



October 2005

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## Judge Sally Montgomery at October meeting

Judge Sally Montgomery, who has served on the bench of the County Court at Law Number 3 since being elected in 2002, will keynote the October 11 meeting of the Dallas County Young Democrats.

Along with a presentation by Judge Montgomery, business to be conducted at the meeting includes the formal launch of the long-anticipated Sustaining Membership program, discussion regarding a turn-out-the-vote plan for the crucial November constitutional amendment election (see page 3) and announcements regarding the upcoming meeting location move to Monica's Aca Y Alla Restaurant as of the November meeting (see article below).

In 2002, Judge Montgomery was the first Democrat to be elected to a bench in

Dallas County in several cycles. Her election marked a turning point for the County, as seen in the 2004 results, in which the Democratic hold on the courts expanded. With the 2006 judicial elections approaching, the Dallas County Democratic Party is preparing to put forth a slate of over two dozen judicial candidates. Judge Montgomery is running for reelection to her bench — and with the hard work and support of groups like the Dallas County Young Democrats, it is a safe bet that this time around, she won't be the only Democrat to achieve victory.

For this one last time, the DCYDs will be gathering at the Elbow Room on 3010 Gaston Ave. As this meeting will be our last before the November election, and our first looking to 2006, it will be one you won't want to miss.

## DCYDs to move to Monica's in November

*Location will also host  
October 27 Happy Hour*

The Dallas County Young Democrats will be bidding the Elbow Room farewell after our October 2005 meeting. Though the location has served us well, it's time to move on to a more spacious location.

Thus, as of November, the Dallas County Young Democrats will begin holding our monthly meetings at **Monica's Aca Y Alla Restaurant** on 2914 Main Street. We've worked out a great arrangement for parking, so members won't have to worry about that hassle. DCYD members will also have the opportunity to order drinks and meals from an abbreviated version of Monica's award-winning menu.

Before we move our meeting to Monica's, however, we'd like to invite all our members to join us there for our **October 27 Happy Hour**. We'll ring in our new location with drink specials and a presentation by the No Nonsense in November campaign, which is working to defeat the Proposition 2 amendment that



*Monica's location. Map courtesy Google.*

would bar any legal recognition of same-sex couples in Texas. The October happy hour will be a great chance to get to know our new location, enjoy a night out with other young progressives and get involved with the No Nonsense campaign. It'll be the start of a new era for the Dallas County Young Democrats, and you won't want to miss it!

*The Dallas County Young Democrats is an organization open to 14- to 36-year-olds who believe in the Democratic way. The DCYDs strive to build a better tomorrow for all Texans and all Americans. Our activities include happy hours, get out the vote drives, volunteering in the community, fund raisers, and volunteering on Democratic campaigns. We also have monthly meetings to discuss current local, state and national politics that affect you.*

[www.dallasyoungdemocrats.org](http://www.dallasyoungdemocrats.org)

# DCYDs launch education mentoring initiative

By Juan Ayala

The leadership of the Dallas County Young Democrats (DCYD,) has been searching for ways in which to put our principals into action. One of the cornerstones of the Democratic Party has been its strong backing for the public education system. As Democrats, we recognize that education is one of the most important investments we can make as a society. With that in mind, over the next few months we will be launching an education initiative that will allow our club and its members can have a positive impact on the public school system in Dallas.

To that end, the Board of Directors for the DCYD has been in touch with the Dallas Independent School District about

its mentor program. Rene Martinez, who is the director of the mentoring program, has provided information packets explaining what it takes to be a mentor in DISD.

DCYD members who wish to be mentors in the present school year can be placed at the same high school.

We have high hopes that a significant number of DCYD members will choose to get directly involved with mentoring at a Dallas area public school. The DISD has seen a true dropout rate of 31% in recent years. Studies have shown that mentoring programs can have a significant impact on the dropout rate for at-risk students.

Those DCYD members that are interested should contact Juan Ayala,

the chair of the education committee. He can be reached at 214-632-9085, or [jj613@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jj613@sbcglobal.net).

Please also note that being a mentor requires a weekly commitment of one hour during school ours to meet with your student.

In addition a background check and interview will be done to confirm eligibility. There is also a \$15 processing fee, though DCYD is raising money to reimburse those members who become mentors.

We will be looking for other ways to get involved directly in support of public education and hope that if you are interested you will join the education committee.

## Build a home with DCYDs, Habitat for Humanity

Please join the Dallas County Young Democrats and Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, November 5th as we build a house for a Dallas family! The building site will be in East Dallas and we will need at least thirty volunteers from 8am-4pm. No experience is necessary and equipment will be provided. Of course, if you have a particular skill or can bring your own tools that's even better!

So, mark your calendars and let us know that you will be part of the team by emailing Jamie Dorris at [jamedorris@hotmail.com](mailto:jamedorris@hotmail.com).

While we won't be putting in any sweat equity until November 5th, we are raising \$5,000 to contribute to the cost of building the home. This contribution is just as important as our labor, so please consider giving both your time and money. To contribute, please contact our Treasurer, Cassandra Black, at [fanb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fanb@sbcglobal.net) to put your donation on your credit or debit card.

