

LWV

The League of Women Voters
of Midland, Texas

The Midland

VOTER

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

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Early Childhood Education Monday, April 20 at 7pm

(rescheduled from February)

**Carrasco Room
at Midland College**

More information on page 4



Monday, March 23

7pm—8pm

Centennial Library

Protect Our Planet /Environmental Concerns

Sharla Hotchkiss—Moderator

Guest Speakers:

Amanda Byrom, Director of KMB

Morris Williams, Director of City Solid Waste Management



Karmen Bryant
President, LWV
Midland

Karmen@jhhc.org

Let's celebrate the six ways the League has impacted your life: The League has been dedicated to the belief that the vote is the "emblem" of equality, so we register voters. We advocate for campaign reform to bring about a transparent elections system, prepare voter education materials that are unbiased, and support ways to make it easier to vote like the National Voter Registration Act. In addition, the LWV has pushed for cleaner air/water, worked to increase access to health care and to protect reproductive rights. How else has the LWV improved democracy? Take the short quiz on page 3.

Karmen Bryant — President, Midland LWV

LWV-Midland
www.lwvtexas.org

**March/April
2015**

Calendar of Events

LWV Board Mtg. March 16
7pm @ Jr. League

Environment March 23
Program at 7pm

Education Program April 20
at 7pm (rescheduled
from Feb.)

LWV Board Mtg. April 27
7pm@ Jr League

**Save this VOTER for
April 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.



Happy 95th!

This year, the League of Women Voters celebrates our 95th anniversary. The League was founded by suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt on February 14, 1920 - just six months prior to the passage of the 19th Amendment, which secured women the right to vote. But working towards women's suffrage was just the very start. Our work - and our impact - expands far beyond 1920!

Over the past 95 years, state and local Leagues across the country have been fulfilling our mission of Making Democracy Work[®] in the areas of voting rights, civic engagement, money in politics, environmental defense, health care and more. And we have a lot to show for it!

In honor of our 95th anniversary, see the list of six ways listed on front page Americans like you have in part because of the League's work at the local, state and national level.

~ Elisabeth MacNamara, President of the LWV-US

Membership Matters

Questions about LWV membership? Please contact Membership Chair Patricia Stevens: patricia.midland@gmail.com



Members are the best recruiters! Hopefully, every League member is thinking about a friend, neighbor or family member to ask about joining the LWV-Midland. Plans are in the works for a new Member Reception in August to introduce and welcome new members. (*You know men and women are invited join the LWV!*)

Remember to mention that we have a “no guilt” membership. If someone believes in what the League does to promote active and informed participation of citizens in their government, but they have no time to give us at this stage of their life, we welcome their show of support with their membership.

How has the League Helped Improve Our Democracy?



Ninety-five years ago, Carrie Chapman Catt called for a League of Women Voters to “finish the fight” to ensure that every eligible voter has free and fair access to the polls as well as to empower voters to influence their government to better serve their interests. The League’s first major victory came just six months later with the passage of the 19th Amendment, which secured women the right to vote.

But that success was just the first of many. Since then, the League has been critical in Making Democracy Work® across a range of issues.

How well do you know the League’s impact on Americans’ lives? Test your knowledge and learn more about just some of the League’s great accomplishments over the past 95 years!

1) In what year did the League, along with partners NBC and Life magazine, host the first televised U.S. presidential debate?

- ___ 1944
- ___ 1948
- ___ 1952
- ___ 1956

2) On what national issue did the League work to bring business leaders to the table in 1970’s and 1980’s?

- ___ Campaign Finance Reform
- ___ Equal Rights Amendment
- ___ Environmental Protection
- ___ Health Care Access

3) What is the official name of the law commonly known as Motor Voter that the League helped to pass and continues to strengthen?

- ___ Voting Rights Act
- ___ Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act
- ___ Clean Air Act
- ___ National Voter Registration Act

The League, powered by the efforts of civic volunteers and activists across the country, has made an impact on a range of key issues in the last 95 years. Not only have we undertaken sustained efforts to improve the voting process and protect the environment, but we also assisted in the creation of the United Nations and the protection of Americans’ civil liberties.

As we march towards our 100th anniversary, the League will continue to fight voter discrimination and keep secret money out of our elections in order to ensure that our elections are fair, free and accessible. We’ll also continue to push for improved access to health care as well as a sustainable planet for everyone.

Answers:

1) 1952, 2) Equal Rights Amendment, 3) National Voter Registration Act

Upcoming Events — Everyone Invited

Protect Our Planet / Environmental Concerns

Monday, March 23, 2015

7pm—8pm

Centennial Library

Did you know? Efforts are being made to allow transportation of high-level radioactive waste across highways and on rail lines to Andrews County for storage.

The Legislature may try to take the decision from local control. Efforts will be made to undermine cities rights to ban plastic bags and drilling in their cities.

LWV-TX supports: safe transportation, handling, and disposal of radioactive materials; legislation promoting recycling efforts, in particular electronic waste.

In addition to environmental safeguards with respect to nuclear waste, the League has been at the forefront in efforts to protect our water and air along with decreasing landfills by recycling and reusing.



Early Childhood Education in Midland



(rescheduled from February)

Monday, April 20, 2015

7:00pm

Carrasco Room - Midland College

Panel Members:

Angie Morris

LPC and Registered Play Therapist,
Centers for Children and Families

Della Frye

MISD Director of Early Childhood Education

Emma Galindo

Family & 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.



The Homestretch will be the next featured film to be shown as part of PBS Community Cinema series in 2015.

The Homestretch is about three homeless teens braving Chicago winters, high school pressures, and life alone on the streets to build a brighter future. Against all odds, they recover from the trauma of abandonment to create new, surprising definitions of home.

Community Cinema is a groundbreaking public education and civic engagement initiative that Basin PBS brings to the Permian Basin.



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.*