.

Lyle Nelson

Background: 40 Years Management Experience Administration, Budgets, Logistics, Government Affairs Army Veteran - Chair- Capital Area Regional Transit Coordination Education: High School Diploma Facebook: http://Facebook.com/lylenelsonbastianstrop

Answers

A1: Public funds must be expended efficiently while optimizing the effectiveness for our citizens. Public funds as well as staff resources must be concentrated on current needs such as City wide drainage issues, our aging water & wastewater systems and other infrastructure issues. Wasteful spending must be addressed and ended. There must be a collaborative effort with other entities such as the Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Corporation to recruit and retain business investments that provide jobs with a livable wage within our City in order to expand our tax base. Transportation issues including roads, sidewalks and transit should be addressed through coordination, collaboration and communication with our governmental partners.

A2: Infrastructure, Infrastructure Infrastructure. Addressing the aging infrastructure to bring the systems up to optimum standards is a top priority. This includes drainage issues, water/wastewater systems, streets, sidewalks, bike paths, parks and public safety matters. Such can be addressed and improved by prioritizing those factors outlined in the City’s Comprehensive Plan. Once addressed, mitigated and resolved with appropriate preventative maintenance measures initiated, we can then address future needs.

A3: The Citywide infrastructure issues are of great importance to me. My management experience and approach will allow me to be a positive agent for improvement within our City. Representation - It is imperative that those who are entrusted with setting policy for our City are representative of the entire City. For too long, this has not been the case. I want to change that. Responsibility: The City’s governing body, the City Council, should be responsible for and responsive to the needs of all Citizens not to special interests.
Nancy Wood  
**Background:**  As the Main Street Program Director for nine years, she was involved in the historic preservation and economic revitalization efforts of downtown.  
**Education:**  Performance Development professional with over twenty years experience in Organizational Development consulting; graduated from Texas Tech (honors)  
**Website:**  http://www.wood4citycouncil.com  
**Facebook:**  http://www.facebook.com/wood4citycouncil/  
**Answers:**  
**A1:**  The new Comprehensive Plan document is the blueprint for Bastrop's future. It was adopted by City Council in November 2016 and I'm proud to have contributed to it as a City staff member and as a private citizen. It is well thought out with input from over 1500 citizens and should be followed. The issues of business development and job growth, transportation and thoroughfare growth, and public safety to ensure quality of life are all covered in this document. I want to ensure that it is used by City Council and City staff to inform our decisions and actions going forward. A strong, well thought out city budget with priorities tied to this document will enable city staff to implement the action items laid out by the plan.  
**A2:**  I have seen first-hand the flooding and devastation that occurs when aging infrastructure is ignored. Our drainage and infrastructure has been low priority for far too long. As a City employee we must adopt and implement a strong infrastructure strategy to address our current and future needs. To help fund this strategy, the tourism industry can help build our economy as it has in communities across Texas. Tourists who visit Bastrop eat in our restaurants, buy gas at our stations, shop in our stores and stay in our hotels. We give them an authentic experience and they give us tax dollars which help us achieve our goals. And tourism creates local jobs. The city needs to SUPPORT a strong independent Destination Marketing Organization (DMO).  
**A3:**  When asked why I chose to run for Bastrop City Council after retiring from my city job, my heartfelt reply was, "It is time...this city needs my expertise to get on track for the future!" What does that mean? I worked for this city for nine years as the Bastrop Main Street Program Director. I guided and watched our historic downtown take on a new vibrancy that was not there when my husband and I moved here in 2002, making this the most rewarding job of my almost 50-year career. In the process I learned so much about city government and how it should work on behalf of its citizens. This expertise is what I bring to the table: a strong foundation in city processes, in the city budget, in leadership, and in strength of vision for Bastrop.

**Bastrop ISD Questions**  
**Q1:**  How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?  
**Q2:**  What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?  
**Q3:**  Why are you seeking this office?  

**Tommy Hazleton  
**Background:**  Tommy is a father, husband (married to a teacher), tax payer, and owner of a local Real Estate Brokerage in Cedar Creek, Texas.  
**Education:**  University of Southern Mississippi, Bachelor of Arts 1995 State Licensed Real Estate Agent since 2005 and State Licensed Broker since 2010  
**Website:**  http://TommyForBISD.com  
**Facebook:**  http://Facebook.com/TommyForBastropISD  
**Answers:**  
**A1:**  By achieving an appropriate balance between teacher and administrator pay we can help shift the culture of our district and better empower those teachers and administrators who watch over and teach our children. Teachers are the frontline of our children’s education, therefore I will advocate for a continuing emphasis and implementation with regard to those policies that allow for teacher support, growth and good teacher retention while equipping our educators with the latest tools and technology to help attain the educational goals of our district without overburdening them in the process with new procedures and protocols year after year on top of an already massive workload. Retention and recognition of our best teachers is paramount.  
**A2:**  The recent November 2016 bond (and TRE) election ended up raising the issue of accountability - so much so that both measures were voted down. This sent a strong signal for change as the majority of our electorate had seemingly voted against education. After talking with and listening to many different citizens I began to hear many of the same stories. I found a general consensus that involved a growing concern over how our education tax dollars were being spent. Many of the people I spoke with shared a common perception that the public does not have much say within their own public school system. The backlash from this perception saw a failure at the voting booth. Better choices in spending and better public outreach are clearly needed.  
**A3:**  I have two young children currently attending schools within our district and my youngest son has another ten years left before he will graduate. My wife is also an elementary teacher within our district. They mean the world to me and their being entrenched in our schools nearly every day provides strong motivation and inspiration for me to also be involved. We own a home and a small business, both of which are subject to property taxes. As a real estate broker I understand how important the perception and performance of our school district can be in relation to our property values and the overall health of our entire community. I care about this community and believe I can be a force for positive change in our educational system.

**Billy Moore  
**Background:**  Committed to public education incumbent, 5 yrs BISD Trustee 5 yrs Bastrop Education Foundation executive 4 yrs Rotary executive 20 yrs involved BISD  
**Education:**  Bachelors Degree, University of Texas at Austin, Humanities, English and History, Secondary Teacher Certification MFA, University of Colorado  
**Answers:**  
**A1:**  BISD budget process starts on the campus level with a needs assessment from each of our 15 campuses. As we determine state mandates and curriculum needs and requirements, we focus on providing materials and support to result in the maximum chance for every student’s success. School safety and security is a paramount concern as is the professional development of staff in funding. BISD is facing growth with facilities that need updating and re-purposing to provide adequate educational opportunities for students and a positive working environment for staff and teachers. State funding inconsistencies challenge our ability to deal with our large rural district with a significant low SES population and numerous English language learners.  
**A2:**  BISD has been named a rapid growth district and with the proximity of Austin, our continued growth is guaranteed. We need to educate the public to the educational needs of our students and community so that they will support a bond package to deal with the next 10 years of growth. We are exploring the possibilities of becoming a District of Innovation so
Bee Cave Continued from page 3 that we can better address questions of school choice and tailoring our offerings to the students and staff of BISD. BISD needs to work toward maximum local control of finances by passing a TRE to the state maximum to secure the highest level of state support and to cushion the district from the variables in state revenues available through the existing school finance system.

A3: I believe education is key to success of every student. Educated students are essential to success of our communities and our country by having the tools to maximize personal potential, becoming capable, creative and involved citizens on all levels of society. Public education offers the opportunity for individuals to learn to work together, to communicate, to care about others, and to experience the richness that a diverse population offers. I want our community, our country, our world, to have experiences in education enabling them to agree and disagree with one another while maintaining respect for one another, with a willingness to go beyond their personal experiences and pasts to achieve greater goals. My work is enabling these goals.

Bee Cave

Questions

Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Bee Cave City Council Member At Large

(choose 3) The six members of the City Council are elected at-large to their positions by the voters and each serve two-year staggered terms.

David K. Busch

Background: Manager of Subcontract Administration (Worldwide)/Senior Contracts Manager - Over 30 years of experience in Engineering projects worldwide

Education: Bachelors Degree of Liberal Studies from St. Edwards University - Major in Finance, minor in Management. I have also attended the University of Texas.

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Bee-Cave-City-Council-Election-446032015743789/

Answers:

A1: The City of Bee Cave has done a very good job of developing and attracting business that not only supports Bee Cave but the surround-

ing Hill Country area. The challenges ahead are balancing future business and housing development to best serve the community as a whole. As a member of the Bee Cave City Council I will promote smart balanced approach to help ensure financial strength of Bee Cave and preservation of our unique environment. Transportation and public safety are key impacts to our area. Additionally, Bee Cave has limited control over development outside of Bee Cave and the road system supporting us. This is an area that will require significant focus in the near term to help alleviate the coming bottlenecks.

A2: Bee Cave has grown rapidly the past fifteen years and will continue this rapid development over the next decade. There are issues of population density versus business interests within Bee Cave’s jurisdiction as it relates to our tax future. To address these issues there needs to be smart and efficient evaluation of individual projects. Development of strong relationships and influence with surrounding jurisdictions and government agencies as it specifically relates to the growing traffic issues and the understanding of future development on major travel arteries in Bee Cave. Enhancement of Bee Cave family recreational areas needs review and cooperative effort in a goal to provide or improve available facilities.

A3: My career has included working on many major engineering projects worldwide. I understand how to manage smart growth. The residents and businesses of Bee Cave have made this community into a local center for commerce, entertainment and government. To this, we will soon add the fine and performing arts; enhanced sports and more; all of which will improve our lives and those of our children and grandchildren. With large and important projects up for review, my passion for the community, and my understanding of the process, will be valuable assets, which I would like to apply in service to the City.

Scott Cronk

Background: President of a publicly traded technology company, VP of Strategic Marketing of a billion dollar tech company & a business owner for the past 15 years

Education: I have a BS Degree in Chemical Engineering from Lafayette College and a MBA from Butler University

Website: Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/groups/123766099673616/ Twitter: twitter.com/scronk14

Bee Cave Proposition

The reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Bee Cave, Texas at the rate of one-eighth of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

Yes - For the Measure
No - Against the Measure

Bee Cave Continued to page 5
Marie Lowman

Background: In 2014 Marie sought a council seat and was elected to Bee Cave City Council, she is currently serving her second term. Prior to 2014, Marie served a

Education: B.S. Indiana University M.S. Indiana University MBA Meredith College International Ferienkurs, University of Heidelberg, Germany

Website: http://www.lowmanforbeecave.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Lowmanforcitycouncil/

Twitter: twitter.com/Marie_Lowman

Answers:
A1: We are fortunate to reside in a City operating primarily on sales tax revenue. The benefit is low property taxes, however the challenge is ensuring our city remains economically viable. How to do this requires a cohesive economic development plan, one that encourages business, fosters a culturally diverse environment, and maintains an infrastructure to support business and the greater community. Through careful consideration of development plans, the establishment of efficient thoroughfares, including hike and bike trails, and community engagement, we can continue to foster a cohesive, diverse, and effective ecosystem.

