



# THE VOTER

March 2018

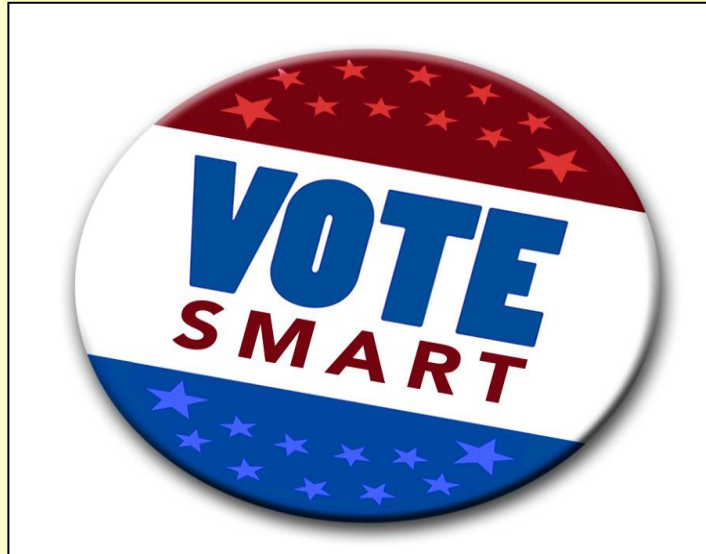
News from the League of Women Voters – Hill Country

[LWVHillCountryTexas.org](http://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,



## MARCH 6 – TEXAS PRIMARY ELECTION

- Texas has open primaries and ALL Texas voters can participate in one of these events.
- Voters who don't strongly identify with any political party can and should carefully consider the choices and participate in one of the primaries.
- A voter can only participate in one primary and in this Primary Election a voter will need to choose between the Democratic Party or the Republican Party.
- Even though there may be candidates in both parties that a voter would like to select they will have to make a choice at the time they vote.
- League of Women Voters encourages all registered voters to participate in the Texas Primary Election and vote for the best candidates.
- In the November General Election, a voter can choose candidates from any party or vote for an "independent" candidate.

Perhaps you voted early. If not, take the time to review the candidates on [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) and VOTE SMART!

## KERR KONNECT TRANSIT – PROGRAM FOR MARCH 15 MEETING

Transportation needs in our community are great, but the options are few. One of our own League members is playing a major role in getting Kerr Connect Transit up and running. Karen Burkett is the founder of Kerr Konnect and is one of two Kerr Konnect Transit board members serving on the Mobility/Transportation subcommittee of the Kerrville 2050 Comprehensive Plan. Much of Karen's career was in elementary school counseling in Fort Worth ISD, after earning degrees in Elementary Education and M. Ed. In Counseling. Her volunteer experience is numerous including membership in the League of Women Voters, Meals on Wheels, Riverside Nature Center, and Hill Country Chorale. She and her husband moved to our Kerrville in 2012 and continue working to make it thriving, welcoming community. Karen plans to engage us regarding this worthwhile and needed endeavor at the general membership meeting on Thursday, March 15 at Fuddruggers, Kerrville. Arrive at 5:30 p.m. to eat and greet, with the business meeting and program to begin at 6:00 p.m.



### **TRAFFICKING - SEMINAR ON PREVENTION**

Hill Country Alliance Against Trafficking is hosting a prevent human trafficking of young people seminar on March 20, 4:30-6:00 p.m., at Schreiner University in the Cailloux Student Activity Center Ballroom. Moving forward from providing general information about human trafficking, this seminar focuses on the risk of young people, prevention strategies, and identification of trafficking activities. Guest speakers include Todd Latiolais from the Child Sex Trafficking Team of the Governor's Office who will review Texas' state-specific actions, and a representative from A21 Local Prevention Team who will tell us about anti-trafficking efforts in the San Antonio area. A third speaker is a young woman, a trafficking survivor, who is prepared to share information about her own experience – and how different choices and access to resources might have helped her at critical moments leading up to her personal trafficking experience. Please share this information with colleagues, friends and neighbors to help our communities become informed and prepared to take action against trafficking. The seminar is free and open to the public.

