

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NORTH TEXAS DEMOCRATS

April 16, 2016

Garland, Texas

Volume 3, Number 4

CALGARY, Alberta, April 8 (UPI) -- Pipeline company TransCanada said about 400 barrels of oil leaked near the Keystone pipeline in South Dakota, far more than the company originally estimated.

The company started the process of closing down its' Keystone oil pipeline after discovering oil released Saturday near a pump station in South Dakota. Initial estimates put the size of the release at about 125 barrels.

"We have completed our initial modeling and have provided to regulators an estimate of the potential volume of 400 barrels," the company said in an emailed statement.

**The company maintained there were no threats from the release to the environment or to public health.**

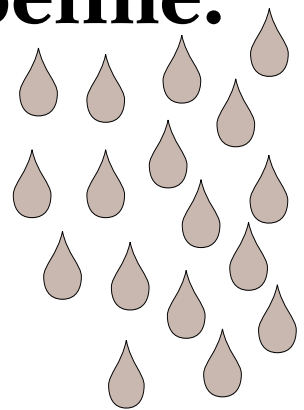
A spokesperson said Monday the size of visible oil at the sight covered about 300 square feet. No response was offered when asked by UPI to address the revision to the size of the release.

The company said it based its estimate on the soil excavated to expose more than 100 feet of the pipeline. More than 100 workers were on site to assess the situation alongside members of the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration.

[http://www.upi.com/Business\\_News/Energy-Industry/2016/04/08/Keystone-pipeline-spill-in-South-Dakota-bigger-than-originally-thought/9721460109260/](http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Energy-Industry/2016/04/08/Keystone-pipeline-spill-in-South-Dakota-bigger-than-originally-thought/9721460109260/)

## 16,800 Gallon Dilbit Spill from Leaking Keystone Pipeline.

Seventeen Drops of Benzene will poison 50,000 gallons of water.  
— Dr. Arden Davis  
It takes 80 to 120 drops to fill a teaspoon.



**TransCanada says:  
“there were no threats from the release [ed: spill] to the environment or public health.”**

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# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## EDITORIAL

### What Are You Going To Do?

“What are you going to do when Social Security is ended? What are you going to do when Medicare and Medicaid are ended? What are you going to do when the ACA (“Obamacare”) is ended? What are you going to do when United States Postal Service is ended? When the public schools are ended? What are you going to do when the government has no way to collect taxes because the IRS has been shut down?”

I posted these questions in a recent Facebook response. The first response I got back was, “Us old people do depend on S.S. and Medicare but we pay for them. There will be a small department to collect taxes. Government is way too big.”

While I agree, old people depend on them, and indeed we pay for them, these programs, so called “entitlements” are prime targets for extinction by the GOP’ers. 2.7 TRILLION dollars, in the form of Treasury bonds, has been borrowed and spent by the federal government. This is compounded by the fact that currently only three workers are paying into the fund for each retiree. Rather than pay back to the fund and redo it’s solvency, the GOP’ers way is to end S.S., first by reducing benefits to a voucher program (privatizing) and when the program is bankrupt, killing it all together. After all we can’t get blood from a turnip.

We are familiar with the GOP’ers yelling, “The first thing I will do is repeal Obamacare! It is a job killer.” Really? There is no need to quote statistics, but millions of Americans now have healthcare where they had none. Folks with pre-existing conditions have healthcare. The program is not perfect, but it is working. What jobs has it killed? We have had 73 straight months of increased employment. Yes, some people are underemployed and that is why the need for a \$15.00 minimum wage is so crucial. Not only will this allow employees of rabid companies like WalMart to care for their families and not have to depend on food stamps to feed their children. This also means more revenue into the Treasury. And as a side benefit more money in the Social Security money pot.

On Monday of this week, postal rates were decreased by 2 cents on a first class stamp. The rate decrease was decided by the Congressional oversight committee. The post office is a sort of privatized business. The USPS does not get any help (money) from the federal government. An insane requirement, again mandated by this oversight committee, is for the USPS to have 75 years worth of pension money set aside. The 2-cent reduction is calculated to cost a BILLION dollars in lost revenue. That translates (at my kitchen table) to be over 50 billion first class letters. And yet the GOP’ers claim we no longer need (“can afford”) the post office.

Public Education, provided by the Constitution, is being choked and systematically destroyed. The recent reports of the Detroit Public Schools is only one district with crumbling, rat infested buildings. There are many others. Just what will charter schools, school vouchers and indeed private schools do to provide for all the children? The billions of dollars spent on testing (filling in the bubbles) would be better spent on fixing the classrooms and seeing to it that the children start their day with a good breakfast and lunch and paying teachers a living wage. One GOP’er presidential candidate has declared if elected he will close the U.S. Department of Education.

