

C-FB RSPA

Newsletter

October 2023

Pat Enlow

Legislative Chair

As we begin October, our main push for Proposition 9 also begins. As I present at Town Halls and various meetings, I am finding that we need to step up our campaign. There are still many voters who are not aware of the Constitutional Amendment Election and Prop 9. We are all going to have to do our part to get this across the finish line!

VOTE FOR PROP 9
A PENSION INCREASE FOR RETIRED TEACHERS!

REASONS TO VOTE FOR PROP 9:

1. No public school retiree since 9/1/2004 has ever received a cost-of-living adjustment. Most retired teachers are not eligible to receive Social Security; therefore, a TRS pension is their primary source of income.
2. It won't create a tax increase! The Texas Legislature has already set aside the funds to make this happen with voter approval.
3. Prop 9 is ENDORSED by the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA)!

TRTA

SCAN BELOW TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PROP 9!

We must get voters to look beyond Prop 4, which is the reason most voters will be going to the polls. List of and descriptions of 14 Propositions on the ballot are here:

<https://www.sos.state.tx.us/about/newsreleases/2023/080423.shtml>

What you need to know:

1. Memorize the 2 main talking points and pass them along to everyone!
 - * No public school retiree since 9/1/2004 has ever received a cost-of-living adjustment. Most retired teachers are not eligible to receive Social Security; therefore, a TRS pension is their primary source of income.
 - * It won't create a tax increase! The Texas Legislature has voted unanimously for a COLA and has already set aside the funds to make this happen with voter approval.

(Prop 9 is endorsed by the Texas Retired Teachers Association.)

2. Know important dates:

- * Last day to register to vote: October 10
Go to <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/index.html> to find out if someone is registered or to help register someone online.
- * Last day to vote by mail-in ballot: October 23 Info on mail-in ballot is at web site above.
- * Early Voting: October 23 - November 3 (I remember by thinking of the two 3s.)

What you can do:

1. "Like" our Facebook page at - C-FB Retired School Personnel Assoc, part of TRTA - and "share" posts on Prop 9 to your Facebook page.
2. Tim Lee has asked us to make a list of 10 people, inform them of Prop 9, and make sure they go to the polls and vote YES. Suggestion: Put your voting-age grandchildren on your list. Make sure they are registered to vote and go as a family, if they live near you.
3. If you know people who are not registered or unsure if they are registered to vote, go to <https://www.votetexas.gov/register-to-vote/index.html>



to find out. Help them register right online!

4. Take your yard sign, two friends, lawn chairs to the polls on voting days.
Shake hands, inform voters as they go into the polls. (Area will be designated where you can campaign without violating 100 ft. rule.)
If you choose to do this, I have some extra push cards you can hand out.
5. Display your yard sign, hand out your push cards, wear your button to begin conversations about Prop 9.
6. If the organizations you belong to will allow you to speak at meetings, encourage them to vote for Prop 9!
7. Tell your story. Mine is that I have earned Social Security benefits, but because I chose to be a Texas public school employee, Federal law (Wealth Elimination Provision - That says it all doesn't it?), states that I am not able to collect my earned benefit. I receive a reduced benefit. Because of Federal law (Government Pension Offset), I cannot receive my spouse's survivor benefit that he earned.
8. Emphasize that all qualified TRS annuitants will benefit; not just teachers, but bus drivers, secretaries, librarians, counselors, nurses, etc.

Election Day: Tuesday, November 7 (7 am – 7 pm)

What will you do to ensure passage of Prop 9?

Della Swaim

President

Wow! For our September meeting, we had over 100 reservations! That is our largest number ever except for our Anniversary celebration last year. Thank you, and a big thank you to the folks who made our meeting run smoothly! I especially want to thank Judy Carey, our Treasurer, who took all of those reservations AND then kept all of the finances straight!

J .T. Hughes, the new principal of our partner school, Vivian Field Middle School, was able to return to his school with a very full carload of donated supplies. He also received over \$800 for the school activity fund.

THANK YOU, C-FB RSPA, FOR YOUR UNFAILING GENEROSITY AND LOVE FOR THE CHILDREN OF CFBISD!

PLEASE SIGN UP TO ATTEND THE CFBISD APPRECIATION LUNCHEON ON WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 8, 2023!

We were so glad to have our CFBISD Superintendent, Dr. Wendy Eldredge as our speaker last month. I heard so many very positive comments about her gracious remarks. We are privileged to be honored by our school district! Thank you, CFBISD and Dr. Eldredge!

LET'S HAVE A GREAT TURNOUT!

Shaima Hakimi

1st Vice President, Membership

Please join me in welcoming

Debbie Barber

Shirley Grizzaffi

Karen Henderson

Miriam Honig

Kay Jamadar

Jan Wehmeyer

as our newest members. It was an absolute pleasure to meet most of them at our September meeting.

Membership is vital to our organization, especially when it comes to legislators and the ongoing fight for our pension and Cost of Living Adjustment. Representation matters!

