



# The VOTER

March 2018

## League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

### Plan To Attend the League’s March 22 Meeting

Dr. Isabel Araiza, Associate Professor of Sociology and coordinator of the Mexican American Studies Minor at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, will speak to League members and guests at a luncheon meeting on Thursday, March 22.

The meeting will be held in Room 108 at the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development at 3205 S. Staples at Kostoryz.

Dr. Araiza will speak about the importance of voting as it relates to college students.

A native Corpus Christian and a graduate of Carroll High School and Del Mar College, Dr. Araiza is a 1996

graduate of TAMU-CC who earned her Ph.D. in Sociology from Boston College (Chestnut Hill, MA) in 2004.

Her areas of specialization include: Aging, U.S. Education, and Social Class & Inequality. Her current scholarship focuses on public sociology and the integration of schools in Corpus Christi.

Dr. Araiza is the faculty advisor of two organizations committed to being



Isabel Araiza, Ph.D  
TAMU-CC

engaged with the broader Coastal Bend community: The Good Samaritan and Student Citizen Activists. She also serves on the Coastal Bend Social Forum and the South Texas Colonia Initiative.

A croissant sandwich box lunch prepared by the Del Mar College Culinary Dept. can be ordered by League members and guests at \$10 each. Deadline to order lunch is Tuesday noon, March 19, by emailing [lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com).

Please remember you are cordially invited to attend the meeting without ordering a sandwich meal.

### YWCA To Host 2018 Equal Pay Day Luncheon Program on April 10

The YWCA Corpus Christi will host “Workplace Negotiation Skills for Women” workshop and luncheon on Equal Pay Day--Tuesday, April 10. The goal of the event is to educate women about pay inequity, offer solutions to wage discrimination, and encourage women to take action.

The event is a collaboration between the YWCA Corpus Christi, American Association of University Women (AAUW), Executive Women International (EWI), and the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi (LWV-CC), among others.

The workshop will be presented by Dr. John Cicala, Associate Professor of Marketing at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Dr. Cicala specializes in workplace negotiation and runs TAMUK’s Center for Negotiation. Participants will gather at 11:30 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 900 S. Shoreline. The cost is \$5 for women and \$6.05 for men. Those interested in attending may register online by Thursday, April 5, at [www.ywacc.org](http://www.ywacc.org). Seating is limited. (Story continues on Page 6.)

**EQUAL PAY DAY For Women**  
Event at FUMC  
900 S Shoreline  
April 10, women will finally make what men made in 2017.

**“Workplace Negotiation Skills for Women”**  
Presented by...  
Dr. John Cicala, Texas A&M-Kingsville  
Associate Professor at Texas A&M University Kingsville, who specializes in negotiation

**WEAR RED!**  
on **EQUAL PAY DAY**  
**Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**  
Starts at 11:30 a.m. • \$5 for women • \$6.05 for men

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018  
Register for event: [www.ywacc.org](http://www.ywacc.org)  
**FREE SHOULDER BAG TO FIRST 100 WOMEN TO REGISTER!**  
Supporting Equal Pay Day for Women.

Logos for CW, LWV, AAUW, EWI, and ywca. [www.ywacc.org](http://www.ywacc.org)

#### LWV MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan, political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League does not support or oppose candidates or parties.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

Several years ago, I heard a phrase spoken by a nationally-known writer during an interview on PBS. The writer said, "I have friends who drink deeper at the trough than I do" in reference to her lifelong quest for knowledge and understanding of what she believed. She said that often she missed the mark because she didn't delve deeper into the subject but rather just "skimmed the surface."



Chris Davis Garcia  
LWV President

I've always loved that phrase...and identified with it as one "who doesn't always drink deeper at the trough." I admire those who devote themselves to lifelong learning... who take time to gather information important to them or to their work...who never tire of learning more about a topic or listening to others who do not share their feelings or beliefs...who are especially passionate about good public policy. I've often been perfectly content to know a little about a lot of subjects rather than immerse myself deeply in a single subject.