Questions? Contact the project co-chairs, Jamie Dorris ([jamedorris@hotmail.com](mailto:jamedorris@hotmail.com)) and Lloyd Elam ([lloyd\\_elam@msn.com](mailto:lloyd_elam@msn.com)).



## Domestic Abuse Awareness Month

October is National Domestic Abuse Awareness Month. Domestic violence is a pernicious and widespread problem that threatens the health and lives of countless women across America.

Even after leaving an abusive relationship, many victims of domestic abuse are not free from danger. Only greater awareness of the scope of the problem and its root causes can end the cycle of violence.

Dallas is home to several domestic abuse and family shelters that are routinely in need of clothing, material and financial support. DCYD Board Member Meredith McQuiston works with victims of domestic abuse, and can be reached at [meredith\\_mcquiston@yahoo.com](mailto:meredith_mcquiston@yahoo.com).

Other resources regarding this issue are available online:

[www.dallasdvresources.org](http://www.dallasdvresources.org)  
[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)  
[www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)  
[www.tcfv.org](http://www.tcfv.org)

# DCYDs to get out the “no” vote to stop Prop 2

Having already taken a position in opposition to Proposition 2, the Constitutional gay marriage ban on the November 8 ballot, the Dallas County Young Democrats are now putting together a plan to work with the No Nonsense in November campaign to turn out our membership to vote “no” on this disastrous proposal.

Representatives from No Nonsense in November will be present at the October 11, 2005, general business meeting of the DCYDs. There will also be a No Nonsense presence at the

October 27 Happy Hour at Monica’s. This Happy Hour will be held just days into the early voting period, and will be an excellent opportunity for one last push to turn out young progressives in defense of the Texas Constitution.

Also, during the early voting period, DCYD members and leaders will be organizing weekly events in which we will gather together voters for coffee or a quick bite to eat and then a trip to the polls. For years, the DCYDs have focused on voter identification and position advocacy. For this election, we’ll be taking our first real

steps into direct get-out-the-vote efforts. If you would like to help the DCYDs in our campaign to oppose Proposition 2, please contact Vice President Kirk McPike at [kirk@kirkmcpike.com](mailto:kirk@kirkmcpike.com).

Early voting will run from October 24 to November 4. Polls will be open from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM every day except for October 30 (1:00 PM to 6:00 PM) and November 3 and 4 (7:00 AM to 7:00 PM). Registered voters in Dallas County may vote at *any* polling place during early voting. Below is a list of all Dallas County early voting polling locations:

Early Voting Location	Address	City	Zip
Barbara Bush Middle	515 Cowboys Pkwy	Irving	75063
Coppell Town Center	255 W. Parkway Blvd	Coppell	75019
Dallas First Assembly	11000 E. Northwest Hwy	Dallas	75238
DeSoto Town Center Library	211 E. Pleasant Run Rd	DeSoto	75115
Duncanville Library	201 James Collins Blvd	Duncanville	75116
Dunford Rec Center	1015 Green Canyon Dr	Mesquite	75150
Fretz Park Rec Center	6950 Belt Line Rd	Dallas	75240
Garland City Hall	200 N. Fifth Street	Garland	75040
Gr Pr Development Ctr	206 W. Church St	Grand Prairie	75050
Gr Pr Garner Elementary	145 Polo Road	Grand Prairie	75052
Grauwylor Rec Center	7780 Harry Hines Blvd	Dallas	75235
Harry Stone Rec Center	2403 Millmar Dr	Dallas	75228
Highland Baptist Church	8202 Boedeker Dr	Dallas	75225
Irving Arts Center	3333 N. Macarthur Blvd	Irving	75062
Irving City Hall	825 W. Irving Blvd	Irving	75060
Josey Ranch Library	1700 Keller Springs Rd	Carrollton	75006
Lancaster Rec Center	1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy	Lancaster	75134
Martin Luther King Core	2922 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd	Dallas	75215
Martin Weiss Rec Center	1111 Martindell Ave	Dallas	75211
Northway Baptist Church	3877 Walnut Hill Ln	Dallas	75229
Oak Cliff Sub Courthouse	410 S. Beckley Ave	Dallas	75203
Pleasant Oaks Rec Center	8701 Greenmound Ave	Dallas	75227
Records Building	509 Main Street	Dallas	75202
Richardson Civic Center	411 W. Arapaho Rd	Richardson	75080
Rowlett City Hall Annex	4004 Main Street	Rowlett	75088
Samuell Grand Rec Center	6200 East Grand Ave	Dallas	75223
Veterans Medical Center	4500 S. Lancaster Rd	Dallas	75216
West Dallas Multipurpose	2828 Fish Trap Rd	Dallas	75212

Judge Sally Montgomery will be  
our keynote speaker and this is our last  
meeting prior to November's election.

*Please join us for our next meeting  
on October 11 at 7:00 PM at the  
Elbow Room at 3010 Gaston.*

The Dallas County Young Democrats  
3818 Cedar Springs Road  
Box 101-125  
Dallas, TX 75219

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