A2: Growth. How to control it, sustain it and leverage it to allow Bee Cave to remain one of the most desirable places to live in Texas is the challenge our council needs to meet. Additional critical issues are traffic, public safety, taxes and water utilization, all by-products of the phenomenal growth we are experiencing. While growth in general terms is a good thing, smart growth is even better. Leveraging experience and utilizing data enables smarter growth. We must protect those attributes that help ensure we continue to enjoy one of the lowest property tax rates in the state. It is critical to keep smart growth at the forefront of the decision making process as well as the tenants that made Bee Cave so attractive.

A3: My professional career with SAS, (analytical software) as a Principal Government Consultant has afforded me the opportunity to travel extensively and to meet with Government officials of very diverse backgrounds. These officials and I all share the same goal of ensuring transparency and efficiency in the allocation of taxpayer dollars. During my years of service, I have learned to listen intently, and to question completely before rendering an opinion. In addition to my professional career, I have served the past years as an elected Council member and the past 5.5 years as a City Commissioner. Bringing consensus to groups with highly divergent opinions is both a science and an art, something for which I have both passion and skill.

Monty Parker

Background: Worked 25 years in Director/VP positions. Currently self-employed as a Consultant. Served on Planning & Zoning 2 yrs and current City Council Member.

Education: Degree in Management, Lee College, Baytown, TX

Answers:
A1: Bee Cave is blessed with healthy sales tax revenues, allowing us to offer residents one of the lowest property tax rates in the state. The budget constraints we have are mostly self-imposed and we are always conservative with this revenue. Keeping our local businesses strong is not only how we keep our tax revenue healthy, but also how we continue to provide employment opportunities for citizens. Bee Cave is the headquarters for two publicly traded companies, which enhances higher paying job opportunities for our citizens. The major transportation routes in our city, Highway 71 and RR 620, are the responsibility of TxDOT, thus state revenues for transportation are dedicated to public streets and thoroughfares for the most part.

A2: Growth! But that encompasses several things, such as development, traffic, natural resources and our economy so our tax bills are maintained at an enviously low level. Growth can't be stopped, but it must be managed. I believe my record as a Council Member reflects my attitudes on growth as well as a vision for addressing it for our future. Without constraint, developers will forever push the envelope to build in ways that continue to exceed our code. We must be responsible stewards of our governing codes as well as cognizant of what standards we have held previous developers to.

A3: I've invested a lot of time to gain the knowledge necessary to represent our citizens at a high level! Unleash what I do! Those who follow our Council meetings know I am not bashful about tackling issues in a direct, respectful manner. Having spent over 3 years serving our city, first as a Planning and Zoning Commissioner, and currently, as a City Council member, I hope to continue representing our citizens in the same way they have been one accustom to! As an incumbent, I have a public record I am proud of. I have no agenda other than to dedicate myself to our city and its citizens, and I feel I have proven myself capable of serving a second term, and hope they feel the same.

Cedar Park

Questions:
Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Q4: Would you consider opting into Capital Metro services for your city? Why or why not?

Cedar Park City Council, Place 1

Stephen Thomas

Unopposed

Cedar Park City Council, Place 3

(choose 1)

Anne Duffy

Background: Critical Care RN Nursing Leadership > 10 years

Education: Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing

Website: http://www.ankduffyforcpc.com

Facebook: http://geduffyannek

Twitter: twitter.com/AkduffyforCP

Answers:
A1: It is essential to evaluate past performance and resource utilization. Despite success or return on investment, let’s take a fresh approach. Adjustments and shifting of priorities are needed for sustainability, to preserve quality of life, and meet future needs. Public safety cannot be compromised. Our focus must be balanced between capital expenditures and on people. Turnover of public servants has proven costly. We need to recruit top talent, offer growth opportunities, competitive pay, and address retirement needs. We’ve seen positive job growth in our city, but need to attract more employers offering primary jobs. Many local retail and food service jobs do not offer livable wages needed for the city’s steadily increasing living costs.

A2: Regional mobility is of major concern. Commute times out of and around Cedar Park are increasing and have a financial and quality of life impact. Collaboration with leaders in neighboring cities to discuss options for safe and timely travel is necessary to solve this problem. Cedar Park relies heavily on tax revenue from big box retail. Tax abatements are not equitable and stresses the infrastructure. We need to work with Austin City Council members and Capital Metro to identify ways our city can assist with resolutions to this issue. We believe we can afford to add public transit to our city, and ultimately with public support, vote to participate in Commuter Rail.

Lyle Grimes

Background: Cedar Park City council for four years. 22 yr employee of American Airlines. Husband, father of two boys, and attends Gateway Church.

Education: Studied at the University of Texas in Austin

Website: http://www.LyleGrimes.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Lyle.Grimes

Twitter: twitter.com/LyleGrimes

Answers:
A1: Cedar Park was recently named the 2nd best place in Texas to raise a family. With this great distinction comes both opportunities and challenges. The biggest challenge is managing the continued growth. In the past four years, I have worked with a great team both on the council and staff to shift the burden from property owners to sales tax revenue. With the addition of over 4,000 new jobs to our community, we have seen the cities sales tax revenue grow each year. This has allowed our city to add additional owners that live, work, and hire in the city.

A3: My entire adult life, I’ve served. I will bring new ideas and perspective to this role. My goal is to represent the citizens and provide transparency. As a former Naval Officer, my core values are integrity and accountability. Your city leaders need to exemplify these traits. My focus is on preserving a pleasant city, not the short-sightedness of giving up green space and over development. Being attentive to citizens’ needs, while promoting community engagement, is important to me. We need to foster an inclusive culture here, as our city grows more diverse. Affordability needs to be addressed. Without competitive wages and affordable living options, we simply exist as a bedroom community, unable to set our identity as a destination city.

A4: Yes, opting into Capital Metro needs to be part of our city’s mobility strategy. With the population growth and increasing commute times, it is time we work with Capital Metro for solutions. Many of our citizens utilize the Lakeline Park & Ride to commute into Austin. However, many residents drive the whole way into work and have limited corridor options. The volume of traffic significantly impacts the congestion in Northwest Austin and stresses the infrastructure. We need to work with Austin City Council members and Capital Metro to identify ways our city can assist with resolutions to this issue. We believe we can afford to add public transit to our city, and ultimately with public support, vote to participate in Commuter Rail.
I would consider opting into CapMetro. I believe our traffic problems are a regional issue, and we cannot solve them in a vacuum. Cedar Park is one of the safest cities to live in and one consistently ranked nationally as one of the best places to raise a family. In 2017 Cedar Park was named the 6th best place to raise a family in America and being a family friendly town is one reason my wife and I chose Cedar Park to raise our family. It is my goal to work to ensure we keep taxes low, support our emergency services, reduce traffic, encourage good job growth, and preserve our parks and trails. I ask for your support in Keeping Cedar Park a place our children and grandchildren will desire to call home.

In 1999, the citizens of Cedar Park voted to withdraw from CapMetro and return the 1-cent sales tax back to the city. Since then the city has experienced significant increase in new employers, retail and commercial, community improvements, road projects, bike and hike trails, park projects, and city beautification projects. I serve at the pleasure of the citizens and would honor their decision if they chose to become part of Cap Metro.

Elgin ISD Questions

Q1: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?

Q2: What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Board of Trustees, District 1

Byron Mitchell
Unopposed

Elgin, Board of Trustees, District 2

(choose 1)

Geno Chavarria
No Response
Jim McMillan  
**Background:** Moved to Elgin in 1989. My children graduated from Elgin ISD. I have worked with the BSA, EYSA, and Wildcat Booster Club.  
**Education:** Lamar University BS Criminal Justice 1979; MA History 1986  
Website: http://na  
Twitter: twitter.com/na  
**Answers:**  
**A1:** This is a very broad question. For a budget to work properly, priorities have to be identified, costs have to be carefully reviewed for effectiveness and necessity. Ask common sense questions, what are the pros and cons, will the expense produce the desired result? We have to maintain facilities, we have to plan for the future, Elgin is growing and will continue to grow. Budgets involve many moving parts, and the school board has an obligation to taxpayers to ensure the public's money is spent wisely. It is a difficult job, it has to be performed fairly and transparently.  
**A2:** Two areas stand out as problems, first, a high rate of teacher turnover. How can we develop an experienced teacher workforce? Why are they leaving? Yes, the school board recently adopted the District of Innovation for next year, but how is that going to be applied to Elgin? Hiring uncertified teachers to solve a teacher shortage is a last resort, the long term solution is to address the reasons why some of our best teachers are leaving. Second, why is Elgin scoring so low on the state tests? For years the trend in Elgin has been downward, what can we do to reverse it? Technology is not always the best answer; today's student is already technologically saturated. Build a solid foundation then integrate more complex educational tools.  
**A3:** Elgin has the potential to be a really great school district. We are going through growing pains and need to stay ahead of the curve. Today, Elgin's student population is growing, and is becoming more diverse. We need strategies that fit Elgin. Build on the traditions that have been established in our community. This is my home, I raised my family here, and I want to do what I can to maintain a high quality of education in Elgin schools. The future begins and ends with public education. If we develop an effective, safe, disciplined environment for our children in our schools they will benefit from it and we will be able to build an experienced and highly motivated core of teachers who will want to stay and work in Elgin.

