

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NORTH TEXAS DEMOCRATS

May 11, 2015

Garland, Texas

Edition 2, Number 5

Outsiders Speak to Incite Garland Citizens Choose to Ignore

On Sunday, May 5, 2015, Garland was invaded by a known hate-speak group led by a known hate-speaker, under the guise of first amendment guarantee of free speech. Their announced purpose was to have a contest for locals to draw cartoons of Mohammed with a prize of \$10,000 for the winner. The group was charged \$10,000 for extra security. The GISD Board, operators of the Culwell Event Center, permitted the event under freedom of speech. *The Dallas Morning News* stated, “[ed: event organizer] used her free-speech right to stamp firmly on the line between proactive and offensive and scrub it into the dust.” (5/5/2015 DMN, Pg 16A)

When the event, attended by less than 200 people, was near completion, a car drove into the parking lot, two body amour-clad men with large guns jumped out and began shooting. A 30-year veteran of the Garland Police Department, part of the security team, drew his side arm, fired and stopped the intruders. The SWAT team, stationed nearby, sprang into action and the violence stopped. No additional incendiary devices were found in the suspects car or on site. An unarmed GISD officer, accompanying the GPD officer, sustained a wound on his leg which required only minor care.

Ahead of the event Garland, Community Leaders and leaders of International Community Organizations urged residents to stay away and ignore the event. The Garland Police Officers, once again demonstrated their ability to preserve and protect all citizens. Eventually, the public will forget the events of May 3rd, and remember Garland is a community where citizens have a life style of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

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GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

EDITORIAL

Baltimore — Swords to Plowshares

Almost daily there are reports of violence, and apparent impropriety in our law enforcement departments. I don't claim, nor am I either a lawyer or a trained medical person. Almost 68 years on this planet has given me some ability in observations.

The very first coverage of the arrest procedure of Mr. Freddie Gray in Baltimore showed me a person who had no control of his lower body support and bodily functions. I watched as the officers put him in the police transport van, supporting him under his shoulders, through his under arms. There was no apparent attempt by Gray to draw his legs up under him for support. One of the charges [against the 6 officers] is that the prisoners were not restrained properly [I assume seat-belted] for the ride to the station house. Repeatedly, as the reports state, Gray begged for medical assistance. This cry for help was denied and/or ignored by the officers. The officer-driver made several stops before getting to the BPD intake centers where Gray was then unresponsive. The first reports stated the police officers had found a spring loaded switchblade type knife in his pocket at the time of the arrest. Later reports stated there was no illegal switchblade. No probable cause for arrest. [Note: The Police Union officials have published a statement that the knife in question is indeed illegal. In the first reports of the incident, we heard the knife was found in Gray's pocket after he was subdued.]

The knee jerk response of the community was looting and burning in a four block area of the city. In all, 15 buildings were burned including a 19 million dollar senior residence. 24 police officers were injured. All levels of police were called into the scene and curfews were established. U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings MD7-D, bull horn in hand, urged the crowds to remain peaceful, yet firm in their quest for justice. The morning sun found the members of the community, young and old, cleaning up the mess and restoring their community. On Friday May 1st, the duly elected Baltimore State's Attorney Marilyn Mosby, after Freddie Gray's death was determined to be a homicide—a wrongful death, announced charges were being preferred against the six officers involved in the case.

What did the citizens do? They continued to clean and repair their neighborhoods; began procedures to rebuild the senior citizen center; continued to display peaceful, yet firm, demonstrations; obeyed the curfew. The CVS Company announced plans to rebuild the burned store. "In just 36 hours, following shocking television images of youths rioting in the streets, the Baltimore chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters of America has received the largest surge in mentor applicants in the organization's history — a whopping 3,000 percent increase." www.nbcnews.com/storyline/baltimore-unrest/teachable-momentum-baltimore-big-brothers-sees-3-000-percent-increase-n352891

Immediately after the charges were made, the Baltimore Police Union released an apparent attempt to discredit State's Attorney Mosley and put a call to replace her with a special prosecutor. The quest for truth was ignored.