The National and State League staff and volunteers definitely "drink deeper at the trough" on many occasions, whether following state or federal legislation from start to finish, developing testimony to present either to lawmakers in the statehouse or in Congress, or simply becoming experts in certain issues like water resources in Texas, immigration, women's rights, criminal justice, or the myriad of programs that impact the lives of fellow Texans and fellow Americans.

I do visit the LWVUS and LWV-Texas websites several times each month to see what testimony or position papers are featured, and I encourage all of us to do the same. Lifelong learning never gets old...and neither does personal involvement in issues that matter.

**League of Women Voters**  
PO Box 8276  
Corpus Christi, TX  
78468-8276  
<http://www.lwv-cc.org>

**LWV-CC Board, 2017-2018**

**President**

Chris Davis Garcia  
361-991-2784; 361-244-4193  
garciachr1714@gmail.com

**Secretary**

Can Alemdar, 361-688-0342  
calemdar30@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Brenda Hamby, 361-991-1733  
bhamby@stx.rr.com

**Vice President, Member Services**

Sandra Heatherley, 361-876-4342;  
361-814-9120; sheatherle@cs.com

**Vice Presidents, Program**

Peggy Banales, 361-241-6842  
msbanales@yahoo.com  
Maria Jimenez, 361-888-7560  
nick.maria.jimenez@sbcglobal.net

**Vice President, Voter Services**

Kathryn Oler  
kathryn.oler@gmail.com

**At-Large Director**

Dr. Tammy Donaldson  
361-739-0462  
tcfdonaldson@gmail.com

**Director, Website/Social Media**

Debbie Noble, 410-271-1167  
debleenoble@gmail.com

**Co-Directors, Media/  
Communications**

Mary K. Fant  
Melody Cooper, 361-774-4170  
melody@melodycooperlaw.com

**Voter Registration:** Ruth Falck,  
361-548-2615; falckruth@yahoo.com

**Nominating Committee**

Anne Stewart, 361-850-0663  
emlean@gmail.com

**Nominating Committee members:**

Rebecca Huerta, 361-826-3104  
Linda Snider, 802-777-2269

**The VOTER Newsletter**

Marjorie Walraven, 361-992-8031  
wilraven26@yahoo.com

## Voter Registrations for February 2018

Voter Registration Chair  
Ruth Falck reports that 85  
voters were registered during  
February. Thanks to Ruth's  
commitment and to all those  
who devoted time and energy  
at various venues.

## Welcome! New Member

Sylvia Trevino, Friend of the League

## Thanks!

## Renewing Member

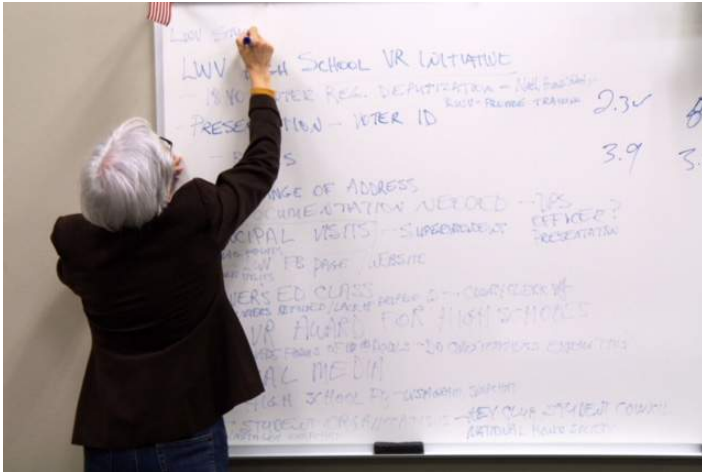
Alex Garcia, Jr. (Individual)



THE VOTER is published monthly except June and December. Its purpose is to keep League members informed about activities and programs in which the League is involved. Questions or comments can be directed to any officer or to the League's email at [lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com](mailto:lwvcorpuschristi@gmail.com).

# February 22 Planning Meeting Yields Solid Results (continued on Page 4)

## HIGH SCHOOL VOTER REGISTRATION INITIATIVE



Kathryn Oler, serving as facilitator and scribe, captures ideas from fellow League members.

