

League of Women Voters  
of Dallas

# VOTER



*A nonpartisan organization that encourages informed participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

## TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SUSAN B. ANTHONY AWARDEE SUSYBELLE LYONS GOSSLEE

Over thirty-three years ago, during her many volunteer efforts with the Junior League of Dallas, Susybelle Gosslee recognized the lack of community services for young girls and women. To fill this void, she founded Our Friends Place (OFP) in 1985. Our Friends Place first served girls ages 10-17 who had experienced neglect, abuse and abandonment and served its first young client in December 1987 in the therapeutic foster group home program.

After girls graduated successfully from the foster home, they often had no safe place to live. OFP established the first transitional living center (TLC) program in north Texas in 1992 to address this need for young women. The TLC program continues to provide a stable environment and teach skills for girls and young women to become independent and opened its second transitional living center in 2005 to double the number of young women served.

In 2017 Our Friends Place expanded its continuum of care further with SOAR to Success: a program that mentors girls and young women and teaches skills to become successful and to prevent young women from being



homeless. SOAR to Success has served over 400 youth and young women at 11 sites across the metroplex in DISD schools, Dallas Community College campuses and local partner agencies.

Susybelles has been honored for her work with the Dallas Peace Center Lifetime Achievement Award, the President George H.W. Bush Point of Light Award for dedication to public service and the Maura Award.

She has worked with the United Nations to create and support better systems for women and girls throughout the world. While on the Women of the Episcopal Church of the

U.S. Planning Committee she wrote the Episcopal statement on Women and Girls to be presented to the "Fourth World Conference on Women and the Beijing Platform for Action" and attended the women's conference in Beijing. As a League of Women Voters of the United States delegate to the Committee on the Status of Women, she prepared the final document which approved the language submitted on the environmental protections to protect women and children.

Susybelles is very focused on supporting housing policy, especially for people with low incomes, quality public education, abolition of the death penalty in Texas and legislation such as protecting Texans from the proposed transportation and storage of high-level radioactive waste. She remains a very active volunteer with OFP, the Dallas Peace and Justice Center, and the League of Women Voters of Dallas and Texas.

Susybelles continues to work for a sustainable world for all children, adults, and the environment.

### ♦ WHAT'S INSIDE THE VOTER ♦

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**2018 - 2019**

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

**4th Quarter VOTER - January 2019**



The way we perceive the passing of time is nothing more than a mathematical equation. When I was a little girl growing up in Buenos Aires, the summers were long and wonderful. They were a big portion of my life. Now that I am older, a year seems to be short and fast. In fact, it is a small fraction of my life. I am not complaining, I am just answering everyone's question: where did the year go?

On the other hand, when we look back at the League's 2018 we see many accomplishments. The Voter Registration and Engagement team led by Karen Bassett had 154 events and registered 2,123 new voters! Under the direction of Dorie Cranshaw, VOTE411.org and the *Voters Guide* educated more voters than in any other election cycle! Elizabeth Walley, our Voter Outreach VP, engaged the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, the East Dallas Chamber of Commerce and Richland College to present four successful candidate forums. All four forums were live-streamed by Richland College's videography team. The League has also increased our Social Media presence. "We have reached and now exceed 1,000 followers," said Elizabeth.

Under the leadership of co-chairs Rebecca Acuña and Lisa Sherrod, we are now focusing on the Susan B. Anthony Luncheon to be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at the Lakewood Country Club. I am pleased to let you know that Susybelle Gosslee will receive the Susan B. Anthony Award. Also, charismatic Will Toler will be recognized as the 2019 Champion Volunteer.

Be on the lookout for your invitation to the Luncheon and please help us make this a successful event. Susan B. Anthony will be 199 years young, and who knows?, she might show up to greet you.

Sincerely,

Cecilia McKay

President - League of Women Voters of Dallas

The cost of a first-class stamp will go up to .51 cents effective January 1, 2019.

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## 23RD SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON

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THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DALLAS  
& Honorary Chairs  
Commissioner Theresa Daniel, Hon. Harryette Ehrhardt  
and Councilman Adam McGough

*Cordially invite you to the  
2019 Susan B. Anthony Luncheon  
Building Stronger Communities*

**Honoring**



Susan B. Anthony  
Award Recipient  
**SUSYBELLE LYONS GOSSLEE**



Champion Volunteer  
Award Recipient  
**WILL TOLEY**

Thursday, February 7, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Lakewood Country Club  
6430 Gaston Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75214

**Honorary Host Committee**  
Rebecca Acuña, Becky Brakke, Trustee Joyce Foreman, Hon. Mavis Knight,  
Julie Lowenberg, Michelle Manners, Barbara Materka, Cecilia McKay,  
Eileen Rosenblum, Pat Sabin, Lisa Sherrod, Diane Tasian, Linda Wassenich,  
Barbara Weinstein and Elaine Wiant

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE 2019 SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON

Dear League Members: The 23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Luncheon will be on Thursday, February 7, 2019, at the Lakewood Country Club.



On that day we need volunteers for various tasks:

Setup & Takedown Helpers   Auction Table Monitors   Registration  
Auction Closers   Organizer Cashiers   Cashier Assistants

Please meet our Volunteer Coordinator Mercedes Fulbright. She is a member of our Board of Directors and the Texas State Coordinator for *Local Progress*, a Project of the Center for Popular Democracy.

