



# The VOTER

JULY 2020

League of Women Voters-Corpus Christi



**BLACK LIVES MATTER!** Local League members participated in the Coastal Bend Black Lives Matter events in May and June. Protests broke out all over the globe after videos of Minneapolis police brutally killing George Floyd, an unarmed black man, went viral on the internet in May. #BlackLivesMatter was founded in 2013 after the man who murdered Trayvon Martin in Florida was acquitted. Supporters aim to shine a light on and fight racism and police brutality. For additional information, visit [blacklivesmatter.com](http://blacklivesmatter.com). (See related stories on pages 6-7.)

[The Register to Vote license plate is here! See how to order, Page 2](#)



## Plan To Participate in the Thursday, July 16, Virtual Membership Meeting

The League's monthly meetings are resuming...online! Fix your lunch and meet us in your living room this Thursday, July 16, on Zoom. You can download the app free on your I-phone or your computer or laptop.

The meeting starts at 11:30 a.m. for League business, and then Nueces County Judge Barbara Canales will join us promptly at 12 noon. (As you may recall, Judge Canales was originally scheduled to speak to us in March.)

Connection information will be provided soon by Annell Neale, Zoom facilitator. Members and guests are all welcomed!

The usual digital meeting etiquette is appreciated:

- \* Mute yourself if you are not speaking.
- \* Use the chat box at the bottom of your screen to ask questions or find resources.
- \* Follow directions and protocols cited by the League's facilitator.

**LOOKING AHEAD** at the League calendar:

- Wednesday, August 26: Virtual Women's Equality Day celebration
- Thursday, Sept. 17: Virtual membership meeting with speaker Alan Wilson, chair of the South Texas Military Task Force



County Judge Barbara Canales

## The League is 'zooming' in lots of ways!

Because of COVID-19, local organizations, including the Corpus Christi League, are becoming experts in using new communication platforms. Voter Registration Chair Raul Ramirez recently met with a KIII-TV reporter to answer (Story continues on Page 3)



## 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 candidates or political parties.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Anne Stewart, LWV-CC President

Hello, Everyone.

Following our Fourth of July holiday with what seemed to be continual tests of law and order, good wishes to family, friends and passers-by, we are on track to finding more and better ways to live happier, healthier lives which will benefit everyone. We, of course, frequently, disagree on what that means. That doesn't seem to be lessening.

If you grew up in a town with a city/county square in the middle of it with wide streets surrounding it and out a few streets in every direction so milk delivery wagons could turn around at any point on a street, you likely had a big parade on Independence Day and many festivities celebrating all that was good in the community for two or three days without destruction or murders of any kind going on.

This year's celebration at Mount Rushmore provided all who have not been there an opportunity to see the magnificent art portraying vision, statement of strength/accomplishment/appreciation of four US Presidents.

With all the discussion about those four, I haven't heard anyone explain that when Washington and Jefferson lived, Virginia laws in place would not permit anyone to free their slaves. History shows that both men were extraordinary in other areas of their lives. They were known for their compassion and intellect which were a benefit to all.

Theodore Roosevelt was dedicated to the education of all. How many libraries and museums have been blessed by his work!

Abraham Lincoln is, of course, the fourth president honored on the mountain. Keeping the nation together and developing a greater commitment to achieve "... liberty and justice for all" was surely his greatest achievement--including offering a model for all of us to follow in our lives and choices.

Many, many thanks to all these forefathers and the many, many women and men who emulate their principles.

Be well! Be smart! Do good!

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF CORPUS CHRISTI

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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<http://www.lwv-cc.org>

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### LWV-CC Board, 2020-2021

#### President

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#### Secretary

Elizabeth "Liz" Riggle, 361-946-1384;  
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#### At-Large Director--Pat Anderson, 361-537-5901

[panderson@stx.rr.com](mailto:panderson@stx.rr.com)

#### OFF-BOARD CHAIRS

##### Voter Registration Committee

Raul Ramirez; 361-774-0937;  
[raul.ramirez.05.rr@gmail.com](mailto:raul.ramirez.05.rr@gmail.com)  
Ruth Falck, 548-2615

##### Voter Registration: VOTE411 Voters Guide:

Kathryn Oler, 806-773-1535;  
[kathryn.oler@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.oler@gmail.com)

##### Diversity & Unity Committee

Alice Upshaw Hawkins, 361-947-1958  
[afhawkins49@gmail.com](mailto:afhawkins49@gmail.com)

