



# THE VOTER

May 2018

News from the League of Women Voters – Hill Country

[LWVHillCountryTexas.org](http://LWVHillCountryTexas.org)

## ***Mission Statement: Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy***

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

League Members and Friends,



### **CHANGE CANNOT HAPPEN WITHOUT MOVEMENT**

Maybe you won't turn into a superhero overnight! Maybe the wrongs that you encounter won't be corrected, but you can make a difference. Perhaps you plant a seed and do not see the full-grown tree. Perhaps you share a kindness and never know how it was received. Perhaps you register a voter and don't know if they vote or if they bothered with Vote411.org. If you do nothing, no change can take place. Please make sure to vote in the upcoming Primary Run-Off Election. **YOUR VOTE MATTERS!**

### **ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MAY 10**

At our annual meeting we will take time to celebrate the many accomplishments of our "little but loud" League of Women Voters, Hill Country. Through the efforts of our members we have registered and educated voters, made citizens aware of Human Trafficking, and helped voters recognize that information is available on Vote411.org to help them make informed decisions when casting votes. We will elect new officers, vote on by-law changes, and approve an annual budget. Please plan to attend the meeting to be held at River Hills Country Club, Kerrville, with meet and greet beginning at 5:30 p.m. and the soup, salad, and dessert meal to begin at 6:00 p.m. Visitors are welcome.

### **LWV HILL COUNTRY RECEIVES RECOGNITION**

At the recent LWV State Convention our League received recognition for the following:

- Hosting the 2018 State Convention
- #1 Membership Growth (89%)
- GOTV (Get Out The Vote) Grant

Amazing what we can do together when ***We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.*** Congratulations to all of the members of LWV Hill Country!

## LWV REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON COUNTY AUTHORITY

The Comal Area LWV has announced a workshop to be held on Saturday, August 4, 2018, 11:00 am-3:00 pm at the Tye Preston Library, Canyon Lake. If you are interested, please email the [presidentlwvhc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentlwvhc@gmail.com) so we can plan to carpool.

Texas is experiencing phenomenal growth, especially in the Hill Country. Subdivisions are being built in the unincorporated areas of counties, with little or no regulation regarding water resources or impacts on roads. Industrial operations can be built next to subdivisions because counties do not have authority regarding incompatible land uses. LWV-CA invites fellow Leagues in the Hill Country to a workshop to explore introducing legislation in the 2019 Legislative Session regarding additional authority for fast-growing counties.

## JUDICIAL RACES – SUGGESTIONS ON EVALUATING CANDIDATES

Even though, it is still several months before the November General Election. Texas has a number of Judicial Candidates on the ballot. Now is the time to begin thinking about how you will evaluate the candidates. The following information was published by another League outside of Texas but is very helpful.

- **Judicial philosophy:** What do you perceive as the greatest obstacles to justice, if any? To what extent do you believe that a judge should or should not defer to actions of a legislature?
- **Effectiveness:** What criteria would you use for deciding whether to impose or affirm sentences outside of standard ranges? What are your views on whether the court, as a whole, deals effectively with racial and gender bias?
- **Character:** Describe an instance in which you faced an ethical dilemma and how you resolved it.
- **Experience:** As a prospective judge, what do you consider your greatest strengths? Weaknesses? To what extent have you practiced in the area of criminal law? Family law? Complex civil litigation?

## Mark Your Calendars

- **May 10, 2018**, Annual Meeting, 5:30 p.m., River Hills Country Club
- **August 4, 2018**, LWV Regional Workshop on County Authority, 11:00-3:00, Tye Preston Library, Canyon Lake
- **May 22, 2018**, Primary Runoff Election, 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., at your local polling place
- **August 26, 2018**, Women's Equality Day (event is yet to be determined)
- **September 25, 2018**, National Voter Registration Day

Respectfully,  
Janice Zitelman, President (*retiring as of May 10, 2018, remaining as an LWV activist for a stronger democracy*)  
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.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.