Georgetown  
**Questions**  
**Q1:** Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?  
**Q2:** What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with these issues?  
**Q3:** Why are you seeking this office?  
**Georgetown Mayor (choose 1)**  
Sherwin Kahn  
**Background:** I am a retired chiropractor. I ran a successful and busy practice for over 15 years. Returned to Oklahoma to care for my father before his death.  
**Education:** UCLA BA Logan College of Chiropractic DC  
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/realsherwinkahn?  
Twitter: twitter.com/Realsherwinkahn  
**Answers:**  
**A1:** I think we need to prioritize sustainable growth over attainable growth. Currently we are issuing permits and variances for any projects that apply. This has increased our county debt in the last few years by over $270M. We need to not spend our future by incurring debt based on the idea of constant and increasing growth. Further we need to address job growth from the practical aspect of workforce housing. How can we build jobs if our future employees have been priced out of our community? We also need transportation that includes a fixed route bus system but also a safe bike transit system. How can we build jobs if our future employees have been priced out of our community?  
**A2:** I am very concerned about preserving the integrity of our find neighborhoods. We have many areas that are now threatened by developer growth. This issue of connectivity needs to be first and foremost in planning. There are many examples where an existing neighborhood’s peace and sanctity is overridden by new and more expensive development adjacent to it. We also have to be concerned with the increasing burden of taxes for the small home owner. Many neighborhoods are literally being priced out of existence as people are forced to sell to developers and realtors who then tear down or ‘flip’ the property increasing the per square foot cost of the neighborhood. We have seen this in the extreme in East Austin and I don’t want that for my town.  
**A3:** I believe I can bring a message of inclusion into the city of Georgetown. Currently we have a small town that on the surface seems idyllic but has a deep divide between those who are in power and those who are not. I want every person to have an equal voice and equal access to local government. I want everyone who wants to be able to afford to live and work in Georgetown. I also want to see a broader cross cultural community - one that honors and is sensitive to every citizen. Currently we have many people who feel disenfranchised and in some cases are actual afraid to speak out because of their business or organization standing. I want an inclusive community where everyone has a voice and no one feels bullied or intimidated.

Dale Ross  
**Background:** A 14+ year resident of Georgetown with 33+ years of management experience. Prior to being mayor he served on seven city boards and now sits on three.  
**Education:** Houston Baptist University - MBA-Accounting; BS - Management & Political Science - Graduated Magna Cum Laude; Certified Public Accountant  
Website: http://government.georgetown.org/mayor/  
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/mayorderalross  
**Answers:**  
**A1:** My expectation is we will manage the needs of our city in the same effective way in the next three years as we have in my first term as mayor. Our city is currently the fastest growing city in the nation for a city of our size and despite our explosive growth we currently have the lowest effective tax rate in central Texas. We are also the second safest city in Texas compared to cities with similar populations. We are currently constructing the largest road project in our city’s history, the southwest by-pass as well as other roads that will improve mobility in our city. In addition, our city-wide bus system will begin operations in August of this year.  
**A2:** With our explosive growth comes the challenge of managing and guiding the quality growth our citizens want and preserving the unique charm of this place we call home - Georgetown, Texas. The secret is apparent to every citizen with regards to being the best city on planet Earth to live, work, raise kids, play and retire and I will continue to work tirelessly to preserve our identity.  
**A3:** It gives me and my wife, Mickie, an opportunity to give back to the community that has been so kind to us. Our community has allowed me and Mickie to live our dream. The good people of Georgetown support my local CPA firm and they also give their time, talent and treasure to the non-profit museum she operates as the Executive Director.  
**Georgetown Council Member, District 2 (choose 1)**  
Valerie Nicholson  
**Background:** As a Texas native and a Georgetown resident for 7+ years, I have deep roots in our community. My commitment and experience make me the right choice.  
**Education:** ’96 Graduate of McNeil High School - ’99 B.S in Communication, UT Austin - Certificates in Creative Leadership & Innovation Management and Leadership  
Website: http://www.votevalfordistrict2.com  
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/NicholsonGTX  
**Answers:**  
**A1:** I am focused on ensuring that Georgetown remains a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. My priorities are related to keeping our town safe and vibrant during this time of significant growth. I intend to guide quality growth while preserving those qualities that make Georgetown special, such as our robust public amenities and our unique, interwoven fabric of community. It is important to continue the work related to existing infrastructure projects and help prioritize future mobility efforts that benefit all Georgetown residents and visitors. I will work to maintain and strengthen our efforts in the area of public safety by adequately equipping our police and fire departments to meet the needs of the City.  
**A2:** Consistent and timely communication is an understandable need when the rate of growth and change are rapid. Therefore, I will promote authentic, personal connection and the exchange of news and ideas through the most effective and efficient means possible. I am committed to fiscal responsibility, so I will advocate for a low tax rate for households while promoting business growth that makes sense in order to increase the commercial tax base. It is critical that every dollar we spend is to the benefit of the residents of Georgetown.  
**A3:** Given my life experience, it seems a natural progression to seek a significant opportunity to give back. I’ve assessed where and how I’ve been able to make a difference, and I intend to use the experience and knowledge I have gained to do the same for the city that I love. I’ve found it deeply rewarding to contribute to, rather than solely consume, the services and opportunities throughout the city. I hope to be an example to others that con-
We chose to relocate here because Georgetown is a beautiful, family-friendly city with excellent community amenities such as our parks, the Public Library, the Palace Theatre, and the Downtown Square. It would be easy for the city to soak up all possible growth and sprawl all over the area until we run into Leander/Taylor/Jarrell, but I don't want that. I want to make sure we’re planning appropriately for the future, and that development is managed in a hands-on manner that protects and preserves what makes Georgetown a unique and thriving 21st century city.

**Georgetown Council Member, District 6**

(choose 1)

**Rachael Greulich Jonrowe**  
**Background:** Native Texan, mother of 4; Voting Precinct Chair & Deputy Voter Registrar, Georgetown Council Representative, 6 years representing my district

**Education:** Culinary Arts Degree from the Texas Culinary Academy, LeCordon Bleu, UT Plan II student, National Merit Scholar, Watson Scholarship recipient

Website: http://www.RachaelforGeorgetown.com  
Facebook: http://facebook.com/RachaelforGeorgetown

**Answers:**

**A1:** I think it is critical that council members solicit feedback from residents in order to identify their primary concerns and respond appropriately. A significant initial area of concern is our growth and increasing traffic. We absolutely must prioritize critical infrastructure projects - Williams Drive, SH 29, and Leander Rd. need overhauled to address current and future traffic needs, particularly with the Wolf Ranch development bringing 2,500 units to the area. We also must make sure we’re supporting our young families, teachers, police, firefighters, and civil servants by encouraging affordable workforce housing options when developers want to re-zone property around town for new development. They live and give here, and deserve support.

**A2:** To round out our growth, we should seek ways to entice high-paying, high-tech jobs into Georgetown. If Round Rock and Austin can do it, then why shouldn’t we? Young, educated workers and their families are moving here and the city is well-positioned to support them. Having high quality employers, wages, and destinations in Georgetown encourages people to spend their income at our own local businesses versus in Austin, which improves everyone’s quality of life. I also think we should support the upcoming fixed-bus route and enhance sidewalk and bike paths to improve mobility options for everyone and take cars off our streets. Some of the most memorable areas in Europe are walking streets with shopping and cafes. We can do that too!

**A3:** I have been performing and directing with the Georgetown Palace Theatre for nearly 15 years, which has allowed me to experience the growth of Georgetown as an Arts destination. 

**Georgetown ISD**

**Questions:**

**Q1:** How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?

**Q2:** What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?

**Q3:** Why are you seeking this office?

**Georgetown ISD Board of Trustee, Place 4**

**David Edward Phillips**  
Unopposed

**Georgetown ISD Board of Trustee, Place 5**

(choose 1)

**Melanie Dunham**  
**Background:** I’ve lived in Williamson County for over 30 years and in Georgetown for 12. I have 4 daughters and a yellow lab named Porter.

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts, English Literature, Texas A&M University

Facebook: http://MelanieDunham-Campaign

**Answers:**

**A1:** Beginning in 2014, the GISD board of trustees approved funding for independent audits of our foundational system’s curriculum, staffing, facilities. Because these are the building blocks of a quality educational experience, we felt it was important to have a clear picture of our operations, and develop plans for improvement. We were then able to make adjustments and ensure equity across all campuses. We also evaluate each campus’ unique attributes to offer individualized staffing and services to better meet their needs. Our budget is complex, but it’s the right thing to do to ensure all GISD kids receive a quality education.

**A2:** Growth has always been hard to predict, and it’s a real challenge when managing students and education.

We continue to review quarterly demographic reports, we’re looking at long-term facilities and budget plans, and seeking innovative ways to remain flexible while providing exceptional services. The recent immigration controversy exacerbates the challenge of connecting with our Spanish-speaking families. We’re working with staff and parents to reduce the gap in communication and participation, and increase their sense of belonging in our district.

**A3:** When I ran for election in 2014, my goal was to bring representation for southeast Georgetown families, particularly low-income and Spanish speaking households. I soon learned my communications and marketing skills, mother’s perspective, and active public service would also be incredibly valuable to the district. I would like to continue my work bringing equitable opportunities to all kids in GISD, and continue our efforts to revolutionize accountability for public schools in the state of Texas.
Georgetown Continued from Page 8

to allocating funding to maintain educational equality. First, identify the campuses in the district where a slip in educational quality has been determined. Second, analyze the variables that contributed to a slip in educational quality at the identified campuses. Third, openly discuss this with the GISD community and seek feedback/comments to begin to formulate a proposed solution.

Fourth, take one or more of the proposed solutions forward for final selection, and final approval.

Fifth, proper implementation and execution of the solution is critical for success at the campus level.

Sixth, conduct annual reviews to measure the results.

A2: Preparing our GISD students to be critical thinkers and creative problem solvers will enable them to be leaders in a 21st century workplace.

Managing the growth of the GISD community while maintaining high quality education is critical to our success now and in the future. Allow the needs of GISD students, their parents and the classroom learning space to be the driver of the decisions we make. GISD “District Of Innovation” designation presents opportunities for our district to customize teaching, learning and operational procedures.

This will allow for a more concisely tailored learning environment for GISD students. GISD Seaport program provides students the opportunity to learn about robotics, engineering, science, and mathematics.

A3: I am seeking this office to serve the GISD community of students and parents and to lend my knowledge of building construction to the district. I have built four elementary schools, one high school, and one 10,000 seat football/soccer stadium for central Texas area school districts. I have also built many other retail buildings and restaurants like Applebee’s, Chili’s, CVS Pharmacy, and grocery stores, to name a few. This kind of knowledge will be very useful when preparing new bond proposals and deciding what our new schools will look like and how they will function. I understand what it takes to be a classroom teacher and how much work goes in to being a good teacher. I’m seeking this office as a way to continue to support good teachers.

Georgetown ISD Board of Trustees, Place 7 (choose 1)

Rida Ortego

Fourteen years of education experience as a classroom teacher in grades Pre-Kinder-garten-Second grade. Resident of Georgetown for 16 years.