##### Study Committee, "Potential for Lead Contamination in Our Communities' Drinking Water"

Sally Farris, chair; 210-313-7028;  
[s.farris@att.net](mailto:s.farris@att.net)

##### 100th Centennial Committee--Sandra

Heatherley, 361-876-4321; [sheatherle@cs.com](mailto:sheatherle@cs.com)

**Historical Exhibit Display--** Sue Williams,  
361-779-8593; [aswilliams17@gmail.com](mailto:aswilliams17@gmail.com)

##### Nominating Committee

Peggy Duran, Chair, 361-696-9366;  
[pegduran1@gmail.com](mailto:pegduran1@gmail.com)

**Elected Members:** Mary Sherwood, 361-443-4366,  
[mksherwood@mygrande.net](mailto:mksherwood@mygrande.net); Christy Stockman,  
361-815-8334 (send text),  
[christystockman@gmail.com](mailto:christystockman@gmail.com)

##### The VOTER Editor

Chris Davis Garcia, 361-991-2784. (hm);  
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#### Continued from Page 1....

questions and provide information on Early Voting days and locations, Nov. 3 Election Day and what's on the ballot, the process for ballots by mail, and the deadline in October to register to vote in the November General Election. He also shared three websites that can help answer voters' questions: [votetexas.gov](http://votetexas.gov), [vote411.org](http://vote411.org), and [nuecesco.com](http://nuecesco.com).

Raul also suggested to KIII that perhaps it could be a site for "drive-through voter registration" on Sept. 23, which is National Voter Registration Day. More discussion will follow.

#### The Register to Vote license plate is available!

From the \$30 specialty plate fee, \$22 goes to the Office of the Secretary of State for the Project V.O.T.E. or a successor voter education program administered by the office of the secretary of state. [Order by mail through Nueces County Tax-Assessor's Office.](#)



## DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

If you didn't vote by mail, be sure to stop at one of the 70 Vote Centers in Nueces County this Tuesday, July 14, to cast your ballot in the Texas Primary Run-off Election. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and safety precautions are in place. Wear your mask!

The Nueces County website has a list of all VOTE CENTER addresses, sample ballots showing both state and local run-off races, and other important information. (See the related story below from LWVTX.)

## How You Can Help With July Election

You can Assist Election Protection! The July 14th Primary Runoff Election is a great time to practice using our voting power to not only vote for the best candidates, but also to work out the kinks in the new election processes set in place during the time of COVID-19!

Whether you are voting safely at home by mail or voting in person, you can help democracy by taking the time to review what your county is doing in this election to ensure all voters can safely vote. Check your county website and drive by the polling places in your community.

Here are things to look for: Is there a link to Vote By Mail on your county election website? Do polling locations serve ALL the voters in your community? Are the polling places practicing social distancing? Are election workers wearing face coverings? Is there hand sanitizer available? Is curbside voting offered? Are CDC guidelines on safe voting followed?

If you see a problem at the polls, please call the Election Protection hotline: 866-OUR-VOTE. And share any issues with your League president and with LWVTX.



***Peggy and Jose Miguel Duran, MD  
salute the League of Women Voters  
for its work to inform  
and encourage citizen participation  
in our government.***

## Voter Services Team Participates in High School Summer Digital Convening

By Paula Brighton  
Vice President, Voter Services

LWV-CC members Paula Brighton, Elisa Gonzalez, and Raul Ramirez attended the High School Voter Registration Summer Digital Convening June 22-26, 2020.

A 1983 law mandates that high schools register eligible students to vote. The LWV-CC has partnered with several local high schools in providing voter education and registration events during fall and spring semesters prior to the current pandemic.

Stephanie Gomez of the Texas Civil Rights Project gave a legal refresher & compliance update: In 2019 compliance increased to 38%. Private school compliance rose from 2 schools to 27 schools in 2019. 110 High Schools were visited by partner organizations between August 2019 and March 2020, reaching 30,484 high school seniors.

Maggie Stern of the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) spoke about Texas Opportunity Counties: Identifying Target Counties for Growing Youth Voters. The CDF tracks youth voter turnout. Registering high school voters is the first step. They need support in casting their first ballot.

Claudia Yolia & Andrea Reyes of Deeds Not Words presented on Engaging Every Student in the Classroom. Youth account for 1/3 of the electorate in Texas. Some may not be citizens, yet they also need education in how to participate in a democratic society.