Please contact her if you want to volunteer and if you have any questions at (972) 832-4109 or [mercedesfulbright@gmail.com](mailto:mercedesfulbright@gmail.com).

Your help is very much appreciated.

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**23RD SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON**

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**WANTED****CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
Susan B. Anthony  
SILENT AUCTION***WINE, CHEESE & CHOCOLATE BASKETS**WORKS OF ART***JEWELRY***MASSAGE & SPA & SALON GIFT CARDS***RESTAURANT GIFT CARDS***THEME BASKETS***MOVIE & THEATRE TICKETS***SYMPHONY & OPERA TICKETS***MORE RESTAURANT GIFT CARDS****SPORTS TICKETS****WEEKEND GETAWAYS***LUNCHEON OR TEA OR DINNER WITH A SPECIAL GUEST*and **VOLUNTEERS****SURPRISE US !****FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE POSSE ANY TIME  
TO HELP OR CONTRIBUTE****BECKY BRAKKE (214) 363-0921****REBECCA ACUÑA (956) 206-5853****LISA SHERROD (202) 351-9825****CECILIA MCKAY (214) 500-8848**

Your talent could be of such help with the preparations for this auction. Be a willing volunteer for the auction - table monitor, cashier, helper... Be part of the team that puts the flower baskets together.

Volunteering to help with the auction is a wonderful way to meet Leaguers and have **FUN!**



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**23RD SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON**

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**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DALLAS****23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon, February 7, 2019****Silent Auction Donation Form**

Company or Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print name exactly as it should appear in the auction.

Contact Name &amp; Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email or Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Auction Item(s) or Service(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Value(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Donation Enclosed

\_\_\_\_ Donation to Be Delivered \_\_\_\_ or Picked Up \_\_\_\_: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date and location)

Contact's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please complete &amp; forward copy and arrange delivery or pick up with Becky, Sandy or League office:

Becky Brakke  
7027 Eudora  
Dallas, TX 75230  
(214) 363-0921  
bbindal@aol.comSandy Thornton  
6910 Santa Maria Lane  
Dallas, TX 75214  
(214) 356-7034  
tubbsl@swbell.netLWV Dallas  
6060 N Central Exp, Suite 500  
Dallas, TX 75206  
(214) 688-4125  
lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net

Solicited by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The League of Women Voters of Dallas is a 501(c)3 organization, Tax EIN 75-1876278.

No goods or services provided in exchange for donations.

Thank you for your generous support!



## SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

### 23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon Honoring Susybelle Lyons Gosslee and the Recipient of the Champion Volunteer Award William Toler

Thursday, February 7, 2019, Lakewood Country Club

#### What Does LWV Do?

- Candidate Debates and Issue Forums
- Voters Guide & VOTE411.org
- Your Elected Officials Contact Information
- Election Day Voter Hotline
- Voter Registration

Name or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you wish it to appear in the program)

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Sponsorship Levels – Submit by Friday, January 18, 2019**

☐ **Presenting Sponsors: \$10,000**

All Benefits of Susan B. Anthony & More  
Completely Customizable

☐ **Susan B. Anthony: \$5,000**

Priority Seating for 10  
Program Recognition  
Full-Page Ad

☐ **Juanita Craft: \$2,500**

Priority Seating for 10  
Program Recognition  
Half-Page Ad

☐ **Irma Lerma Rangel: \$1,250**

Priority Seating for 10  
Program Recognition  
Quarter-Page Ad

☐ **Sarah T. Hughes: \$250**

Priority Seating for 1  
Program Recognition

☐ I do not wish to be listed in the program or luncheon publications. ☐ I decline all benefits.

#### **Congratulatory Ad Honoring Susybelle Gosslee and/or Will Toler – Submit by January 18, 2019**

(Please send ad in **JPG** format to [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net))

☐ Full-Page (7.5"x10") Ad \$500

☐ Half-Page (4.5"x7.5") Ad \$250

☐ Quarter-Page (3.5"x4.5") Ad \$100

#### **Individual Ticket Purchases - Submit by January 18, 2019**

\_\_\_ \$125 per Ticket

\_\_\_ \$100 per LWV Member Ticket (and/or for ONE member guest)

☐ I am unable to attend but wish to make a contribution in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to benefit LWVD.

#### **BILLING AND PAYMENT INFORMATION**

☐ My check made payable to **LWVD** in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed

☐ Pay online at [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org).

☐ Please bill my credit card: ☐ Amount to Charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL FIELDS REQUIRED:** Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address/City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Phone \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MC ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Email Required \_\_\_\_\_

LWVD/SBA, 6060 N Central Expy, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75206 || (214) 688-4125

[LWVDallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LWVDallas@sbcglobal.net) || [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org)

Contributions in excess of the value of each guest's meal of \$35 are tax-deductible.

## V O T I N G M A T T E R S

**VOTING MATTERS - Voter Services Update December 2018** LWV Dallas volunteers were extra busy this election season. Here are some of the accomplishments:

### Voter Registration/Education

Karen Bassett and her team focused on new young voters this fall. Most (though not all) of their activities took place in community colleges and high schools. In the end,

- more than 150 events were worked,
- more than 2,100 were registered, and
- presentations were made in more than 100 classrooms.



