



The VOTER

October 2017

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi

LWV-CC Receives \$500 PAVP Grant

The League has been notified by the League of Women Voters of Texas that it is one of six Leagues in Texas to be awarded a Public Advocacy for Voter Protection pass-through grant.

LWV-CC has received a \$500 grant to plan and implement a program “to mitigate the impact of Texas voter photo ID laws.”

LWV-CC, with support from a coalition of community partners in the Corpus Christi community, will identify and assist from 40

See Grant, Page 2

The Lowdown on Downtown!

Come to the League Evening Meeting Thursday, October 19

Join the Corpus Christi League of Women Voters on Thursday, October 19, at 5:30 p.m. at Havana to enjoy an evening downtown learning about the development and revitalization of downtown Corpus Christi.

A sign of a successful city is a vibrant downtown with art, business, people, food, and personality. What makes downtown Corpus Christi unique and special and how can we make it even better? How are we drawing people downtown to live, work, and play?

Find out what is new now and what is coming soon from Casey Lain, House of Rock owner; Alyssa Barrera, Downtown Management District (DMD) board chair and City Business Liaison; and Colette Rye, DMD events director.

Mix and mingle with fellow League members, friends, and many other downtown business, culture, and arts representatives. Delicious complimentary snacks will be provided by Barbara Canales and Havana. There will be a cash bar. There’s no need to RSVP! Plan to attend!

Havana is located at 500 N. Water, Suite 105 (street level) at Schatzel and Water Streets. on the ground floor of the Plains Bank Capital Building. Free on-street parking is available after 5 p.m.

If questions, please contact either Peggy Banales or Maria Jimenez, co-Program VPs. Also special thanks to Debbie Noble and Can Alemdar for helping with meeting arrangements and invitations to community organizations to join the League at this special downtown meeting.



National Voter Registration Day Update

LWV-CC was one of 350 Leagues across the nation that participated in National Voter Registration Day on Tuesday, September 26. Seventeen volunteers manned six sites and registered 115 individuals.

The sites included the Ben F. McDonald Library; Corpus Christi City Hall; Del Mar College East campus; Del Mar College West campus; TAMU-CC’s Hector P. Garcia Plaza; and TAMU-CC’s University Center. Special thanks to League member Raul Ramirez for underwriting parking expenses for several of the volunteers.

Two additional voter registration drives at TAMU-CC on September 27-28, coordinated by Ruth Falck, registered an additional 65 persons, providing a grand total of 180.

Volunteers on September 26 included Peggy Banales, Regi Bright, Eva Brown, Ruth Falck, Chris Garcia, Brenda Hamby, Sandra Heatherley, Nick and Maria Jimenez, Linda McCool, Gloria Montalvo, Debbie Noble, Pat G. Parr, Christy Stockman, Colin Sykes, Marjorie K. Walraven, Connie Contreras, and Jewel Wilson.

LWV Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, 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 any political party or candidate.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Chris Davis Garcia



Chris Davis Garcia
LWV-CC President

Dear League Members and Friends:

We were delighted to receive the news from LWV-Texas that our grant proposal “to mitigate the impact of Texas voter photo ID laws” was approved. We are joining five other Texas Leagues who all have identified specific ways they will approach the goal.

The \$500 grant will underwrite whatever printed materials and miscellaneous expenses LWV-CC incurs as we identify from 40 to 60 local residents in our community who want to vote but cannot do so because they do not have one of the seven photo IDs necessary to cast a ballot.

In a recent ruling by US District Judge Nelva Gonzales-Ramos, the judge cited a study by Stephen Ansolabehere of Harvard University that about 600,000 Texans are at risk of being excluded from the voting process because they lack a required photo ID to vote. We have no idea of knowing how many are in our city or Coastal Bend area, but the initiative on which we are embarking may help us identify and assist some folks.

I'll be sending all League members an invitation to attend a planning meeting on Tuesday, October 24, from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Ben F. McDonald Library at Horne and Greenwood.

Grant

to 60 individuals in the Corpus Christi community who possess a Nueces County voter registration card but do not have a photo ID that is required to cast a vote in Texas.

Through an informational/educational campaign utilizing community meetings between late October 2017 and late January 2018, the League and its community partners hope to accomplish the following:

- Facilitate a successful process to help individuals receive an acceptable photo ID as required by SB14 through the Texas Department of Public Safety, and
- Help voters without a photo ID understand and uti-

The High School Voter Registration Initiative is moving forward. Two schools--King and Miller--have reached out to the League to help register eligible seniors.