LWV-TX hosted a panel moderated by Angelica Razo, Texas State Director of Mi Familia Vota. Panelists included Kristine Ramon, SOS Staff Attorney (Elections Division); Melynn Huntly, Potter County Election Administrator; Leah Stephanow, Cypress Woods HS Street Law and Government Teacher; and Dr. Luis Landa, Cesar Chavez HS Principal, Houston ISD.

The presentations are available at <http://ownourvote.org/hsvr-2020-convening/>

How best to meet the needs of our high school partners in the days of COVID 19 remains to be seen. Raul Ramirez, LWV-CC voter registration chair, contacted principals earlier in the summer. Keeping in mind that the last day to register to vote in the November election is Monday, October 5, and that it is unlikely that Volunteer Deputy Registrars will be able to visit high school campuses, LWV-CC is exploring other ways in which to register eligible high school students.

If LWV-CC members have contact with public and/or private schools, please do remind and encourage them to support their students in registering to vote and then participating in the election.

# Thanks to These Renewing Members!

Debbie Noble, Individual  
Vickie and Don Natale, Household  
Dr. Jim Klein and Dr. Teresa Klein, Household  
Kathryn Oler, Sustaining

# Welcome to These New Members!

Amy Aldridge-Sanford, Individual  
Barbara Dorf, Individual (from Rockport, TX)  
LaJuana Hill Zaroni, Individual  
Tyra Nechelle, Individual

**Special Thanks:** Debbie Noble, donation

## *In Remembrance...*



Bachman

### **JANE BACHMAN**

Jane Bachman, CPA and a longtime member of the League and AAUW, passed away on July 5. Jane was well known for her community involvement, her sweet personality, and a great sense of humor. Her obituary appeared in the July 12 Caller-Times. Sympathy cards may be mailed to the family in care of: Donna Bachman, 225 Country Club Blvd., Portland, TX 78374.

### **ANN JAYNES**

Ann Jaynes, active in League activities for more than 35 years from the early 1970s through about 2010, died in May. Former LWV-CC President Nan Pillinger (pictured at right with Ann at a 2016 Candidates Forum) said Ann worked tirelessly with the late Pauline Clarke, who served two terms as president and helped guide the League. Ann created and prepared the League's monthly newsletter The VOTER for many years, helped register voters, and staged Candidates Forums.



Jaynes and Pillinger

**1920 - 2020**

Join the 100 Year Celebration!  
of the 19th Amendment (Women's Right to VOTE)  
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 6-7PM

## **AUGUST 26 VIRTUAL WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY CELEBRATION**

The Centennial Celebration Planning Committee, comprised of members from LWV-CC, AAUW, Delta Sigma Theta, the Girl Scouts of Greater Corpus Christi, and the YWCA plans a virtual Women's Equality Day celebration on Wednesday, August 26, 2020. Save the date!

The celebration includes providing access to printable signs which members of all sister organizations can post on their windows, in their yards, or at their workplaces on August 26.

The group also plans to have professionally printed signs available for purchase which can also be displayed on August 26.

In addition, the committee is working on a Zoom event to help commemorate this year's 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote. Each organization will feature a speaker who will emphasize the impact of every woman's vote in every election held. Interspersed with the speakers will be opportunities to win prizes and participate in polls. Contact Lois Huff or Sandra Heatherley with questions.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the League of Women Voters of Corpus Christi for 75 years of outstanding service to our community. I am proud to be a member!

Chris Davis Garcia

Past President (2005-2007 & 2017-2019)

EMPOWERING VOTERS. DEFENDING DEMOCRACY.



## **Golden Petal Florist**

513 Clifford Street

361-883-9994

Tyra Nechelle

Hours: M-F, 9 am-5 pm; Sat. 10 am-3 pm

Website: goldenpetalflorist.com

Email: goldenpetalcc@gmail.com

# LWV's Awesome History of Environmental Activism and Nuclear Issues Education

By Sally Farris, Study Chair

When Anne Stewart became Local League President in June, 2019, one of the items on our short list was to see effective use of our Study exploring potential for lead contamination in the public water system. This Study, first commissioned in 2016 under the leadership of Dr. Mary Jane Garza, was delivered to the Board in December, 2018.

Many regulations, standards, and testing protocols gird the federal Lead and Copper Rule. The Rule determines how much lead is permissible in a public system before corrective measures are taken. The infamous Flint, Michigan, lead contamination saga was at its apex in 2016. Thousands of children had been lead-poisoned.

