



VOTERS GUIDE

Published by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

May 6, 2017

Special Election for Mayor

Early Voting Dates: April 24 - May 2



Early Voting Polling Places & Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday, April 24-28	8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 29	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday-Tuesday, May 1-2	7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.



BISHOP CITY HALL
203 E. Main Street, Bishop

DRISCOLL ISD
(Old Cafeteria)
425 Dragon Street, Driscoll

**PETRONILA
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**
2391 County Road 67, Robstown

CALALLEN ISD
(Administration Bldg)
4205 Wildcat Drive

ETHEL EYERLY SENIOR CENTER
654 Graham Road

SCHLITTERBAHN
14353 Commodore Drive

**CORPUS CHRISTI
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**
6602 S. Staples

**GREENWOOD SENIOR
CITIZENS CENTER**
4040 Greenwood Drive

THE VALENCIA
6110 Ayers Street

CORPUS CHRISTI CITY HALL
1201 Leopard Street

HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER
11425 Leopard Street

**VETERANS MEMORIAL
HIGH SCHOOL**
3750 Cimarron Blvd.

**DEAF AND HARD OF
HEARING CENTER**
5151 McArdle Road

NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE
(1st Floor Atrium)
901 Leopard Street

WEST OSO ISD
(Administration Bldg)
5050 Rockford Drive

This 8-page Voters Guide for the Special Election for Mayor of the City of Corpus Christi features candidates' responses to four questions posed by the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi..

Candidates entered their responses directly into VOTE 411, a nonpartisan web-based "one-stop-shop" for election-related information. The candidates' responses (Pages 3-6) are reprinted verbatim from VOTE 411.

Please be aware that the City of Corpus Christi entered a joint election agreement with the City of Driscoll, City of Bishop, Bishop CISD, and the Emergency Service District #3 to share 15 polling places on May 6 as a cost-savings measure.

Their individual ballots and the Corpus Christi ballot remain separate. Only the polling places are being shared.

PLEASE VOTE!

Mission Statement of the League of Women Voters

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

Q&A about the Mayor, Election

WHAT ARE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MAYOR?

According to the Texas Municipal League, the mayor:

- (1) is the “chief executive officer” of the city;
- (2) must “actively ensure that the laws and ordinances of the municipality are properly carried out”;
- (3) must “inspect the conduct of each subordinate municipal officer and shall cause any negligence, carelessness, or other violation of duty to be prosecuted and punished”; and
- (4) must give to the City Council “any information, and shall recommend to the governing body any measure, that relates to improving the finances, police, health, security, cleanliness, comfort, ornament, or good government of the municipality.”

The mayor also has emergency management authority including: (1) the authority to close public facilities in order to ensure the peace and good order of the city during a riot or unlawful assembly; and (2) the authority to summon a special police force when necessary for the enforcement of city laws, because of riot or outbreak, or because of the threat of serious danger.

The Corpus Christi Mayor is paid \$14,000 annually, and City Council meetings are generally held weekly. The candidate elected in the May 6 election will serve about 18 months to complete a term ending in December 2018.

The City Council itself is the City’s legislative body and is composed of the Mayor, one member from each of the five Districts, and three At-Large members. Five members constitute a quorum, which is required to conduct City business. The Council appoints the City Manager, City Secretary, City Auditor, and Municipal Judges. The City of Corpus Christi has a Council-Manager form of local government, which means policies are set by the Mayor and Council (all elected by residents) and the policies are implemented and carried out by the City Manager and City Staff.

WHO CAN VOTE IN THE MAY 6 ELECTION? Voters who are registered at least 30 days ahead of the election date (April 6 registration deadline for the May 6 Special Election) are eligible to vote in this election to select a Mayor for Corpus Christi. Early Voting will occur from April 24 through May 2 (see Page 1).

WHERE CAN I GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE BALLOT? Ballot information can be accessed from the Nueces County website, www.co.nueces.tx.us. If you need to confirm your precinct/polling location, click on “Precinct Information,” then type in your first and last name and your birthdate. Your voting precinct number and location will be confirmed. But remember that Vote Centers have been designated for this election, allowing voters to cast their ballot at any Vote Center designated (see Pages 7-8).

HOW IS THE WINNER OF THE MAY 6 ELECTION DETERMINED? Election law states that a candidate must receive a majority (over 50%) of the votes cast. If not, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes will participate in a runoff election. If there is a runoff election for Mayor of the City of Corpus Christi, it will be held on Saturday, June 24, 2017. Early Voting will be held from June 12- June 20. Other details regarding polling places will be announced by the Nueces County Clerk’s office.

