

League of Women Voters  
of Dallas

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

VOTER





## The Susan B. Anthony Issue



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF DALLAS

*celebrates*

100

**YEARS of BUILDING BRIDGES  
to DEMOCRACY for WOMEN**

*at the*

2020  
**SUSAN B. ANTHONY**  
*Luncheon*

For more information & sponsorship opportunities,  
visit [my.lwv.org/Texas/Dallas](http://my.lwv.org/Texas/Dallas)

HONORING:

★



**LOIS FINKELMAN**  
2020 Susan B Anthony  
Award Recipient



**KARLA GARCIA**  
2020 Champion Volunteer  
Award Recipient

★

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020**  
**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**Lakewood Country Club**  
6430 Gaston Ave, Dallas, TX 75214

### ♦ WHAT'S INSIDE THE VOTER ♦

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**2020 - 2021**  
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19<sup>th</sup> Amendment Celebration Chairs

### **LWVD Office**

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## From the President's Desk



Happy New Year! The League of Women Voters celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. LWV Dallas will be celebrating this in ways large and small all year long beginning with the Susan B Anthony Luncheon. In this issue of the VOTER you will find many ways to participate in the Luncheon. If you haven't received your invitation, please call the office to let us know – maybe we made a mistake on your address.

The recipient of the Susan B Anthony Award this year is Lois Finkelman. This award has been the most important feature of the luncheon over the years and Lois is its quintessential recipient. She has worked tirelessly to support our environment for more than 40 years. She has served on Dallas City Council; chaired many committees, city and county Park Boards, the Dallas Zoo Board, and the National Recreation and Park Association; and through her association with Urban Environment Associates built consensus, improved policy, and championed the voice of the community on many projects. In addition, she has been a leader and role model through her work with Women's Issues Network, National Council of Jewish Women, the Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce, Planned Parenthood of Greater Texas, and the Associates Board of Children's Medical Center. The list is amazing, and she does it with grace, dignity and humility! Thank you so much Lois!

The recipient of the Champion Volunteer Award is Karla Garcia. This is the third year this award has been given. As the youngest DISD Board member and first Latina, Karla has gotten an early start on a public service path and shows great promise. Congratulations, Karla!

Please join us in recognizing the outstanding contributions of our awardees as we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the League of Women Voters and Susan B Anthony's birthday.

Diane Tasian  
President - League of Women Voters of Dallas

## SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON

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*The League of Women Voters of Dallas is proud to announce the 2020 Susan B. Anthony Award recipient:*



### LOIS FINKLEMAN

For many decades Lois devoted her skills to improving the lives and well-being of Dallas residents. Like Susan B. Anthony whose independence, persistence, determination and dedication led to the expansion of voting rights, Lois has used her own gifts of a keen and inquiring mind, inspiring leadership, and a caring heart in her work to enhance Dallas and the North Texas region. Through her tireless efforts, residents have been given opportunities to enjoy recreation, green spaces, and community assets such as the Dallas Zoo and Fair Park. Lois currently serves as Chair-Elect Dallas Zoological Society; Vice President - Board of Advisors of State Fair of Texas; and various other roles.

### *2020 Champion Volunteer: DISD Trustee Karla Garcia*



Trustee Karla Garcia is a native of Southeast Dallas and a product of Dallas ISD schools. Garcia was inspired to run for District 4 trustee because she wanted to address the inequities that she saw in the public-school system, particularly in Southeast Dallas. Her goal is to represent the perspective and needs of students in her community. Garcia is the youngest and only Latina to serve on the DISD Board of Trustees. Garcia is currently working with Dallas County Promise to make college education possible for all students. She is an inspiration to anyone considering a run for office, and her campaign serves as a blueprint for women of color not only in Texas, but nationwide.