Our own Study undertaking was complex and required scientific analyses, legal knowledge, and historical review. Issues were clouded because regulators in Michigan were accused of looking the other way. We wanted to know what was happening in our own City of Corpus Christi system.

Why did we feel confident to take on this issue? Environmental activism is part of the League's ethos. We are inspired by a history of activism and education where the environment and health safety are concerned. The national League enjoys a distinguished and impressive history in those areas.

That history may come as a surprise to some. It can be found in the details of the LWVUS document titled

IMPACT ON ISSUES®, A Guide to Public Policy Positions found on the National website.

IMPACT ON ISSUES® shows the League's prowess runs the gamut through air quality, water resources, solid waste, nuclear waste, and climate change. See the Policy guide link above to check it out.

Did you know the League was a trailblazer in nuclear waste regulation and nuclear issues education?

We did more than just push for the Low-Level Waste Policy Act (1980) and the Nuclear Waste Policy Act (1982). Those Acts provided environmental safeguards and public input for siting.

The League actually became an education contractor for the Department of Energy (DOE). Over ten years, the League performed two cooperative education agreements with the federal government to conduct citizen education programs on nuclear waste. This effort was based on three editions of the League's Nuclear Waste Digest. In 1998, the League's Education Fund conducted two regional discussions on nuclear material and waste for a report to DOE.

So, here we are in Corpus Christi carrying on a proud tradition. Our Lead Education Forum may be on pause, but our ambitions are not.

## "The Vote" PBS Series Acclaimed by Viewers

Earlier this month a PBS American Experience series titled "[The Vote](#)" was viewed across the nation, receiving much acclaim.

The series captured the dramatic history that took place leading up to the 1920 adoption of the 19th Amendment, recognizing women's rights as citizens to vote.

Conflict between national leaders working to win the vote, as well as the role President Woodrow Wilson played, was captured in the well-written narrative. Video and photos from the early 1900s enhanced the series.

The resounding theme was "Women weren't given the right to vote. We took it," in the voice of women's rights icon, Ellie Smeal.

If you missed seeing the series, you can watch it online at:

<https://www.pbs.org/wghb/americanexperience/films/vote>

### SIERRA CLUB COASTAL BEND GROUP

The Sierra Club is the most enduring and influential grassroots environmental organization in the United States.

[www.sierraclub.org/texas/coastal-bend](http://www.sierraclub.org/texas/coastal-bend)  
[CoastalBendSierraClub@gmail.com](mailto:CoastalBendSierraClub@gmail.com)

# A Call to Lift Our Voices and Condemn Racism

By Alice Upshaw Hawkins  
Chair, LWW-CC Diversity Committee

Why are you silent? Why are you passive? Why?

People of power have the capacity to speak out. Where is the will to stand up and show their profiles of courage? Until those of you in power are willing to stand up and let your voice be heard, the COVID19 will be the least scourge that America will face.

Until you lift of your voice in your community, we will continue to have destruction and mayhem in the streets.

Until you lift up your voice in your cathedrals, neighborhoods, places of work, halls of educational facilities, until you eliminate redlining in the cities and neighborhoods of this country, until you cease gerrymandering and redrawing the lines of our districts in order to commandeer the halls or our state, federal, and national institutions of our political voting communities, the climate of our country will continue to be at unrest.

Black Lives Matter! Words Matter? This is the mantra of the people who have been long ignored. African Americans have been preyed upon, denigrated, murdered, killed, hanged, families broken apart, black churches bombed, young girls killed, and worshipers slaughtered as they studied the bible...

The response to these horrific events went unanswered by influential voices of society. Many of these egregious acts were done in the light of day. The question is why have these events been allowed to continue in the wealthiest and so-called civilized and progressive country in the world?

Why do black Americans still suffer in the streets; murdered and reduced to indignities that most white Americans would not allow their dogs to endure?



Alice Hawkins is a member of the CCISD Board of Trustees and a native South Texan. She penned this Op-Ed article to the community which appeared in the July 5, 2020, issue of *The Corpus Christi Caller-Times*. The article was edited slightly by the VOTER editor to fit the space available on this page.

