



September 2016

The VOTER

League of Women Voters—Corpus Christi



Speaker: Colleen McIntyre
District 4, City Council

City's Budget Will Be Topic of September 15 Meeting

The LWV-CC September monthly meeting will be held Thursday, September 15, in Room 117 of the Del Mar College Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples at Kostoryz. City Council Member Colleen McIntyre will provide information on the City of Corpus Christi's Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget. The meeting will be from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

League members and guests are cordially invited. If you want to reserve a sandwich box lunch (\$10 for sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie, and soft drink), please call the League at 361-445-4436 no later than Monday, Sept. 12.

LWV-CC will host an October Meeting--October 27, 2016--Proposed Bond Issues for CCISD and Del Mar College.

Four Locations Set for Sept. 27 National Voter Registration Day

Tuesday, September 27, is National Voter Registration Day, and LWV-CC will man four locations, just ahead of Texas' October 11 deadline to register to vote in the November 8 general election.

Additional League volunteers are needed! Sandra Heatherley, VP Voter Services, said the League has secured the following locations: Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi; Del Mar College East Campus; Del Mar College West Campus; and Coastal Compass located on the exterior of La Palmera Mall.

"We need to man tables at these locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.," Sandra said, "and we need more volunteers to sign up for afternoon shifts. All locations are inside and air-conditioned."

Currently, LWV-CC has two volunteers for Coastal Compass; two for TAMU-CC; two for Del Mar West Campus, and four for Del Mar East Campus. Please call Sandra Heatherley at 361-876-4321 or Ruth Falck at 361-548-2615 and offer to help. Each shift of volunteers will need at least one deputized voter registrar.



LWV-CC is among hundreds of college and community organizations across the nation who will help register new and relocated voters on Sept. 27.

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.

SPOT- LIGHT ON...



Elaine Krift

Elaine Krift is a fairly new League member who is serving as the League's Media Communications Director. She has done an amazing job publicizing LWV-CC, and coverage of the League has been outstanding!

Career-wise, Elaine is the Social and Video Media Specialist/Staff Writer for Del Mar College and gets to share information about Del Mar College's great programs, students, faculty, and staff! She likes running and especially appreciates people who have a sense of humor.

Elaine is a graduate of Del Mar College's Clown School and says she likes to make people smile and enjoys sharing laughter.

Her communication skills are top-notch, and she's doing a great job letting the public and the local news media know about League activities. Thank you, Elaine, for serving on the LWV-CC Board!

Help Wanted

Writers! The Voter is always looking for new ideas and articles. Call or email Chris Garcia for more information or to offer your services.

Voter Registration Deputies and Helpers! If you are officially deputized to register voters, please contact Sandra Heatherley to sign up for events all over town on National Voter Registration Day, September 27 from 10-3. Other opportunities are also available on other days. Even if you are not officially deputized, you can still volunteer to come help out and learn the ropes! If you missed the last deputization class, but are still interested, contact Sandra or the county election office for more options.

1st Candidates Forum Scheduled October 13

You are invited to LWV-CC's October Candidates' Forum #1 on Thursday, October 13, in the Council Chambers at Corpus Christi City Hall, 1201 Leopard. The forum, scheduled from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., will be moderated by League members and is open to the public. Eighteen candidates representing eight contested races will be invited to participate.

The schedule is as follows and allows each candidate a two-minute opening statement; the opportunity to answer three or four questions with a one-minute response per question; and a one-minute closing statement:

U.S Representative, District 27, two candidates, 6:15-6:30 p.m.;

Texas Senate, District 20, two candidates, 6:35-6:50 p.m.;

13th Court of Appeals, Place 3, two candidates, 6:55-7:10 p.m.;

214th District Court Judge, two candidates, 7:15-7:30 p.m.;

Nueces County District Attorney, two candidates, 7:35-7:50 p.m.;

Nueces County Sheriff, two candidates, 7:55-8:10 p.m.;

Nueces County Commissioner, Precinct 1, two candidates, 8:15-8:30 p.m.; and

Nueces County JP, Precinct 1, Place 1 and Precinct 2, Place 1, four candidates, 8:50-9:20 p.m.

League volunteers will be needed to help greet candidates, distribute and pick up index cards from members of the audience who want to submit questions for use by the moderators, and handle other tasks as assigned. The Forum will be broadcast live on a cable channel.

A second Candidates' Forum is scheduled Thursday, Oct. 20, and will feature Mayoral and City Council candidates, Del Mar College Regent candidates, and Corpus Christi ISD Trustee candidates.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Ellissa Cuevas

Rudy and Melinda Garza, Household

Lucy Rubio

Ron Schiller

Diana Sepulveda

Emily Suggs

THANKS TO THESE RENEWING MEMBERS

Brent Chesney

Chad Magill

Colleen McIntyre

Marjorie Walraven

Sylvia Whitworth

Vote Centers Discussed at August Meeting; Registrar Training Draws Good Crowd

The August 18 meeting of the League drew a full house, both for the Vote Centers discussion and the Voter Registrar training by County supervisor Nuri Rodriguez.

Sharing the program were Kara Sands, Nueces County Clerk; Michael Bergsma, Republican Party County Chair; and Jennifer Ellis, Democratic Party County Chair. All three organizations had collaborated and worked together during the summer – along with the League--on the proposal seeking the designation of Vote Centers to serve Nueces County voters for the November general election.