I abhor violence and there was violence in Baltimore. Healing is being brought by citizens rolling up their sleeves and repairing the damage. It is modeled by the Mother who pulled her son away from the rioters. It is city officials, from the Mayor, to the State's Attorney, the U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch, many community leaders and Rep. Elijah Cummings (MD7-D) all of whom lead the citizens to a peaceful justice. Swords have been beaten into plowshares.

—Rachel Baker Ford, editor

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

Garland Hums Along Smoothly, BUT...

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

The Garland City Budget for 2014/2015 has been approved. The city revenue has increased in 2014 because of improved sales tax receipts and the recovery in property values. The additional money has been directed at street improvements and slightly larger merit wage increases than city employees have seen in the last 5 years at an average of 3 percent.

www.garlandtx.gov/civicax/filebank/blobdload.aspx?BlobID=22937

The ad-valorem (property tax) rate is unchanged at 70.46 cents per \$100 valuation. 39.4 cents of the tax supports the city administration and functions. 31.06 cents is used to pay principal and interest on the city debt which has been accumulating since the 1997 bond issue for \$126 million and 2004 for \$224 million. The city currently admits to \$261 million of tax-supported debt and \$616 million in revenue supported debt for a total debt of \$878 million. The payments for principal and interest in the 2014/15 budget is scheduled to be \$97 million. This is what happens when politicians fail to face their responsibilities and increase tax rates. Voters share the blame. When we vote to authorize a bond issue we are handing the government, city or state, a giant credit card and push the burden down the road. It is particularly bothersome to hear the comment from both the Garland City officials and the GISD trustees claim the state allows much larger debt than this. The GISD long term debt before voters authorized the \$455 million bond issue in November 2014 was \$348,577,447. The GISD 2014/2015 budget includes \$41,481,810 in principle and interest payments plus \$300,000 for bond issue costs.

www.garlandisd.net/departments/business_operations/documents/Adopted%20Budget_FY_2014-15_8-26-14.pdf

Other budget items include:

GP&L: The average residential electric bill remain constant at \$140.04.

Water Rates: The water bill will increase \$0.55 per month for the average home.

Wastewater: The charge will increase from \$4.40 to \$4.50 per month.

Environmental Waste Services: The monthly charge will increase from \$17.58 to \$19.58.

Stormwater Management: The rate will remain the same for all homes.

Combined Monthly Utility Costs for typical Garland residents will increase by \$7.43.

Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Fund: The fund is increased for 2015 from \$6.1 million to \$8.8 million.

It is hard to imagine the scope of city government until you skim through the city budget. The areas include: Budget and Research, Building Inspection, City Administration, City Attorney, City Council, City secretary, Code compliance, Community relations, Economic Development, Engineering, Financial Services, Fire, Health, Human Resources, Internal Audit, EWS –Disposal, Library, Municipal Court, Emergency Management, Parks, Recreation, Cultural Arts, Planning and Community Development, Police, Public and Media Relations, Purchasing, Tax, Transportation, and Non-Departmental. Also, Support Service: Customer Service, Facility Management, Information Technology, and Warehouse. Oops, I forgot the golf course.

To sum it up: The city government has a tough job but needs to find a way to control the debt. And we need to understand the implications of the effort in Austin to reduce property taxes statewide.

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

MORE THAN COMMENTARY

Clean the Tax Code Instead

— Willa Kulhavy

An IRS employee can be disciplined or prosecuted for being politically too active. As an IRS phone assistor, I wasn't supposed to even suggest a taxpayer might want to call their Congressman for help with the IRS. Or express an opinion of a Congressman. Fortunately, I am a retired IRS employee so theoretically I can tell you exactly how I feel about Representative Paul Ryan's Ways and Means Committee attack on the helpless Internal Revenue Service. Unfortunately, even if the VOICE would print dirty cuss words, I don't know enough of them to convey my disgust for the deliberate destruction of not only the IRS, but of the whole civil service system.

So, I am limited to that old line, "Just the Facts, Ma'am."