The IRS? Remember, this is the branch of government which collects the money to fund the government. Once again, a necessary government agency is being strangled with cuts in monetary support and draconian cuts to personnel needed to let the agency function.

We have a Senate whose leader states openly they will not even interview a candidate for Supreme Court Justice now or if a Democrat is elected in November. Oh, yes, they are claiming a raise in their salaries is absolutely necessary.

I have begun to believe there is a conspiracy to return us back to the days of slavery. (Slave-Massa Society) I wonder, if we are “owned” by our wealthy landowners, will we have to pay income taxes?

— Rachel Baker Ford, editor

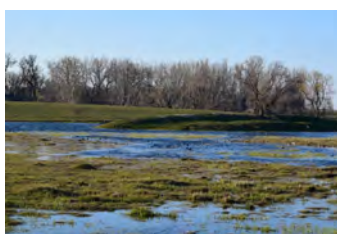
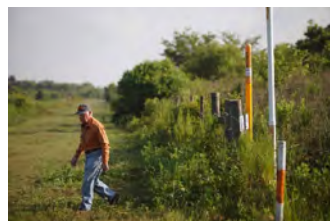
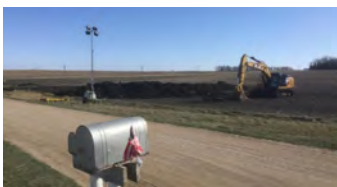
# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## ANOTHER LEAK IN THE PIPELINE— A DOUBLE WHAMMY

### TransCanada - Keystone Pipeline - Oil Spill

#### Photos from the S. D. Spill

Photos by Cindy Meyers et al



TransCanada - Keystone Pipeline - Oil Spill; does that sound familiar? The latest spill is in South Dakota. The rest of the story will also sound like a minor rewrite of previous stories.

The leak was found by Loren Schulz, local citizen, not by TransCanada the owner of the pipeline. The leak detection system was not sensitive enough to detect the leak. It took a full day for TransCanada to appear on the scene and shut down that portion of the pipeline. To no one's surprise, the initial estimate of the amount of "oil" released was 187 gallons but later revised to 16,800 gallons. Since the leak was too small for the leak detectors to sense, the leak could have been leaking for hours, days, months or years and into waterways or aquifers, drinking water, irrigation water or wells. TransCanada declared there was no danger to the environment.

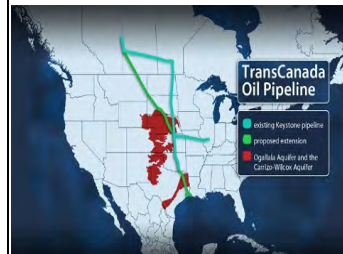
Keystone pipelines don't transport conventional crude oil. They pump a material called dilbit. The material mined in Canada and the Dakotas is called bitumen. Bitumen is too thick to pump through a pipe so it is thinned with 30 to 50 percent light petroleum products. TransCanada does not share the exact constituents of the material used to dilute the bitumen and it can vary. Benzene is one chemical known to commonly be used as a diluent. After an oil pipeline ruptured and spilled into the Yellowstone River, benzene was discovered two days later in homes in Montana at three times the maximum allowable level. It takes only 17 drops of benzene to contaminate 50,000 gallons of water according to area native and activist Cindy Myers and confirmed by Dr. Arden Davis.

The leak in South Dakota was located at a transition weld where the pipeline crossed under a road. Transition welds connect two sections of pipe with different wall thickness. Evan Vokes, a former TransCanada material engineer warned of this potential problem. The corrective action notice submitted by TransCanada verified a transition weld as the failure location. Vokes was subsequently fired by TransCanada.

In case you thought Keystone XL was a dead issue, think again. "On January 6, 2016, TransCanada challenged that denial by announcing it has taken legal action under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and also initiated constitutional litigation against the U.S. Administration." The quote is from the TransCanada website. [www.transcanada.com/keystone.html](http://www.transcanada.com/keystone.html)

The story doesn't end there either. The language that allows TransCanada to bring suit against the U.S. government under NAFTA is repeated in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA). Disputes under NAFTA or the TPPA are resolved through arbitration and can overrule any U.S. laws or regulations. The Supreme Court ruled domestic courts must defer to the arbitrator's decision and not review the merits. NAFTA or TPPA disputes could nullify our Clean Air and Clean Water legislation and regulations to satisfy a foreign corporation!