Education: Bachelor of Science in Technology with a minor in Psychology from UCT, Teacher Certification Endorsement from Tarleton State University

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ ridaortegoforschoolboard

Twitter: twitter.com/RidaOrtego

Answers:

A1: It is important that we put the instructional needs of our students first when determining how to best allocate district funds. Adequately staffing each classroom to meet the needs of students should be top priority. We should strive toward employing highly qualified educators for our students to maintain a quality learning environment for all. That means keeping our Kindergarten to 4th grade class sizes at or below the 22:1 class size cap and middle and high school classes at manageable student numbers for teachers, which may vary according to subject. We should also strive to stay competitive with surrounding districts regarding teacher pay. That means increasing teacher pay to attract the best teachers and to retain the ones we have.

A2: Georgetown ISD recently approved a “District of Innovation” plan, so integrating the acquired flexibilities under this designation into our schools to customize instruction and to effectively meet the needs of our diverse student population is crucial to improving performance. Remaining competitive and out performing charter and private schools will require GISD to become more customer service oriented. Increasing communication and remaining student centered will assure our community that GISD is the best choice for educating our children. Most critical is the budget challenges created by likely further state funding reductions by the TxLege and the increased burden on local taxpayers from property tax bills rising significantly each year.

A3: I think our school board and community needs an educators perspective. I have 14 years of classroom experience at GISD and with dramatic changes to how students are taught and with integration of technology into classrooms, my experience is timely and relevant; as the Board of Trustees makes critical decisions on implementing 21st Century Learning, which will require big changes to be made with regard to staffing and curriculum. We could also use another woman on our school board and a Hispanic representative. At the present time we only have one woman on our school board and our student population is about 44 percent Hispanic. I believe that our school board should be reflective of the community it serves.

Ben Stewart

No Response

Jaquita N. Wilson

Vice-Chairwoman - Georgetown Strategic Community Planning Committee; member - Courageous Conversations of Georgetown, Education Committee.

Education: B.A. Montclair State University

Website: http://www.jaquitawilson- campaign.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ profile.php?id=100015379301446

Twitter: twitter.com/JaquitaforGISD

Answers:

A1: We first need to identify how funds are currently being allocated across all campuses. We need to know how that will change under District of Innovation.

We need to identify which current programs are successful and why they are successful. It might not be an issue of funding, but implementation. Funds should be allocated based on students needs, not by campus.

A2: We need increased transparency. Especially on discipline procedures.

We need to make the information available to parents and caregivers and the public and provide data on what is happening in our schools.

We need to address those needs which inhibit abilities of children to learn.

We need to identify why graduates, in many cases, are not prepared for the opportunities which await them upon graduation.

A3: To be an advocate for ALL children and their parents and caregivers throughout GISD.

Hutto

Questions

Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Hutto City Council Place 1 (choose 1)

Steven Harris

Background: Professional salesman, talented karaoke singer, and part time political activist. I serve on SLEC for SDS and I’m a Heritage Action Sentinel.

Education: A long list of professional training and development programs.

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ AskStevenRHarris/

Answers:

A1: We can help our tax base grow more by getting government out of the way of progress. Business owners will come to Hutto, create jobs, and contribute to our tax revenues when we make it easier for them to be profitable. Right now we make entrepre-neurs decide to go elsewhere because our development codes make it too cumbersome to set up shop. No govern-ment regulation, no matter how noble the intention, comes without unintended consequences. We should be wise with the tax dollars generated by avoiding new debt. I want the city to work toward becoming debt free.

More debt will lead to higher taxes and we don’t need to follow that path.

A2: One thing that concerns me is that we have too few people participating in the election process. For many years, Hutto has under 600 people voting in our elections. I attend almost every city council meeting in person and I see the same small group of people occasionally sitting in the audience. Many nights I have been the only citizen in the audience who was not city staff. We have a wonderfully diverse population. With a diversity of cultures and backgrounds comes a diversi-ty of ideas. We need more people and more ideas to come up with the best solutions to our cities problems.

A3: I fell in love with Hutto as soon as we moved here two years ago. Because I love civics, I immediately got involved in our city government. I met our council members, together and individually to learn from them. I listened to all sides as the council faced great challenges with city staff and our rapid growth. I have complet-ed Hutto Citizens University. Through HCU, I learned more about the various departments that make up our city government. I have demonstrated my commitment to our city by being as involved as I have been. I will continue that same level of commitment if I’m not elected and will commit to doing more if the people of Hutto pick me to sit on the council.

Scott Rose

No Response

Dana Wilcott

No Response

Hutto City Council Place 4 (choose 1)

Tim Jordan

No Response

Michael Smith

No Response
Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 1
Shall Sections 2.02, 2.04(b), 3.09, 3.14, 3.16, 4.01(a), 4.01(b), 4.01(c), 4.02, 5.01(b), 5.03(a), 6.02, 6.09(b), 7.03(a), 7.08(b), 7.08(d), 8.13, 8.14, 9.01, 9.02, 9.03, 9.05, 9.07, 10.01(c), 11.01, 11.04(f), 11.04(g), 13.04 and 13.11 of the Hutto City Charter be amended by 1) making corrections to grammar, spelling and punctuation errors throughout all Articles of the Charter; 2) deleting redundant or surplus wording, and deleting outdated or antiquated wording; and 3) making non-substantive vocabulary changes in order to use modern and consistent terminology?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 2
Shall Sections 1.03(a), 1.03(d), 2.06, 3.09, 3.12, 5.01(a), 5.02, 5.03(c), 5.03(e), 5.06, 6.02(b), 6.08, 7.03(b)(2), 8.05(a), 8.07(b), 8.07(d), 8.12, 9.04, 9.07, and 13.11 of the Hutto City Charter be amended by updating and correcting references to current state laws, deleting provisions of the Charter that are inconsistent with current law or are preempted by current law, and deleting references to obsolete laws?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 3
Shall the Hutto City Charter be amended by deleting the “City of Hutto’s Vision” statement?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 4
Shall Section 3.01 of the Hutto City Charter be amended by limiting a person to serving a maximum of two consecutive full terms of office in the position of Mayor or City Council member?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 5
Shall Section 3.05 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to provide that the Mayor Pro-Tem shall act as the Mayor, in addition to the disability or absence of the Mayor, when the Mayor fails to carry out the duties of the office?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 6
Shall Sections 3.05, 4.01(e), 4.01(f) and 8.11 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to clarify the signatory and contracting authority of the Mayor and City Manager?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 7
Shall Section 3.10 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to reduce the number of City Council members necessary to establish a quorum from five (5) to four (4)?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 8
Shall Section 3.12 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to require a roll call vote to document all actions of the City Council?

Yes - For the Measure
No - Against the Measure

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 9
Shall Section 3.13 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to delete the requirement that ordinances only be introduced or read at regular City Council meetings?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 10
Shall Section 3.14 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to reduce, from five (5) to four (4), the number of affirmative votes of members of the City Council required to adopt an emergency clause for an emergency ordinance and to adopt an emergency ordinance?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 11
Shall Section 4.04 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to provide that the City Council, instead of the City Manager, is authorized to appoint the City Attorney?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 12
Shall Section 8.04(d) of the Hutto City Charter be amended to delete the mandate that ten percent of the annual budget be placed in a contingency fund to be used for emergency purposes?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 13
Shall Section 8.05(b) of the Hutto City Charter be amended to clarify that an amendment to the City’s budget cannot increase authorized expenditures to an amount greater than estimated income and other available funds?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 14
Shall Section 8.07(b) of the Hutto City Charter be amended to expand the types of debt instruments that may be issued by the City in situations when emergency appropriations are necessary to meet a public emergency, instead of being limited to only issuing emergency notes in such situations?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 15
Shall Section 12.03 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to prohibit a member of a City board or commission from continuing in such position after being elected to a City office, rather than such prohibition being applicable after a board or commission member’s filing for an elective office of the City?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 16
Shall Section 13.03(c) of the Hutto City Charter be amended to provide that, in addition to currently being applicable to City employees, the nepotism provisions of the Charter shall apply to appointees of the City?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 17
Shall Section 13.03(d) of the Hutto City Charter be amended to clarify that a city official or employee shall comply with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 171, as amended, regulating conflicts of interest of local public officials?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 18
Shall Section 13.04 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to delete language stating that the personnel policies adopted by the City have the full force and effect of law?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 19
Shall Section 13.05 of the Hutto City Charter be amended to delete outdated language requiring the adoption of a comprehensive plan within two (2) years after the initial adoption of the Charter, and adding language requiring the City Council to review the comprehensive plan at least every four (4) years?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 20
Shall Section 13.12 of the Hutto City Charter be amended by requiring the Charter to be reviewed at least every four (4) years by a Charter Review Commission appointed by the City Council?

Hutto Special Charter Election Proposition 21
Shall Section 3.09 of the Hutto City Charter be amended by reducing the number of regular monthly meetings required to be held by the City Council from two (2) to one (1)?

For each of the measures above vote:
Yes - For the Measure
No - Against the Measure

Hutto ISD
Questions
Q1: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
Q2: What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?
Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Hutto ISD Board of Trustees At Large
(choose 2)

Matthew Brading
Background: 20 year veteran teacher
Education: Master of Education Degree from Concordia University Texas
Answers:
A1: I seek to distribute the money into classrooms to bring Hutto ISD to the level of our neighboring districts. For example, we currently spend a lot of money replacing and fixing broken multimedia projectors because they are not mounted in the ceiling, like they are in every other district. In fact, they sit on desks and ceiling, like they are in every other classroom. A quarter of the classroom space is unusable because the projectors are not mounted.

Scott Feller
Background: I have lived in Central Texas since 2000 and Hutto since 2012. I have one son who graduated from Hutto and two daughters currently attending HHS.
Education: Bachelor of Science, Construction Engineering, 1995 Iowa State University
Website: http://www.KangaRoofAustin.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Scott-Feller-for-Hutto-ISD-School-Board-1920840221468798/
Hutto Continued from Page 10

Answers:
A1: First, we have to allocate funds to allow us to meet the mandates thrust upon us by both the federal government and the State of Texas. This includes insuring that special needs kids receive the services that are required. Secondly, we need to determine a prioritized list of services that are not covered by mandates, along with their anticipated expenses. Then we will be able to allocate the school district’s funding to ensure that we are both in legal compliance and are accomplishing our most important objectives.

A2: 1) We have an unrealistic goal of having every student in the district apply to college. I believe that college is not necessary for all kids, nor are all kids ready for college when they graduate. The last estimate that I saw said that only 30% of our graduating seniors are ready to enter college. I plan to push for more vocational/ technical training and certifications so these kids can take advantage of these honorable, solid, middle class occupations.

2) My past experience with large construction projects ($45 million plus) should be valuable to the district as we get closer to needing a second high school.