A lot of people believe God created both Paul Ryan and me. Congress created Secret Service, the Internal Revenue Service, Social Security Administration, and all the Government Agencies. Congress makes the tax laws and passed the Hatch Act of 1939, which prevents U.S. civil service employees from becoming politically active enough to challenge Congress's absolute authority over an agency. For Hatch Act information, contact the U.S. Office of Special Counsel's Hatch Act Unit at: hatchact@osc.gov

As for the House Bills for Cleaning up the IRS, Representative Ryan and his Committee members are so proud of:

H.R. 1058: Taxpayer Bill of Right Act of 2015 It makes taxpayers entitled to quality service. The Taxpayer Bill of Rights has been on the www.irs.gov at least since 1991 when I became a seasonal IRS employee. It lists the right to quality service, privacy, paying only the correct tax, and so on. Voting funds for the IRS to hire enough employees to serve taxpayers would provide more quality service than a bill saying taxpayers have the right to quality service.

H.R. 1152: Good grief, IRS employees are already prohibited using personal email for looking at or storing taxpayer account and taxpayer identity information. Passing another law against bank robbing won't keep a bank robber from having robbed a bank last year.

If Lois Lerner of the IRS Tax Exempt Government Entity sent an organization's Tax exempt request information to her personal email last year how is HR 1142 passed this year going to make it wronger?

H.R. 1026: Huh? So you're going to make the IRS accountable and give American people transparency they deserve? What? Define what a transparent tax record means to you. State the provision to protect taxpayer privacy which is being used to protect IRS employees. Without the facts, Congressman, how do I know you have any?

H.R.1295: It would be a great relief to IRS employees if H.R. 1295 provides a specific standard the IRS can use to quickly determine whether an organization is, or is not, eligible for tax exempt status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(4). Whoever wrote 501(c)(4) deliberately made it vague so they could make anti-IRS speeches if their supporters didn't get paid with tax exempt status, didn't they?

H.R. 1314: Are you going to provide the funds for the additional employees to reexamine a decision?

H.R. 1104: Audits are an essential part of good financial accounting. What would shield Americans from burdensome taxes and intrusive scrutiny by the IRS would be laws that are clear and fair to all types of taxpayers. Stop repaying your donors with special tax laws, Congressman, and give us a clean Tax Code.

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

How About An Actual Solution?

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

The people in Watts, Detroit, Ferguson, Baltimore and other cities have suffered setbacks due to a few severely misguided individuals looting and burning businesses thinking somehow that will correct all wrongs and make this a better world. In reality they make a bad situation worse. When they burn businesses they put people out of work, temporarily or permanently. When they destroy public property such as police cars, they distract funds from other causes. Politicians rush in, point at the devastation, announce to the world that the root cause is the lack of economic opportunity followed by a promise of change. But the Government has done little to solve a very complex problem. In fact, by allowing and encouraging corporations to send jobs overseas the government has hastened the deterioration.

These riots don't happen in the suburbs because most people have a job, an income, decent housing, and hope things will be even better next year. If you are unemployed in the suburbs you have friends and neighbors to give you hope even if it is just seeing them go to work, a sign there are jobs out there. In a high unemployment areas despair is shared day in and day out. Employers are reluctant to invest in an area that has deteriorated. Unemployment is aggravated by the high school dropout rate, the lack of jobs available, and the qualifications of the applicants. Can they read? Can they write? Can they understand instructions? Can they be depended upon to show up for work?

Better education is a fine goal for our children's future but millions of adults need jobs now. No matter what level of education you have or what job you choose, all employers and all jobs have, On the Job Training (OJT). The education level only gives an employer an idea of the minimum contribution you should be able to make to the organization. If you exceed the expectation it is a win – win situation. I worked in the night vision industry for about 40 years. Rarely could an opening be filled with a person with experience or training in night vision manufacturing. The employee was trained one task at a time. OJT can compensate for a lack of education for many jobs.

The solution is to lure businesses into the blighted, high crime areas. In Detroit, a few entrepreneurs have recognized the opportunity available in these areas. There is lots of manpower available, they can pay reasonable wages for people happy to get a job, and the vast majority will show up on time and earn their pay. These businesses have gone well beyond just OJT, they educate employees in their weak areas rather than say, "goodby you don't meet our standards". These businesses choose to accept the extra burden and cost of training and educating employees. The government can and does help by offering tax breaks and subsidies. The government will recoup the cost because we will have more taxpayers and fewer people will need government aid. Everyone wins. The business has better and happier employees, the community thrives, and people have a better life. Shouldn't that be our primary goal? No one wants to spend their life or raise a family in a slum area.

