

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of WICHITA FALLS

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Web Page: www.lwvtexas.org/local/wichitafalls/

***VOTER** for April 2010*

RECREATION in the CITY OF WICHITA FALLS
JACK MURPHY, City Parks & Recreation Director, will
explain how the City develops & maintains such facilities.

Wednesday, April 7th - Luby's Cafeteria

Go thru lunch line prior to the 12 noon call to order

We hear lots of complaints, especially from the younger & middle-aged residents, that there is "nothing to do in Wichita Falls !!" Well, Jack Murphy is here to dispel that notion, and update us on [1] What we have now, and [2] What is planned for the next five years.

Why the next five years? When the City Council updated its Capital Improvement Program - Five Year Plan, recently, they included \$49,341,814 for Park Improvements in Wichita Falls. With the Big Recession underway, they might not be able to meet all those goals, BUT Jack Murphy knows which ones have the best chance.

Jack has been Director of Parks & Recreation for 24 years. He came here after similar service, for eight years, in Victoria, Texas. He grew up in Dallas, and received his Bachelor's & Master's Degrees from the University of North Texas, in Public Administration. Since Jack has been here there has been a marked improvements in the "looks" of City facilities. Just look at the medians around the City, and note how lots of eyesores have been changed to eye-pleasers. And the development of the Park adjacent to Lake Wichita has been extensive. The hill, loosely called Murphy's Mountain, is presently 83 feet high, but the Five Year Plan, includes raising it to 100 feet, improving its looks, and developing more facilities adjacent to it.

If you want to know about our present recreation facilities, what is planned for the future, and how we stack up with other similar-sized Texas cities, come hear Jack Murphy give us the scoop, and answer all you questions.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE LEAGUE

The LWV is open to all adults. Dues are \$55 per member annually (or \$75 for a couple). New member dues paid in April & May are good through June of 2011.

Friends of the League are contributors of at least \$15 or more, to help cover LWV expenses. Send Dues or Donations to the Treasurer at P.O.Box 4034, Wichita Falls TX 76308. Even better- -bring to a meeting.

We have two more elections to go this year (City election in May + General election in November) so we really need all the financial help we can get.

CITY ELECTION ON MAY 8th - - LWV VOTERS GUIDE & CANDIDATE FORUM

Here are some dates to keep in mind:

April 8th -- Last day to Register to Vote

April 26th - - Early voting begins

May 4th -- Early voting ends

Candidates on the Ballot:

Mayor -- Glenn Barham, Jim Ginnings, Mike Rucker

District 5 -- Phyllis Pennartz-Elmore, Leslie Seipel, Mary Ward

District 3 -- Rick Hatcher (unopposed)

District 4 -- Timothy Ingle (unopposed)

A VOTERS GUIDE will be distributed starting about April 20th, and will also be on our Web Page.

A CANDIDATE'S FORUM for the two contested positions, will be held Monday, April 26th, 7 p.m.,

in the City Council Chambers, at City Hall. It will also be broadcast live on Time Warner Cable 11,

and taped replays at 7 p.m. on Cable channel 11, until May 3rd.

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THEFT OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS' GOOD NAME!!!

The League of American Voters (so-called), is a non-profit political group, that is not required to disclose its donors. According to the online news organization, Politico (March 11th), the group "just spent \$250,000 on an initial salvo of TV spots attacking Health Care Reform. Already the group has drawn criticism from the well-established League of Women Voters."

LWV national president, Mary Wilson, pointed out that the group has done this before, and has chosen a name that might make many people believe that they are actually our League of Women Voters. "They're playing on our good reputation to try and get across a negative message on an issue we are very actively supporting," she said, and called the ads "lies and scare tactics about Medicare and taking over your health care and more taxes."

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TRN EDITORIAL BOARD NOW INCLUDES LWV FORMER PRESIDENT

On March 28th, Roberta Sund, wrote her first column on the OP-ED Page of the *Wichita Falls Times Record News*. Roberta is a retired MSU chemistry professor, and a former teacher & science department head for the Wichita Falls ISD. A Fulbright Scholar, she has academic, scientific, and literary publications. She, and her husband Eldon, have been LWV members for many years, and she has previously served two terms as our president. Roberta recognizes that OP-ED columns often draw criticism, and unpleasant letters to the editor. But in the March 21st TRN article announcing her appointment, she is quoted as saying: "Since I have a husband and four children, I'm also experienced in taking criticism." Congratulations on your assignment, Roberta !!

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IF YOU WANT TO BE A DELEGATE TO THE LWV STATE CONVENTION:

Contact President Penny Miller. It will be held April 23-25, 2010, in San Marcos. Our League is entitled to 4 delegates. Penny Miller & Pan McKay have already been selected, but there are two more slots. Our League will pay the registration, but other expenses are personal.

The purpose of convention is to (1) consider and approve the State League program; (2) elect the State Officers; (3) consider and approve a State League Budget; (4) transact any other necessary business; (5) find out what other Leagues are doing that might be helpful for us; and (6) participate in workshops and other learning ventures. It is also a time for Fun, Fellowship, and Eating !!

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING - - - MAY 5th, 2010

The Bylaws require members at the Annual Meeting to vote on, for the coming League Year (beginning July 1st), the following items: [1] The election of officers, directors, and three members of the nominating committee, [2] Adoption of a local program of action and study, [3] Adoption of an adequate budget, and [4] Any other items as directed by the Board. - - - - with a 30-day advanced meeting notice.

Annual Meeting Agenda

- 12:00 Call to order
- Prior minutes.
- Treasurer's report.
- Items for Approval (for 2010-11)
 - Election of Officers
 - Program of Action & Study
 - Annual Budget
 - Miscellaneous Items & Discussion
- 1:00 Adjourn.

The following committee reports will be forwarded to the Membership later this week, for use at the Annual Meeting. Here is a brief description of what each report will include:

Nominating Committee.

The Bylaws provide that officers & four directors are elected at the Annual Meeting for one-year terms. The new president and board may later select up to four additional directors. The three nominating committee members elected at the annual Meeting must be non-board members. Nominations may be made from the floor, with prior approval of the nominee.

The president may later appoint two additional members (from the Board) to complete the five-member nominating committee.

Program Committee.

The Bylaws require action at the Annual Meeting on our Program of Action & Study for the next League year. This will include a summary of our existing Program items, and whether the Board recommends their retention or removal. It will also include any new study that the Board might recommends.

Budget Committee.

The Bylaws provide that an Annual Budget (with an estimate of revenues & expenses) shall be adopted at the Annual Meeting, to support the work of the League as a whole.

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See you on Wednesday, April 7th, at Luby's Feel Free to forward this VOTER to your friends & associates.

Feedback to LaryLambert@prodigy.net, or by phone or fax to 767-0129