ACCEPTABLE VOTER I.D. DOCUMENTS

Currently, Texas voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID have additional options when casting their ballots.

If a voter does not possess and is not reasonably able to obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID, the voter may vote by (1) signing a declaration at the polls explaining why the voter is reasonably unable to obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID, and (2) providing one of various forms of supporting documentation.

Supporting documentation can be one of the following: a certified birth certificate (must be an original); a valid voter registration certificate; a copy or original of one of the following: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck, or other government document (must be original and have a photo) that shows the voter’s name and an address. If a voter meets these requirements and is otherwise eligible to vote, the voter will be able to cast his or her vote.

The seven forms of approved photo ID are: Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS); Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS; Texas personal identification card issued by DPS; Texas license to carry a handgun issued by DPS; U.S. military identification card containing the person’s photograph; U.S. citizenship certificate containing the person’s photograph; and US passport.

Mayor, City of Corpus Christi

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

Describe your credentials and life experiences that qualify you to be Mayor of Corpus Christi.

What will be your top priority in your first 12 months in office?

What strategies will you suggest to enhance our city's public image and attract industries and corporations?

How do you intend to instill trust in the voters?



**Mark A
DiCarlo**

mark@markdicarlo.com

I have practiced law for 31 years in C.C., TX. I employ 3 to 4 people on the staff. My credentials include: I graduated from Mount Union College in Alliance Ohio in 1977. I graduated from the University of Houston School of Law in 1984. I am trained to ask questions. I am trained to read and write briefs, and qualified to think about laws and contracts. I am not a politician and I owe no political favors. Public show Voice of Coastal Bend

My priority is open government and transparency in government. This issue incorporates a more thorough and detailed budget, particularly listing the wages for the Department heads; particularly listing contracts with such agencies as the Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau either in the budget or in an addendum to the budget; To requesting information and providing reports to the public regarding street problems and water issues

“Industry and corporations” are not the main driving force in the City. Small business provides most of the jobs locally; restaurants, professional services, retail shops, etc. Port Aransas, which has done remarkably well appears to be aware of this factor. The City Budget references the top ten employers on page 24 of the 2 and mentions nothing about small businesses. Small businesses are given no tax breaks.

By not lying to them. By being blunt in answers to them. By not making up schemes with the media under fraudulent pretenses. By encouraging the media to cover both sides. By asking questions to various city departments such as to the City Legal department regarding the Mark Scott lawsuit: Can defend the suit? Why should we hire a Houston firm? Have the issues been briefed numerous times? Can a local firm defend this lawsuit for less money?



**Margareta
Fratila**

margaretrafila@gmail.com

Small business owner, business consultant, certified mediator, master real estate investor, hostess of two local TV shows. Graduate from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; Webster University, St.Louis,Mo With MBM & HRD, Degree on Master of Science in Horticulture,Bucharest, Romania. Member of Good Shepherd Church, Friday Morning Group,Texas State Society of Washington, DC., Interfaith Society,CASA Volunteer, Served on 3 City Boards. Recipient of awards.

Infrastructure, Wastewater, Clean Water & finding the way to separate our water supply from Refinery line. Review the Budget, stop the Annexation for a while. Give 145.000 boarded buildings to our local contractors to build middle, low income and homes for Veterans. Development of a Convention Center and Retreat in Padre Island and large hotel here next to the Convention Center.

As a Small Business Owner for over 30 yrs. here, TV Show Host, also working in Hospitality Industry, knowing both Continents and analyzing important Business and personal decision, I have the ways I would like to use through my infinite connections all over the world, to put Corpus Christi "on the National and International Map". Through developing the Tourism, building a very large Hotel linked with our Convention Center, we can have a tremendous revenue from booking big Convention into our City. With the revenue, we can fix our streets and infrastructure infill.

My relationship with the City Manager, Legal Depart., City Secretary Office, Police Dept., Code Enforcement, Fire Dept. and Financial Dept. are established and well nurtured and developed along the years. I will develop more working relationship through the City Manager with the Human Resources Dept. to assure a policy in place that the City will hire the best trained and educated employees that can satisfy the needs of our City. I will prioritize the Business Relationship between City Leadership and Small Businesses in town. I will improve communication between frustrated residents and City employees by analyzing their concern and addressing their concern with solutions.

Mayor, City of Corpus Christi

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**Jonathan
Garison**

**jongarison@
gmail.com**

I have executive experience as a school administrator. I regularly analyze data, implement action plans, make personnel decisions, manage large budgets, improve and implement emergency operation plans, etc... My work requires me to interact with people from various walks of life, and allows me to engage with a large cross section of our city on a regular basis. I have lived in Corpus Christi since 2003 and readily see the city's potential.

