

LWV

The League of Women Voters
of Midland, Texas

The Midland

VOTER

LWV-Midland
www.lwvtexas.org

Jan/Feb
2015

The Midland Voter is the official publication of the League of Women Voters Midland, Texas, published four times a year.

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Agriculture Program

Monday, January 26 at 7pm

*The average distance a meal travels to a
US family's table is 1,500 miles!*



3201 Lockheed
(Mary Smith's home)

More information on page 3

Early Childhood Program

Monday, February 23 at 7pm

Carrasco Room
at Midland College

More information on page 4



Calendar of Events

LWV Board Mtg,
7pm @ Jr League Jan 19

Agriculture Program @ 7pm Jan 26

LWV Board Mtg, Feb 16
7pm @ Jr League

Early Childhood Program @ 7pm Feb 23

Happy New Year!
Save this VOTER for
February's events.

THE MIDLAND VOTER:
donnarobertson51@gmail.com



On October 19, 1919, the League of Women Voters of Texas, a nonpartisan political organization, was formed at San Antonio, Texas.

The League of Women Voters never supports or opposes candidates for office, or political parties, and any use of the League of Women Voters name in campaign advertising or literature has not been authorized by the League.



Karmen Bryant
President, LWV
Midland
Karmen@jhhc.org

What a wonderful and rewarding 2014 LWV-Midland! We started off the year with Program Planning in January, held a Legal Aid program in February, studied the LWVUS Agriculture update in March, hosted a Membership Reception in April, and celebrated our successes at the Annual Meeting in May. We took a little time off in the summer for a Board retreat and program planning for the fall. In September we honored Judge Junell at the "Making Democracy Work" luncheon, organized a School Finance program in October, provided a Pay Day Loan and Lending Reform program in November and once again, celebrated at our Christmas Party in December. Wow! I can't wait to see what 2015 has in store for the League of Women Voters!

Karmen Bryant — President, Midland LWV

VOICES OF THE LEAGUE

B L O G R O U N D - U P

On the LWV-US blog, [Voices of the League](#), they cover a variety of topics ranging from their work at all levels of the League, including emphasizing work accomplished in local communities across the country on LWV-US priority issues, marking important national developments, highlighting the work being done to grow and strengthen the League, and so much more. They hope you'll take the time to see what they've been up to each month through this roundup. Thanks for Making Democracy Work®.

Membership Matters

Join this network of dedicated volunteers across the nation. Membership is:

- ♦ Open to women and men
- ♦ Filled with benefits, including opportunities to learn and lead, shape issues important to you and your family, and become part of a larger network
- ♦ Educational — helps you to foster civil dialogue about important community issues
- ♦ Empowering—you will learn about issues that help make you an educated voter
- ♦ Fun and personally fulfilling!



Many thanks to our members who continue to build a grassroots network of men and women in Midland who want to help every citizen have a voice in government.

We have a “no guilt” membership. If you believe in what the League does in promoting active and informed participation of citizens in their government, but have no time to give us at this stage of your life, we welcome your show of support with your membership.

If you have any questions about LWV membership, please contact Membership Chair Patricia Stevens:

patricia.midland@gmail.com



Local Agriculture Study Monday, Jan. 26 at 7pm 3201 Lockheed

Speaker: Emmy Ulmschneider

Founding member of our local CSA, Porter Family Farm
Permian Basin Master Gardener
Texas Master Naturalist

Also showing the video "Fresh"

Join us as we consider the issues, the problems, and some of solutions, including what we can do locally.

Although the Farm Bill of 2014 has passed, the national and global issues surrounding food production are still with us. Growing food to feed our burgeoning global population is one of the biggest dangers to our planet. Our industrialized food system has brought with it a host of problems such as food contamination, environmental pollution, depletion of natural resources and morbid obesity and famine. The following websites will be of great value in coming prepared to discuss:

Food by the Numbers: Feeding our hungry planet. <http://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/141016-world-food-daynfood?source=food>

Waerebeke, D.v. 2011. How to feed the world.
<http://vimeo.com/8812686>



The 84th Texas Legislature starts January 13, 2015

Here are some helpful websites:

Texas House of Representatives:
www.house.state.tx.us

Texas Senate:
www.senate.state.tx.us

Texas Elected Officials Directory:
<https://www.texastribune.org/directory/>

TALL CITY FOR TOMORROW

Submitted by Pat Schneider

This is the title of a shared vision for the future of Midland. A guide for public policy and a tool for setting priorities.