*A Motivated Young Voter at Northlake College*



*Karen Bassett and her Team at El Centro College*

For much of the work, LWVD volunteers were accompanied by volunteers from Inspire USA, a national nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that specializes in training young people to educate and motivate their peers to be good voters.

*(right: Our Inspire USA Partners at Cedar Valley College)*

The voter registration team took a well-earned breather after the whirlwind fall but is already thinking about the spring season. Messages and plans will need to be tailored for the very different sort of elections that will occur in 2019.



**Breaking News: Just released statistics from Dallas County show that turnout in the November election of the students registered by LWV Dallas volunteers was a stunning 73%!**

**This compares to overall turnout in Dallas County of 54% of registered voters.**

## V O T I N G M A T T E R S

### Voter411/Voters Guide

Vote411, the online Voters Guide, has become a significant resource for Dallas County voters. Usage nearly doubled for the 2018 mid term compared to the presidential year of 2016. Similar increases were experienced elsewhere in the state and nationally.

#### **Dallas County Vote411 Usage**

Year	Unique Users	Sessions
<b>2016</b>	<b>45,863</b>	<b>63,301</b>
<b>2018</b>	<b>78,669</b>	<b>115,542</b>

Data collection and Vote411 maintenance is a shared responsibility among various local Leagues. Two other Leagues besides Dallas function in Dallas County (Irving and Richardson) and separate Leagues operate in Collin, Tarrant and Denton counties. There is a lot of overlap among all these various Leagues and the political jurisdictions. Oversight of the local area process (deciding who will do what and when) as well as management of the computer system and volunteers is provided by Dorie Cranshaw in the Dallas League. The LWV TX feeds in the candidate information it has collected for statewide and district candidates, so the final product that the voter sees is the result of coordinated team efforts all across the area and state. This season it all ran like clockwork.

Dorie's goal, and the goal of the Dallas League, is to provide useful information for voters on every single item on a Dallas County ballot for every election. We are close to accomplishing that goal but **need additional volunteer help for nonpartisan, suburban ballot items including good questions for city council and school board candidates, and analyses of referendums, charter amendments and bond elections.**

In addition to Vote411, 16,500 printed guides were distributed for the November election.

*Voters Guides* were available in schools, libraries, churches and other facilities throughout the county. Printed guides were also distributed to individuals on request.

### Candidate Forums

LWV Dallas once again partnered with the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce to host candidate forums. Lisa Sherrod was the lead for LWV Dallas. Forums, open to the public, were presented for:

- State House District 114 (Turner vs Ryan)
- Dallas County Commissioner Place 2 (Cannon vs Koch)
- Dallas County District Attorney (Creuzot vs Johnson)
- U.S. Congressional District 32 (Allred vs Sessions)

The very informative and well-attended early morning forums were live streamed by Richland College Student Media, and recordings were available on the LWV Dallas, North Dallas Chamber and Richland College websites for those who were not able to attend in person.

LWV Dallas is already having talks with the North Dallas Chamber about hosting forums in the spring for city council and school board candidates, and we are also hoping to expand into other parts of town.



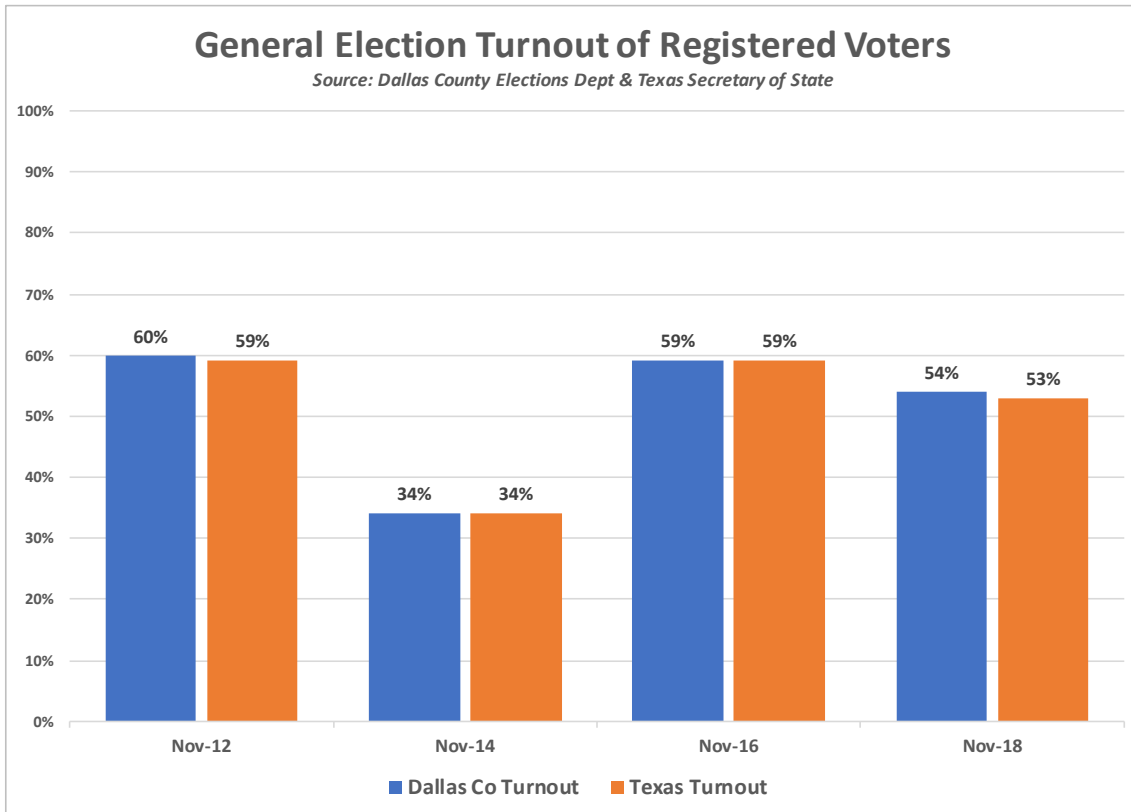
*Voter Registration at Atmos Energy with LWV Dallas and LWV Collin County*