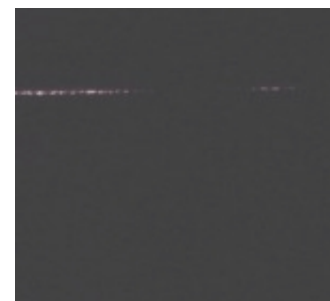
[www.law360.com/articles/741007/settling-investor-state-disputes-under-the-TPP](http://www.law360.com/articles/741007/settling-investor-state-disputes-under-the-TPP)



Path of the Keystone I. Red area is the Ogallala Aquifer.



Pipeline which burst in Kalamazoo MI. Spill went undetected for 17 hours. Found by a local farmer.



This photo was taken from inside one of the welded pipes. The light line is daylight. Photo: 350.org



Red area shows the tributaries to the Mississippi River

Article: Charles E. Ford, Jr.  
Information and Photos  
by Cindy Meyers, 350.org,  
et al

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## ARTICLE

### New Voices

—Katja Bethune

The imposing hall, empty seats, flickering lights, my heart is pounding; why did we arrive this early? Miles away, the stage; only a short walk but one I had contemplated for twenty-five years. The usher says my husband can't sit with me; a quick kiss, and a *you'll be ok*, will have to suffice.

My eyes glide to the podium, centered in front of the seal, flanked by the United States and Texas flags, swaying in the air conditioner's breeze. Any other day the air would be a welcome relief from the blistering El Paso heat, but not today. Nervously, I approach, barely registering the bustling workers, and focus on my heels' echoing click-clack. Suddenly, someone's calling my name. It's the agent from the interview; I must have left an impression; hopefully, it was a good one.

We chat, he guides me to my seat, and sitting front-and-center, I read the literature. In an hour, I'll be American, but wasn't I all along? I have lived in the United States for twenty-seven years; my husband has served in the military for twenty. I have supported him through hardship tours and three deployments to Iraq; I still remember those lonely, worrisome nights. We raised our son, a soldier, too, and I've sent care packages to people I don't know. I have taught children, volunteered, made friends, lost friends, paid taxes, followed the law — all things Americans do — all, except one. I did not vote.

Living in a country, unable to vote, to me, is existing without a voice. Certainly, not everybody is interested in politics, but most of us want to influence the world we live in and shape a brighter future for our children. Across the world, people are fighting and dying to vote, to gain a voice, and not claiming mine felt like squandering an opportunity.

The process of obtaining your citizenship is not complicated. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website ([www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov)) is easy to navigate and offers the necessary forms. My adventure began by sending a Form N-400, the additional paperwork, a \$595 money order, and two passport photos. A few weeks later, I received a biometric and background check appointment. The envelope included a \$85 fee request and a note saying that persons age 75+ are not required to pay, but I couldn't wait that long. Next came the interview and a test, neither were too challenging.

A few months later, I received the notice to take my Oath, which brings me to the big, scary hall that by now had filled. The ceremony started with, *The Star Spangled Banner*, followed by several speakers and an introduction of the applicants, in alphabetical order, based on their countries of origin. The memory of the crowning moment, the swearing in, the Oath of Allegiance, will stay with me forever. The hall shook as we thunderously rose, and it dawned on me. We all want to make a difference, and that day, we had gained our voice.

###

*[editor: We met Katja at the Senate District 16 Convention and learned she was a brand new citizen and she had voted in her first election. She agreed to write this article about her journey to citizenship. Welcome, Katja and thank you for sharing your story.]*

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## ARTICLE

### **A Game Changer. Down with the Greed Running on Prejudice. Up with the People and Democracy!**

— Willa Kulhavy

You know, people say, “It may have to get worse before it gets better.” Well, guess what? The condition of democracy is way worse enough to be gotten better. Maybe we should thank the 2016 Presidential debates, especially the Republican’s for showing the awful effect plutocratic corruption has on our country’s elections.

There is hope for reclaiming the People’s democratic rights from the moneyed elites who have bought our elections. “Mavericks and mad-as-helliers march to Washington for a pro-democracy rebellion. Because it’s time.” (March, 2016 issue : *The Hightower Lowdown* [www.hightower.lowdown.org](http://www.hightower.lowdown.org) )

#### **The Democracy Spring started in Philadelphia.**

Many people, who our government is supposed to be for and by, rallied together in Philadelphia on April 2nd in protest of the plutocratic corruption of our country's elections. Then they started to march the 140 miles from the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia to the Capitol Hill in Washington D.C.. Rallies were held along the way of the 10 day march. When they do arrive, the 100 marchers who committed to walk the whole way, the folks who joined them along the way, and those at the thousands of people masses at the Capitol will continue the protests with with sit-ins and other acts of civil disobedience from April 11 thru 16 protesting the corrosive influence of money in government.