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GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

ARTICLE

Governor Brown and The Sin of Omission

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

The drought in California is estimated to be the worst drought in 1200 years with no relief in sight. Governor Brown has issued an executive order requiring water usage in cities and towns across the state to be curtailed by 25 percent. Executive order B-29-15 is the latest and most comprehensive executive order in a series issues in the last six months.

http://gov.ca.gov/docs/4.1.15_Executive_Order.pdf

To achieve the goal:

1. The state will replace lawns with drought tolerant landscaping in partnership with local governments.
2. The state will create a rebate program to replace appliances with more water and energy efficient models.
3. The state will require large landscapes such as campuses, golf courses, and cemeteries to reduce their water usage significantly.
4. New homes and development will be required to use drip irrigation systems.
5. Watering ornamental grass on public street medians is banned.
6. Water rates will be adjusted to discourage excessive water usage.
7. Agriculture water users will be required to report their water usage.
8. The state will take action against water agencies that have not shared data on their ground water supplies with the state.
9. Standards for toilets, faucets, and outdoor landscaping in residential areas will be updated.
10. The state will streamline permitting procedures for projects related to water conservation or relief in drought areas.
11. The state will provide relocation assistance to families to move from homes with wells that have run dry.
12. The state will initiate a Wet Energy Technology (WET) program to achieve water and energy savings by accelerating use of cutting-edge technologies such as renewable energy desalination.

This reaction to the drought was slow in coming but the executive order contains a good definition of the problem and presents both short and long term solutions. This is the way government is supposed to work. Unfortunately, in Texas the only reaction we have seen to the drought is a plan to take personal property for a hole to hold water we don't have while many of the current reservoirs are only 60 percent or less full in spite of the recent rain.

There is an obvious omission in the executive order.

Neither fracking or fracking wastewater have been addressed. Fracking requires up to 10 million gallons of water each time a well is fracked and each well can be fracked multiple times. As a minimum, drillers should be required to reuse the water for fracking. Currently, the oil and gas companies have state issued permits to inject the wastewater into California aquifers used for residential water wells.

Governor Brown must correct this omission.

Iran, Iran, and I ran ... But

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

Iran, Iran, I ran but I lost, is going to be the song Democratic candidates will be singing in 2016 if the Democrats in both houses of Congress don't support the President and John Kerry's deal with Iran. They need to raise their voices on TV and on the social media in support of the deal *NOW*. If they let the Republicans fill the airways with nothing but their negative attitude, Democrats will be scrambling for believable responses when the campaigns heat up. Their voices will fall on deaf ears in 2016. This is true at the national, state and local levels of politics.

The United States is not alone in the negotiations with Iran. Russia, China, France, Great Britain, Germany, and the European Union are also participants. The goal is to curtail Iran's efforts to acquire a nuclear arsenal through peaceful means. The alternatives are to strengthen the sanctions and hope to strangle the beast or bomb the nuclear facilities. Those that propose the latter solution fail to acknowledge Iran has a military also. Sanctions may have helped bring Iran to negotiations but they failed to have a lasting effect in Cuba, North Korea, and Russia.

Republicans seem to think they should follow Tom Cotton or Netanyahu instead of the President of the United States since obviously they know more than the combined negotiators for the countries listed above. Tom Cotton, the author of the letter to Iran signed by 47 Republican Senators telling Iran any deal could be short lived because Congress might well overturn it, has a ton of experience. He has been in Congress for months. Senator Cotton is quoted this morning as saying, bombing Iran would take "Several Days" and would be nothing like the Iraq war. Where have we heard comments like that before? Maybe after a few days we could just walk away and claim victory? Netanyahu and John McCain share a common philosophy: war first; talk later.

www.buzzfeed.com/andrewkaczynski/tom-cotton-bombing-iran-would-take-several-days-be-nothing-l

Nine nations including the United States, Russia, United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea, and ISRAEL have a combined total of 16,300 nuclear weapons. India and Pakistan each have about 110 nuclear weapons and they are continually at war with each other. North Korea, a newcomer to the game likes to talk big but knows the consequences would be severe if they were dumb enough to use the weapons.