FALL 2017 ELECTION CALENDAR

Tuesday, Oct. 10—Deadline to register to vote in Nov. 7 election

Monday, Oct. 23-Friday, Nov. 3—Early Voting (see story on Page 4)

Friday, Oct. 27—Deadline to receive Ballot by Mail application

Tuesday, Nov. 7—Election Day

Visit the League website at www.lwv-cc.org to read and/or download the English and Spanish Constitutional Amendments Voters Guides which provide pros and cons for each of the seven constitutional amendments

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lize a viable option to the photo ID requirement, described on the Texas Secretary of State's website as the “Reasonable Impediment Declaration.”

League members who want to assist with the campaign are cordially invited to attend a planning meeting on Tuesday, October 24, at 5:30 p.m. at the Ben F. McDonald Library, 4044 Greenwood at Horne Road (adjacent to the City-County Health Department). Representatives from various community organizations are being invited to attend.

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Gastroenterology

Colonoscopy Screening

Doctors Square
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Corpus Christi, Texas 78406

Ph (361) 883-6623
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Carla Gardiner
Financial Advisor

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

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



State Sen. Juan 'Chuy' Hinojosa and State Rep. Todd Hunter (with Program Co-vice president Maria Jimenez) discussed legislative matters at the September 21 meeting.

League of Women Voters
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 361-445-4436

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Buttons! Buttons! We've Got the Buttons

Need a button to wear to identify yourself as a member of LWV-CC? We've ordered and received 200 buttons (3-inch diameter, pin-on back, with white background/LWV color logo/ League name), thanks to encouragement from the Voter Services team. At upcoming meetings, plan to make a donation for one or more buttons at \$2 each that you then can proudly wear when you're doing League business (and even when you're not!) Your support to enable us to recoup this expenditure will be sincerely appreciated.



Note: If you are interested in a button with magnetic backing or a clip, leave your name with League Treasurer Brenda Hamby. We'll explore that cost and if there is enough interest, we'll find a source.

Thanks to These Renewing Members:

Matilda & Ruben Saenz,
 Household
 Elena Buentello, Individual
 Rebecca Huerta, Individual

Michael Hunter, Individual
 Debbie Noble, Individual
 Raul Ramirez, Individual



League volunteers registered 115 individuals at six locations on National Voter Registration Day. For the month of September, the League registered 237 individuals. Thanks to all our deputized voter registrars for their commitment and volunteer spirit.

November Joint Constitutional Election
EARLY VOTING: October 23-November 3, 2017
(Curbside voting will be available at all locations; call 888-0303)

Dates and Hours for Early Voting Locations

Monday-Saturday, October 23-28, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.*
Saturday, Oct. 28, available facilities: Johnny Calderon County Building and Nueces County Courthouse, both 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Monday-Wednesday, October 30-November 1, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thursday-Friday, November 2-3, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS

- Main Polling Location—*NUECES COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 901 Leopard St., Corpus Christi**
- BISHOP COMMUNITY CENTER, 102 West Joyce St., Bishop**
- *Open Thursday & Friday, Oct. 26-27, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Thursday & Friday, Nov. 2-3, 7 a.m.-7 p.m.*
- CALLEN ISD (Administration Building), 4205 Wildcat Dr., Corpus Christi**
- DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CENTER, 5151 McArdle Rd., Corpus Christi**
- ETHEL EYERLY SENIOR CENTER, 654 Graham Rd., Corpus Christi**
- GREENWOOD SENIOR CENTER, 4040 Greenwood Dr., Corpus Christi**
- HILLTOP COMMUNITY CENTER, 11425 Leopard St., Corpus Christi**
- *JOHNNY CALDERON BUILDING, 710 E. Main Street, Robstown**
- LONDON ISD--HIGH SCHOOL, 1306 FM 43, Corpus Christi**
- SCHLITZERBAHN, 14353 Commodores Dr., Corpus Christi**
- THE VALENCIA, 6110 Ayers Street, Corpus Christi**

For more information on the upcoming election, visit:
<http://www.nuecesco.com/county-services/county-clerk/elections-department>
 Facebook—Office of Nueces County Clerk
 Follow Nueces County on Twitter! NuecesCo_Clerk
 Kara Sands, Nueces County Clerk, 361-888-0865

Why Is Everyone Staring at Their Phones?