Ninety-one Vote Centers had been identified by the County to allow registered voters to vote at any one of them on Election Day. *(Note: Several days after the August 18 meeting, Nueces County received word that the Secretary of State's Office had approved the plan.)*

Both Bergsma and Ellis shared their thoughts on the importance of increasing voter turnout and how the Vote Centers plan would meet that goal as well as benefit voters who are not near their assigned polling places during the

day or close to the 7 p.m. voting deadline.

Following the regular League meeting, which drew about 45 members and guests, Nuri Rodriguez of Nueces County conducted training for about 18 members as well as interested community advocates who wanted to be deputized to conduct voter registration prior to the October 11 deadline.



Jennifer Ellis



Michael Bergsma



Kara Sands



Nuri Rodriguez (far right) prepares to get the session started on how to register voters,

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League honors City Manager on Women's Equality Day



The League's observance of Women's Equality Day on August 25 (96 years since the adoption of the 19th Amendment giving women the right to vote) put a bright and well-deserved spotlight on Margie Rose, newly named City Manager for the City of Corpus Christi. Rose has served in several top management positions since she joined the City staff about 29 years ago.

A gathering at the Emerald Beach Hotel drew about 40 League members and invited guests, and LWV-CC President Dr. Mary Jane Garza presented a beautiful and unique engraved vase to the City Manager following her remarks. City Council members Lucy Rubio and Carolyn Vaughan also participated in the program. Long-stemmed yellow roses were presented to audience members at the conclusion of the program.

Ms. Rose spoke eloquently about her early desire and intention as a teenager to pursue a career in municipal government and how, through her long career, she was encouraged to pursue career opportunities generally directed at men. She said she is excited to serve as the City Manager and appreciates the support of not only the City Council but the community.

Ms. Rose's previous experience includes serving as Director of Purchasing, Director of Administrative Services, Director of Public Services, Assistant City Manager and City Manager for the City of Inkster, Michigan. Her experience also includes serving as Executive Assistant and Deputy Director of Parks for the County of Wayne, Michigan.

Ms. Rose received her Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting) Degree in 1984 and her Master of Public Administration Degree in 1991, both from Eastern Michigan University.



Women’s Equality Day Proclamations—Two opportunities in August drew League members and friends to the Nueces County Commissioners Court and to City Council Chambers for the reading of proclamations celebrating the 96th anniversary of the 19th Amendment giving women

the right to vote. A large group turned out on August 23 to pose with the Mayor and Council following the reading of the proclamation, and a smaller delegation gathered at the Commissioners’ Court on August 17 to be honored. Special thanks to all who took time to attend the presentations and spotlight the League.

Nueces County Website Has Complete Information

Take time soon to access the Nueces County website (www.co.nueces.tx.us/county_clerk/elections) and check out the following:

- List of 21 Early Voting Locations
- List of 5 Temporary Early Voting Locations
- Ballot-by-Mail Application
- Important Dates for the November 2016 General Election

General Election

All of the information, approved by the Nueces County Commissioners, can be downloaded as PDFs and printed at the viewer’s convenience. Questions can be directed to the Voter Registrar’s Office in the Nueces County Courthouse, 361-888-0404.

Prior to early voting, scheduled October 24-November 4, residents will be able to access a copy of the Master Ballot with all candidates featured as well as information on Bond Proposals. I

In addition to voting for candidates seeking the US Presidency and State of Texas elected positions, voters will cast ballots for various Nueces County candidates as well as Mayor and City Council members, school district trustees, and Del Mar College regents.

Regarding the Nueces County Vote Center Locations, which both the Republican and Democratic parties as well as LWV-CC supported, registered voters can cast their ballot on Election Day, November 8, at any of the designated polling places across the county, regardless of where they live. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Forms of identification required by voters have been expanded and are being clarified as this issue of The Voter goes to press.



September 2 ArtWalk---League members Peggy Duran (holding clipboard) and Sandra Heatherley, seated (right) at the registration table with Mike and Carol Thomas, were among volunteers to register 24 new voters during the downtown ArtWalk. The League celebrates the fact that 368 total voter registrations were completed in August! Thanks to all those who took time throughout the summer...and at the first-Friday ArtWalk venue...to encourage folks to register and to vote in the upcoming general election. Please call VP Voter Services Chair Sandra Heatherley if you would like to participate in upcoming voter registration activities.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS
 PO Box 8276
 Corpus Christi, TX 78468

Visit Our
 Facebook Page



ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED
 Find your personalized ballot by going to **VOTE411.org** after September 25. Enter your zip code and you will see the ballot as it will appear on Election Day in your precinct. You will also see the same information and questions to candidates with their answers that appear in the printed Voters Guide. All of this with your tablet or laptop in the comfort of your recliner!!

If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so! Use the application below.

**LWV Corpus Christi
 Renewal / New Membership
 Application**

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

Date _____

Type of membership:

- New _____
- Individual \$60 _____
- Household \$90 _____
- Friend of the League \$30 _____
- Renewal _____
- Student \$30 _____
- Sustaining \$100 _____

Name _____

Household Member's Name _____

Address _____

Work Address (optional) _____

I prefer to receive mail at: home or work
(Please circle your preference above.)

Home phone _____

Work or Cell phone _____

Fax number _____

E-mail Address _____

**Please return this form to:
 League of Women Voters
 P. O. Box 8276, Corpus Christi, Texas 78468.**

OR you can pay your dues online at the League's website: www.lwv-cc.org

Membership is from June 1 through May 31.