

2023 Candidates



President's Message

by Michael A. Shedd

Friends and Members of the East Fort Worth Business Association,

If you were unable to attend our March meeting, you missed a casual conversation with Judge Tim O'Hare. There were no political bombshells, dust ups or arguments to be had. It was a simple, unrehearsed, honest conversation with our newly elected county official. We look forward to seeing the new direction he brings to the County Commissioners Court as he moves forward with his term of office and hope to have him back in the future.

For those of you who have students or are otherwise aware of the happenings in our schools, you know that Spring Break has come and gone for Fort Worth ISD and our local colleges. Personally, I was able to get away to South Carolina for the week for some relaxation. It was too cold, and there were far too many alligators, but the getaway was nice nonetheless.

As you know, we are just over a month away from election season. Most of us will have several choices to make for Fort Worth City Council and Fort Worth ISD.

As promised, we will be bringing as many candidates to you as possible for our April meeting. As of this writing, Gary Cumbie has 12 candidates confirmed. For Council District 5, we have Mayor Pro Tem Gyna Bivens, William McKinley Jackson and Bob Willoughby.

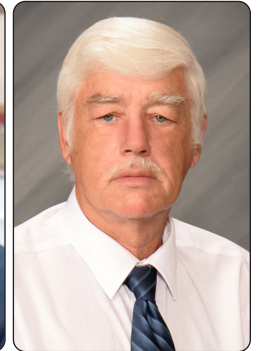
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Gyna Bivens



William McKinley Jackson



Bob Willoughby



Christopher Johnson



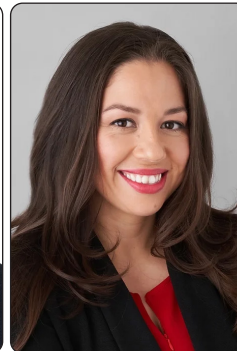
Jeannette Martinez



Ricardo Avita



Rick Herring



Tara Maldonado-Wilson



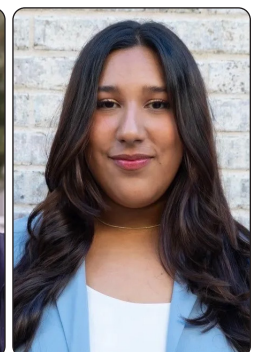
Tobi Jackson



Quinton Phillips



Mar'Tayshia James



Valeria Nevarez

For Council District 11 we have Christopher Johnson, Jeannette Martinez, Ricardo Avita, Rick Herring and Tara Maldonado-Wilson.

In FWISD Place 2 we have Tobi Jackson and in Place 3 we have Quinton Phillips, Mar'Tayshia James and Valeria Nevarez. As you can imagine, that's going to make for a tight agenda, and we very well may spill over on our time.

Although it may seem like a lot to fit into one meeting, we felt it was important to give the candidates for the council and ISD equal time in front of our members.

The entire meeting will be devoted to our candidates, and facilitated by the East Fort Worth Business Association Political Action Committee. This will be a coming of age party for the PAC in a manner

of speaking, as they will be making endorsements following the forum, and after review by the PAC board members. If you want to be part of the PAC, please speak with our PAC President, Bill Schwennsen. He would be happy to have more input from the community and a little more help as needed. Bill will be delivering the questions at our April meeting, and it will consist of about 3 structured questions and timed responses.

Unfortunately, we won't have time for a lengthy question and answer period, but the majority of the candidates will be available for a bit after the meeting for further discussion.

Looking beyond our April meeting, for May we will be saying good bye to our friend President Fred Slabach from

Texas Wesleyan University. He will be finishing up the semester here and then heading to his new adventure as the Dean of the School of Law at the University of Mississippi. I hope you'll join us to hear his parting message to our members, and to wish him and his family well.

In June, we will have Chris Cassidy back on the agenda, from the canceled meeting in February.