3) I believe that we need to have a better system of removing from the classroom those kids who have no desire to learn.

A3: I believe that my education and work history, coupled with my ownership of a small business in our community uniquely position me to have a positive influence on the direction of our school district. Past boards have done a good job, and I believe in continuing improvement; there is still more that we can accomplish.

In particular, I would like to drive some of our focus toward careers that do not require college degrees so that those kids for whom a degree isn’t currently feasible still feel valued and are best positioned for success.

Connie Gooding
No Response

Andrea C. Linson

Education: BS Biology; MS Hazardous Materials Management/conc Environmental Science Facebook: http://m.facebook.com/Andrea4HuttoISD Twitter: twitter.com/Andrea4HuttoISD

A3: I am excited about the opportunity to play a role in shaping this new district of innovation moving forward. As a young father I want to play a role in continuing to grow the great district we have and ensure it is a place that will allow my daughter to reach her full potential. If our focus is to make sure that our students are higher education ready, our classrooms are equipped with the technologies the workforce is using, and our teachers are given the opportunity to test ideas on keeping our students focused on completion beyond high school, I have the background and knowledge to aid this goal to a reality. I am ready serve our community on day one and Plan to continue the great progress our district continues to make.

Veronica M. Strong
No Response

Lakeway

Questions
Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

A1: The funds will be allocated to bridge the socioeconomic divide. 42% of the student body is “economically disadvantaged and +60% are non-white. The school has a “D” rating for post secondary readiness. Addressing socioeconomic disparities can bridge the divide.

A2: Socioeconomic disparities keep the District from performing optimally.

A3: To effect positive social change to produce a more inclusive environment in Hutto schools and community.

Caleb L. Steed

Background: Over seven years in both public and private higher education administration, volunteered at local schools, and serving on the Hutto Leadership Academy

Education: Master of Science in Family Ministry, Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance

Answers:
A1: Hutto ISD has taken some excellent strides in becoming a district focused on education equity. Personally, I have watched the growth of Hutto leadership and I have personally reviewed our educator’s ideas on how to use the money given to the Hutto Education Foundation through submitting proposals to further innovate the classroom. I firmly believe that our teachers, and thus our students, can be more successful when and classroom and per pupil spending are put as our number one priority.

A2: Hutto ISD recently became a district of innovation. One of the goals in becoming a district of innovation is to improve college and career options. This goal is a massive undertaking with the ever-changing culture of higher education the school board needs someone with higher education experience. I believe that I am the best candidate to help bring this goal into reality due to my over seven years of experience in both private and state higher education administration positions. I have had the opportunity to work with ISDs across the state to build career pathways for better higher education opportunities for students which better equips them for success.

A3: I am excited about the opportunity to play a role in shaping this new district of innovation moving forward. As a young father I want to play a role in continuing to grow the great district we have and ensure it is a place that will allow my daughter to reach her full potential. If our focus is to

Ron Massa
No Response

Tiffany McMillan
Background: Community advocate & fundraiser with more than thirty years leadership experience serving the greater Austin community. Mother of three and wife.

Education: B.A., University of Texas at Austin Master Grant Writer

Website: http://mcmillanforlakeway.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/bridgetherman%

Twitter: twitter.com/bridgebertram21

Answers:
A1: I want to create an Economic Development Committee (EDC) to help manage smart growth. The team will be comprised of business owners who live in our community, members serving on each city council and commission, and school district representatives. The EDC’s goal will be to create strategies that are both financially and operationally sustainable. We will be able to attract larger organizations in finance, legal and tech space. More critically, we need to ensure our existing businesses have an adequate talent pool from which to draw employees. The

Lakeway Prop 1:

PROP 1, The issuance of $23,065,000 tax bonds for public safety facilities to include a new police facility.

Lakeway Prop 2:

PROP 2, The reauthorization of a local sales and use tax in the City of Lakeway at the rate of one fourth of one percent (1/4%) to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized.

For each of the measures above vote:

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Lakeway Continued to Page 12
Lakeway Continued from Page 11

greatest transportation issue we face has been the unconstrained growth of our own community. If we really want to stabilize, and not worsen, our traffic situation, we need a much more considered and controlled approach to growth. LW has excellent public safety, with a very low major crime rate. The issue we face now is that we need to modernize our police facility.

A2: The biggest, most pressing issue facing Lakeway right now is growth. We’re currently developing without consideration of the impact upon our infrastructure, property values, or quality of life. Our ‘build-build-build’ mindset has created traffic issues, decreased home values and eroded the local charm of LW. Change is inevitable but growth is a choice. I believe we’re the masters of our own fate and we should thoughtfully consider when, where, how & why to grow. The lack of transparency between our leaders and community goes hand-in-hand with our current state of development. I will set a standard of open communication and welcome the divergent views of all, prioritizing our community, which our current Council neither welcomes or respects.

A3: I love Lakeway and feel passionately about bringing qualified leadership and a fresh perspective to our City Council. The status quo has got to go and it’s time for our leadership to change. I believe I’m the change we need. I’m smart, qualified and will bring more than thirty years of leadership experience with me. I know I can draw from my acumen and improve Lakeway creating a modern standard of inclusion & open communication, as well as, bringing forth innovative solutions to the challenges we face. I’m accessible and I care deeply about the residents and business owners here. I abide by my ethos of servant leadership and welcome divergent perspectives understanding we all lend wisdom and insight to the challenges we face together.

Martindale

Questions

Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Martindale Explanation #1

Shall the City of Martindale hire a City Administrator?

Yes - For the Measure

No - Against the Measure

Martindale Mayor

Kim Smith

Unopposed

Martindale City Council

Place 1

(choose 1) This is a Special Election - for the remaining of a 2 year term.

Audra Schiwitz

Education: Abilene Christian University

Twitter: twitter.com/Aschiwitz

Answers

A1: - no response -

A2: - no response -

A3: To help bring our community together and protect our families, river and town.

Sonja Gonzales Villalobos

No Response

Martindale City Council

Place 5

(choose 1)

Lateesse Cooke

Education: Pursuing Degree at in Public Administration Management

Answers

A1: I propose to work to promote the “amenities and natural resources” of this community to those entities looking to relocate their companies here and/or in the surrounding areas which could bring potential job opportunities. Public safety is not one of those things that should be compromised due to a “tight” budget therefore we’d have to look at those things that can be pursued for our city that will aid in our being able to fund more FTE’s for our local police department.

A2: - no response -

A3: I am seeking office because I believe that the experience that I have at various levels of government, my commitment to the betterment of all people and where we live drives me to be a part of the leadership process. Mostly, I desire to see all people represented and included in the process and I believe I can influence and encourage people to get engaged and involved. I can help make a difference.

Mary Alice Paul

No Response

Pflugerville ISD

Questions

Q1: How do you propose to allocate your schools district’s funding to maintain educational quality?

Q2: What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Pflugerville ISD Board of Trustees Place 2

Unexpired Term

(choose 1)

Jacob E. Betz

Background: Customer Service, Account Management, Business Efficiency, Consultation, Marketing/Brandign, Technical Solutions Consultation

Education: K-12 Pflugerville ISD Schools, Graduation 2001 Bachelors of Arts - Concordia University Austin, Focus in International Relations and History 2006

Website: http://www.jacobbettz.org

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/votejacobettz/

Answers

A1: As I have stated in my platform, efficiency is crucial, and, as such, one of the first actions I will take upon my election is to partner with my fellow Trustees to evaluate where the district’s funds are being spent and how effective that funding has been at accomplishing the stated goals. The district has already created many incredible programs; however, funding is a continual challenge and raising taxes is not an option, so we must use our funds with utmost efficiency. We must continue to encourage, expand and support effective programs. It is not my intention to simply maintain educational quality, but to continue to improve it.

A2: Health & Safety - Students, teachers, and administrators must work together to develop a climate of health and safety that facilitates a positive impact on our campuses, our neighborhoods, and our community at large.

Efficiency - From how time is spent to where money is allocated, Pflugerville ISD must function as efficiently as possible in order to yield the greatest benefit to our students, teachers, and community. Paths to Success - Each student’s path to success is unique. Pflugerville ISD must focus not only on graduating students, but ensuring that the path to graduation affords each student with the knowledge and resources needed to be successful regardless of the path chosen after graduation.

A3: With my children attending Pflugerville schools, my wife teaching in the district for the last 12 years, and a lifetime spent in the community, I am truly passionate about the district’s growth and success and I wish to do my part by serving where I am able. Having grown up in the community, attending PflISD from Kindergarten through graduation from high school, I bring a clear perspective of where the community has been, where it is now, and where it can go.

Tony Hanson

Background: I have been in the Pflugerville community for more than 20 years. My wife and I are raising two daughters in the district, a 12 grader and 7th grader.

Education: I earned a B.B.A. in Accounting, and certifications in internal auditing and information systems auditing.

Website: http://www.hanson4pfisd.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/hanson4pfisd

Answers

A1: Approximately 80 percent of the district’s more than $250 million budget is salary designated. The district employees more than 3,000 individuals, and the majority of those individuals are teachers. The district’s mission is to provide a quality education with a commitment to excellence by facilitating learning in a safe and nurturing environment. Since a core component of the mission is to provide a quality education, the greatest attention will need to continue to focus on the area of instruction, where direct contact takes place with each student.

A2: Some of the pressing issues before the district are its rapid growth, attracting and retaining quality teachers, selecting a new superintendent and uncertainty of state funding. To address the expected continued annual growth over for the next 10 years, the district will need to ensure it stays in front of the growth of the district by building facilities today that are viable for tomorrow. To attract and retain quality teachers, the district will need to continue to strive to provide salaries that are competitive. It will need to work with the new superintendent to ensure a smooth transition, while ensuring the district’s mission is achieved. The district will also need to continue to be wise in its planning and critical of expenditure.

A3: I am seeking a seat on the board of trustees for Pflugerville Independent School District to be an advocate for students, parents, teachers, staff, tax payers and all
Pflugerville Continued from Page 12
that have a stake in the PFISD. There have been some really great teachers, coaches, administrators and staff that have played instrumental roles in my daughters’ primary and secondary education. For this reason I want to continue to build A Better Future for All. A future that is student centered, education committed and community connected.