My top priority will be crafting bonds to update and/or replace our aging infrastructure. Working with the city manager's office, city department heads, TCEQ, etc... we will create well thought out effective bond programs to put in front of voters. There is no other way to ensure effective water delivery, water treatment, and proper roads for our citizens. Bonds will target funds at specified projects, and the accompanying tax will sunset.

Infrastructure improvements is step number one. We need to show that we have learned from our mistakes, and are remedying the situation. Next investing in quality of life, parks, walkable downtowns, cultural and recreational opportunities, will attract new employers. When large employers are asked why they locate where they do, the number one cited reason is quality of life for employees. Investments today will pay dividends in the future.

I will work to move city council and committee meetings to hours more accessible to the general public. I favor utilizing modern technology to present surveys and polls to the general public and elicit feedback on policy matters. I also believe that construction projects should be financed through bonds to allow voters to voice their opinions through a vote. User fees do not allow for the same voter involvement. I will work for voters.



**James M.
Hernandez**

**jamesmhernandez@
yahoo.com**

Out of all the candidates I am the youngest (32) and would be the second youngest in Mayoral history for Corpus Christi behind the great Roy Miller (29). As a HUBzone certified small business owner I understand the value of a dollar and want to get the most for my money. I understand by racking up so much in debt we are heading for a financial disaster that will be left to pay for by our children.

- 1) Unite the community
- 2) Cut Pinterest project funding
- 3) Set up small business convention
- 4) Set up Residential Road Recovery Project (3RP)
- 5) Propose desalination plants on north side for refinery row and south side in Flour Bluff
- 6) Set up budget to pay off debt with in 20 years with out increasing tax
- 7) Levy fines for empty lot, empty buildings (MLMB)
- 8) Levy fines for Sexually Orientated Businesses
- 9) Water and Road repair with current budget

I would work on the moral of our citizens. We are an over taxed, underpaid, under appreciated community ready to burn the city down. We do need to bring in more competition I think by promoting small business contractors we will save from using the same large over head companies. Having any city funded project be at little to no cost to the citizens.

I'll do it by getting out there into the public. Sitting down and talking with anyone and everyone. While we all are different and have different views we can still be civil with each other.

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Ray Madrigal

rayglo64@yahoo.com

I am a veteran a former judge, graduate of Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Graduate of Del Mar College, Leadership Corpus Christi Class #5 and a businessman for over fifty years in Corpus Christi. I have served this community as a member of the ethics commission, sister city committee, traffic advisory commission and the Nueces county dispute resolution center. My civic duties were with the American G. I. Forum, L.U.L.A.C. and the America

Make sure we have good drinking water for all our citizens and tourist comming to visit Corpus Christi. I plan onusing my military experince on making sure our streets are repaired and maintained in good condition for all citizens to drive safely. I will follow the budgetto make sure we get things done according to the budget. I will be a very visible mayor with no special intrest exopt the good will of the people and rebuild their trust in city gov//

First I would assure the world that we have good safe water to drink and plenty of water fo industry than visit area communities to invite them to visit and come to work in town as we look at a new direction for Corpus Christi. WE will have a new bridge build with many jobs available plus new industry in the metropolitan area. The city needs new leadership and that leader is Reynald 'Ray' Madrigal.

I intent to instill trust by being visable and open to the public for any and all questions that concern the safety and welfare of all its citizens and especially victims of domestic violence by having a quick responce as we have when an officer is down. we learned in Viet Nam that quick responce saves lives and that life we save might be your mother, wife, sister, daughter or you as a victim of domestic violence. this is a special election.



Nelda Martinez

nelda@neldamartinez.com

My proven leadership roles nationally, statewide and locally, as well as a successful business career set the foundation to lead our city. My track record of infrastructure implementation, building consensus on many initiatives utilizing my in-depth experience in balancing multi-million dollar budgets, leveraging cost efficiencies, and playing a key role in over \$40 billion in new job-creating investments in our region qualify me as your mayor.

My top priority will be building on restoring our aging infrastructure after 40 years of neglect, with a special emphasis on ensuring water quality and identifying resources dedicated for reconstructing residential streets, stabilizing utility rates through strategic planning of investments in capital improvements to minimize the impact on ratepayers and improving public safety for our families by building the capacity of our Police Department.

Continue to invest in our infrastructure to ensure its stability. Build and promote our regional strengths with our deep water port, air quality, institutions of higher learning, medical industry, military bases, and partner with our educational institutions to grow our work force. Continue strong collaboration with Convention & Visitors Bureau in marketing our beaches, fishing, birding and specialty events to become a world class destination.