Why, I ask, do these atrocities continue to happen 155 years after the Civil War? Why are black men still being hung from trees in 2020; why are black men still being dragged at the end of a rope; why are vigilante parties allowed to exist; why are white men allowed to drive their cars into crowds of protesters who are exercising their 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights, to be killed by heartless hate-filled men who have no conscience?

Hate has been perpetuated through the silence of leaders and people in power. Systemic racism has been allowed to exist. However, it is not just the powerful voices that are silent; it is the ideologies and policies of influential men and women who sit silently on the sidelines.

There is no sensitivity to the plight of Black American, Native Americans, undocumented workers, LGBTQI Communities, and all marginalized people. If there are those who need to go back to their own land, it is the immigrant man. It is the first immigrants who landed at Plymouth Rock. It is those who treaded on the Native Americans... I stand with you, Indigenous people. I condemn injustices, prejudices, systemic racism, revisionist curriculum in our history books.

Where are the voices of courage, where are the acts of courage? Where are you? Come out! Speak up!

Use your power and persuasion to educate, activate, participate in bringing down systemic racism. You know it

exists in the courts, jails, cemeteries, classrooms, board rooms, and in some cases, our elected officials.

I am calling you, the leaders of our communities, board members, leaders of every persuasion to lift the marginalized, the poor, the downtrodden of all races. Condemn every violent act of racism, every arbiter of hatred, every silent listener to every conversation, and every bystander who silently looks on.

I see the massive crowds that have gathered not only in America, but across the world marching, protesting, gathering to express their voices against the killing of black men across the nation...

We have reached a tipping point where citizens across the world are fed up with the inhumane and unjust treatment of people of color. They are lifting their voices to condemn racism.

Unless and until you recognize that black people are humans and belong to the human race, your immigrant status will not be legitimized. Unless and until you acknowledge and legitimize the Indigenous people who were killed, pushed into...reservations of Arizona, New Mexico and the southwest, your citizenry status will be illegitimate and nullified. You cannot come to the shores of the United States, plunder, displace, kill, and deny the original Americans a legitimate place at the table without denying your own existence and place at the table.

Speak out America!



Tina Butler of TABPHE speaks at a recent Black Lives Matter rally in Artesian Park.

In 1992, Tina Butler and some co-workers from Del Mar College founded the Corpus Christi chapter of the Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education (TABPHE).

During normal times, they advocate for and mentor minority students from elementary school through college. They hold community Nelson Mandela Day and Juneteenth celebrations and promote Barbershop reading programs. Their motto is “We Exist to Assist” and they work hard to do just that.

Tina spoke to the League at its virtual 75th Annual Meeting about TABPHE’s history, mission, and current involvement in organizing a local Black Lives Matter peaceful



Coretta Graham, Nueces County Chair of the Democratic Party, participated in the Peaceful Gathering for BLM Solidarity on May 30.

protest. For more information about this community organization, please visit its website and check out The Bend Magazine article, ‘we exist to assist’ on theBendmag.com.

*--Debbie Noble provided the photographs on Pages 1, 6, and 7 and also the information on Tina Butler and TABPHE.*

## Amicus Brief Filed in Support of ERA Ratification

On July 1, 2020, the Chicago law firm Winston & Strawn filed the Women’s Movement amicus brief in support of the lawsuit brought against the U.S. Archivist by the Attorneys General of Illinois, Nevada, and Virginia in support of the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

The brief asks the court to hold that the original time limit cannot stop the ERA’s ratification now that it has met the requirements for amendment to the United States Constitution.

With the strong leadership of Linda Coberly, the firm’s Managing Partner and Chair of the Appellate and Critical Motions Practice, the amicus brief was filed on behalf of the ERA Coalition.

Coberly’s dedication resulted in the signing of the brief by 52 women’s and social justice organizations, including LWVUS.

”Winston & Strawn is thrilled to be presenting a brief on behalf of such a diverse and powerful group of organizations that fight for equality every day,” said Coberly in a press release from the firm. “Winston has been a proud advocate of the ERA for several years, beginning with the successful effort for ratification in Illinois.”

Originally filed in late January 2020, the AG’s lawsuit is intended to legally compel U.S. Archivist David Ferriero to officially publish Virginia’s ratification of the ERA.

Just days later, the House of Representatives voted to pass H.J. RES 79 which officially removed the time limit stated in the ERA’s preamble.

The U.S. Senate has yet to hold hearings or hold a floor vote for SJ RES 6, which is seen by legal scholars as the final barrier to the ERA’s addition to the U.S. Constitution.