## VOTING MATTERS

### NOVEMBER 2018 ELECTION

Dallas County voters turned out to vote on the massive General Election ballot in November. Enthusiasm for the election was high. Turnout more closely resembled that of a presidential election than a midterm in both Dallas County and Texas. A chart of turnout ratios over time is below:



In addition to the high profile race for U.S. Senator there were a number of other important races on the ballot including Governor, Lieutenant Governor, many state Senators and all federal and state representatives. Dallas County saw turnover in a number of positions including a U.S. Representative (District 32, Colin Allred winner) and five state house representatives. All eight of the candidates for the 5<sup>th</sup> District Court of Appeals flipped from Republican to Democratic, giving that court a Democratic majority for the first time in many years.

Besides the high profile partisan races there were other important local races and other ballot items, including a tax increase and three items for the Dallas Independent School District, all of which passed.

Nationally, Texas moved up in the ranks for percentage of turnout of eligible voters from near last to 41<sup>st</sup> compared to other states, not ideal but moving in the right direction.

Besides the unusually high turnout, the media also focused on the disparities between votes and representation caused by gerrymandering both in Texas and in other states. In Texas, a *Dallas Morning News* article on November 24 was headlined, "Texas Democrats won 47% of votes in congressional races. Should they have more than 13 of 36 seats?"

***Watch for an LWV Dallas program on this most controversial and important topic in February of 2019.***

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**P R O G R A M & E D U C A T I O N**

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**LWV Dallas January General Program****"CENSUS AND REDISTRICTING"****Wednesday, January 23, 2019****11:15 AM to 1:15 PM****Midway Hills United Methodist Church****11001 Midway Road****Dallas 75229**

For the **Census** portion we will have **Jennifer R. Pope**, Partnership Specialist, from the Dallas Regional Census Center/Field Division/Denver Region of the U.S. Census Bureau. She will discuss Operations and Timeline, Recruiting, and Outreach for the 2020 Census.

For the **Redistricting** portion we will have two speakers: **Tracy Westen, J.D.** is a member of the National Governing Board of Common Cause and Adjunct Professor at UCLA Law School and USC Annenberg School for Communication. He was involved in creating the Redistricting Commission in California.

**Stephanie Swanson** is LWV Texas Issue Chair and Director of Fair Maps Texas. [www.fairmapstexas.org](http://www.fairmapstexas.org)

A \$12 lunch will be offered. **RSVP** to the League office at [\(214\) 688-4125](tel:2146884125) or [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net). Please watch your Inbox and the Website for additional information. [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org)

Thank you! Diane Tasian, VP of Program

6060 North Central Expressway, Suite 500 • Dallas, Texas 75206  
[www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org) • (214) 688-4125 Phone • [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net)



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## P R O G R A M & E D U C A T I O N

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The **JANUARY UNIT MEETINGS** will be about the **Census and Redistricting** and **Mail-In Ballots**. Bring a new member with you to see how the League works.

**Jan. 9 10:00 am**  
**Wednesday Morning Unit**  
 -----  
**Meadows Conference Center**  
 Piney Woods Room  
 2900 Live Oak Street  
 Dallas 75204

**Jan. 10 9:30 am**  
**Thursday Morning Unit**  
 Susybelle Gosslee 214.732.8610  
**The Episcopal Church of**  
**St Thomas the Apostle**  
 6525 Inwood Road  
 Dallas 75209

**Jan. 10 11:30 am**  
**Far North Dallas Unit**  
 Eileen Rosenblum 469.879.8801  
**The Egg and I**  
 15203 Knoll Trail  
 Arapaho & Montfort/Knoll  
 Dallas

**Jan. 10 6:30 pm**  
**Thursday Evening Unit**  
 Arline Pitt 972.243.3966  
**Angela's Café**  
 7979 Inwood Road  
 Inwood & Lovers Lane  
 Dallas 75219

There will be **NO FEBRUARY UNIT MEETINGS**.

### WHY AN ACCURATE CENSUS MATTERS TO ALL TEXANS

#### *New Policy Brief Outlines How Much Texans Have At Stake*

Ann Beeson, CEO

As advocates for fact-based public policies that expand opportunity for Texans of all backgrounds, CPPP knows that an accurate Census count has a profound impact on the future prosperity of the state.

An accurate Census impacts the allocation of federal, state and local tax dollars for housing, transportation, health care and other critical services. By counting the number of people who live in a given area, the Census also determines the number of Congressional representatives for that area and the number of electoral votes in presidential elections.