#### **National events at Democracy**

Democracy Awakening events will be going on in Washington D.C. from April 16 thru 18. During those days there will be “demonstrations, teach-ins, direct action trainings, music, and a rally for Democracy.”

Monday, the 18th, will be a “Congress of Conscience — Day of Action” Activists will be going to speak with elected officials and their staffs to present the following demands:

- ✓✓ Fair consideration of the nominee to fill the Supreme Court vacancy, including timely hearings and a vote by the full Senate.
- ✓✓ The Voting Rights Advancement Act (H.R. 2867, S. 1659), legislation that would restore the protections against voting discrimination that were struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in its *Shelby County v. Holder* decision, and make additional, critical updates to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- ✓✓ The Voter Empowerment Act (H.R. 12), legislation to modernize voter registration to prevent deceptive practices that keep people from the ballot box and ensure equal access to voting for all eligible people.
- ✓✓ The Democracy For All Amendment (H.J.Res. 22, S.J.Res. 5), a constitutional amendment that would overturn U.S. Supreme Court decisions like *Citizens United* and allow elected representatives to set commonsense limits on money in elections.
- ✓✓ The Government By the People Act/Fair Elections Now Act (H.R. 20 and S. 1538), a small donor empowerment measure that would encourage and amplify small contributions from everyday Americans.

#### **Dallas can do our share! See You There!**

The Dallas Democracy Awakening Rally is April 17 at 1:00 p.m. in Riverchon Park Recreation Center will include speakers from representative of supporting organization such as Arthur Fleming of the NAACP, David Griggs of the Sierra Club, Mark Your of the AFL-CIO, Liz Wally of Clean Elections, as well as activities like sign making, tables with information, and a march to Lee Park.

More information can be found at: [www.DemocracySpring.org](http://www.DemocracySpring.org) and Democracy Spring on Facebook.

### What's Up?

The Supreme Court Affirmed that States May Draw  
its State Senatorial Districts Based on Population 8-0

And

Declined to Overturn the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit's Opinion That Union  
Representational Fees for Work Place Bargaining Unit Benefits  
Could Be Collected from Non-union Employees 4-4

— Katherine Savers McGovern

As the Supreme Court moves forward in its 2016 Term, we see how the absence of the full 9 members can play out for significant legal challenges.

#### One Person One Vote

In *Evenwel v. Abbott, Governor of Texas*, decided April 4, 2016, the Supreme Court was faced with the challenge to Texas' drawing of its state senatorial districts based on the general population of the district rather than based on the number of eligible voter population of the district. In an 8-0 decision, the Supreme Court affirmed the District Court's decision that a state "may" base its districts on general population within the districts. Evenwel and her co-plaintiffs argued that use of a general population basis deprived plaintiffs of the representative value of their vote because the general population basis necessarily included people who were not eligible to vote. Plaintiffs had challenged "this uniform method of districting on the ground that it produces unequal districts when measured by voter-eligible population. Voter-eligible population, not total population, they urge, must be used to ensure that their votes will not be devalued in relation to citizens' votes in other districts."

The Opinion, written by Justice Ginsberg, affirmed established Supreme Court rationale in support of representation based on population. "As the Framers of the Constitution and the Fourteenth Amendment comprehended, representatives serve all residents, not just those eligible or registered to vote. Nonvoters have an important stake in many policy debates — children, their parents, even their grandparents, for example, have a stake in a strong public-education system — and in receiving constituent services, such as help navigating public-benefits bureaucracies. By ensuring that each representative is subject to requests and suggestions from the same number of constituents, total population apportionment promotes equitable and effective representation."

Since the Decision only affirmed that such districts "may" be based on population, the door is left open to states to redraw districts based on voter eligible population so long as the states can prove that such apportionment promotes equitable and effective representation consistent with the Constitution and Fourteenth Amendment standards. Justices Alito and Thomas wrote concurring opinions as to the Judgment that was issued but disagreeing with the

Opinion's rationale based on the Constitution and Fourteenth Amendment intended purpose of representation based on population. Both Alito and Thomas expressed the view that the states were free to use other bases, e.g., eligible voters, in drawing representative districts.

#### Unions Representing All Employees in a Bargaining Unit Have The Right to Collect Representation Fees

In *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association*, through a per curiam Order of a 4 - 4 split court on March 29, 2016, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals' dismissal of plaintiffs case based on failure to state a claim was affirmed. As background, existing Supreme Court precedence in *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education* allows a union to collect fees for work place representation of the bargaining unit from all employees in the bargaining unit whether a member of the union or not. Non-union employees of a public entity, Detroit public schools, who worked within the bargaining unit objected to paying any fee to support the union activity devoted to bargaining for workplace rights for all members. The non-union employees claimed that forcing them to pay any fee was in violation of their First Amendment rights and that requiring them to formally "opt out" was too burdensome.