### SPEAKING REQUESTS

In the coming months, individual League members may get asked by a local organization or group “if LWV-CC can provide a speaker” on women’s suffrage or how the 19th Amendment came about or what the League is/does or what’s on the November 2020 general election ballot. Always say “YES, the League certainly can” and jot down notes on who, what, when, and where. Then make sure the query and specific information you gathered are directed immediately to President Anne Stewart or one of the Board members. LWV-CC has several members who enjoy public speaking and can get prepared on whatever topic is requested.

# LEAGUE PRINCIPLES

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*The League Principles are “concepts of government” to which all Leagues subscribe. Principles are the basis upon which national, state, and local program is adopted. The Principles themselves may be used to take action at any level of government. However, because they are broad statements, such action is usually taken in conjunction with current League position.*

*The Principles are a descendant of the Platform, which served from 1942 to 1956 as the national repository for “principles supported and positions taken by the League as a whole in fields of government to which it has given sustained attention.”*

*Since then, the Principles have served two functions, according to the LWVUS Bylaws: 1) authorization for adoption of national, state and local program (Article XII), and 2) a basis for taking action at the national, state and local levels (Article XII).*

*The appropriate board authorizes action to implement the Principles once it determines that member understanding and agreement do exist and that action is appropriate. As with other action, when there are ramifications beyond a League’s own government jurisdiction, that League should consult other Leagues affected.*

*The National Board suggests that any action on the Principles be taken in conjunction with current League positions to which they apply and on which member agreement and understanding are known to exist.*

**IT’S PART OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP...  
Access the National LWV website at [www.lwvus.org](http://www.lwvus.org) to learn more about what the League is doing. You can read online or download documents about issues and positions, review testimony presented to Congress, and sign up for action alerts and emails to keep you in the know.**

**The League** of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.

**The League** of Women Voters of the United States believes that all powers of the U.S. government should be exercised within the constitutional framework of a balance among the three branches of government: legislative, executive, and judicial.

**The League** of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon informed and active participation in government and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.

**The League** of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education that provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.

**The League** of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

**The League** of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy, and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.

**The League** of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.

# CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE--lww-cc.com

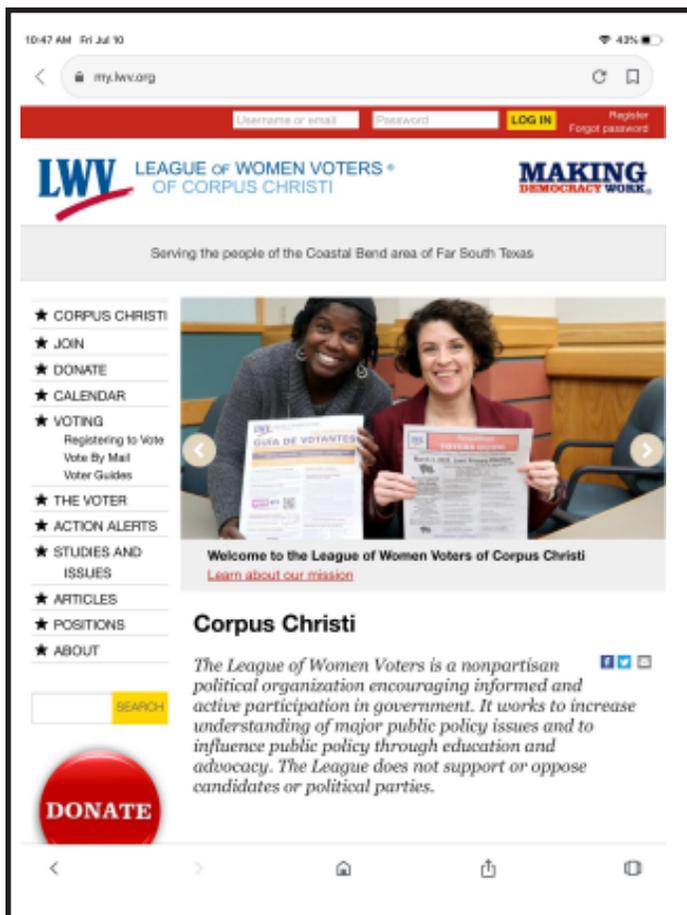
By Debbie Noble  
Director for Website/Social Media

You may have noticed that our website looks different! (If you haven't, then go check it out...[www.lww-cc.com](http://www.lww-cc.com))

The National LWV offers us access (for a yearly fee) to a proprietary platform to manage our website. They updated and changed platforms, so we moved along with them. Not every league has a website and not every league uses this platform, but many do. It gives us all a consistent and professional look and feel.