Charlie Torres
Background: AT&T Retiree 32 years. Currently employed at Communications Workers of America 9 1/2 years, past Gregory-Portland ISD school board trustee 12 years
Education: Graduate of Rockport-Fulton High School-1974, 2 1/2 years at Texas A&M University Kingsville
Facebook: http://Torres for Trustee

Answers
A1: My priority when elected will be to thoroughly study and dissect the $256 million dollar budget and make sure we are stretching every tax dollar. I would like to find a solution to lower the tax rate of $1.54 and working as a team player I believe we can find that solution.
A2: I believe the district needs to put more effort in maintaining the awesome teachers we have. Teachers need more support and competitive wages would make a huge difference. There needs to be more transparency between the district and the community. The city continues to grow and with the new tax revenue the board needs to work harder to reduce class sizes to take a load off our teachers and so our students have a much better learning environment.
A3: I am seeking to serve Pflugerville ISD as a school board trustee because I have a passion for education. I believe all children can learn and can blossom into successful and productive citizens. I will focus on excellence in education, fiscal responsibility, student/teacher safety, teacher support, parent involvement and reducing the drop out rate.

Pflugerville ISD Board of Trustees Place 6 (choose 1)

Larry D. Bradley
No Response

Matt Robertson
Background: 20+ years of volunteer service. Skilled in leadership, problem solving, and financial responsibility. Dedicated to serving our district.
Education: Graduate Westosha Central High School, Attend-
ed Marquette University, Basic Training Ft. Sill, OK USArmy, AIT 91B Training Ft. Sam Houston, TX Army
Facebook: http://Facebook.com/ MRob4SchoolBoard

Answers
A1: Fiscal responsibility is something the voters faithfully place in the hands of trustees, to use their tax dollars to provide the best education for our children. Teacher retention is a key area in providing that education. The longevity of a teacher should be rewarded with a continued increase in pay scale, not cut off after a dedication of 25 or 30 years. I plan to take a close look into areas of spending like consulting fees and teacher workshops to ensure that all the funds are being used for what they are being dedicated to. I would like to strengthen programs like the dual language program and the fire academy, and bring these programs to other schools in the district. I also commit to exploring new areas of revenue to strengthen us.
A2: With the recent upheaval of leadership positions and the addition of Mott Elementary and Weiss High School, new leadership is required to ensure a strong start for these new schools and the district growth, beginning with the hiring of a new Superintendent. While we are preparing for the success of our newest schools, we cannot fail to remember to take care of our older schools. Programs like Safe Zones are being suggested and these concerns are not being heard. Parents and teachers recently attended a board meeting to express their concerns over the lack of exemptions and the new boundaries set by rezoning. The action needed to address these issues is to elect new leadership that will take action after they listen to parents and teachers.
A3: I am seeking the office of Place 6 on the board of trustees to change the direction in which our district is currently heading. To elevate the resources available to teachers and parents. To prepare our students to take the next-step into the future and instill them with the confidence to succeed. I am running to work with my fellow board members to set a plan in place to lower the school tax rate. I am seeking this office to serve the businesses, community, teachers, parents, and students of Pflugerville ISD in the best possible way I can.

Cliff Styles
Background: 16yrs served in the Military, 3 Combat Tours to Iraq. Co-Founder of Black Pflugerville, Member of Mount Bonnell Lodge #2 Austin Tx. Advocate
Education: Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Huston-Tillotson University Austin, Tx
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/ CliftonStylesPSISB86/

Answers
A1: I think our schools are doing a tremendous job first off. Our district has over 25000 wonderful students, and 29 schools. I'd like to see more of our girls interested in STEM with a heavy emphasis on Technology. Austin is rich with opportunity for our kids to have rewarding jobs in this industry but we must be direct in fostering that shift. Looking at the expenditures from the August 2016 PFISD STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS report we currently spend over 5 million extracurricular activities and just over half a million in our social services. And although I would love to see those numbers increase for our kids I know we can make great partnerships with our local companies and business.
A2: I think Making sure our Budget is balanced while ensuring our schools will be able to handle our rapid growth will certainly be a challenge. I know I want to provide a robust Gifted and talented program that includes partnership and support from our Tech companies. I want them in our schools, because we need our kids to see what career paths they can pursue early. also at risk youth is very important because we don't want to leave kids behind. Finding innovative ways to capture these kids focus and making sure they are productive and have pathways for success should also be a priority.
A3: I am seeking this position because I’m passionate about our children. I have kids in our wonderful school’s system here in Pflugerville, and want them as well as all our kids to have the very best experience, and advantage our city can provide in education. I strongly believe we are in a race to the top. And we, the community can do more to provide that experience that includes in this Office. I want to reach out, and make connections with our local businesses, and work with their outreach, and partner our schools with them. I want to see partnerships with our Tech Community early on in our schools. Pflugerville is a great place to raise a family. Also, Pflugerville has a great school system. I want to continue by helping build on that success.

Pflugerville ISD Board of Trustees Place 7

Rob Reyes
Unopposed

Round Rock

Questions
Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?
Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?
Q3: Why are you seeking this office?
Q4: Would you consider opting into Capital Metro services for your city? Why or why not?

Round Rock Mayor

JOSH COUTURE

Background: Round Rock native, election poll worker, and ambitious voice of the people.
Education: 12+ years through the Round Rock ISD system. Plans to major in Government at the University of Texas at Austin.
Website: http://Joshformayor.wixsite.com/joshformayor
Twitter: twitter.com/theshouchcourage

Answers
A1: Round Rock needs to focus on domestic issues rather than this new initiative they are pushing to attract tourists. The city should invest more into the excellent system that is RRISD and identify as the “Education Capital of Texas” rather than the “Sports Capital of Texas”. To me, Round Rock is about homes, families, schools, and community. Clean-up the parks, invest in new transportation options such as bike lanes and bus routes to make this place appeal more to families. People that want to raise their children in a safe place where they get a great public education will look to Round Rock. The city should also work on decreasing property taxes to support homeowners and encourage people to spend money in local businesses.
A2: There are two major issues pressing the city that I want to focus on. One is the current state of our library, and the other is the lack of direct communication between the City Council and the Round Rock community. The library has an insulting lack of space, both for parking and inside the building. It needs improvements and bonds for those improvements were approved years ago but the city has yet to do anything about it. Our City Council needs to be more engaged with the community and make sure their voices are heard. They need to make sure things like the new Kalahari resort deal has input from the people beforehand. In the tumultuous political world we live in today, our leaders need to assure this community that they have our backs.

Round Rock Continued to Page 14
Round Rock Charter Amendment Proposition 1
Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas changing the procedure for the filling of vacancies on the City Council and the Office of Mayor.

Round Rock Charter Amendment Proposition 2
Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to allow the City Council to authorize city employees other than the City Manager to execute contracts and/or expend funds for budget items.

Round Rock Charter Amendment Proposition 3
Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to clarify and make consistent the terms used to reference the Mayor, Councilmembers, City Manager, and other city employees.

Round Rock Charter Amendment Proposition 4
Amendment to the Home Rule Charter of the City of Round Rock, Texas to increase the candidate filing fee from $50 to $250 and to increase from 25 to 100 the number of voter signatures required for a petition to be on the ballot.

For each of the measures above vote:
Yes - For the Measure
No - Against the Measure

Round Rock City Council Place 1
(choose 1)

Hollis Bone
Background: A 23-year resident of Round Rock with a strong history of community service.
City banker for 23 years, now Banking Center President for R Bank
Education: Bachelors of Business Administration in Finance from St. Edward's University (1993)
Website: http://www.hollisonbone.com
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/hollisonbone_roundrock/
Answers:
A1: Managing Round Rock's growth requires the utilization of diverse resources of revenue to fund those needs without increased property tax pressure on our residents. I will continue to work with the Economic Development Partnership to develop strategies to attract employers to the area to provide long-term, sustainable job opportunities for our workforce. Type B funds help provide financing for transportation projects and strong partnerships with TXDOT, CAMPO and surrounding communities are vital to regional mobility. Public safety is vital to Round Rock. Our tax dollars provide for safe roads, enforcement, first responders and public assistance. Efficiency in allocation of those dollars is achieved through study and assessment.
A2: As Round Rock expands, we need to keep a strong balance with preserving the heritage of the city while also providing for the demands of the population growth. Working closely with the planning department as well as the residents affected is an imperative need. We need to focus on workforce development with our student population, specifically providing secondary education opportunities other than traditional college routes. Partnerships with the school district and local secondary education resources are a vital component to satisfying the growing needs for workers and employers. I will also continue my work with the arts community to provide a home for the arts in Round Rock with the creation of a Performing Arts Center.

A3: I have a passion for community service and involvement. This was instilled in me through active involvement with my church and Boy Scouts while growing up. When we moved to Round Rock in 1994, my wife and I knew this was where we wanted to build a home and raise a family. My passions led me to serve with various non-profit organizations and in 2008 I was nominated as Chairman of the Round Rock Chamber of Commerce. Serving the Round Rock community as a leader fueled my desire to be a community steward and led me to leadership roles with the Type B Corporation, the Planning and Zoning Commission, and the Economic Development Partnership. Representing the community in these roles motivated and prepared me to serve on City Council.
A4: I am pleased that the City has approved a contract with Capital Metro for expanded transit services in Round Rock. This provides increased local mobility as well as connectivity to surrounding communities without any new property taxes. In addition, it provides access to transportation that might not be otherwise available to some of our residents. This partnership was developed and refined through the use of community input meetings and other methods for residents to provide feedback. As our population continues to grow, this will help to reduce the number of vehicles on the road while also providing a low-cost transportation alternative for our citizens.
Matthew James Carothers  
**Background:** US Coast Guard Veteran  
Over 30 years living in Round Rock  
10 years with the Texas Workforce Commission  
**Texas Veterans Commission Education:** BA Political Science/History major on AAS Paralegal Studies  
Website: http://Carothers4RoundRock.com

**Answers:**

**A1:** Closely monitor expenditures while working with strong partnerships such as TXDot, Workforce Commission and the Colleges and Universities and take advantage of a pool of internship candidates while developing their experience and work ethic. I would promote strong neighborhoods look into the feasibility of implementing single district/precinct representation. Promote a strong relationship between citizens and law enforcement here in the City of Round Rock. I would insist that in the Downtown Round Rock area all citizens have access to urban development. Promote additional green space, community gardens a updated farm’s market area with diverse groups and goods. I would encourage more community input through multiple venues.

**A2:** Other pressing issues facing the City of Round Rock include anchoring a location for the City Library keeping a cap on positive growth, local zoning, and code enforcement of commercial establishments and their impact on residential neighborhoods. I would propose the new city library be within the downtown area while expanding funds for it to have a multipurpose room for use of the diverse population within our community. Look at what type of establishments we are recruiting in the downtown area and throughout the city. Neighborhood input into changing the zoning in residential areas siding more on the neighborhood vs. the commercial establishment. Creating a reporting system for code enforcement and follow up to them within 48 hrs.