The 4 - 4 split within the Supreme Court means that the lower court dismissal was affirmed and that the plaintiffs' challenge to the *Abood* case was unsuccessful. Since the per curiam Order, the plaintiffs have filed a Petition for Re-Hearing when the Supreme Court has a full 9 Justices. That's a procedural move by the plaintiffs to effectively "hold their place" jurisdictionally before the Supreme Court. It's rare that such a Petition would be granted. If it is not granted, then the Supreme Court will enter an order ("Mandate") returning the case to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals as affirmed, and the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit would enter an order ("Mandate") recognizing that the Supreme Court had affirmed the dismissal, and returning to the District Court where the rulings of the superior courts would be recognized, the case dismissed and proceedings terminated. Plaintiffs' Motion is an effort to avoid these consequences.



# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE DALLAS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

## Maintaining & Improving the Democratic Process

From our Dallas County Democratic Chair, Carol Donovan

Fellow Democrats,

Three Dallas County Democratic Party staff members and I met with representatives of the Dallas County Elections Department, including Elections Administrator Toni Pippins-Poole. We discussed the recent Democratic Primary Election and how we could build on an already effective election system in Dallas County. We also shared suggestions that we had received from voters, precinct chairs, election judges and clerks.

Some of the good suggestions require a vote by the Texas legislature, such as voting machine receipts, expanded use of vote-by-mail ballots, and online voting. However, Election Day voting centers already have legislative approval. Election Day voting centers allow voters to cast a ballot anywhere in the county on Election Day, just like we already do for Early Voting. At the request of Dallas County Commissioners, the Dallas County Elections Department is currently conducting an analysis to determine the feasibility of Election Day voting centers.

One of the outcomes of our election debriefing is that the DCDP staff is starting now to build a large reserve of election judges and clerks. Working this far in advance, we can increase the number of poll workers, and we can provide additional opportunities for training for new election workers.

### **Infringement of Voting Rights**

Apparently, some voters who registered to vote through the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) experienced problems on Election Day. The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 requires the DPS to allow people to register to vote when they apply for, or renew, a driver's license.

However, there are complaints that voter registration is not always offered, or that information on newly registered voters is not timely communicated to the Elections Department. For this reason, the Texas Civil Rights Project, through its new director Mimi Marziani, filed suit against the DPS on March 14, 2016.

The complaint alleges that the failure of the DPS to perform, or timely perform, its voter registration responsibilities, constitutes a violation of federal law. The complaint also alleges that the DPS Director and Secretary of State, in their official capacities, have committed, and continue to commit, "systemic and ongoing violations of provisions of the federal National Voter Registration Act of 1993."

### **Texas Voter ID**

The Texas Voter ID lawsuit (*Veasey v. Abbott*) is set for hearing before the entire 5th Circuit Court of Appeals on May 24, 2016. Meanwhile, the challengers have filed an application with the U.S. Supreme Court to stop enforcement of the discriminatory law for the General Election on November 8, 2016.



### **Meet our new Executive Director: Carmen Ayala .**

"I'm deeply honored to be the first female Hispanic Executive Director for Dallas County Democratic Party. I understand I have a big role to fill, but at the same time I'm excited to bring fresh ideas and perspective to the party office. I look forward to meeting with activists and elected officials in the coming months."

To learn more about Carmen, read about her on [www.dallasdemocrats.org](http://www.dallasdemocrats.org) .



Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
Where: Dallas Democratic Party Office  
4209 Parry Ave. Dallas, TX 75223  
\$15.00 Pay at the door or online  
A drink coupon with each ticket.

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

#### **Annual Johnson-Jordan Dinner**

David Axelrod is the keynote speaker.  
Monday, June 20, 2016, 6:00-10:00 pm  
Hyatt Regency Hotel, downtown Dallas  
Net profits for the Annual Johnson-Jordan Dinner benefit the DCDP, and particularly the 2016 Coordinated Campaign.

Individual tickets will be available for purchase later. At this time, the DCDP is offering sponsorships at various levels. To sponsor this event, contact the DCDP at 214-821-8331

More information on the party website:  
[www.dallasdemocrats.org](http://www.dallasdemocrats.org)



## GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE NEWS FOR ROCKWALL COUNTY DEMOCRATS

### What's Happening in Rockwall County

Democrats are geared up to support two local candidates in the November Election. The very fact that qualified Democrats are challenging Republicans is news in Rockwall County where every elected official and most department heads are Republicans.