Iran is the belligerent and is believed to be supporting many of the rebellions in the Middle East, and cannot be trusted. It is imperative the final agreement contain full proof inspections and controls of Iran's activity going forward. Should they achieve their objective they will join the nations listed above trying to figure what to do with the bomb because they know they don't dare use it.

The biggest consequence of Congress rejecting the deal may well be seen in the election results in 2016. Oh, the poor Democrats! But more significantly, the war mongers will be in power with the authority to "bomb, bomb, bomb, Iran!" The quote is from John McCain's presidential campaign.

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GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

BITS AND PIECES

Suddenly Tea Partiers?

— Stephen L. Love

Ever since Obama has been in the White House, progressives have been fighting for a robust infrastructure program and every time it comes up the tea party naysayers resist. Now, after a decade of hashing and rehashing how best to deal with north/south vehicular traffic through the Dallas central business district and maximizing the use of the Trinity River flood plain we have a plan that excludes big-rig vehicles, includes lots of access to the park area and “progressives” are up in arms over it being a toll road ... or is it the environmental impact ... that a billion plus dollar infrastructure project is verboten? Just how is that not exactly what progressives accuse tea partiers of: insisting on “their way or the highway?”

And then there is the trade deal. The man who has been right on so many things: health care for millions of uninsured, women’s right to choose, women’s pay, path to citizenship for the undocumented, middle class economics, et.al., has suddenly gone rogue when it comes to trade?

Suddenly he is dumb as a stump, willing to put his legacy at risk to, as he is going out the door, re-up on all the mistakes associated with NAFTA.

Suddenly, a couple of Senators, who are calling for what would be a first-ever plebiscite on a trade agreement, railing against Obama as though he was George W. Bush reincarnate and fast-tracking a trade agreement was tantamount to asking for a second invasion of Iraq? And it is the tea party that is the only party guilty of hyperbole?

What I come away with is that the “new progressive dogma” is one or more of the following memes: it is totally impossible for the U.S. to engage in international trade without the middle class getting skinned; Obama is too dumb to negotiate a deal favorable to the environment and American workers; Obama is in cahoots with China and Wall Street to destroy the middle class...or, in other words; “Move over, tea party, the new naysayers are in town!”

Whoa, Steve ...

— Charles E. Ford, Jr.

It’s rare I disagree with Steve Love’s writings, but I have problems with this one. Liberal’s have a right to opinions also. There is a difference between objecting because you don’t like President Obama and believing something is just plain wrong.

Toll roads are wrong because they exclude lower income people including lower wage workers, the unemployed, and many senior citizens. The proposed Trinity toll road may or may not be under water when rains such as the current downpours occur. I can’t comment on that except to say it is a legitimate question for people to ask.

As we have reported in the Voice several times, every major trade deal has cost us what we need most, jobs, and increased our trade deficit.

President Obama’s intellect is not the issue. It is the secrecy and leaked tidbits that might or might not be true. Are we giving foreign governments or corporations legal avenues that supercede U.S. laws? Is there or isn’t there a provision requiring the military to accept bids from foreign contractors for military equipment and supplies?

If true, how many jobs will be lost in the United States? Do we really want to depend on foreign sources in a time of a military conflict?

I realize we can’t have 535 members of Congress negotiating the trade pact, but we also can’t ignore history.



Sounding Off: Garland readers react to Culwell Center incident

“How do you feel about what happened at the Culwell Center last weekend? Should school district facilities be used for controversial events?”

Nancy Bigney, Garland: My response hinges on the intention/purpose of the exhibit. Certainly freedom of speech covers everyone’s right to their opinion, no matter how offensive. ...

Gerald Bunger, Sunnyvale: ... Just because you have the right to say offensive things to other people about their religious beliefs does not mean that you should do it. Freedom of religion for Christians also means freedom of religion for Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindu, non-fundamental Christians and atheists.