*The Susan B. Anthony luncheon will take place on **Thursday, February 13, 2020**, at the Lakewood Country Club. We hope you will join us in honoring these extraordinary women, who work to improve the lives of women and our community.*

## SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON

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### THE 2020 SUSAN B. ANTHONY LUNCHEON: 100 YEARS OF BUILDING BRIDGES TO DEMOCRACY FOR WOMEN

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020**  
**11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**  
**LAKEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB**  
**6430 Gaston Ave**  
**Dallas, TX 75214**

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, visit [my.lww.org/Texas/Dallas](http://my.lww.org/Texas/Dallas)

#### Susan B. Anthony Luncheon Co-Chairs:

Rebecca Acuña - [Rebecca.Acuna@gmail.com](mailto:Rebecca.Acuna@gmail.com) or (956) 206-5853

Lisa Sherrod - [Lcsherrod@yahoo.com](mailto:Lcsherrod@yahoo.com) or (202) 351-9825



## Silent Auction

The Susan B. Anthony Award Luncheon's Silent Auction welcomes your help!  
The Luncheon is an important fundraiser for the League and we need contributions to make this possible. The following are some options for you to consider donating:

- Restaurant gift cards
- Symphony, opera, choral, museum, lecture, movie, play or sports tickets
- A theme basket (chocolate, tea, stationery, other)
- Hosting a special luncheon or dinner
- Jewelry, vase, pottery, silver, art
- Hand knitted items
- Children's gift box
- A stay at your vacation or lake home
- Donated services of your own skill
- A special book(s)
- Hotel staycation
- Baskets to be used to create the special flower baskets

Contact Becky Brakke (214-363-0921), Sandy Thornton (214-356-7034), or the League office (214-688-4125) to arrange delivery.



## VOTING MATTERS



GO TO [VOTE411.ORG](http://VOTE411.ORG) FOR YOUR VERY OWN NONPARTISAN VOTERS GUIDE

### WHY AN ACCURATE CENSUS MATTERS TO ALL TEXANS

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

Ann Beeson, CEO, Center for Public Policy Priorities (CPPP) with an update by Diane Tasian, President, League of Women Voters of Dallas (*this brief article was published in the January 2019 Dallas VOTER. Updates by Diane are in brackets*)

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. [The federal administration's effort to to add a question in 2020 about people's U.S. citizenship status, litigation to prevent it, and the recent Homeland Security announcement to share citizenship data with the Census Bureau] 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.

*[Dallas County is spending nearly \$2 million on the 2020 Census. The City of Dallas is working with the county. Texas is one of 24 states that did not allocate any money for an accurate count. Thank you Dallas County for taking this seriously! The League of Women Voters of Dallas is working with Dallas County and the City on the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee. Please see our website for more information on how to participate and how you can help.]*

## VOTING MATTERS

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### **Take Back the Vote Convening in Houston**

*Barbara Larkin*, Director of Voter Registration for LWV of Dallas, attended the Take Back the Vote Convening in Houston Texas on December 12-13. The event was hosted by the Texas Civil Rights Project, The Montrose Center and Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. The facilitator of the meeting, Gibran Rivera, was fabulous at keeping the attendees up and moving and got all 100+ attendees to interact and get to know each other. Some of the highlights of the meeting included ACLU of Texas speaking about recent voting rights legislation.

**Election Protection 2020** was an important topic with a national coalition of organizations including Texas Civil Rights Project (TCRP), Common Cause and Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law organizing a non-partisan voting hotline during election time. They have set up a very helpful voting website at [866ourvote.org](http://866ourvote.org) and calls and texts will be taken by over 4,000 volunteers at 866-OUR-VOTE throughout the election. The Coalition is hoping to have 125 volunteers (preferably lawyers or law students) in Texas working on this hotline.

**Voter Mobilization** was the next big topic with numerous speakers including Sam Robles of Progress Texas discussing the legislative actions that would help Texas increase voter turnout including: online voter registration, automatic voter registration, universal VDR status around the state, and college student IDs being an approved form of voter ID. James Slattery from the Texas Civil rights Project shared historical lessons on how to **Impact the TX Legislature during session**. He mentioned that voting rights supporters need to have voting-rights-supportive legislators talking about expanding voting rights in every room during every relevant legislative negotiation. He said there was always a legislator suggesting hindering voting rights in every negotiation he encountered.

Val Benavidez from the Texas Freedom Network spoke about a **Racial Generation gap** in Texas where policymakers and decision makers don't reflect the needs of youth. In Texas, 52% of the population is under 35 and TFN sees a strong need to get young people to run for office. They also noted that the TX voting population has not matched the TX total population, for example, the population is 41% white and the electorate is 59% white and the Latinx population is 40% of the total while the electorate is only 22%. Overall, the Take Back the Vote Convening was an inspirational call for all of us to work harder to improve the voting rights of Texans.