**Karen Jacobs** is running for Rep. Scott Turner's seat in Texas House District 33. Karen advanced to the November election after being endorsed by *The Dallas Morning News* and winning the Democratic Primary with 75 percent of the vote. Her opponent for the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Election will be decided in the GOP Runoff election May 24<sup>th</sup>. Karen is running an aggressive ground campaign. Needless to say, she is being outspent by money flowing into her opponent's campaigns from the Tea Party. Supporters can go to her website to get more information on her policies, to donate or to volunteer.

[www.jacobsfortexas.com](http://www.jacobsfortexas.com).



**Attorney Tim Wells** is running for Justice of the Peace in Commissioners' Precinct 3. Tim is very qualified to do the work of a Justice of the Peace and will take on Republican incumbent Mark Russo. Tim will only be on the ballot in Commissioners' Precinct 3. <http://democracy.com/timwells>

### Taking Action to Preserve Early Voting in Precinct 1A and 2B

Portions of Rowlett west of Dalrock are in Dallas County and portions of Rowlett east of Dalrock are in Rockwall County. The dividing line is the center of Dalrock Road. Rockwall County has two voting precincts in Rowlett; Precinct 1A from about Westerfield north to the county line and Precinct 2B from Westerfield south to Lake Ray Hubbard. Due to tornado damage at the Rowlett Nursing Home, both precincts voted at Cullins-Lakepointe Elementary during the Primary.

An attempt was made before the Primary Election to close Early Voting in these two precincts. Leadership of the Rockwall County Democratic Party went to the Commissioners' Court and objected; residents of Rowlett who are in Rockwall County should not be inconvenienced by having to travel into Rockwall to vote. Commissioners agreed and voted to keep the Precincts open during Early Voting. Currently, there is discussion with Lakepointe Hospital and Cullins-Lakepointe Elementary regarding voting locations for the May 24<sup>th</sup> Run Off Election. We'll keep you posted!

There may be further attempts to close these Rowlett precincts during Early Voting. Contact your County Commissioner if you want to keep voting convenient for the voters of Rowlett. Call (972) 204-6000 to leave a message for your County Commissioner, or to request a call back. Commissioner Cliff Sevier represents Precinct 1A. Commissioner Lee Gilbert represents Precinct 2A. They listen to constituents if they want your vote when they run!

Judith Matherne, County Chair  
Rockwall Democratic Party  
214-771-6166

The GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE has endorsed both Karen Jacobs (TXHD33) and Attorney Tim Wells (J.P. Precinct 3)



# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## BITS & PIECES

### On the Brussels Attack

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee  
TX18D

All Americans share in horror at the unspeakable terror attacks in Brussels today. Today's attacks are a reminder of the common danger the free, democratic nations of the world face from an evil ideology that celebrates indiscriminate murder and places scant value on life or liberty. They are also a reminder that violence and instability in the Middle East resonate far beyond the region, and the international community must not retreat from addressing it.

My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their loved ones — as well as with the people of Belgium and all of Europe.

Brussels has come to represent everything these terrorists despise: the cosmopolitan capital of a Europe uniting through democratic institutions behind principles of peace, pluralism, and a common purpose. That purpose has been one familiar to Americans — the pursuit of security and opportunity for all people to reach for a better life.

Surely Brussels and Europe will emerge from today's attacks with an even stronger resolve to keep fulfilling that vision, and the American people will continue standing in solidarity with the Belgian people as they do so.

*Facebook 3/23/16*



### We remember Jack Caffey

Jack saw good in everyone.  
His actions reflected his heart.

Jackie D. Caffey, 78, of Dallas died peacefully at home on Friday, February 19, 2016, following a brief illness. An extraordinarily cheerful, generous and compassionate man with an irrepressible laugh, Jack was the embodiment of kindness and genuine love.

Jack supported causes he believed would create a better world. Jack was an active Democrat, serving as a precinct chair until his death.

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Dear Democratic Friends of Jack,  
We will have a Celebration of Life for Jack  
Sunday, April 24, 2016 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
3610 N. Versailles Ave., Dallas, TX 75209

There will be a program where family and friends will have the opportunity to share memories about Jack. Afterwards, there'll be refreshments and a time for family and friends to visit with one another. I hope to see you then.

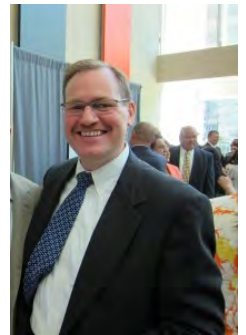
Thank you,  
Barbara

Please RSVP by Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> to [jackdcaffey@gmail.com](mailto:jackdcaffey@gmail.com)

### We remember Neil Emmons

“A very bright light went out.”