Ideas and enthusiasm filled the whiteboard during the High School Voter Registration Initiative session of the League's Feb. 22 planning meeting. Peggy Bañales, Lisa Cuevas, Gloria Montalvo, Debbie Noble and Kathryn Oler (facilitator) explored many avenues for advocating and facilitating voter registration among the teenage demographic.

Three main talking points emerged: Voter ID, voter registration, and social media. With a trend of declining driver's licenses issued to Texas youth 20 years of age and younger, obtaining a state-approved photo ID may present an obstacle to voter registration by high school students.

Informal visits with principals could reveal barriers to voter registration and voting, such as the lack of a state-approved photo ID, lack of transportation to the DPS office, and no discussion of alternative forms of ID in government classes.

These visits might also yield any reports of students turned away at the polls because of ID issues. Because PAVP grant funds are still available, this initiative may reveal additional individuals who might benefit from the assistance this grant provides.

Because of the rising trend of teenage political advocacy, the group suggested developing relationships with high school organizations, such as Youth and Government Clubs, National Honor Society, and Key Club, to support peer-to-peer voter registration efforts and to get out the youth vote through social media presence on platforms favored by youth—NC High School FaceBook, Instagram, and SnapChat.

The first step in this strategy is to contact the high school principals to schedule informal visits. Anecdotal information about participation by high school students will provide key elements in implementing this initiative.

## FUND RAISING BRAINSTORMING



Barbara Clark, Eva Brown, Maria Jimenez, Can Alemdar, and Chris Garcia discuss ideas for fundraising.

A fundraiser is needed in 2018, and the topic was discussed at the Feb. 22 planning meeting. Consensus was to schedule the event in late August (checking available venues for August 17, August 24, or August 31) to coincide with the annual national observance of Women's Equality Day on August 26.

Discussion included a possible "Salute to Leadership" theme and recognition of three or four local leaders who have significantly contributed to our community. Possible venues will be explored that could accommodate from 150-200. Inviting college students also was suggested.

The most recent League fundraiser was held in August 2015 and was very successful. It included recognition of six women "Trailblazers" and a Silent Auction. In addition, three organizations were honored as "making democracy work."

The event was held at the Corpus Christi Country Club and was co-chaired by Sandra Heatherley and Coretta Graham, with strong leadership from President Dr. Mary Jane Garza.

Table sponsorships at the 2015 event, plus proceeds from a Silent Auction, helped fund voter engagement activities and election cycle publications.



# February 22 Planning Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

## BUDGET AND FINANCE



Alex Garcia Jr., Brenda Hamby, and Lois Huff review numbers in discussing the proposed 2018-2019 budget.

### Budget & Finance Session

Our group reviewed Income and Expense YTD actuals against 2017-2018 budgeted amounts and discussed the importance of annual fundraisers as well as a fiscal budget based on realistic membership growth.

The 2017-2018 balanced budget approved last May was \$19,305, while our January 2018 Actual YTD Total Income was \$7,325.53 and our January 2018 Actual YTD Total Expenses were \$11,258.67... with only February, March and April income and expenses remaining in this fiscal year. (The budget included both income and expenses for a 2017 fundraising event not held.)

Our January 2018 Combined Total of (3) LWV-CC accounts was \$8,424.45, which included Checking balance of \$5,865.57 and Savings balance of \$1,502.15 plus \$1,056.73 in our Education Fund.

Budgeted income sources include membership dues, monthly and annual meeting lunch purchases, fundraising events, community support/contributions, advertising in the VOTER newsletter, and silent auction proceeds.

Budgeted expenses include Per-Member-Payment (PMP) dues to LWV-TX and LWVUS, monthly and annual meeting lunches, fundraising events, community support/participation, Voter Services publications, voter registration events, printing (VOTERs and annual workbooks), website maintenance, administrative/postage/supplies, PO box rental, leadership/training, and holiday/social events.

The Proposed Budget for 2018-2019 will be presented for Board approval April 3, mailed to members by mid-April and later presented for membership approval at the May annual meeting.