When businesses are looking for a place to set up shop, they look at demographic data from the Census to find the best place to expand and create jobs.

Texas is home to a disproportionate share of populations that are difficult to reach during the Census and thus frequently undercounted, including Latinos, young people, and people not fluent in English. Now the Census Bureau's decision to add a question in 2020 about people's U.S. citizenship status could worsen the undercount challenges that already exist, particularly for immigrants of all statuses and their families.

An undercount in the Census would be especially disastrous for Texans. Communities would be deprived of critical information and funding necessary to respond to the needs of our growing state. Because billions of dollars in federal aid depend on the accuracy of the Census, even a 1% undercount could cost Texas \$300 million a year in reduced federal funds for critical services.

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## PROGRAM & EDUCATION

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### DALLAS' CRITICAL HOUSING ISSUE: CAN YOU AFFORD TO LIVE IN DALLAS?

By Susybelle Gosslee

The League's Housing Study Committee presented a program, ***CanYou and Your Family Afford to Live in Dallas? Understanding Housing in Dallas***, on Thursday, November 8. It was presented twice, first in North Dallas at Northaven United Methodist Church and again in the evening in West Dallas at El Centro West Community College.

The program's presenters were David Noguera, Dr. Myriam Igoufe, Sandy Rollins, Sherman Roberts and Janet Ahmad.

**David Noguera** is Director of Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization for the City of Dallas and holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley in International Development and a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Cornell University. Mr. Noguera reported that the city has not had a housing policy until last year. The absence of a policy helped create an affordable-housing crisis with a shortage of 20,000 units which will be built over the next three years. The city council would accept and often help fund developers' proposals as they came to the council for zoning. The city's definition of affordable housing is a house costing \$250,000. More than half the homes in the city of Dallas cost more than \$300,000 causing many in the middle class to move to the suburbs. Mr. Noguera states that the policy is a start and will be improved over time. The city's goal is to improve the quality of life for Dallas, but it does not address housing for the population that lives at or below 30% or below the poverty rate.

The second speaker was **Dr. Myriam Igoufe** who is Director of Housing Voucher Programs at Dallas Housing Authority and holds a PhD in Urban Planning and Public Policy from the University of Texas at Arlington. While working on her PhD, she served as project director for the Dallas portion of the North Texas Regional Assessment of Fair Housing Report. This report provides empirical support to address livability challenges for low-income families and transportation. The study estimates Dallas needs over 68,000 more homes to keep up with the growing need. For a person earning a minimum wage income of \$7.25 in Dallas, they would have to work 86 hours per week to afford a modest one-bedroom apartment. Assuming they paid 30% of their income for rent, they could afford to pay \$377 per month in rent. There are no accommodations at that price in Dallas. There is no research that determines that 30% of a person's income should go to rent. Affordability for short- and long-term housing is a critical issue for low-income housing and should consider transportation, food, and other factors.

**Sandy Rollins** spoke as Executive Director Texas Tenants Union and has more than 35 years' experience working with individuals, groups, and policy makers to protect and advance tenants' rights in Texas and to preserve and improve federally subsidized housing. Texas' laws are in favor of landlords not tenants. The national Gap report by the National Low-Income Housing Coalition revealed that the DFW area is the fourth worst in the U.S. in providing low-income housing. In Dallas, there are nineteen units available for every one hundred low-income tenants. The housing policy prioritizes higher end rental units over units for lower-income families. Dallas developers have built the largest number of high-cost units in the country during the last year.

**Sherman Roberts** is President and CEO of City Wide Community Development Corporation since 2006 and is chair of the Board of Dallas Housing Finance Corporation. He has much experience with the development of low-income housing in Dallas. City Wide works to revitalize neighborhoods and empower individuals and families to improve their quality of life. They



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## PROGRAM & EDUCATION

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focus on developing affordable housing for women, veterans, homeless individuals, and low-income families, particularly in mixed-use, transit-oriented communities around rail stations. They help community residents develop their own long-term wealth-generating capacity, promote education, local business development, and sustainable neighborhoods. The new Dallas housing policy has not encouraged nonprofit housing corporations like City Wide. The number of middle-income families becoming low-income families and the homeless population are increasing and, yet, the city is not directly providing subsidies to help low- or middle-income families at or below 50% of the median income.

**Janet Ahmad** is President of Homeowners for Better Building. She explained that the building codes in Texas and Dallas are inadequate and inspections are either poor or non-existent. Some low-income builders are building homes that are shoddy and do not make the required repairs within the warranty period; leaving home buyers with many expensive repairs and no recourse to hold their builder accountable. The city fails to hold the builder accountable to their obligations.

The loan process for low-income buyers currently is the same process that was instrumental in the saving and loan debacle, called the S&L Crisis, and mortgage fraud in the 1980s and '90s. Ahmad gave an example of development of Kyle, Texas, a city that grew overnight, and how builders got involved in the political decision-making process for their own advantage.

Please check for the videos and other information on the League website. A link was not available by the deadline for this article; but it can be found on the website <https://mylwv.org/texas/dallas/>. Click on "About LWV of Dallas", then "Events", then scroll down to click on "View Past Events".

