

# Library helps get out the vote



## BIBLIOFILES

Dana Hendrix

If you are reading this, chances are you are a voter. Newspaper readers tend to be engaged in civic life and more well-informed about national, state and local election issues.

But it is dismaying that in the 2014 midterm election, only 36.4 percent of eligible voters voted. We at the library want to encourage everyone to vote in the next general election on November 6, which is also a midterm election. The library offers various resources to help citizens feel more confident when they head to the polls.

Step one is to ensure your voter registration is active. The last day to register to vote in the November 6 election is Tuesday, October 9. You may need to register or update your registration if:

- you'll turn 18 by Election Day,
- you're a newly naturalized citizen,
- you move, even if just across town,
- you change your name, or
- you haven't voted in a while, in which case your registration may have been removed due to inactivity even though you're still at the same address.

Not sure if you're registered? You can see whether your registration is active with one easy online search on the Williamson County Elections Department website at wilco.org/elections.

At that website you also can look up your voting location and precinct number; view a sample ballot and find the names and websites for all of your current representatives at the federal, state, county, city and school levels. Just click on Voter Lookup & Sample Ballots.

If you don't have a computer at home or are not comfortable using a computer, you can come to the library to do this. Our staff will be happy to help you.

If you need to register or update your registration, year-round, any day we're open, you can ask for a voter registration form at the first floor Circulation Desk. You'll be given an application postcard that you can fill out and mail in to register yourself or update your registration. When we open new library accounts for people, we offer them a registration application. With Georgetown's continued growth, so many of our residents are new or recently moved, and anytime you change addresses you have to update your voter registration.

On September 25, we'll be doing a bit more for voter registration efforts. We'll be celebrating National Voter Registration Day by hosting Volunteer Deputy Registrars (VDRs) from the League of Women Voters in the library. VDRs have been trained by the Williamson County Elec-



Sally Bernier, Suzette Davidson, Debra Scott, Kalena Powell, Bethni King, Valerie Barber, Kristina Zepeda, Lawren Weiss, Joyce May, Sally Miculek and Sarah Blankenship are working with the library to help residents vote in the next general election.

tions Department staff to help citizens get registered in the county. They will be in the library Lobby from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m.

They can answer questions you may have about registration or voting, help you know what identification you need to take along when you vote, and if you fill out a voter registration application with them, they will hand-deliver your application to the County Voter Registrar's office before the deadline.

How else can you become a better voter by using the library? Check out a book by or about a political candidate, or

use our print and online periodicals to read articles about them. You can sit down and read current articles in newspapers including *The Williamson County Sun*, *Austin American-Statesman*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Dallas Morning News*, or newsmagazines like *Time*, *The New Yorker*, and *Newsweek*. By using our free computers and Wi-Fi, you also can look at news websites or candidates' own websites.

The library staff want to see you at the polls... and we'll see you in the library, as well!

For further information, check out these websites:

## Upcoming Library Events

- Exhibit: Texas Society of Sculptors 11th Annual Summer Show through September 21
- Exhibit: Williamson County Art Guild: Our Creative Community exhibit through September 21
- Exhibit: Art Hop XI September 28-October 27 at Georgetown Public Library and Georgetown Art Center
- September 25, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. National Voter Registration Day: Come to the library to register or update your registration so you can vote on November 6
- September 26, 10 a.m. Play, Learn, Grow Playshops: New series of five programs (pre-registration required)
- September 29, 2-3:15 p.m. Art Hop Artists Reception begins at the library, then continues at Georgetown Art Center for awards ceremony
- October 5, 6:30 p.m. Get Out movie screening (rated R)
- October 21, 2 p.m. Live Music at the Library: Inversion Ensemble
- October 13, 3 p.m. Teen Halloween Program
- October 13, 1 p.m. Tween Halloween Program
- October 26, 6 p.m. Children's Halloween Program

Consult the Library Events Calendar at [library.georgetown.org](http://library.georgetown.org) for more information about these and other library programs such as kids' storytimes and regular teen and adult programs.

■ Williamson County Elections Department, [wilco.org/elections](http://wilco.org/elections)

■ Texas Secretary of State, [votetexas.gov](http://votetexas.gov)

■ National Voter Registration Day [nationalvoterregistra-](http://nationalvoterregistrationday.org)

[trationday.org](http://trationday.org)

■ League of Women Voters [lwvvaustin.org](http://lwvvaustin.org)

*Dana Hendrix is the Fine Arts Librarian at the Georgetown Public Library.*

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# Macedonia Baptists meet in new church

September 20, 1918

In accepting a gift from Americans last Friday, General Foch, supreme commander of the Allied Forces in France, made this statement: "It was from Metz, in Lorraine, that General LaFayette came to assist America in establishing the first Republic, and in Metz in a very short time, I expect to see the Stars and Stripes floating in the breeze from the flagstuffs thereof. America has paid her debt with compounded interest."

"It has been so written that the women of the United States will now stand at attention (French heels together) when the National anthem is being played or when the flag is passing." State Chairman of the Woman's Committee, Council of National Defense

September the 13th was General John J. Pershing's 58th birthday, and at the head of the great American army in France, he wiped out the St. Mihiel salient, captured 13,000 prisoners and advanced

## Yesteryears

BARBARA YELVERTON

the lines of the Allies 13 miles where they planted the flag on German soil. It was a great day for America and her allies, the people of England declaring the American victory to be the greatest of the war.

A million and one half coconuts from the Philippine Islands, to be made into coconut oil, butter, frying fats and other products, have been received by the Southland Oil company of Temple.

September 18 & 21, 1975

Question of the Week: If you could go any place in the world, where would it be and why?

■ Russell Daniell — "If I had one place to go I would go to Africa to be a missionary."

■ John Brown — "I would go to Paris because my Godfather would take me to the Eiffel Tower."

■ Lyndon Jefferson — "I would go to *Let's Make A Deal*.

Why would I go — to get a car and \$12 million."

Members of the Macedonia Baptist Church held services for the first time in their new church building on North Timber Street.

■ New GHS held Open House.

■ Marcos and Susie Ramos purchased The Flower Box.

■ Linda Fuller was Hillhigh Realty's Salesperson of the Month for August.

■ The GHS Band performed The Star-Spangled Banner with the Longhorn Band before the UT-Colorado game in Memorial Stadium.

■ September 18 & 22, 2002

■ Phillip Heisch and Jenny Willoughby are the Optimists' Young Texan and Young Texanne for September.

■ The GHS Homecoming parade was not drowned out. The GHS Band, Georgettes and a football players' float

performed anyway!

■ The Georgetown Area United Way Campaign kicked off its 2002-03 campaign. They also announced plans to purchase a bronze statue of Nathan Chapman, the first soldier killed in action in Afghanistan. His parents are Lynn and Will Chapman of Sun City.

■ Valentina Mitzkat, 15, has written a musical that will be performed at The Palace. She has high hopes for an acting career on Broadway.

■ September 15 & 19, 2010

■ City bridges hold steady during flood — Major infrastructure improvements at the Oak Street bridge and the College Street bridge after the 2007 flood got a real test.

■ More than 100 met with Cry Out America to pray for healing nine years after the 9/11 tragedy.

■ GISD officials say the 35-year-old GHS is in desperate need of renovations.

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