## 100th LWV ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Colleen Johnson, Linda Snider, Sylvia Trevino, Sandra Heatherley, and Diana Barrera talk about 100th anniversary

### Goals for 2020 Celebration of 100 Years of Women Voting

- Honor the Women who fought for Woman's Suffrage
- Demonstrate to the community and elected officials the power of the women's vote
- Encourage women to run for office
- A chance for people of shared interest to come together
- To inspire young women by educating them to the history of their right to vote
- To raise funds for the League of Women Voters
- To have FUN!!

### Proposed activities in Corpus Christi Spring 2020:

A Women's March from the County Courthouse to the Federal Courthouse followed by a presentation by our County Judge or our Federal Judge on the history of the suffrage movement.

**May 2020:** An invitation to all High School Seniors to attend special showings of "Iron Jawed Angels" at Alamo Draft House.

### August 26: The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:

A huge gala celebration and fund-raiser to celebrate the women's right to vote and our continued efforts at "Creating a More Perfect Democracy"\* and celebrate with our community friends and partners!

The achievement of these goals and events will involve a gargantuan effort by local league members and partners. Our steering committee is in need of people with abilities in Event Planning, Grant Writing, Fundraising, and Project Management.

**We know you are out there and if you want to participate in the planning and preparation for 2020, please attend our Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> inaugural planning session at Del Mar Center for Economic Development at 5:30 PM.**

# Be a Smart News Consumer

By Debbie Noble  
Director/Social Media

**NOTE: This month's story sets the stage for future columns that will highlight different examples of logical fallacies to watch out for.**

In this age of sound bites, short tweets, and viral memes, where the 24 hour news cycle embraces endless speculation, and the world wide web continually spits out a conspiracy theory of outrageous clickbait to confirm every bias, it can be difficult to find a truth.

And while we like to think that we are logical beings who respond to rational arguments, we are often swayed by emotions disguised as facts. As any high school English or Debate student can tell you, there are three basic methods of persuasion to win you over in any argument:

Logos – using logic, facts, and data

Ethos – using ethical, responsible, fair, trusted words and sources

Pathos – using emotional words and stories to elicit and play upon sympathy, fear, or anger

As you listen to debate on any issue, keep these in mind and know that they are all being used, even when they are being disguised as logic.

Most arguments or persuasive presentation will be based on a formula of Premise(s) -> Logic -> Conclusion. Someone relies on basic universal facts/premises, applies some logic and reaches a conclusion.

A classic example is if  $A=B$  and  $B=C$  (premise), then by the transitive property of equality (logic),  $A=C$  (conclusion).

The problem arises when logic is faulty, but also when premises are wrong, incomplete, irrelevant, unstated or hidden. Furthermore, people often subconsciously or deliberately reverse engineer an argument by starting with a desired conclusion and working backwards to find the necessary assumptions and rationale to justify it.

As consumers of news and information, we must be vigilant. We must be careful of conclusions reached with unsupportive premises or faulty logic.

Understanding how to identify these logical fallacies, or errors in reasoning, is an important step in educated news consumption.

Post Hoc Ergo Hoc is a classic logical fallacy example.

This fallacy assumes that if something happened after something else, it was CAUSED by it. For example: I drank tap water and then I got sick, so the city's water system poisoned me!

Obviously, you could have gotten sick from anything before or after drinking the water; it could be totally coincidental.

Important Fallacy Tip: Correlation does not prove causation. Before we learned that malaria was caused by mosquito bites, people were sure that it came from swampy or night air (the affliction is so named for the Italian words for bad air). It turns out that a biting bug in the dark was the real cause.

Tune in next month for more logical fallacies!

## Work Continues on Organizing LWV Documents for Archives

The efforts of several League members these past three weeks, are paying off-- League materials from 1945 through about 2010 are being organized and appropriately boxed for transfer to the TAMU-CC Collections Department.

Board members hope to accomplish the transfer later this month.

Some of the materials needed for the upcoming 100th celebration of the League's founding (2020) will be held back for display during the local celebration and then turned over to the Collections Department.

League members who have League materials, copies of programs or VOTER newsletters, or other political memorabilia relevant to the League which they want to contribute are invited to let President Chris Garcia know immediately.