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### THE IMPORTANCE OF DECEMBER UNIT MEETINGS

In December the unit membership renewed the League's grass roots by gathering ideas of what to explore in the upcoming year. Their input is then compiled by the Program Planning committee through the lens of our existing positions and presented at the Annual Meeting for approval by our members. The League term for this process is **Program Planning**.

Here are some of the topics that started the discussions:

- In 2020 the League of Women Voters celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday!
- Continuation of the National League's Campaign for Making Democracy Work. Aspects of this campaign are:
  - Money in Politics and Campaign Finance;
  - Redistricting - On January 23 we will have a general program on the Census and Redistricting. Please see related information on pages 10-11;
  - Supporting Voting Rights and Voter Protection in the States and Local Communities;
  - Some digital issues that might be explored are (1) Online Voting Registration and (2) Net Neutrality.

Everyone is invited to participate in brainstorming what we will discuss in the year to come (June 2019-May 2020). If you could not attend one of the unit meetings, but would like to suggest a topic the League should explore, please send an email to the League office as soon as possible, [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net), and ask for it to be forwarded to me.

Thank you! Diane Tasian, VP of Program

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## D E V E L O P M E N T C O R N E R

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### 2018 NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

LWVD received \$4,927.10 from 48 donors the day of the **2018 North Texas Giving Day** campaign sponsored by the Communities Foundation of Texas. The League also received a matching donation of \$4,838.91 from the Communities Foundation of Texas. Chair Katherine Savers McGovern and her committee, which included Nia MacKay, Chris Guldi, Taylor Adams, Lisa Sherrod, Rebecca Acuña and Brittney Farr, contributed to this year's campaign and success; and their help is appreciated.

The 48 donors include six who wish to be anonymous, 22 members, and 20 non-members, of whom seven were repeat donors from previous years. Our thanks go to the following:

*Elizabeth Scalise, Susan & Gary Oviatt, Marsha Tunnell, Helen Bateman, Sydney Herndon, John Hendriks, Allan Cano & V. Zavadil, Veronica & Tomas Escontrias, Jani Salyers, Liz Wally, Mary Ann Kellam, Beverly Hill, Lynda Ender, Lisa Sherrod, Peggy Dowdey, Cheryl Pollman, Deborah O'Connor, Pat & Nora Burns, Charles McGarry, Fred Grinnell, Kevin Saul, Julie Williams, Laura V. Estrada, Rebecca Acuña, Ana Christa Robles, Dorie Cranshaw, Cecilia McKay, Sandy Thornton, Dr. Charlotte Nabors, Diane & Berge Tasian, Elaine Wiant, Janet Eickmeyer, Carol & Courtney Hogan, Tennessee Nielsen, Elizabeth Walley, Bill & Judy Daniluk, Monique Black, Linda Wassenich, Carol Peters, Karen Bassett and Katherine McGovern.*

Among the comments received was one from Beverly Hill: "Thank you for the outstanding work you've done with voter registration and voter education this election cycle. You are an amazing group!"

### GIVING FROM YOUR IRA

Thanks to a change in the law, you can now make a charitable gift from your IRA if you are 70½ years old without having to count the withdrawal as income and paying income tax on it.

Simply talk to your investment broker who will advise you and submit the forms you need to complete in order to accomplish this donation.

### DONOR HONOR ROLL

Many thanks to the following for their generous donations to the LWVD during this quarter:

**Scholarships:** Marnie Wildenthal, Dr. Barbara Morchower, Debra and Emily Decker, Mary Ann Johnson and Barbara Materka

**Patrons:** The Hon. Keven Felder, Dr. Scherry Johnson, Paul Heller, Connie Webb, Karen Bassett, Katelyn Bassett and Alice Johnson

**In Memory of Dottie Box:** Julie and Michael Lowenberg, Dr. Gabriel and Monica Fried, Fran Morris, Dorothy Masterson, Barbara Materka, Joyce Forney and Linda Wassenich

**In Memory of Ginny Whitehill:** Carol Curley, Dorothy Masterson, Barbara Materka, Pat Sabin, Julie and Michael Lowenberg, Linda Wassenich and Joyce Forney

**In Memory of Barbara Turner:** Pat Sabin, Linda Wassenich, Julie and Michael Lowenberg, and Barbara Materka

**In Honor of Dr. Eileen Rosenblum:** Dr. Mona Hersh-Cochran

**In Honor of Karen Bassett:** Fran Morris

**Contributions:** Suzanne Wills, Mary Lou Alford, Amazon Smile, Good Neighbor Program

**Program:** Bill Betzen, Lynn Davenport, Diane Tasian and the North Texas Alliance to Reduce Teen Pregnancy

# MEMBERSHIP COMPILATION

## BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER OF THE LWV

There are many reasons to join the League of Women Voters.

- ⊗ You know you are offering a needed service to the community by providing information about candidates and issues through the *Voters Guide* and VOTE411.org so the public can cast informed, thoughtful votes.
- ⊗ You can do your civic work by registering voters and organizing candidate forums.
- ⊗ You can learn about hot issues by serving on a study committee and by attending unit meetings and general meetings.
- ⊗ You can keep the League informed about what's going on by attending city council, county commissioners court, or school board meetings as a member of the Observer Corps.