Tell it all, tell it fast and tell the truth. I have a strong track record of straight forward communication with the public at large and the media who are responsible for keeping our community informed. Phone calls are returned and emails are answered. Being accessible to the public is critical. You will see me front and center whether it's good news or bad news. This is a leader's responsibility to those we serve. It all starts with trust.



One of our nation's treasured rights is the right to vote in all local, state, and national elections. Don't let anyone tell you that your vote doesn't count. Your vote does count! Your vote is YOUR voice! Be sure to vote during Early Voting or on Election Day, May 6. This is OUR CITY...OUR TAX DOLLARS...OUR MAYOR. Our vote...your vote...will be the deciding VOTE.

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**Joe
McComb**

electjoejoemccomb.com

Third generation owner of local business, son of inspiring mother, married with five children, committed to community and public service, knowledgeable about city government having served in 1980/early 1990's, support Council-Manager form of city government, good working relationship with fellow council members, honored to receive most votes in At-Large race in November 2016, and ready to tackle our challenges and developing solutions as Mayor.

Continue the team work approach displayed by our new City Council in order to tackle our infrastructure needs with careful attention to our finances. While we may not always agree, which is understandable, this Council has demonstrated our respect for each other and ability to work together amicably with a common purpose.

Better infrastructure, understandable regulation, adopting a "service" mentality which includes treating residents and businesses equitably. We are doing a good job of attracting major industries to our region because of our Port, our workforce and industrial infrastructure (available water, extensive pipeline, etc.) We need to do a better job on supporting small and medium business development. We absolutely must resolve our water quality issues.

Earn it through communicating with residents, fellow councilmembers, City Manager and her staff. We need to do a better job at communications-listening, explaining and saying what we intend to do, why and then doing it. Openness, honesty and accountability are three critical components to trust and I pledge to continue my commitment to all three as your Mayor.



**Larry
White**

larry@votelarrywhite.com

I have worked as an engineer for 40 years solving problems and leading multi-million dollar projects. These are the experiences that Corpus Christi needs to fix our infrastructure. I am familiar with the workings of City Hall having been on the Ethics Commission for 5 years. I know Corpus Christi, my home of 30 years, from volunteering as Buccarader, in Veterans Band, and for KAIROS-outside. I also taught at Del Mar & TAMUCC.

My top priority is to stop the political games at City Hall. I've seen a lot while on the Ethics Commission. This culture is why the City has a 1.7 billion dollar debt and is why our infrastructure is in bad shape. However, most of my time as Mayor will be to get Corpus Christi headed in the right direction for fixing our infrastructure because of the urgency of this problem.

Fixing our infrastructure is the best way to enhance the City's image. Who wants to come to a City where the roads are bad and you may not be able to drink the water? Quality of life is important. The new Harbor Bridge, deepening the channel for bigger ships, good roads, and a reliable water supply are the things that will bring industry and corporations to Corpus Christi.

People trust those who say what they mean and speak from the heart. The problem are those who talk a lot and say nothing. Trust is built on actually doing what you say you will do. Above all, do not mislead the people, like implying that bonds are "free money".

VOTE CENTERS

NOTE: All registered voters who want to cast their ballot in the Special Election for Mayor of the City of Corpus Christi can do so at any of the Vote Center locations listed below, regardless of where they live.

Antonio Garcia Arts & Education Center--2021 Agnes St
Baker Middle School--3445 Pecan St.
Ben Garza Gym--1815 Howard St.
Bishop High School—100 Badger Ln. - BISHOP
Bishop High School--717 E. 6th St. - BISHOP
Blanche Moore Elementary--6121 Durant Dr.
Brooks A.M.E. Worship Center--2201 N. Port Ave.
Calallen East Elementary--3709 Lott Ave.
Calallen Middle School--4602 Cornett Rd.
Club Estates Elementary--5222 Merganser Dr.
Corpus Christi City Hall--1201 Leopard St
David Crockett Elementary--2625 Belton St.
Cullen Middle School--5225 Greely Dr.
Cunningham Middle School--4321 Prescott St.
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center--5151 McArdle Rd.
Del Mar College--101 Baldwin Blvd.
Driscoll I.S.D. -- 425 W. Dragon - DRISCOLL
Driscoll Middle School--3501 Kenwood Dr.
Ella Barnes Elementary--2829 Oso Parkway
Ethel Eyerly Senior Center--654 Graham Rd.
Fannin Elementary--2730 Gollihar Rd.
Fire Station #7--3722 S. Staples St.
Fire Station # 9--501 Navigation Blvd.
Fire Station # 11--910 Airline Rd.
Fire Station #12--2120 Rand Morgan Rd.
Flour Bluff ISD (Maintenance Bldg.) --2505 Waldron Rd.
Galvan Elementary--3126 Masterson Dr.
Gibson Elementary--5723 Hampshire Rd.
Gloria Hicks Elementary--3602 McArdle Rd.