"The League's rich national history and local League contributions for the past 73 years will be a valuable resource for researchers and others interested in women's history and organizational structure," Garcia said.

## LWV-Texas Shares Statistics on 2018 Primary Voting

More than 2.5 million Texans voted in the March primaries, according to LWV-TX. A record 1.5 million Texans voted in the GOP primary and more than 1 million voted in the Democratic primary.

VOTE 411, an online voters guide, had 116,797 users of which 109,543 were new users.

Views of the LWV-TX 2018 Primary Voters Guides topped 274,000.

# Equal Pay Day Event (Continued from Page 1)

“This is a great opportunity for working women and men in the Coastal Bend to learn about the pay gap and how it impacts our community,” said Nancy Wesson Dodd, executive director of the YWCA Corpus Christi. “We want to raise awareness of the impact of pay inequity on families, and we also want to offer a chance to learn practical tips and tactics for negotiating in the workplace.”

The date of the event is symbolic as it represents the date in 2018 in which women’s earnings finally match what their male counterparts earned in 2017. On average, it takes an extra three months for women’s salaries to equal what their male counterparts earned in 2017. The date applies only to white women who work full time; the date at which African American women’s earnings catch up is July 31 and Hispanic women’s earnings do not catch up until November 2.

The National Partnership for Women and Families (NPWF) estimates that American women who are employed full time lose a total of \$840 billion every year due to this difference in earnings. The group says that the wage gap varies depending on which state and congressional district a person lives in, but NPWF data shows that out of 435 congressional districts, 429 show a median pay gap between women and men.

According to NPWF, white Texas women working full time are paid 79 cents on average for every dollar paid to men. Hispanic women are paid 44 cents for every dollar a man is paid, and the figure for African American women is 58 cents. Asian women are paid 80 cents for every dollar paid to men. The NPWF estimates that the difference in pay equals 15 months of child care, more than 10 months of rent, or nearly seven months of a mortgage payment.

Dr. Cicala’s discussion will address the negotiation skills and tactics that can be used to eliminate the pay gap and other work-related issues. He will offer ways for women to negotiate in the workplace and to move forward in their careers.

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Supporting Equal Pay Day for Women

Logos: ewi, LWV, AAUW, eliminating racism empowering women, ywca, Caller Times, TAMU-KINGSVILLE

[WWW.YWACC.ORG](http://WWW.YWACC.ORG)

## CALENDAR DATES:

Thursday, March 22--Luncheon Meeting, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (see story, Page 1)

Tuesday, April 3--LWV-CC Board Meeting, 4 p.m., Ben F. McDonald Library

Friday, April 6--First Friday ArtWalk, 6-9 p.m. at The Nueces Lofts downtown.

Saturday, April 7--Earth Day/Bay Day at Heritage Park, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 10--Equal Pay Day Event, 11:30 a.m., First United Methodist Church. (see story, Page 1)

Thursday, April 19--LWV-CC Evening Meeting downtown, 5:30-7 p.m., at The Bus (see story at left)

Thursday, April 26--Inaugural planning session for the 2020 celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment; Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, 5:30 p.m., Room 141.

### SAVE TWO DATES IN APRIL \*\*\*\*\*

#### EARTH DAY/BAY DAY:

The League will have a presence at the annual Earth Day/Bay Day celebration on Saturday, April 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Heritage Park. If you can assist in manning the League table for an hour or two that day (and then enjoy the ED/B D celebration), please contact Kathryn Oler, VP Voter Services, at [kathryn.oler@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.oler@gmail.com).

#### APRIL LEAGUE MEETING:

Save Thursday, April 19, from 5:30-7 p.m. and join fellow Leaguers at the League’s monthly meeting to be held downtown at The BUS, a newly renovated space that formally was the Greyhound Bus station. Food trucks will have a variety of tasty fare for League members to purchase. Dr. Barbara Szczerbinska, TAMU-CC professor and astrophysicist, will speak. More details to come!



# Are You Interested in Serving on LWV-CC Board of Directors?

Planning is in progress for the League's 73rd Annual Meeting, at which officers are elected, the budget for 2018-2019 is approved, members enjoy fellowship and networking, and highlights of the year are celebrated. The location and date will be announced in the near future, and all League members will be invited to attend.