Dare we suggest that there are some personal benefits from being an active member in the League? By all means, yes! One of the best reasons is that you'll make some wonderful friends—people who are interested in public affairs, people who read and keep up with current events, people who want to participate in interesting conversations, and people who can engage in civil discourse and look at all sides of an issue.

Still, there's more! You can learn how to:

- Lead a discussion,
- Make room for everyone to participate without any one person dominating the discussion,
- Build a budget,
- Read a financial statement,
- Chair a meeting,
- Calculate the rent for an office, and
- Give a speech.

So when someone asks you to accept a new responsibility in the League, say "yes" with enthusiasm. You never know what new benefits you will accrue. And if someone asks you why join the League, you'll have even more reasons to encourage them to join.



### *We Would Like to Give a Warm Welcome to our NEW League Members since the last VOTER*

Helen Bateman

Ashley Briscoe

Askala Harris

Gary Nicholson

Lauren Godfrey

Madeline VeZain

Kim Stanton

Julie Rosenoff

Jean Conway

Virginia Lyons

Stacey and Thomas Hatton Jr.

Invite a new member to your unit meetings, to the general program on January 23rd, to the Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon on February 7th and any other activity you think they may enjoy. Show them what the League's about. *Welcome new members!*

## MEMBERSHIP COMPILATION

### LWVD MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We are reconciling our membership roster for the upcoming PMP numbers that are due February 1st. There are still a few of you who haven't renewed or responded. To make sure we have your correct contact information, and to check if you are current, call (214) 688-4125 or email [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net).

You may renew online at [www.lwvdallas.org](http://www.lwvdallas.org) or mail a check to LWV Dallas, 6060 North Central Expwy, Suite 500, Dallas, TX 75206. Thank you.

### LWVD MEMBERSHIP DUES

Effective June 1, 2018, dues are as follows:

**Individual Member** - \$75/per year

**Student Member** - \$25/per year

**Household Members** - \$112.50/per year

**Patron Member** - \$150/per year

(Individual mem \$75, + Additional

**Benefactor Member** - \$500/per year

Household Member \$37.50)

**Scholarship Member** - call office

### GET WELL SOON ELEANOR SUTHERLAND

Eleanor Sutherland, a 53-year League member, is now receiving Hospice services at Monticello West at 5114 McKinney Avenue, Dallas 75205.



Eleanor is in Room 212, and she hopes her pals will come by and visit her.

Call her son Derek at **512-350-6691** for more information.

### GET WELL SOON ESSIE REED

Essie Reed, a 55-year League member, has been in the hospital too much in the past few months battling severe emphysema and lymphedema.

She is back home diligently doing her therapy at 1025 Pinedale Lane, Dallas 75241 and would welcome your calls, cards and visits.

If you are going to visit, call Essie or husband John first at **214-371-1456** to make sure she will be there.

### GET WELL SOON BESSIE WEED

Bessie Weed, a 24-year League member, has had several severe strokes and is now in Highland Springs Hospice in Dallas.

Call her husband Earl at **972-239-1932** for more information, and send your best wishes to Bessie at 8030 Frankford Road, Apt 113, Dallas 75252.



## MEMBERSHIP COMPILATION

### LONG-TIME MEMBER SPOTLIGHT "ESSIE REED"

Essie Reed is a 55-year member of the League of Women Voters. Originally from Grambling, Louisiana, she attended Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, where she studied children's literature. Later, she obtained her Masters in Children's Literature at Texas Women's University.

Essie fell in love and followed her husband to Dallas where he was working. Her skills promptly got her jobs with the Preston Royal Branch Library and also the Martin Luther King Jr. Library. Essie was responsible for managing the opening of three public libraries in the City of Dallas: Park Forest, Forest Green and Skyline. She spent her entire career in the Dallas Public Library system until her retirement.

Shortly after moving to Dallas Essie took a course at SMU where she joined their debate team which, while she was there, "was considered one of the best debate teams in the country", she said with pride. It was there that someone told her of an organization she should join, the League of Women Voters of Dallas. She is very happy that the same friend brought her to a meeting of the League and paid for her first-year's membership. She has been a member ever since.

Back in Louisiana, her father was not able to register to vote, so she swore she would work to make sure every eligible person was able to vote. With the League, Essie was a very active member in the areas of voter rights, voter education and voter registration.

Essie said that her best experience at the League was receiving the Susan B. Anthony Award in 2006 for her efforts in registering voters.

When asked what her wish for the League is, she answered, "I wish the League would fight harder for voters' rights and for womens' and childrens' issues." She said "children don't vote, and someone should give them a voice."



Essie lives in Oak Cliff with her husband John. They have two daughters and two grandchildren. She is battling emphysema with lymphedema and has spent "too much time" in the hospital in the past few months. She is now back home and doing her therapy diligently.

I personally enjoyed my chat with Essie, and I am sure she would welcome calls from League members. She would also enjoy having visitors, but call first to make sure she will be there.

 Cecilia McKay  
LWV Dallas President



#### LWVD MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY *(updated Dec. 2018)*

The current, updated LWVD Membership Directory is online. Please let the office know if you are a League member and would like a printed copy or if you have any changes to your contact information. Call [214-688-4125](tel:214-688-4125) or email [lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net). Thank you.