Neil Emmons, one of Dallas' most dedicated public servants, and most loyal and generous of friends, passed away on March 30, 2016. Ending a twenty year record of selfless public and community service to the people of Dallas. Neil was born in Dallas, where he lived the entire 45 years of his life. He started his civic career as president of the Oak Lawn Committee, and went on to serve as a commissioner on the Dallas City Planning Commission for eight years. In 2014, Neil resumed his service on the Dallas City Plan Commission.



Those who knew him as intelligent, energetic, and effective in all civic endeavors, Neil was endlessly engaged in making Dallas a quality place to live and work. A Memorial Mass was held on April 5, at St. Rita's Catholic Church.

Donations may be made to the Dallas Endowment for Endangered Properties Attn: Amanda Surret at Veritex Community Bank, Lakewood Branch, 2101 Abrams Road, Dallas, TX 75214

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## JOINT MUNICIPAL ELECTION INFORMATION

### Municipal Races On the Ballot

Bond Issues can be found on [www.dallascountyvotes.com](http://www.dallascountyvotes.com)

Allen City Council, Place 4  
Allen City Council, Place 6  
Arlington City Council, District 1  
Arlington City Council, District 7  
Cedar Hill City Council, Place 3  
DeSoto City Council, Place 3  
DeSoto City Council, Place 5  
DeSoto City Council, Place 6  
Duncanville City Council, District 2  
Duncanville City Council, District 4  
Duncanville Mayor  
Farmers Branch City Council, District 4  
Flower Mound Town Council, Place 1  
Flower Mound Town Council, Place 2  
Flower Mound Town Council, Place 4  
Flower Mound Mayor  
Frisco City Council, Place 2  
Frisco City Council, Place 4  
Grand Prairie City Council, District 4  
Irving City Council, District 1  
Irving City Council, District 2  
Irving City Council, District 7  
Mesquite City Council, Place 3  
Mesquite City Council, Place 4  
Mesquite City Council, Place 5  
Rowlett City Council, Place 3  
Rowlett City Council, Place 4  
Rowlett City Council, Place 6

### ISD races

Allen ISD, Place 5  
Arlington ISD, Place 4  
Coppell ISD, Place 1  
Coppell ISD, Place 2  
Coppell ISD, Place 3  
Dallas ISD, District 2  
Dallas ISD, District 4  
Dallas ISD, District 5  
Dallas ISD, District 7  
DeSoto ISD, Place 2  
Frisco ISD, Place 2  
Garland ISD, Place 2  
Garland ISD, Place 3  
Garland ISD, Place 4  
Grand Prairie ISD, Place 6  
Grand Prairie ISD, Place 7  
Irving ISD, District 5  
Lancaster ISD, District 6  
Lewisville ISD, Place 4  
Lewisville ISD, Place 5  
Richardson ISD, Place 3  
Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, Open

### Other races

Dallas County Comm. College Dist., Place 2  
Dallas County Comm. College Dist., Place 3  
Dallas County Comm. College Dist., Place 4

### 2016 Joint Election Information

May 7, 2016 Saturday  
Polls Open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### Election Day Polling Locations

<http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/wp-content/uploads/DayLocations.pdf>

### Early voting .

Early Voting times and days

April 25 through April 29, (M-F) 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 30 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 1: 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

May 2 & 3 (Mon & Tues.) 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Early Voting Locations:

<http://www.dallascountyvotes.org/wp-content/uploads/EVLocationsJ.pdf>

Dallas County Voters can vote at any early voting location in Dallas County.

*Special Note:* Garland Early Voting has moved to Bradfield Recreation Center

1146 Castle Dr Garland 75040

(Replaces Richland College Garland Campus)

Last day to register to vote **was** April 7, 2016

### Mail Ballots:

Last day to submit a Ballot by Mail Application to the elections office: Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Marked ballots must be returned via mail or common/ contract carrier, by 7:00 p.m. on election day May 7<sup>th</sup> 2016

Note: New Law H.B. 1927 Effective: 9/1/2015 allows a voter to hand deliver in person their carrier envelope with marked ballot on Election Day before 7:00 p.m. to the Early Voting Clerks Office at 2377 N. Stemmons Frwy., Suite 835 Dallas, Texas 75207. The voter must provide acceptable form of ID for voting at the time of delivery and must sign in with clerk.

If you are Military or Overseas (FPCA application) and are mailing your ballot from outside the United States, we must receive your ballot by the fifth day after election day.