A key responsibility of the Nominating Committee, already underway this month, is recruiting and confirming individuals to serve two-year terms for 2018-2020. (Board service is staggered to ensure strong continuity.)

Anne Stewart, chair of the Nominating Committee, and her committee (Brenda Hamby, Linda Snider, Rebecca Huerta, and Sandra Heatherley) would like to hear from League members who have an interest in serving on the Board.

Please contact Anne at 361-850-0663 or at emlean@gmail.com (or any committee member) no later than March 19 if you would like to know more about Board vacancies or to express your interest in serving on the Board.

*League members possess many skills and talents... and their leadership is crucial to the League's mission and to ensuring another fruitful 73 years! If you have an interest in voter services, membership development & recruitment, fundraising, communications, special projects, monthly programs, or study issues, please give some serious thought to how the League could use YOU in a leadership role.*

## May 22 Is Date for Texas Primary Runoff Election; Early Voting May 14-18

The Democratic and Republican primaries are history, but the Texas Tribune (a member-supported and nonpartisan media organization) reports that in more than 30 races across the state, no candidate drew more than 50% of the vote.

That means runoffs are planned for candidates who came in first and second in the primaries in their respective races.

At the statewide level, a runoff will be in the Governor's race between two Democrats seeking to challenge gubernatorial incumbent Greg Abbott.

Also of interest to Nueces County voters will be runoffs in the US

Representative--District 27 race between Democratic candidates Raul (Roy) Barrera and Eric Holguin and between GOP candidates Bech Bruun and Michael Cloud.

The runoff election is scheduled Tuesday, May 22, with Early Voting scheduled May 14-18.

The 2018 November election will be held Tuesday, November 6.

The local ballot will include not only statewide and Nueces County races but also CCISD Trustees and Del Mar Board of Regents elections. A City bond election is also expected to be on the ballot.

## PAVP Grant Update

The LWV-CC Board will complete a report by March 31 that is required by the state League on how LWV-CC utilized the \$500 grant received last Fall to "mitigate the impact of the Texas voter photo ID laws."

"We had a goal to identify and assist 40 individuals in our community who did not have a photo ID that is required to cast a vote in Texas," said Chris Garcia, LWV President. "We were only able to successfully identify three adults, but we want to continue our efforts and focus especially this summer and fall on high school students who are eligible to vote but do not have a driver license."



### Peggy and Jose M. Duran, M.D.

have been members of the League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi for more than 35 years and will continue to support the right and the need to cast an informed vote.



### TODD HUNTER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • DISTRICT 32

CAPITOL OFFICE:  
P.O. Box 2910  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910

PHONE: (512) 463-0672  
FAX: (512) 463-2101

TODD.HUNTER@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US



League members (l-r) Peggy Banales, Kathryn Oler, and Sandra Heatherley are pictured at the March 2 ArtWalk registration table at The Nueces Lofts.

## ArtWalk, Other Venues Will Provide League Access to Prospective Voters

The Texas Primaries are over, but several state and local run-offs will be on the Tuesday, May 22, run-off ballot. And there's no rest for the League as members continue to encourage voter registration over the next several months.

If you have a suggestion for a location or event at which voter registration can be held, let Voter Registration Chair Ruth Falck know.

The next ArtWalk is scheduled Friday, April 6, at the Nueces Lofts on Peoples Street, from 6-9 p.m. League member Debbie Noble will have an exhibit on display. Deputized voter registrars plus other volunteers are needed. Please contact Kathryn at [kathryn.oler@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.oler@gmail.com) if you want to help.

## Barriers to Financial Progress Still Exist

*This article was submitted by League member Carla Gardiner.*

On March 8, International Women's Day was observed using the theme "Press for Progress." Events around the world celebrated women's advancements in the political, social and cultural arenas.

But right here in the United States, women still face barriers to their *financial* progress. If you're a woman, you need to recognize these challenges – and respond to them.

So, what are the key obstacles to financial security for a woman? Probably the first thing that comes to mind is the gender wage gap: Women generally earn around 80 cents for every dollar men earn, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. But women also face other threats to their financial security.