Larry Carpenter, Garland: The GISD board has but one direction it can go in regulating rental of the special events center, and that is no rental. Any effort to discriminate against any group will result in lawsuits. ...To restrict religious freedom is to muffle free speech. ... Thanks to a very brave Garland police officer who put his life on the line so that those like me could write this opinion.

Greg Glennon, Garland: Free speech is a right, there is no right to “not be offended.” ... If offended, don’t participate.

Mary Grimaldo, Garland: Hate groups have no place in city venues.

Peggy Henger, Garland: Call me strange, but I have never associated “free speech” with the right to attack another religion in a derogative manner, such as depicting Muhammad in an insulting and derogatory manner. I don’t think any of us have the right to ridicule or slander another person’s beliefs.

I am not a particularly religious person, but if questioned, I would have to say I try to be tolerant of all religions that promote tolerance within their own membership. Obviously, this is sometimes not the “Christian” way. The proposed gathering is not a “productive” use of the arts center.

Holly Hunter, Mesquite: ...our Muslim neighbors would be justified in feeling singled out for abuse.

Sara James, Garland: No, I don’t support the gathering at the Culwell Center.

John Kaiser, Garland: ... if we are to be a better group of people ... need to respect others but it does not mean we have to agree. That is the foundation of our country, a “melting pot” — from many, one.

Kellie Kautzsch, Sunnyvale: What irony that I would be cautioned to refrain from comments that might “inflamm” when invited to express my feelings on how others exercise their right of free speech. ...

Willa Kulhavy, Garland: Holding a contest with a \$10,000 prize for drawing a picture of Muhammad when the reason you are holding the contest is you want it to scare and/or anger every Muslim who hears about it is as evil as is burning a cross in someone’s yard, or starting a never- ending war.

School districts should be allowed to put limits on using their facilities for religious or political purposes.

Freedom of speech and religious beliefs can be reconciled by respecting everyone else’s religious beliefs, not forcing conversion on anyone, and shutting up when people stop listening.

Angel-Light Love, Garland: I think we have far too many laws in the U.S. that infringe upon the free will of citizens. Fortunately, only two incompetent crazies, born in the U.S., reacted with violence.

Jennifer Luderman, Mesquite: I am in support of freedom of speech and expression, but when an event is held such as the one at the Garland Culver center last weekend where the intent is to offend a particular group, then I think this is not a sincere expression of free speech.

Hal McLarry, Garland: Freedom of speech doesn’t give us the right to yell fire in a crowded theater. Kudos to the remarkable Garland police officer for stopping something that could have been very much worse.

Neva Salsler, Garland: ... Remember the reason of all gut-issue emotional mob instigators is to get power.

Dave Scott, Midlothian: The cop can stand as a model for the type of protection our officers provide to the public every day. ... this cop should be a reminder of the training each officer receives before they strap on a gun and a badge. A response like this – pulling your service pistol against two assailants armed with assault rifles and wearing body armor – and stopping them with deadly accuracy does not just happen by accident. It occurs after hours of training and continued practice.

Daniel Smith, Garland: Rights carry responsibilities. If we want a peaceful civil society, we must be sensitive to what are considered contentious issues.

Linda Sprowl, Balch Springs: I believe in the sanctity of all religions. Being a Christian means treating others as you would like to be treated.

Cynthia Stock, Garland: ...I reread the first amendment and it doesn’t segregate thoughts, comments, or artistic expression that might be offensive to some. Free thinking, especially that which cultivates change, does not always inspire calm, peaceful responses.

As a taxpayer in Garland, as long as there is equal access to the facility for all, whoever can pay can use it....Free speech is a right; civility and respect for others is both a discipline and a responsibility.

Tony Torres, Garland: No, like any other rational person I did not support the “agenda” of the Muhammad cartoon festival. Under the guise of defending freedom of speech, [ed: *the event leader*] used our Garland venue to spew her intolerance and basically taunted the Islamic community. Her provocative and naked bigotry created the unfortunate tragedy we witnessed May 3. ...Freedom of speech is not only a right, but also a responsibility. ...