Please invite your friends and family members to any of our meetings. This year as we did last year, we will continue to give away \$10 gift cards. If you bring a guest to one of our meetings and they become a member during or by the end of our meeting, you will both be entitled to a \$10 gift card each.

Looking forward to our next meeting!

Pat Enlow

2nd VP, Programs



Doug Renfro

October Meeting Program

Have you ever purchased a jar of Mrs. Renfro's Salsa? Well, Mrs. Renfro's products are made right next door in Fort Worth!

Doug Renfro, President of Renfro Foods, will take us on a journey through the evolution of a mom-and-pop business begun during the Great Depression to a company that sells products world-wide. Doug's presentation is full of interesting anecdotes, the fun marketing strategies they employ, and what perseverance can accomplish.

Come join the fun and leave with something special to take home!

Lori Smith

Lunch Bunch

Due to the change of location of our meeting and lack of a big kitchen space, we will be ordering Alonti Box Lunches.

Coffee or iced tea will not be provided but bottled water will be.

Come join us at 10:30 on Wednesday, October 18 at the new and beautiful state of the art facility of the Metrocrest Services, 1145 N. Josey Ln, Carrollton TX 76006 (corner of N. Josey Ln and Pearl St.)

Please select your choice from the list below and let Judy Carey know your selection when you RSVP for lunch.

Please RSVP by Friday, October 13.

- Honey Ham on Marble Rye
- Roasted Turkey on Ciabatta Roll
- New England Chicken Salad on Wheat
- Roasted Chicken on Focaccia
- Beef Brisket on Jalapeno Roll

Sandwiches are served dry with mayonnaise, mustard, and Dijon packets on the side. Chips and a fresh-baked jumbo cookie are included.

The cost is \$12.

Please RSVP by October 13 to Judy Carey:
judy.carey@verizon.net or call 214-498-9867

Judy Carey

Treasurer

Same Song, Second Verse PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES NOW

It was great seeing all the members that attended our September meeting. We had about one hundred members and guests attend our meeting.

Reminder... If you have not paid your TRTA state dues (\$35) and your C-FB RSPA local dues (\$10) now is the time to do that!! Time is running out.

The dues you pay now are for 2023-2024. Please bring your check to the meeting or send your check (made out to C-FB RSPA) to me at

975 Laguna Drive, Coppell, TX 75019.

You may include the cost of lunch (Lunch is \$12.00) in the check with your dues. It is extremely helpful if you make out your check before you come to the meeting, it speeds up the check-in time. If you have questions about your dues, please call me at 214-498-9867 or email me at judy.carey@verizon.net.

Reminder, you can now use ZELLE to pay your dues and your lunch. If you are paying with ZELLE, use judy.carey@verizon.net

We need your support to help pay for programs at our meetings, door prizes, recruit new members, etc. We do put your \$10 to good use. Thanks to all of you that have paid your dues. We still have about 75 members who have not paid their dues. Also, if you have your state dues taken out of your annuity or bank account, please consider paying your \$10 local dues to support C-FB RSPA. If you have any changes to your information, please let me know. I can change your information with TRTA, but you need to change your information with TRS yourself.

If you are interested in viewing the Treasurer's Report, it is posted on our C-FB RSPA webpage at <http://cfbrspa.atwebpages.com> I look forward to seeing you at the October meeting. I will have a name tag waiting for you.

Lee Nitcholas

Field Trips

The **Pocket Sandwich Theatre**, a Dallas institution for over 40 years, relocated to historic downtown Carrollton recently and continues to sell out performances. The productions are done in a very casual dinner theater style. Our October field trip will be an exciting, evening event there.

We will be attending the performance of *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Joe Dickinson, a melodrama, on Thursday, October 26. The show is another of their audience participation, popcorn tossing, comedy spoofs. This time they take aim at Robert Louis Stevenson's classic horror story. Tickets cost \$13.

The doors open at 6:30 and seating is on a first come, first served basis. The food is deli style, they take credit cards and dinner service ends at 7:30.

Pocket Sandwich Theatre
1104 Elm Street
Carrollton, TX 75006
214-821-1860

Doors open at 6:30 pm

Show time at 8:00 pm

Show Tickets: \$13

We will be selling tickets for the C-FB RSPA group at our October meeting. Come and join the fun!

Estelle Lara

Community Outreach

C-FB RSPA to help Joe's Pizza Thanksgiving Day Soup Kitchen

We have been invited to help sponsor Joe's Pizza soup kitchen on Thanksgiving Day.

How can we help? Please read their notices below that tell us what they will need to feed 5,000 people that day. Watch out for upcoming sales, bargains, and coupons. You can drop off your donations at Amici's in Carrollton Square or North Dallas Family Church, preschool entrance.

BUT... if you bring your donated items to the next RSPA meeting on October 18, we will be sure to get your donations to their destination. Our organization will participate in this charity instead of the December food and cash drive. Thank you, and please read below.