For one thing, they are far more likely than men to take time away from the workforce to raise a family – and time away means smaller Social Security payments and significantly lower balances in 401(k) plans and other retirement accounts. And women's roles as caretakers don't end when their children are grown – in fact, women are twice as likely as their male siblings to end up caring for an elderly parent, according to a Princeton University study.

What, then, can you do to help ensure a comfortable retirement and achieve your other financial goals? Here are a few suggestions:

- *Take full advantage of your employer's retirement plan.* If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar retirement plan, take full advantage of it. Invest as much as you can afford each year, and every time you get a raise, increase your contributions.

- *At the very least, put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered.*

- *Invest for the long term.* Some evidence shows that women may be more conservative investors than men. But if you want to reach your long-term goals, you will need to consider some growth-oriented investments in your portfolio, factoring in your risk tolerance and time horizon. You may want to consult with a financial professional about the best way to invest for the long term.

- *Maximize your Social Security.* If your spouse is the higher earner, you may want to consider how you can use this disparity to your advantage when you collect Social Security. Specifically, you may be eligible for Social Security benefits based on your spouse's earnings and Social Security record. You'll want to consult your tax advisor before making any moves.

- *Protect yourself from long-term care costs.* More than two-thirds of nursing home residents are women, according to the National Center for Health Statistics. And the median rate nationwide for a private room in a nursing home is over \$97,000 per year, according to the *Genworth 2017 Cost of Care Survey*. Medicare generally pays very little for long-term care, so if women need these services, they'll have to find other ways to pay for them. A financial professional can suggest some ideas.

As a woman, you face special financial challenges, and striving to overcome them will be a lifelong activity. But it's worth the effort.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.*



**Carla Gardiner**  
Financial Advisor

802 N Carancahua Suite 1650  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
361-885-0622





# Meet Beryl Scott, Proud Resident with New Texas ID

By Chris Garcia  
LWV-CC President

I've made a new friend in the past three months—Beryl A. Scott, age 87, and a resident in the Flour Bluff area.

We met on December 5 at the Ethel Eyerly Senior Center as I greeted and talked with about 30 senior adults (a diverse group of men and women) gathered for lunch, fellowship, and activities.

I was there to see whether any of them might need an acceptable photo voter ID, and if they did, to offer the League's assistance. My presence was a direct result of the Public Advocacy for Voter Protection (PAVP) grant received by the League last Fall. Its purpose, as you recall, was to "mitigate the Texas photo voter ID laws."

As I moved around the room, I learned that almost everyone there had a current driver license and was already registered to vote. At one table, however, was Mrs. Beryl Scott who told me she had recently relocated from Florida to Corpus Christi to live with her son.

A native of Jamaica, she explained that she was a naturalized American citizen for the past 40 years and was not driving anymore. She had a state-issued Florida identification card, her US Passport, and her Social Security card. She wanted to register to vote and apply for a Texas ID.

Mrs. Scott and I exchanged contact information, and I promised to get back in touch with her.

Because of a family medical crisis throughout December and early January, I was not able to contact her until mid-January. At that time, we met again at the Ethel Eyerley Center and completed a voter registration application which I hand-carried to the Nueces County Courthouse the next day.



Mrs. Beryl Scott

Thanks to League member Jaime Bustos, who helped longtime acquaintance Anthony Martinez secure an original birth certificate and gather other documents so Anthony could successfully apply for a Texas ID card. (At the January League meeting, Anthony filled out his voter registration form.) One of Anthony's challenges was transportation. Bustos drove him to the DPS office last month and reports "all is good...Anthony was able to vote on Election Day."

Using the information located on the Department of Public Safety website, and consulting fellow Leaguer Sandra Heatherley (who had already successfully navigated the DPS requirements for Sylvia Trevino...see story in January VOTER), Mrs. Scott and I forged ahead.

On Friday, Feb. 16, I picked her up at her apartment, reviewed her paperwork and thought we were set—completed application for an ID card, US Passport, copy of naturalized citizenship, copy of her voter registration card, and a utility statement and bank correspondence showing her Waldron Road address.