**A3:** To add my voice to city government representing the people of the community to ensure their voices, concerns and their representation is not trampled by the few power brokers in the community. I often think of Round Rock as Bedford Falls in the movie “It’s A Wonderful Life,” and will do anything to prevent it from turning into a “Pottersville.” When I moved here as a small child in 1968 and Graduated from Round Rock High School it was something to know my entire graduating senior class. As I meet individuals they ask “aren’t you a Carothers?” I say yes and ask for their support so I can represent them out our most basic level of representation on the Round Rock City Council Place 1.

**A4:** I would definitely consider opting into Capital Metro Services. Reality is that a major concern for Citizens is the traffic congestion in the Round Rock area, not only for convenience but also as a matter of safety and hospital emergencies. I would try to include a better traffic light system that would be more intelligent at times of less traffic. We need to have great locations to make this system work effectively and efficiently.

**Tammy Young**  
**Background:** Tammy is a Realtor and former RRISD teacher with a history of collaborating with NM state education officials to meet the needs of disabled children.

**Education:** Tammy has a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education from the University of New Mexico.  
Website: http://TammyForRoundRock.com  
Facebook: http://TammyForRoundRock.com

**Answers:**

**A1:** This is a critical time and we must re-evaluate our priorities. Round Rock has grown at the expense of our quality of life. We have a local and regional mobility crisis which must be addressed in a comprehensive, forward-thinking way. Our history of being one of the safest cities in America is threatened by the underfunding of our police department. Public safety must be our number one priority, our mobility crisis must be addressed with a regional perspective and it is time to manage our growth in a way that protects the quality of life of those who already live here over the interests of commerce. We must also work diligently to attract new businesses to Round Rock that pay a living wage and offer viable employment to our residents.

**A2:** We must engage our citizens in a meaningful way so adequate public input is collected and considered by our elected officials. We need to invite a more diverse group of residents to participate in city leadership through additional committees and advisory groups. It is time to invest in our existing, older communities in need of sidewalks, street lights and adequate drainage. We must ensure a generous portion of our new developments include entry level homes and apartments so we can maintain our affordability. We need to work with Williamson County to address our escalating property taxes. I am in favor of a homestead exemption on city property taxes and a complete freeze of property taxes after the age of 65.

**Round Rock ISD**  
**Round Rock ISD Proposition 1**

Shall the board of trustees of Round Rock Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount of $133,600,000 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping school buildings of the District and the purchase of necessary sites therefor, including a high school and an elementary school, acquiring technology replacements, upgrades and improvements, and acquiring school buses; and shall there be levied, pledged, assessed and collected annually ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due and to pay the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of the bonds; said bonds to be issued in one or more series or issues, to mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and to bear interest at such rate or rates not -2- to exceed the limit prescribed by law at the time of issuance, as the board of trustees in its discretion shall determine?

**Round Rock ISD Proposition 2**

Shall the board of trustees of Round Rock Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount of $381,665,000 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping school buildings of the District and the purchase of necessary sites therefor, including athletic facilities and fine arts facilities, and the purchase of land for District facilities; and shall there be levied, pledged, assessed and collected annually ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due and to pay the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of the bonds; said bonds to be issued in one or more series or issues, to mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and to bear interest at such rate or rates not to exceed the limit prescribed by law at the time of issuance, as the board of trustees in its discretion shall determine?

**Round Rock ISD Proposition 3**

Shall the board of trustees of Round Rock Independent School District be authorized to issue and sell bonds of the District in the principal amount of $56,830,000 for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping school buildings of the District and the purchase of necessary sites therefor, including athletic facilities and fine arts facilities, and the purchase of land for District facilities; and shall there be levied, pledged, assessed and collected annually ad valorem taxes on all taxable property in the District sufficient, without limit as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due and to pay the costs of any credit agreements executed or authorized in anticipation of, in relation to or in connection with the bonds; said bonds to be issued in one or more series or issues, to mature serially or otherwise not more than 40 years from their date, and to bear interest at such rate or rates not to exceed the limit prescribed by law at the time of issuance, as the board of trustees in its discretion shall determine?

**For each of the measures above vote:**

- Yes - For the Measure  
- No - Against the Measure

**A3:** I care about our community and the people of Round Rock. It is time for a fresh perspective on our city council. For far too long, the existing leadership has carved out the required path to candidacy. It is true that I have not followed their path to leadership, which includes indoctrination and agreement with the priorities they have established. I have not come through their established pipeline. It is time for an ordinary citizen like me to sit down at the table and represent those of us who have not had a voice for far too long even though we live and work here, raise our families and pay our taxes here. It is time we are represented and it is time our city is governed as a reflection of who we are collectively. End the status quo.

**A4:** Round Rock is not a small town any more. We are part of an expanding metropolitan area in which city limits are nothing more than signs and changing addresses. To ignore this fact and continue to function as if we were a small town is a mistake. We have to consider every option that relieves our traffic burdens. Round Rock must have a voice in the conversations that are relevant to regional mobility and the citizens of Round Rock need to know the advantages and disadvantages of participating in Cap Metro. Public input regarding our new interlocal agreement with Cap Metro must be collected in a way that guarantees citizen representation and ensures we are investing wisely.
Round Rock City Council

Place 4

(choose 1)

Will Peckham
No Response

Tracie Storie
Background: Volunteered & held leadership positions with Sam Bass Community Theatre & Round Rock Arts Council, Long-time deputy registrar & Poll Worker.
Education: BFA with Honors from the University of Texas at Austin
Website: http://tracie4roundrock.com
Facebook: http://Tracie Storie for Round Rock

Answers:
A1: Round Rock is expecting large resort, hotels, and sports tourism to bring much needed tax revenue to our city. Some of that revenue should be allocated to the things that affect our residents everyday: transit options and infrastructure to relieve our crowded streets, better pay and benefits to keep and maintain quality Police, Fire Fighters, and EMS, and increased support for a mix of small and locally owned business to return profits and tax revenues back to our community. How we allocate our resources will be critical in ensuring we can maintain and improve our quality of life.
A2: The City Council should work with RRISD to bring parity, upgrades, and the best environment possible for students and teachers to do their best. Round Rock’s rich history and historical structures should be preserved and capitalized on as museums in an Old Town district, with a mix of businesses such as cafés, bookshops, and art galleries to appeal to our residents and tourists. Similarly, our older neighborhoods should be revitalized with sidewalks and bike lanes to make them safer for pedestrians and schoolchildren without pushing residents out. In addition, we need to connect our trails and protect our green spaces. Last, our City Council members should be elected not appointed.
A3: I am running for City Council Place 4 to make Round Rock a better city for all of us, now and for future generations. Accountability and transparency in our local city government is crucial. In addition, community engagement on public resource issues such as our library should be encouraged. Our city council makes decisions for the business community, yet our residents are directly affected by those decisions. Their input must be valued as well. I intend to increase diversity, accessibility, and transparency at City Hall.

Round Rock Continued from Page 15

A4: I do support opting into Capital Metro services. This will give our residents, workers, and visitors viable transit options into and out of our city. Mobility and transportation must be addressed as our city’s population has more than tripled in the 25 years I have lived here, and currently shows no signs of slowing. We must plan sustainably for that growth now or our traffic problems will only continue to be exacerbated.

Smithville

Questions
Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?
Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?
Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Smithville City Council

Place 1

(choose 1)

Kelly Holt
Background: Researcher, journalist, film and television
Education: B.S. Film and Television Production, University of Texas

Answers:
A1: Job growth is a natural outcome of growing markets. Most respected economists posit that the market should manage job growth; in fact, management of it creates negative unintended consequences. Our growing community should encourage new business by keeping the city’s tax rates and ordinances attractive without offering incentives that would be unfair to existing business. Public safety and transportation go hand in hand it seems. Ours is a walking/biking city, so building and maintenance of walking and biking corridors would be an inducement to both. As a city grows, support of a growing LOCAL police department should be encouraged at all costs, free from the nationalization becoming so common around the nation.
A2: Handling the coming growth in Bastrop County will be very important to Smithville. An attention and informed city council is an imperative to avoiding the Big Box syndrome we all don’t want, as well as avoiding financial traps that could be risky when seeking, for instance, all the grants required in today’s system. It’s going to take a lot of work to protect our cute city while being conscientious defenders of the Texas and US Constitutions!
A3: Well, I saw something that concerned me when the City entered into an apparent Public Private Partnership for a city contract. An oft-used device, some PPPs can backfire, putting the taxpayers on the hook to bail them out. My training as a researcher and investigative reporter, I hope, could bring valuable insight into such matters. Plus, I just want to help keep Smithville the neat little place that it is!

Bennie Rooks, Jr.
No Response

Smithville City Council

Place 2

(choose 1)

Ann Fulcher
No Response

Rhonda Janak
No Response

Smithville City Council

Place 3

(choose 1)

Guy Farmer
Background: Banker for 35 years
Education: Master of Business Administration (MBA) Bachelor of Electrical Engineering

Answers:
A1: Focus on maintenance of streets in the community. Enforce City Codes. Job Growth as needed for a small community. Pursue small businesses for the City Industrial Area. Encourage growth in the city historical area.
A2: Smithville needs to be sensitive to the desires of our home owners. Uncontrolled growth hurts the community. We need to have community town hall meetings to aid in a better understanding of the codes of the city.
A3: To provide education for the community as to how City Council works. To hold discussions at City Council meetings rather than just voting on pre-judged votes. Allow more discussion between the community and City Council.

Guy Farmer

Bill Gordon
Background: Professor Entrepreneur Public Servant
Education: B.Sc. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Website: http://www.bill-gordon.com

Answers:
A1: We always have budget constraints akin to the ones we have in our households. We must govern and operate within our means and reduce our reliance on debt. Many new businesses are coming to our community, therefore our tax base will necessarily grow. I will be mindful of the concerns and interests of the established businesses when considering any type of incentives. Improved job growth and city services are natural outcomes of this process.
I am member of many community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce. These organizations will help guide this growth process in a thoughtful manner. Overall community participation and presentation of creative ideas must be a priority.
A2: Community participation in the political and social processes of our community needs to be a priority. We have been a sleepy town for many years. Our proximity to Austin has resulted in a large number of newcomers to Smithville. I embrace the change and listen to their concerns regarding the growth of our community.
A3: A major issue is the geographical/social divide in our community. We can reduce this divide simply talking to each other and working with each other. Next step would be to share local skill and knowledge resources. For example, I facilitated the pairing of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church and Roving Volunteers In Christ Service to perform historical restoration work on the church.