As always, we hope you will join us in April. However, if you aren't able to make it, keep an eye out for the endorsements from the EFWBA PAC. They will try to guide you towards the candidate they feel best exemplifies the values of our joint organizations. See you all soon.

Photos by: fortworthreport.org
or candidate website

Register to vote by April 6 for May 6 municipal elections

The deadline to register to vote in the May 6 city election for mayor and council is April 6. To learn details on voter registration, call 817-392-6150 or visit one of these election websites:
In-person early voting runs April 24-May 2.

**Polls will be open May 6
from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.**

A runoff election will be held June 10.

Locate many additional resources on the City of Fort Worth Elections page or scan the QR code to find all you need to know.



Main Street America for the Backing Small Businesses Grant Program is now Open!

In 2021, American Express and Main Street America created the Backing Small Businesses grant program to help economically vulnerable U.S. small business owners recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and grow their businesses. The program has provided \$1.65 million in grants to 330 small business owners across the country. Now in its second year, the program will increase both grants awarded and total funding to further support small business owners. On March 20, applications will open for 350 small business grants of \$5,000 to eligible businesses in the U.S. and territories.

NEW! \$25,000 Enhancement Grants

If you are awarded a \$5,000 grant through this program, your business may be considered for an additional \$25,000 Enhancement Grant! All grant recipients will be required to submit a final grant report regarding how the grant money was spent, plus additional questions about how the business could use additional funding to either expand on their small business grant project or fund a separate project. A limited subset of 25 grantees will be selected to receive the additional \$25,000 Enhancement Grant.

APPLY HERE:

<https://www.mainstreet.org/howwecanhelp/backingsmallbusinesses>



Thursday, April 6

**@ Meadowbrook-Poly United
Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall**

**3900 Meadowbrook Drive
Fort Worth 76103**

*Building on North side of church, closest to Meadowbrook
Overflow Parking on West side of street*

Doors Open 11:30

Lunch 11:45 – 1:00 pm

AVOID THE LINE – PAY ONLINE

Lunch Meals

\$15⁰⁰ Members • \$20⁰⁰ Non-Members

or email RSVP@efwba.org

— On ZOOM —

We've created a recurring Zoom for the EFWBA 2022 meetings.

Link to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87252883314?pwd=cjVsQnJwNzJTS3Fta0N5VlZlQ1hWdz09>

Passcode: EFWBA

Or One tap mobile : +13462487799,,87252883314#

Don & Wanda invite you to attend a

Candidate Forum

on **April 3** for **District 11**

FORT WORTH CITY COUNCIL

NEIGHBORHOODS OF DISTRICT 11 CANDIDATES FORUM



MONDAY, APRIL 3 ★ 6:30 - 8:30 PM

MEADOWBROOK POLY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3900 MEADOWBROOK DRIVE, FORT WORTH, TX 76103

SCAN HERE TO SUBMIT
QUESTIONS FOR THE FORUM:



OR VISIT

WWW.FORTWORTHDISTRICT11.COM

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS MARCH 31 AT 5 PM

MEET THE CANDIDATES:

- RICARDO AVITIA
- RICK HERRING
- CHRISTOPHER JOHNSON
- TARA MALDONADO-WILSON
- JEANNETTE MARTINEZ

Hosted by the Neighborhood Associations of:
Bonnie Brae, Carter Riverside, Central Meadowbrook, Charleston HOA, Eastern Hills,
Las Familias de Rosemont, Handley, Oakhurst, Polytechic Heights South,
Renaissance Heights, South Hemphill Heights, Sylvan Heights West, United
Riverside, Vintage Riverside, West Meadowbrook, Worth Heights

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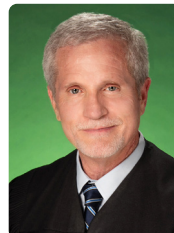
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I am honored to serve
the East Fort Worth
Business Association
and the Citizens of
Precinct 1.

Judge Ralph Swearingin, Jr.
Judge, Tarrant County Precinct 1



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