Dallas County Elections : [www.dallascountyvotes.com](http://www.dallascountyvotes.com)

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE WE ENDORSE CANDIDATES

## Democratic Runoff Primary Election

On Tuesday, May 24, a statewide Democratic Primary Runoff Election will be held. Dallas County has three runoffs on the ballot.

### Statewide Offices:

1. Texas for Railroad Commissioner, between Grady Yarbrough (39%) and Cody Garrett (35%).

### Countywide Offices:

2. Criminal District Judge, Court No. 2, between Nancy Kennedy (46%) and Chika Anyiam (32%)

3. County Tax Assessor-Collector between John R. Ames (42%) and Bennie Elenora Brown (25%).

### Dallas Precinct #1 (only):

Precinct #1 Runoff for Constable, Precinct No. 1, between Tracey Gulley (44%) and Mae Jackson (34%).

## THE GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

Is proud to endorse John R. Ames ( incumbent) for Dallas County Tax Collector and Nancy Kennedy for Dallas County Judge, Criminal District Court, Number 2


**RE-ELECT**  
DALLAS COUNTY  
**JOHN R. AMES**  
TAX ASSESSOR/COLLECTOR

Taking the  
Dallas County Tax Office  
From Good to GREAT



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**It means funding HEALTHCARE and EDUCATION without raising taxes.**

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“As an incumbent with a demonstrated track record, my office is accountable to you. We have achieved great results for Dallas County and we keep working daily to make the Dallas Tax Office the best in the state.”

- Hon. John R. Ames



Nancy Kennedy  
5910 N. Central Expy #980  
Dallas, Texas 75206?  
Tel:972.975.7516

<http://www.nancykennedyforjudge.com/>

Board Certified in Criminal Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization.  
15 years of experience as prosecutor and defense attorney.

Graduate of SMU Law. Dallas native.

Ready to serve Dallas at the highest level on day one!

**Nancy Kennedy**  
**For Dallas County**   
**Judge Criminal District Court No. 2**  
Early voting February 16-26 Democratic Primary March 1, 2016  
[www.NancyKennedyforJudge.com](http://www.NancyKennedyforJudge.com)

\*POLITICAL ADVERTISING PAID BY NANCY KENNEDY FOR JUDGE. AMPK DUNN & TRAYLOR IN COMPLIANCE WITH OUR ETHICAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES.

# GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

## BULLETIN BOARD

### Joint Election May 7, 2016

#### Early Voting

Mon. Apr. 25—Fri. Apr. 29 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Sat. Apr. 30 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Sun. May 1 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Mon. May 2 — Tues. May 3 7:00 a.m. to 7:00p.m.

#### Election Day:

Saturday May 7 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

#### Dallas County Elections

Main Office Phone: (214) 819-6300  
Voter Registration Phone: (214) 819-6389  
Early Voting Phone: (214) 819-6359  
Fax Number: (214) 819-6301

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

**Jack** ★★★★★  
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Blackshear4Texas@gmail.com

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(3 months ..... \$25 / 6 months \$40 / 12 months \$75)
- 2. Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :  
Business card size, camera ready copy .... \$25 per mo.  
(3 months, same copy \$60)
- 3. Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :  
1/6th page size, camera ready copy ..... \$40 per mo.  
(3 months, same copy \$100)
- 4. Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :  
1/4th page size, camera ready copy ..... \$50 per mo.  
(3 months, same copy \$130)
- 5. Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :  
1/2th page size, camera ready copy ..... \$60 per mo.  
(3 months, same copy \$150)
- 6. Advertisements** (Political, Businesses, Events) :  
Whole page size, camera ready copy .... \$100 per mon.  
(3 months, same copy \$275)  
Additional rates available upon request.  
(Set up costs i.e. scanning, touch up, construction etc.)

Contact: Rachel Baker Ford, editor

[MultiSMus@aol.com](mailto:MultiSMus@aol.com) (972) 530-6484 / 214-773-4004

All copy is subject to editorial review. Prices subject to change without notice.

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Reception for  
**DARLENE EWING FOR JUDGE**  
254th Family District Court  
Tuesday April 26, 2016 6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.  
Home of Geoffrey Schorr  
3114 Saint Johns Drive Dallas, Texas 75205  
RSVP: [darleneewingforjudge@gmail.com](mailto:darleneewingforjudge@gmail.com)  
Donate Online: <https://plasso.co/s/zfAbszDstR>  
Donate by Mail: Darlene Ewing Campaign  
605 Hwy 80E, Suite A, Sunnyvale, Texas 75182  
Your support is appreciated!

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### Law Office of Wesley C Johnson

Car/Truck Wrecks  
Personal Injury  
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