## CALENDAR & EVENTS

### GENERAL (GM) & UNIT (UM) MEETING DATES & TOPICS

Jan 9/10	UM - <b>Census &amp; Redistricting, Mail-In Ballots</b>
Jan 23	GM - <b>Census and Redistricting</b>
Feb 7	<b>23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Luncheon and Silent Auction</b>
February	NO Unit Meetings
Mar 13/14	Unit Meetings - <i>TBA</i>
Mar 28	General Meeting - <i>TBA</i>
Apr 10/11	Unit Meetings - <i>TBA</i>
May 4	<b>81st Annual Meeting</b>
May 8/9	UM - <b>Do Your Own Thing!</b>



### SAVE - THE - DATE

### ***League of Women Voters of Dallas***

### ***81<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting***

**Saturday, May 4, 2019**

**9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

The Edgemere  
8523 Thackery Street  
Dallas, Texas

### SAVE - THE - DATE

### ***23rd Annual Susan B. Anthony Luncheon***

**Thursday, February 7, 2019**

**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

Lakewood Country Club  
6430 Gaston Avenue  
Dallas 75214

#### Tom Thumb

#### **Good Neighbor Program**

Good Neighbor #: **2917**

4th Quarter Payment: **\$97.48**

#### Donate While You Shop!

[www.Smile.Amazon.com](http://www.Smile.Amazon.com)

Click "change your charity",  
Type "League of Women  
Voters of Dallas"

3rd Quarter Payment: **\$20.79**

#### NEW: Kroger

#### **Community Rewards**

Community Rewards #: **95073**

Quarterly Payment: **\$**

# JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH 2019

## C A L E N D A R

JANUARY 2019		
1	Tuesday OFFICE CLOSED	New Years Day
1	Tuesday	Kwanzaa ends
2 - 7	Wednesday	VOTER 4th Quarter publication. Mail and email.
5	Saturday 10:00 - Noon	LWVD Board Meeting (League members welcome) Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas
9 - 10	Wednesday - Thursday	Unit Meetings - <i>Census &amp; Redistricting, Mail-In Ballots</i>
21	Monday OFFICE CLOSED	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day ( <i>banks, schools &amp; gov. offices closed</i> )
22	Tuesday <b>NEED TIME</b>	NCJW Greater Dallas Birthday Luncheon featuring Ellen Goodman at the Westin Galleria, 13340 Dallas Parkway, Dallas
23	Wednesday 11:15am - 1:00pm	General Meeting - <i>Census &amp; Redistricting</i> , Midway Hills United Methodist Church, 11001 Midway Road, Dallas 75229
31	Thursday 5:00pm	PMP (per member payment) numbers DUE to LWV-US
FEBRUARY 2019		
NO Unit Meetings		
2	Saturday 10:00 - Noon	LWVD Board Meeting (League members welcome) Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas
2	Saturday	Groundhog Day
7	Thursday 11:00am - 1:00pm	23rd SUSAN B ANTHONY LUNCHEON & SILENT AUCTION Lakewood Country Club, 6430 Gaston Avenue, Dallas
12	Tuesday	Lincoln's Birthday
18	Monday OFFICE CLOSED	Presidents' Day
22	Friday	Washington's Birthday
26 - 28	Tuesday - Thursday	These days reserved for General Meeting - <i>Gerrymandering</i>
MARCH 2019		
1	Friday	Employee Appreciation Day
2	Saturday 10:00 - Noon	LWVD Board Meeting (League members welcome) Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas 75204 ( <b>Board approve Budget for Annual Meeting</b> )
5	Tuesday 5:00pm	VOTER 1st Quarter (January, February, March) articles DUE
6	Wednesday	Ash Wednesday, beginning of Lent (Christian holiday)
6	Wednesday 11:00am	SMU Women's Symposium with a Keynote Speaker SMU Hughes Trigg Student Center, 3140 Dyer Street, Dallas
10	Sunday	Daylight Saving Time begins
13 - 14	Wednesday - Thursday	Unit Meetings - <i>TBD</i>
26 - 28	Tuesday - Thursday	These days reserved for General Meeting - <i>Subject TBD</i>
31	Sunday	VOTE411 deadline for 2019 Municipal elections

# Join the **League of Women Voters of Dallas**

*where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.*

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF DALLAS DIVERSITY STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters of Dallas (LWVD), in both its values and practices, affirms its belief in, and commitment to, diversity and pluralism.

LWVD welcomes any person to participate in any activity of LWVD, regardless of gender, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or political persuasion.

LWVD recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making.

LWVD subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that inclusiveness enhances its capability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

LWVD affirms its commitment to reflecting diversity in its membership, board, staff and programs.

## ***It's not for women only!***

### Membership Levels

\_\_\_\$75/year Individual \_\_\_\$37.50 additional member at same address  
\_\_\_\$150/year Patron \_\_\_\$500/year Benefactor  
\_\_\_Scholarship information available upon request. Call 214-688-4125  
\_\_\_\$25/year Student \$\_\_\_Contribution to LWVD Scholarship Fund

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phones: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail your payment to -**

## **League of Women Voters of Dallas**

6060 N Central Expy, Ste 500 Dallas, TX 75206

## **League of Women Voters of Dallas**

**6060 N Central Expy, Suite 500 Dallas, TX 75206**

**Voice & Fax: 214 688-4125**

**E-mail: lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net**

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