By Debbie Noble, Director/Website & Social Media

Businesses now seek out (young) people to help with their social media communications (which can be a 40-60K career). Just knowing how to post on Facebook is not enough. It is knowing what to post and when and how often and then responding to questions and comments.

Although Facebook may be the largest of the social media platforms, they all reach slightly different markets and demographics. Knowing all the platforms and how to use each one to the best advantage is what makes a true social media communications specialist in this era.

Once parents, grandparents, other mainstream consumers . . . finally join a social media platform, the youngsters flee to a newer one.

Every single day 1.28 billion people use Facebook, according to CNN, up 18% from last year. At worst, Facebook is fake news, cyber bullying, and angry rants. At best, it is connecting geographically far flung friends and family, finding lost pets, and sharing great recipes, books, movies, and inspirational stories.

In addition to showing photos of our dinners, pets, parties, and kids, and sharing funny videos, cat memes, and political news, Facebook is also used by organizations (like the League of Women Voters) who create public pages or private groups to share information, meeting times, agendas, and even absentee votes.

Twitter is a brief message or comment limited to 140 characters, sometimes accompanied by a photo or two or a link to a longer article.

Most major news outlets, individual journalists, and politicians use Twitter for breaking news and commentary, but it is also used by movie stars, sports icons, and ordinary people seeking to create a personal brand.

My 79-year-old mother enjoys following professional golfers and her granddaughters. I mostly follow national news.

Like all social media, it can be whatever you want it to be, determined by who or what you follow. Although your personal settings can prevent unwanted people from seeing your tweets, most of twitter seems meant to be shouted into the vast electronic earth, viewable by anyone.

Whereas Facebook limits your personal "friend" list to 5,000, Twitter celebrates unlimited followers: Donald Trump has 35.2 million followers, Barack Obama has 92.6 million, and Katy Perry has 102 million. (I have 66.) The 67 million U.S. Twitter users only make up 21% of all Twitterers worldwide, but together they manage to send out some 500 million tweets per day.

Instagram is usually a photo accompanied by a little text, with emphasis on hashtags (or as we used to call it, the pound sign). Putting a hashtag in front of a keyword, a

saying, a pithy slogan, a name, or a funny pop culture reference allows users to search for and see all the associated posts.

The City of Corpus Christi has several. #SeeCC and #MemoriesMadeCC are used by our convention and visitors bureau. #VivaCC is used by our Caller-Times. During Fiesta de la Flor, volunteers and CVB employees monitor and respond to the #FDLF hashtag over all platforms to increase interaction and promote the event and the city.

The app provides special filters for brightening and altering the look of phone photos which are always very popular with new users. Instagram may have started with an emphasis on quick personal photos from real life, but it has somewhat morphed into a professionally photographed lifestyle showcase for many.

Singing sensation Selena Gomez has 123 million followers, soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo has 106 million, National Geographic has 79.3 million, and I have 466.

Once parents, grandparents, other mainstream consumers, and companies finally join a social media platform, the youngsters flee to a newer one. Ask any teen what they use now and the answer will be Snapchat.

Originally created as a way to temporarily send a password or some other personal or sensitive information (the message is only available for a short period of time before it disappears), it was quickly picked up by people sending "adult" photos, but morphed even more quickly into kids sending funny faces to each other.

My daughter has Snapchat streaks of 400 or more days with some friends, (the number of days in a row you Snap with someone is an important Snapchat statistic). It is really just a quick connection, a simple snap of your life right now. Snapchat is an electronic way of saying, "hello, I still care about you" or "Look at me right now."

Snapchat highlights privacy in that all posts are deleted and no tracking information is archived. It is like a temporary text, only sent to the specific people you want. Snap stories, a collection of photos and short unedited videos that lasts 24 hours, create a sense of urgency to watch. They are ephemeral, with no comments and likes, just views. But corporations ARE joining the platform, so who knows where the youngsters will go next?





The League of Women Voters
 Corpus Christi, Texas
 PO Box 8276
 Corpus Christi, TX 78468

It's Time to Renew Your Membership in the League!



LWV-Corpus Christi Area New Member/Renewal Application

Join now and help in the effort to promote political responsibility through informed, active participation in government.

Date _____

Type of membership: New _____ Renewal _____

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

Name _____

Household Member's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City and Zip Code _____

E-Mail 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 The VOTER
- 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.
 Membership is from June 1 - May 31.