As the webmaster, I can say that the new site (after a slight learning curve) is much easier to use, maintain, and update. Our site can still be accessed via our URL [lww-cc.org](http://lww-cc.org). We try to keep it updated with local league event information, as well as county voting and election information. You can also easily join the league or donate to the league online.

I hope you find it useful. Please let me know if you find any errors!



## June 25 Virtual Candidates Forum Provides Great Experience COVID-19 May Change Traditional On-Site Venue

One of the missions of the LWV is voter education. Candidate forums are an integral part. The LWV-CC hosts candidate forums in the fall for general elections and in the spring for contested races in primary elections. Then COVID 19 appeared on the scene.

Organizations, including the LWV-CC, began meeting via virtual platforms. Anticipating that holding the general election candidate forums at City Hall would likely not be an option, members of the LWV-CC began to explore the possibility of using Zoom.

Fortunately for us, there were two races for Nueces County Constable (Precincts 2 and 4) where a Primary Runoff Election was necessary. Although the LWV-CC is a non-partisan organization and neither supports nor endorses candidates, we decided to

reach out to these Republican candidates to see if they would be willing to participate in a Virtual Candidate Forum. All four agreed and the forum aired June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Paula Brighton, Vice President of Voter Services, and Kathryn Oler, league member in charge of local [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) information, served as moderators.

Annell Neale hosted the Zoom Webinar, and Debbie Noble uploaded the forum onto YouTube (LWV-CC Area) and our Facebook page (Corpus Christi League of Women Voters).

Responses from the candidates and viewers have been positive.



It looks increasingly likely that the general election forums will also be 'in the virtual.' With the possibility of 17-18 contested Nueces County races along with City Council races and the Mayoral race, LWV-CC will likely conduct candidate forums over a number of days or weeks prior to the Tuesday, November 3, election.

Please check the VOTER, the League's Facebook page, and website for updates on how the League's Candidate Forums will be conducted.

# Time To Renew Your Annual Membership!

LWV-Corpus Christi, established in 1945-46, is celebrating its 75th anniversary. Your continued support of LWV-CC, through your annual membership dues, ensures that the League will continue to address its mission.

Did you know that local League membership makes you also a member of the League of Women Voters-Texas (LWVTX) and the the League of Women Voters-US (LWVUS)? Both “agitator, advocate, and educator” when it comes to state and national policies, including voter suppression.

The League’s membership year is June 1 through May 31. Membership categories are \$100 Sustaining; \$90 Household (two persons residing in the same household); \$60 Individual; \$5 Student; and \$30 Friend of the League (non-voting). Please utilize the membership application & renewal form below and also on the League’s website.

The Board reminds renewing and prospective members that paying membership dues by check or money order allows the League to avoid incurring electronic fees.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION & RENEWAL FORM

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS - CORPUS CHRISTI AREA

PO Box 8276 • Corpus Christi, TX 78468-8276

**LWV-CC membership runs June 1 to May 31** and supports local, state and national LWV actions to Empower Voters and Defend Democracy. We welcome your membership. Please complete this form and return it to the League at the address noted above **or join online at [www.lwv-cc.org](http://www.lwv-cc.org)**.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Select Member type and remit payment or visit: <http://www.lwv-cc-org/JoinRenewOnline.html>

- Individual \$60       Household (2 people, same address) \$90       Individual Sustaining \$100  
 Student \$5       Friend of the League \$30 (without voting privileges)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to attend:      Luncheon Meetings \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner Meetings \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in volunteering my help with one or more of the following activities:

- Register Voters       Prepare/Distribute Voters Guides       Organize Candidate/Issue Forums  
 Advocate for Issues       Investigate Issues/Conduct Studies       Network/Facilitate Community Dialogues  
 Budget/Fundraising       Media/Communications       Membership Services  
 Governance/Bylaws       Observer Corps (monitor local government meetings)  
 Special/Community Projects       Attend Austin "Lobby Days" During Legislative Session  
 Train/Serve as Nueces County Volunteer Deputy Registrar       Advertise in Monthly VOTER Newsletter \*

\* Note: Business card ads in the monthly VOTER newsletter are priced at \$100 for 10 issues.