DONATIONS NEEDED TO HELP US FEED 5,000 THIS THANKSGIVING



Paypal.me/thejoespizza
Zelle carolyn@joespizzasubs.com



FROZEN TURKEY, CORN,
GREEN BEANS,
CRANBERRY SAUCE,
STUFFING, POTATO FLAKES,
FOIL, GALLON ZIP LOCK
BAGS, FULL-SIZE AND
HALF-SIZED
ALUMINUM TRAYS
AND LIDS, DISH SOAP,
FLOOR CLEANER,
33 GALLON TRASH BAGS

Thanksgiving Day Soup Kitchen

Drop off anytime at Amici in historic downtown Carrollton during working hours or North Dallas family church at preschool entrance

TEXT 214-837-0569

2023 THANKSGIVING DAY SOUP KITCHEN NOVEMBER 23RD 8 AM TO 2 PM

**All in need,
You're invited
Thanksgiving,
First come,
First Served
a traditional
turkey meal**

SPONSORED BY



**New location
North Dallas Family
Church**

**1700 S. Josey Lane
text 214-837-0569
for more info**



Thanksgiving Day
Soup Kitchen

www.joespizzasubs.com

Kay Edmondson

Voluntarism

Volunteer Guidelines

- Volunteer Hours may be counted for any service provided without pay with a maximum of 12 hours/day.
- Hours spent doing volunteer work are recorded door-to-door and include prep time.
- Record volunteer hours regularly. A datebook or calendar is useful.

Where to Volunteer:

- Schools, Libraries, Museums, and any Non-Profits
- Hospitals and Nursing Homes
- Friends, Neighbors and Family
- Babysitting grandchildren and cooking meals for family and friends
- Driving family members and friends to appointments
- Senior Citizen Centers and other Community Services
- Raising money for worthy causes

Email Volunteer Hours to Kay Edmondson at mce60@verizon.net

Volunteer hours are counted from January 1 through December 31, 2023

Kathy McWhorter

Sunshine Committee

C-FB RSPA Members,

Please email me at kathymcwhorter@gmail.com or text me at 972-742-9513 to let me know when someone needs a get well, sympathy or encouragement card. I send cards for illness if the recipient is a member or in a member's immediate family.

I look forward to seeing EVERYONE in October!!

Pat Revall

Member Benefits

Texas Retired Teachers Association offers a variety of different programs for insurance. They offer dental and vision services such as cleanings, X-rays, crowns, and implants. Medical insurance helps pay for medical and other costs if you are injured in an accident.

Additional Member Benefits (AMBA) offers discounts on lodging, travel, security, and entertainment.

LODGING - Drury Inn and Suites, discount portal for Days Inn, Wyndham, and Hotel Planner.

SECURITY - Acadian on call.

TRAVEL - Rental cars through Avis, Budget, and Enterprise with rotating sets of offers for cruises, events, and concerts.

ENTERTAINMENT - Dallas Zoo for online discount tickets program, movie tickets, events, sports, and concerts.

I found this information online at TRTA.org: select Benefits and scroll down to Additional Member Benefits.

C-FB RSPA Online

Our website has helpful information and interesting photos. For example, you can always go there to preview monthly program topics.

Go to cfbrspa.atwebpages.com

Carol Sprawls

Health and Safety

Leaf Hazards

Beautiful fall leaves can pose several hazards for motorists. Fallen leaves can gather on roadways, and when wet, they can create very slick conditions. Add freezing temperatures to the mix, and your vehicle will have zero tracking, similar to driving on an icy road. Leaves can cover significant road markings, like double yellow lines or deep potholes. It's important to slow down when driving on a leaf-covered roadway.

Safely warm up by the fireplace

The fireplace should be cleaned and inspected before lighting the season's first fire. A soot and creosote buildup can cause a chimney fire and a backup of dangerous carbon monoxide gas into your home. Keep the area around the fireplace clear, and remove any hanging decorations on your mantle.

Watch for new roadway hazards

Going back to school brings traffic changes. School buses, students on bicycles, and teen drivers are out on the roads. Slow down and take extra care to look for children in school



zones, near playgrounds, and residential areas. Also, never pass a bus with flashing red lights or another vehicle stopped for a pedestrian.

Research has shown people who have **Good Attitudes Live Longer.**

People more satisfied with the aging process have a lower risk of severe disease, better cognitive functioning, and are less lonely or depressed. People who embrace a positive mindset are more physically active and sleep better. If you feel younger, you are more likely to act younger! are less lonely or depressed. People who embrace a positive mindset are more physically active and sleep better. If you feel younger, you are more likely to act younger!

**Growing old
is inevitable.
Aging is
optional.**

C-FB RSPA Photo Album from September



Celebrating McWhorter Birthdays

Kathy's 80th, Doyle's 90th





September guest speaker was Dr. Wendy Eldredge, CFBISD Superintendent



Getting the word out: "Vote FOR Prop 9!"



***Members' field trip
to the Railroad
Museum at Frisco***