But wait a minute! She had moved out of her son's home and her voter registration card showed that old address, not her new address at the apartment.

Did we have enough documentation? We decided to drive the 22 miles to the DPS office anyway and hoped we would be successful. But wait!

The agent looked again at all the documents and discovered the residential documents showed two different street addresses for the apartment complex—2630 Waldron Road where the apartment signage is featured and 2636 Waldron Road, which is the number on Mrs. Scott's apartment building.

By phone call from the DPS agent's phone, the apartment complex leasing office confirmed that because Mrs. Scott pays her own water bill, her billing address

is 2636. The lease agreement, however, reflected the 2630 address. We were told by a very pleasant and helpful DPS agent that we needed one additional document to match either the 2630 or the 2636 address.

We left the DPS building and drove first to the Courthouse to see if the Voter Registration office could process an address change for either 2630 or 2636 Waldron Road immediately. No can do, explained the office clerk who said Mrs. Scott wouldn't receive a corrected card until after the March 7 Primary.

As we drove back to her apartment, we talked about what she needed—an energy bill from her provider. She made that phone call and within two days, received the documentation she needed.

We headed back to the DPS office on Tuesday, February 27 and after waiting almost 90 minutes, we were directed to an agent. Success at last! The \$6 fee was paid, and Mrs. Scott posed for her official ID card, which she will receive soon in the mail.

*SIDE NOTE: My experience, and the one briefly chronicled in the box above by fellow League member Jaime Bustos, has cemented for me how important it is for the elderly and those with special needs to have folks help navigate the system, provide transportation, and ask questions that eventually help accomplish the goal of getting folks registered to vote and with proper identification.*

# 2018 LWV-TX Convention Will Be Held in Kerrville

The League of Women Voters of Texas has announced that National LWVUS President Chris Carson will attend and provide keynote remarks at the 2018 Convention scheduled April 27-29 in Kerrville, TX.

LWV-Corpus Christi is allowed to send 10 voting delegates, President Chris Garcia said, based on membership of 106. Four League members have indicated they plan to attend.

The 2018 convention will be in Kerrville at "Inn of the Hills," and a block of rooms has been reserved.

Please let Garcia know if you are interested in attending.

Room rates are \$112 (plus standard state and city hotel occupancy taxes) for either a single accommodation with a King bed or a double room with two Queen beds.

Convention registration will be \$125 per person until March 30 when registration will increase to \$150.

Convention begins at 12 noon Friday, April 27, and concludes about 1 p.m. Sunday, April 29. The biennial

event draws about 150 League members from across the state.

Twelve workshops are planned Friday afternoon, including Advocacy, Membership Retention, Social Media, Fundraising, and VOTE 411.

A special "Making Democracy Work" banquet with a keynote speaker will be held on Saturday evening, April 28.

For additional details about convention and to register your attendance, visit the LWV-Texas website at [www.lwvtx.org](http://www.lwvtx.org).

## Engaging Voters. Defending Democracy.



### LWV-Corpus Christi Area New Member/Renewal Application

**Join now and help engage voters, defend democracy, and promote political responsibility through informed, active participation in government.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

- Sustaining Member, \$100
- Individual Membership, \$60
- Household Membership, \$90 (2 individuals at same address)
- Student Membership (age 16 and older), \$30
- Friend of the League, \$30 (non-voting)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Household Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

LWV-CC depends on member interest and participation to help meet the League's mission. Please mark one or more areas of interest:

- Voter Services/Voter Registration
- Investigating Issues
- Organizing Candidate/Issue Forums
- Membership Development
- Communicating with Media
- Observing Meetings of Governmental Entities (Observer Corps)
- Advocating for Issues
- Advertising in Monthly Newsletter
- Facilitating Community Dialogues
- Participating in "Lobby Days" in Austin during legislative session
- Networking

**Please return this form with your payment (check or money order) to:  
League of Women Voters-CC  
PO Box 8276  
Corpus Christi, TX 78468 OR  
you can pay your dues online at the  
League's website: [www.lwv-cc.org](http://www.lwv-cc.org).  
Membership is from June 1 - May 31.**