Caroline McClinton
No Response

Smithville ISD

Questions
Q1: How do you propose to allocate your school district’s funding to maintain educational quality?
Q2: What pressing issues are facing your school district and what actions are needed to address these issues?
Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Smithville ISD Board of Trustees

Place 1

(choose 1)

Tay Campbell
Background: TX Public School Mathematics Teacher-9 Years Awards-Campus Teacher of the Year Business Consultant-5Yrs Financial Services/ Audit/Compliance-15Yrs
Education: Lifetime Certified Texas Public School Teacher BS Texas A&M University Math/Kinesiology MBA Texas Tech University Certified Auditor-Banking/Finance

Answers:
A1: School finance, funding formulas, budgets & financials are complex, especially given limited funding. Allocation, use & effectiveness must be maximized so every student, teacher & staff member has the best opportunity given the means provided to succeed. While having financial effects on the other issues?
A3: I am running for this office with those issues?
A4: I support opting into Capital Metro services. This will give our residents, workers, and visitors viable transit options into and out of our city. Mobility and transportation must be addressed as our city’s population has more than tripled in the 25 years I have lived here, and currently shows no signs of slowing. We must plan sustainably for that growth now or our traffic problems will only continue to be exacerbated.

Jordann Newell
No Response

Smithville Continued from Page 17
knowledge, experience & background for effective understanding & oversight is important & vital to an effective Trustee, our role is not to create budgets or manage finances. Instead, we're charged with oversight to ensure school administration is maximizing funds & allocating effectively. My unique experience in this area has helped SISD maintain the highest TEA financial rating possible while still improving school performance. I will work to ensure that continues.

A2: SISD is faced with many challenges. Understanding & identifying those most vital/impactful to our district is paramount to effecting & knowing how to support, monitor & challenge SISD to conquer our unique issues & continue to improve. Aging facilities, technology, teacher retention & student performance continue to be some of our greatest challenges. Working with our community we've recently passed a much needed bond to update facilities, technology, student security & ADA accessibility at every SISD campus. During my term teacher retention is up over 50%, campuses previously monitored by TEA are no longer & STEM & trades education have grown. SISD is now poised for the future & continued efforts & success in these & other areas is the key.

A3: I'm seeking reelection to the SISD Board because of my love of my town where I've raised a family & a life passion for serving kids. My unique mix of education & background in both business & education provide me the unique opportunity & perspective to effectively serve SISD by focusing on local issues & authorities(vs. TEA mandates) Boards legally hold. As a former math Teacher with extensive business world experience using complex budgets & financial statements, I've leveraged those skills in my term to help SISD see substantial improvements via hard work, complex analysis & difficult but effective decisions. This work has our district & students poised for success & we must see the progress we've made at this critical juncture continue.

Cindy Cogdell
Background: Special education teacher, work part time at the Recreation Center, pediatric medical social worker, university administrator
Education: BS-Music Education, Texas Woman's University MA- Counseling Psychology, Texas Woman's University

Answers:
A1: I would like to see some of the funding for teaching staff be used to provide high quality educators for our campuses. I feel a considerable amount is spent on ensuring coaching staff is hired, with teaching proficiency being considered second. I also believe that more funds should be directed towards programs and classes that will prepare our students for success when they leave school.

A2: One problem I see, and not just at SISD, is a lack of interest in school life. Interest in participating in extracurricular events has continued to decline. This leads to lower motivation (no pass/no play is a great motivator), and a feeling of disconnect/lack of belonging. I believe this is in part due to lower parent/family involvement in schools. We need to find a way to help families feel more connected - offering special "family," events, recruiting more parents as volunteers, etc. In addition, we as a community need to be aware of what is going on with our neighbors: single parents, absent parents, grandparents raising children. The reality is a school can only do so much without the community also being involved.

A3: As a retired Special Education teacher, I believe I have insights that others may not. I have been a first person observer to the issues I've talked about above, and much more. I also believe I have insights into students with special needs, as well as their families. I have had to be the master of "thinking outside the box" to foster success. And finally, I strongly believe that as a member of the school board I may be better able to represent students, staff and the community when facing state and federal level issues.

Smithville ISD Board of Trustees Place 2

Grant Gutierrez
Background: Chef Information Officer & Controller at Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, CPA, father to three daughters and incumbent on the Smithville ISD board
Education: Bachelor's of Business Administration and Master's of Science in Accounting from Texas A&M University

Answers:
A1: I will always vote for opportunities that advance students' knowledge in the STEAM area, which is science, technology, engineering, arts and math. Subjects that any student can achieve in. And while the "A" may mean 'above average' for many, to the students who have the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

Taylor City Council

Dwayne E. Ariola
Background: Born and raised in Taylor. 20 Year US Navy Submarine Veteran. Retired as Master Chief Petty Officer. Last Tour was as Chief of the Boat. Educating: Bachelor of Science-Business Management. University of Phoenix 2002

Answers:
A1: I want to utilize the city's recently adopted Strategic plan and use my experience in process review and development to ensure we continue to have economic development and appropriately plan for growth. The City also recently received a UTSA study that examines the potential for future residential, commercial, office and industrial development growth over the next few decades. I plan to work closely with the city team, council and citizens to set goals and objectives that will help execute these specific questions.
Taylor Continued from Page 17

plans in a transparent and accountable method.

A2: Streets, Streets and Streets. The City conducted a Pavement Management Report (street study) in 2012 which found 66% of our streets to be either Poor or Just Fair. The City Council recently approved a Transportation User Fee (TUF) to address some of these issues. I want to ensure the user fee is fair to all residents as well as all businesses. In addition, a recent drainage study was completed that identified several streets/areas needing improvements. I want to ensure all these reports are reviewed and coordinated so we take advantage of all types of revenue from City, County, State and Federal if possible.

A3: This is an easy answer for me. I love my hometown of Taylor and see a very bright future both short and long term. I want to make sure the plans are developed to ensure our success. I also want to make sure these plans are well understood by the entire community and transparent to all. Taylor is a hidden gem in Williamson County and I want to make sure it shines its brightest as we continue to grow.

Gary W. Gola
Department of Insurance, 26 yrs; Cornerstone Real Estate, Inc. Owner, 14 yrs; Taylor Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Chair, 8 yrs.


Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/GaryGolaForCityCouncil

Answers:
A1: I will seek to improve job availability and housing options to grow Taylor’s tax base. I will ensure that taxpayer’s money is being used wisely, effectively, and in the correct places. Part of addressing our needs will be to conduct a detailed forensic audit of revenue and expenses. We need to make sure that money is going towards what it is meant for and not being redirected elsewhere. I will hold city management accountable to better utilize budgeted funds. We also need to put a stop to imposing special, “fees” as a way to fund needs and operate programs.

A2: Growth is coming to Taylor, there is no doubt about that, but we must do more to be prepared and we must be proactive in attracting the growth that is best for our city while at the same time doing everything possible to retain, grow, and improve our current businesses and neighborhoods. It is no secret that our city has many street and drainage needs. We must address these quickly and fix things correctly and at a reasonable cost.

Our leaders have been talking about these needs for a long time and it is far past the time to take action. I will hold city management accountable to identify and clearly explain shortfalls in resources and to come up with options to correct any shortages by better utilizing local resources and talents.

A3: Staying with the status quo is easy. Changing and shaking things up is hard. Our government is elected by the people and our representatives should be accountable to the people. My wife and I are life long residents of Taylor, made our lives here, opened a business in Taylor, recognized the good values of a small town, and chose to raise our family in Taylor. I want to be a voice for our citizens and I will do what is necessary to ensure the city operates in a transparent and cost effective manner. I want to offer our citizens a government that is not geared towards just taking, but rather towards providing what our citizens want and need. I want to make Taylor better than it has ever been and make it once again a gem of the count.

West Lake Hills

Questions
Q1: Given current budget constraints, how do you propose to manage the needs of your city, such as job growth, transportation and public safety?

Q2: What other pressing issues are facing your community and what actions would you propose to deal with those issues?

Q3: Why are you seeking this office?

West Lake Hills City Council Place 1
Rhonda Pulis McCollough
Unopposed

West Lake Hills City Council Place 3

(choose 1)

Ambrose Krumpe

Background: Throughout my career, I’ve enjoyed a wide variety of roles in the public and private sector focusing on consensus-building and fiscal responsibility.

Education: Master of Public Affairs from UT’s LBJ School of Public Affairs; Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Philosophy from the College of William and Mary

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Ambrose-Krumpe-for-West-Lake-Hills-City-Council-Place-3-347821578945688/Trefl/aymt_home_page_panel

Answers:
A1: The financial demands being placed on our small city are significant with several infrastructure projects underway and more in the planning stage. Our status as a desirable bedroom community to one of the fastest-growing cities in the country brings with it certain public safety and transportation issues like traffic and the daily influx of non-resident who should be the foremost concern for City Council. I will rely on my wealth of financial management experience to ensure the City’s spending is prudent, value-driven and well-controlled. Over the next few years, City Council will likely bring a bond package to voters and I will ensure the proposed projects are necessary and improve the lives of the citizens of West Lake Hills.

A2: Our greatest challenge as a community is balancing the desire for conservation, uniqueness and tranquility while still offering our citizens the opportunity to flourish and develop their potential. Low tax rates, a quiet connection to the natural world, and fantastic schools for my children were the main reasons I chose to live in West Lake Hills. As a Councilmember, I will provide an ethical, consistent and thoughtful approach to the decisions that directly impact the lives of my family, friends and fellow citizens.

A3: I decided to run for City Council because I want to be more active and intentional about improving the lifestyle of the people I care about. Our Hills are a truly special place because of the hard work and diligence of the volunteers that came before me. It is important that the City Council is made up of energetic, diverse and open-minded public servants that have the greater good in mind when making decisions that will impact our City for many years to come. Plus, whenever my kids complain about something, I always ask them, “What do you want to do to change it?”

Beth South

Background: Former Marketing Dev. Manager, Austin American-Statesman. Current West Lake Hills Zoning and Planning Commissioner & WLH Building/Design Committee

Education: A graduate of Westlake High School and The University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelors of Journalism/PR Concentration

Website: http://Beth4WLH.com

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/elizabeth.south.92

Answers:
A1: Effective and efficient municipal budgeting is a top priority. West Lake Hills residents invest mightily to live in our community and they deserve the best planning and management of tax dollars and resources. Increas-