The planning process will be a year in length. There have been public meetings with more planned for the future. Also, group online discussions with City development planners to get input from citizens.

Notes from Pat Schneider, who attended several of the early meetings:

The project kicked off September 2014 with meetings with city staff and professional city planners, followed by online and other media events. The first town hall group meetings were open to the public. They were held on: Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2014: evening meeting with presentation of scope; Wednesday, Nov 12, 2014: layout of problems and some suggestions for changes and innovations for the future. This was held 11:30 to 1:00 pm at Centennial Library. Citizens were asked to look at displays and make written or oral comments; Thursday, Nov 13, 2014: 30-minute power point presentation of areas to be covered in each section of the city: North, South, East, West, Eastside-Edge, Airpower area, Gateway corridor, and central City.

The topics to be discussed in each area are:

Transportation
Land Uses
Infrastructure
Residential
Congestion Points
Amenities
Connectivity
Service
Drilling
Annexation
Aging of Structures
RR Barrier
Water District Issues
Zoning
Future Developments—residential, commercial & airport

Future plans for research and discussion will involve city staff and citizens. All of which will be reported on-line every month, so public will have access. February 2015, there will be a Community "Open House" for further discussion, followed by distribution of a draft action plan. Another open house for the community is planned for September 2015.

website address:

www.midlandtexas.gov/tallcitytomorrow

Everyone Invited



Early Childhood Education in Midland

Monday, February 23, 2015

7:00pm

Carrasco Room at Midland College

Panel Members:

Mary Biggs

Counselor, Centers for Children and Families

Della Frye

MISD Director of Early Childhood Education

Emma Galindo

Family and

Community Partnership Coordinator,

MISD Head Start Program

LWV-Midland supports an equitable education for all students in the MISD. Programs and activities are needed to address the needs of at-risk students such as, but not limited to, mentor programs, parental involvement and early identification and intervention.

Early Childhood Education Ideas to “spark” discussion...



"There are more than one million low-income families with young children in Texas, ranking second only to California," said Ann Beeson, executive director of the Center for Public Policy Priorities in Austin. "Today's children will become tomorrow's workers and leaders, and the state must invest in education for children and job training for adults so that Texans of all backgrounds can reach their full potential."

The KIDS COUNT® policy report, *Creating Opportunity for Families: A Two-Generation Approach*, outlines how the public, nonprofit and private sectors must work together to reduce poverty among the 10 million low-income families with young children in the United States. The recommendations propose integrating state and federal employment, education and child care programs for parents and children to create better opportunities for the entire family.

Key findings:

"More than a third of Texas children age five or younger in low-income families have parents with concerns about their development."

"For 43 percent of Texas low-income families with young children, neither parent has a full-time job. In 85 percent of low-income families, neither parent has an associate's degree, which dramatically highlights the need to equip parents who have limited education with skills that can help them earn a family-supporting income."



Sex trafficking & intergenerational prostitution will be the featured topic of a film to be shown Tuesday, **January 27, 2015 at 7:00pm** as part of the PBS's Community Cinema series. The showing will be held at **Shared Spaces, 3500 North "A" Street, Suite 1100.**

Community Cinema is a groundbreaking public education and civic engagement initiative that Basin PBS brings to the Permian Basin. This topic is one LWV-Midland has studied. Contact Donna Robertson if you want to car pool on January 27: donna-robertson51@gmail.com



Midland
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Your Membership Matters!

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: TEXAS Zip: _____ Phone #: _____

Email: _____

I'm enclosing a check made payable to the League of Women Voters of Midland for:

- ☐ \$50 Individual Membership
- ☐ \$75 Family Membership (two individuals in the same household)

The name of second person is _____

- ☐ \$_____ Add a Gift Membership / Name: _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone # _____ Email: _____

Please return this form and your check to:

Membership Chair: Patricia Stevens, 2207 Hughes Street, Midland, TX 79705

If you know of someone who might be interested in joining the League of Women Voters, please provide us with their contact information below or email Patricia at: patricia.midland@gmail.com

*The League of Women Voters is a 501(c)4 organization and your membership is **not** tax deductible.*