



THE VOTER

April 2017

News from the League of Women Voters – Hill Country

LWVHillCountryTexas.org

MISSION: 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.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

League Members and Friends,



Capitol Action

By now League members may have noticed a significant upgrade in the LWV-TX Capitol Action Report. The Texas state League of Women Voters has added **One Click Politics** to the toolbox – with one click, members and supporters can send messages to our Texas elected officials. Below are 4 actions via One Click Politics. You may need to copy and paste in the web browser.

- <https://www.oneclickpolitics.com/promo/qX>
- <https://www.oneclickpolitics.com/promo/qP>
- <https://www.oneclickpolitics.com/promo/qT>
- <https://www.oneclickpolitics.com/promo/qI>

- Gun Safety bill - Oppose
- Teen Mom accessing contraceptive health care bill - Support
- 5 Anti-abortion bills - oppose
- ACA – Stop Repeal

Toward a Regional Plan for the Texas Hill Country

LWV – Hill Country welcomes any interested person to attend the Annual Meeting on Friday, May 12th at 12 noon at Bella Sera Restaurant, 2124A Sidney Baker in Kerrville. The lunch meeting cost is \$15.00. Reservations would be very helpful so please call 830-285-1535 or email presidentlwvhc@gmail.com. The program for the annual League meeting is a presentation by Britin Bostick, co-founder of Stewardship Strategies, reviewing a report she co-authored on long-term regional growth strategies for the Texas Hill Country. Toward a Regional Plan for the Texas Hill Country was developed at the University of Texas – Austin for the Hill Country Alliance, a nonprofit dedicated to monitoring the impact of population growth and working to protect critical resources like the Guadalupe River. Britin will provide an overview of current efforts to connect conservation groups with advocacy leaders and why some of the best legislative advocacy happens outside of the biennial sessions of the Texas Legislature. This meeting agenda will also contain election of officers and approval of the 2017-2018 budget.

Early Voting Has Started

LWV – Hill Country sent questions to candidates for Kerrville City Council and Board of Trustees of the Fredericksburg Independent School District. The responses are posted on Vote411.org. If you are eligible to vote in either of these elections please review Vote411.org.

Memorial Service Scheduled

Leahanna Young died on March 27, 2017. At the time of her death she was an active member of LWV-Hill Country's Leadership Team. A memorial service has been scheduled for June 24, 2017, 11 a.m., at Unity Church in Kerrville. Her family has designated that memorials may be made to Unity Church of the Hill Country, League of Women Voters, or one's favorite charity. Should you desire to make a contribution to League of Women Voters and meet the qualification for tax deduction the donation should be designated for TEF (Texas Education Fund).

Mark Your Calendars

May 12, 2017, LWV Hill Country Annual membership meeting, 12 noon, Bella Cera, Kerrville
June 6, 2017, LWV Hill Country Leadership Team meeting, 9 a.m., 729 Oakland Hills Dr. Kerrville
September 8, 2017, Local Arrangements Committee meeting, 9 a.m., Highlander Club House
April 26-30, 2018, LWV Texas convention in Kerrville

Respectfully,

Janice Zitelman

President LWV – Hill Country

JOIN US - League Membership

Be a member of the League; we invite you to join us! A membership application is on our website or you may contact Bunny Bond, Membership Chair at 830-377-9940. Our League annual dues are \$60 for an individual or \$85 for two in a household, and \$30 for student membership. Our dues are prorated from January. Include your name(s), address, email address, and phone number. Make your check to LWV-Hill Country; mail to LWV-HC, PO Box 290303, Kerrville, TX 78029-0303. Join the League and help make democracy work.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit our website: LWVHillCountryTexas.org (Soon to be updated)

Like our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-Hill-Country-Texas/339618902798405>. The LWV-Hill Country welcomes your questions! Post to this Facebook page or submit questions via e-mail to PresidentLWVHC@gmail.com.

LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS is a local, state, and national nonpartisan organization.

The LWV-Texas position on the issue of human trafficking in Texas: The League of Women Voters of Texas is opposed to all forms of domestic and international human trafficking of adults and children, including sex trafficking and labor trafficking. We consider human trafficking to be a form of modern-day slavery and support measures to prevent the use of force, fraud or coercion to exploit a person for sexual or labor purposes, to prosecute traffickers and to protect victims. **Go to <http://lwvtxedu.org> for the free, four-hour TEA continuing credit course on issues of human trafficking. Teachers, take note of this!** This is the online course for which we received the state award.

Our latest League State Study in Texas is Payday and Title Loans. Focus: Explore the current regulations on payday and auto-title lenders in Texas and the accessibility and impact of these loans in the

community. Scope: Define a payday loan, an auto-title loan, and the typical borrower. Research the history of the payday/auto-title industry in Texas over the past decade and describe the impact of regulations on the industry. Determine the current demand for loans in Texas and the economic impact of these loans on communities. Determine the typical interest rate charged and the usual length of time that it takes to pay loans. LWV-Texas now has a position on payday and title loans from which to advocate for legislative reforms.

Our national League, LWVUS, www.lwvus.org, is actively working to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Go to this website and see the range of issues from voter rights, voter turnout, reforming money in politics, and defending the environment.

OUR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-HILL COUNTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM

President/Spokesperson: Janice Zitelman, presidentlwvhc@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bonnie Powers

Membership: Bunny Bond

Voters Service: Maggie Marsh-Nation

Webmaster: Debby Berry

Member-at-large: Marie Miller, Keren Persely

PLEASE CONSIDER:

Helping fund our State League, LWV-TX.

Do you purchase from Amazon? Please donate 0.5% of your purchase to LWV-Texas.

Instructions can be found on our web site, www.lwvtexas.org. Scroll down - it's way down there.

Or - just save these instructions:

On your Amazon account:

Search out Amazon Smile; select League of Women Voters of Texas Education Fund as your charity

Thereafter, for your purchase to count for the donation, log into <http://smile.amazon.com>

The program will send you an email to install buttons into your browser to make this step easier.

Questions? Email lwvtexas@lwvtexas.org. Thank you for your donation!