A full text of the Sounding Off can be found at:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/garland-mesquite/headlines/20150508-sounding-off-garland-readers-react-to-culwell-center-incident.ece>

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

BITS AND PIECES

Selected Election Results

Garland:

Garland ISD: Trustee, Pl 6: Robert Selders, Jr. 51%

Dallas County Schools Board of Trustees:

Larry Duncan, President, Omar Narvaez, Member-at-Large: Re-elected by resolution. *(unopposed)*

Mesquite:

Mayor : Stan Pickett 2,968 57%

Council, Place 2 Jeff Casper 54 %

Council, Place 6 Dennis Tarpley 56%

MISD Bond: For 77% Against 23% *(passed)*

MISD Trustee, Pl 6 Elaine Hornsby Whitlock 54%

Dallas:

Mayor Mike Rawlings 73%

Council, Pl 3 Casey Thomas, II 39% Joe Tave 26%
(June Runoff)

Council, Pl 4 Carolyn King Arnold 51%

Council, Pl 5 Rick Callahan 67%

Council, Pl 6 Monica R. Alonzo 82%

Council, Pl 7 Tiffinni -Young 41% Kevin Felder 14%
(June Runoff)

Council, Pl 8 Dianne Gibson 32% Erik Wilson 26%
(June Runoff)

Council, Pl 9 Mark Clayton 58%

Council, Pl10 Paul Reyes 41% Adam McGough 36%
(June Runoff)

County (NW) Flood Cont Bond For 77% Con 23%

DISD Trustee, Dist. 1 Edwin Flores 60%

DISD Trustee, Dist. 3 Dan Micciche 72%

DISD Trustee, Dist 9 Bernadette Nutall 54%

Richardson:

Council, Pl 1 Bob Townsend 62%

Council, Pl 4 Mabel Simpson 70%

Rockwall:

Mayor Jim Pruitt 55%

Council, Pl 3 Kevin Fowler 66%

RISD Trustee, Pl 2 Russ Childers 70%

Rowlett

Alcoholic Beverages For 70% Con 30% *(passed)*

Prop 1 Street Improvements *Not Reported*

Prop 2 Parks & Rec For 81% Con 19% *(passed)*

Prop 3 - Public Safety For 77% Con 23% *(passed)*

Plano:

Council, Pl 5 Ron Kelley 54%

Plano Council, Pl7 Rep Tom Harrison 58%

PISD Trustee, Pl 4 Yoram Solomon 41%

Sharon Hirsch 32% *(June Runoff)*

PISD Trustee, Pl 7 Missy Bender 59%

Arlington:

Prop to Prohibit Red Light Cameras

For 60% Against 40% *(passed)*

Italy:

Street Maintenance Tax For 78% Con 22%*(passed)*

Complete Election Results:

<http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/election-2015/results-page/?page=1>

Note: Results in the above article are given in percentages of the eligible voters who cast a ballot. For example, in Precinct M2700 (2700 & 2701) There were 2050 eligible voters in this election *(The total number of registered voters is about 6200)*. We voted a total of 12. That's 0.6 percent or less than 1 percent of the eligible voters.

When one can't be bothered to vote ...



... their voice is silenced.

http://mediad.publicbroadcasting.net/p/vpr/files/styles/x_large/public/201408/burlington-polls-vpr-dobbs-20140826.jpg

GARLAND DEMOCRATIC VOICE

BULLETIN BOARD

In Memoriam

We mark the passing of Ruth Ann Cloud — wife, mother, sister, aunt and friend to all. A Democrat, extra ordinaire, she served as activist, precinct chair, Garland Democratic Woman's Club President, Election Judge, Voter Registrar for Dallas County and so many more and other community groups.

Ruth Ann supported our troops and especially those who returned home from duty.

During her year and a half fight against cancer, she always had a ready smile for all. Her spirit remained strong throughout her life.



Ruth Ann Starr Cloud
October 15, 1944 - May 1, 2015

Words are not enough to express the love and respect I have for Ruth Ann and her family.



Ruth loved to figure where to go before we went anywhere. She loved to be in the cool weather. She loved life and she was a great Democrat and didn't mind telling you!

She was my Best Friend and I will always love her!

— Susan Garner Copeland

We miss her.

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