Grace Presbyterian Church--6301 Yorktown Blvd.
Grant Middle School--4350 Aaron Dr.
Hamlin Middle School--3900 Hamlin Dr.
Hilltop Community Center--11425 Leopard St.
Island Presbyterian Church--14030 Fortuna Bay Dr.
John F. Kennedy Elementary--1102 Villarreal Rd.
King High School--5225 Gollihar Rd.
Kiwanis Recreation Center--3933 Timon Blvd.
Kolda Elementary--3730 Rodd Field Rd.
Kostoryz Elementary--3602 Panama Dr.
La Retama Central Library—805 Comanche St.
Lindale Senior Center--3135 Swantner Dr.
LULAC West Apartments--10702 IH 37
Luther Jones Elementary--7533 Lipas Blvd.
Magee Elementary - Star Annex--4201 Calallen Dr.
Menger Elementary--2401 S. Alameda St.
Metro E Elementary--1707 Ayers St.
MG Building Materials--7406 S. Padre Island Dr.
Mireles Elementary--7658 Cimarron Blvd.
Montclair Elementary--5241 Kentner St.
Moody High School--1818 Trojan Dr.
Oak Park Recreation Center--842 Erwin Ave.
Our Lady of Mnt. Carmel Mission--1080 S Clarkwood Rd.
Parkway Presbyterian Church--3707 Santa Fe
Peerless Cleaners--2806 Santa Fe St.
Petronila Elementary--2391 Cnty Rd. 67- ROBSTOWN
Rev. Harold T. Branch Academy--3902 Morgan Ave.
Ronnie H. Polston County Bldg--10110 Compton Rd.
Schanen Estates Elementary--5715 Killarmet Dr.

VOTE CENTERS (continued from Page 7)

NOTE: All registered voters who want to cast their ballot in the Special Election for Mayor of the City of Corpus Christi can do so at any of the Vote Center locations listed below, regardless of where they live.

Schlitterbahn--14353 Commodores Dr.

Scott Veters Scout Hut--3221 McKinzie Rd.

Shaw Elementary--2920 Soledad St.

Smith Elementary--6902 Williams Dr.

South Park Middle School--3001 McArdle St.

T. G. Allen Elementary--1414 18th St.

The Valencia--6110 Ayers St.

Tom Browne Middle School--4301 Schanen Blvd.

Travis Elementary--3210 Churchill Dr.

Tuloso-Midway High School--2653 McKinzie Rd.

Tuloso-Midway Middle School--9768 La Branch St.

Veterans Memorial High School--3750 Cimarron

Villa of Corpus Christi -South--4834 Yorktown Blvd.

West Oso ISD Junior High School--5202 Bear Lane

Windsor Park Athena School--4525 S. Alameda St.

Woodlawn Elementary--1110 Woodlawn Dr.

Yeager Elementary--5414 Tripoli Dr.

Zavala Senior Center--510 Osage St.

*NOTE: Approved by Nueces County Commissioners;
Prepared by the Nueces County Elections Department
If questions, contact the Elections Department
at 361-888-0865*

*For more information on the upcoming election, visit:
<http://www.nuecesco.com/county-services/county-clerk/elections-department> *** Like us on Facebook! Office of the Nueces County Clerk. Follow us on Twitter 2Nuecesco_clerk
Kara Sands, Nueces County Clerk*

**This 8-page Voters Guide was compiled and printed by the
League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi**



**LWV-CC WELCOMES
YOUR MEMBERSHIP!**

The League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi welcomes your support through annual membership. Your membership supports the work of the League and provides opportunities to participate in voter services projects; study local, state, and national issues and become better informed; and partner with individuals and organizations who believe in the importance of voting and active participation in government.

The League was formed in 1945 and is celebrating its 72nd year of "educating, agitating, and advocating." It is open to non-citizens and members who are 16 years of age or older.

Call 361-445-4436 and leave your name and phone number so that a League member can contact you about membership.



**Find your personalized ballot by going to
VOTE411.org. Enter your address and you
will see the ballot as it will appear on
Election Day. You will also see the candidate
information that appears in this printed
Voters Guide. Go to VOTE411.org and be an
informed voter!**