### **“LEAGUE OF THE FUTURE” - DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION**

LWV Hill Country has been allotted 5 delegates to the State Convention which will be held in Kerrville the last weekend of April. Delegates will be elected at the March 15 meeting. If you are interested in serving as a delegate you should make a commitment to attend the all of the plenary sessions, 8:30-5)) on Saturday and 8:30-12:00 on Sunday. Registration is \$125 and LWV Hill Country will reimburse each delegate up to \$200 for registration and meals. Many of you have expressed a willingness to volunteer at the Convention and volunteers may attend workshops and plenary sessions without charge. Volunteers will not be required to pay registration but they will not be able to vote unless they are also an elected delegate. If you would like to serve as a delegate but are unable to attend the meeting on March 15, please let the president know so your name can be placed in nomination.

### **SEEKING DONATIONS FOR STATE CONVENTION SILENT AUCTION**

During the LWV State Convention we will be holding a silent auction to raise money for the League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF). The LWVEF is a 501(c)(3) citizen education and research organization. Established in 1985, the Education Fund provides research, publications and forums on public policy issues and disseminates information and training that helps citizens be thoughtfully engaged in the democratic process. Most likely you are familiar with the VOTERS GUIDE and Vote411.org which are funded by LWVEF. We are accepting donations for the auction, both large and small. Examples would be a weekend stay at a B&B or a piece of James Avery jewelry that you no longer wear. All donations are welcome and donors will receive a letter of acknowledgement for tax donation purposes. If you have not advised the League that you would like to donate and you have something, please email [presidentlwhc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentlwhc@gmail.com).

## **CONSOLIDATE LWV-TX AND LWV-TEF INTO SINGLE 501(C)3?**

At its 2018 biennial convention, delegates will be asked to decide whether the Texas League of Women Voters and the LWV Texas Education Fund should consolidate into a single 501(c)(3) entity. Currently LWV-TX, which our League falls under, is a 501(c)(4). Funds used for Voter Education, VOTERS GUIDE, etc. can come under the c3, which is tax deductible. Additional details will be sent to membership prior to the March 15 meeting. We will vote at that meeting.

## **Mark Your Calendars**

- **March 6, 2018**, Primary Election Day, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., at your local polling place
- **March 15, 2018**, Monthly Membership Meeting, Thursday, 5:30 pm, Kerrville Fuddruckers
- **March 20, 2018**, Trafficking – Seminar on Prevention, Wednesday, 4:30-6:00 pm, Schreiner University Callioux Center
- **April 26-30, 2018**, LWV Texas convention in Kerrville
- **May 5, 2018**, Belk Charity Day Sale, 6:00-10:00 a.m., Belk store in Kerrville
- **May 5, 2018**, Uniform Election Date for municipalities and school board, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., at your local polling place
- **May 22, 2018**, Primary Runoff Election, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., at your local polling place
- **May 10, 2018**, Annual Meeting, 11:30 a.m., River Hills Country Club
- **September 25, 2018**, National Voter Registration Day

Respectfully,  
Janice Zitelman, President  
League of Women Voters – Hill Country

*If you want to unsubscribe from receiving our emails, please reply and let us know. We don't want you to receive our information if it is not helpful.*

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**OUR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-HILL COUNTRY LEADERSHIP TEAM**

- President/Spokesperson:** Janice Zitelman, [presidentlwvhc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentlwvhc@gmail.com)
- Treasurer:** Bonnie Powers
- Membership:** Bunny Bond
- Facebook Administrator:** Twanda Brown
- Voters Service:** Mary Ellen Summerlin
- Webmaster:** Debby Berry
- Member-at-large:** Marie Miller, Julie Sentell

**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 830-377-9940, Membership. Our League annual dues month 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](http://LWVHillCountryTexas.org)

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 [President@LWVHillCountryTexas.org](mailto:President@LWVHillCountryTexas.org).

**LEAGUE of WOMEN VOTERS**

**The League of Women Voters is a local, state, and national nonpartisan organization.**


**Please go to our LWV-Texas, state website, [www.lwvtexas.org](http://www.lwvtexas.org).** There you will find more voter information and the League positions. The League develops our positions after study and consensus.

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://lwvedu.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 national League, LWVUS, [www.lwvus.org](http://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.



Consider giving a membership as a  to a student, as they need only be 16 years of age to join.

**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](http://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.