## DEVELOPMENT CORNER

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Last summer it was decided that LWV-Dallas needed membership software that will help us grow our membership, engage the community, simplify administrative tasks, and support the activities of the League. Transitioning to this software involves transitioning to a new website. After studying five companies, the board decided to adopt Club Express. Club Express was recommended to us by National and is used by Leagues throughout the country.

Highlights include:

- Website information divided into public and member-only sections. The data security exceeds national requirements and is the most comprehensive of any in the industry. Members have control over the visibility of their data and the option of whether they would like to receive emails.
- Members will each have their own profile. All member profile information entered as part of membership sign-up will reside here. Members will also be able to change their profile information (e.g., address, phone number).
- Renewals will only be sent via mail to members who indicated this to be their preference for communication. Everyone else will receive an automatic email renewal that will be programmed to go out at a designated time. There also is a reminder feature for any payment due. It will appear when the member logs in.
- Online registration for volunteers for Voter Registration drives and other events will be managed. This will eliminate the need to have signups through Signup Genius.
- The calendar is automatically linked to event registration. As part of the registration, payments can be made, and volunteers can sign up to help at the event. This will be helpful for events such as the Susan B. Anthony Luncheon.
- Technical support is available from 7:30 am-6:00 pm at no additional cost. The “Help” number is also available on the website to assist anyone (members and non-members) having difficulty with it. There are also “Help” buttons for each section of the website to provide information and tutorials for assistance during non-business hours.

Look for additional information in February. We expect to be using the new website in March.

*By Shannon FitzGerald*

## MEMBERSHIP

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### DONOR HONOR ROLL

Many thanks to the following generous individuals who made contributions to the League of Women Voters of Dallas since the last report:

Unrestricted gifts: Kelly Drablos, Benjamin Rush, Fran McElvaney, Vee Gerken, Barbara and Hank Lischer, Audrey Curtis, Rebecca and Paul Bergstresser, Judy and Sam Coats, Annabelle Catterall, Jean Conway, Franci Moses, Monica Purdy, Katherine McGovern, Jerry Weiss, and Ben Alvord.

Honoring Allison Walters by Jackie McElhaney, Linda Wassenich by Becky Sykes, and Harryette Ehrhardt by Clare Buie and Cal Chaney.

In memory of Barbara Materka by Jane Pak.

The League received \$5,491 through North Texas Giving Day from the following individuals: Sara Brown, Susan Oviatt, Alan Cano, Courtney Fadley, Sydney Herndon, Barbara Larkin, Jani Salyer, Jennifer Elbert, Cathe and Steve Schmitt, Brenda Nibert, Kathy Carson, Rebecca Acuña, Peggy Dowdey, Courtney Hogan, Katrina Johnson, Sally Branch, Betty Ann Ablon, Elizabeth Walley, Fred Grinnell, Shannon FitzGerald, Jeffrey Duryea, Lisa Sherrod, Lois and Ross Finkleman, Nia MacKay, Beth Scalise, Jean Conway, Janet Eickmeyer, Cecilia McKay, Sandy Thornton, Diane and Berge Tasian, Wendy Johnston, Melina Neely, Katherine McGovern, Chris and Richard Guldi, Elaine Wiant, Carole Cohen, Jeanne Reinelt, David Collins, Dee Lersch, Karen Bassett, Linda Wassenich, and Janet Follstaedt.

### REMEMBER THE LEAGUE IN YOUR WILL

One hundred years ago, on February 14, 1920, the League of Women Voters was created in anticipation of the adoption of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment to help women learn about voting. Ever since, it has been helping people learn about the issues and what the candidates' positions are on the issues. It has been fighting to protect people's right to vote, to preserve fair and honest government, and to promote the rule of law and international cooperation around the world.

If these are things that you value, consider making a gift to the League through your will. You can leave a fixed amount of money or a percentage of your estate to the League. You can also give from your IRA if you are 70½ without paying taxes on that money. Contact Linda Wassenich at [LindaVote@gmail.com](mailto:LindaVote@gmail.com) or 214-368-5305 if you have questions or want the wording for making a bequest ever since in your will.

### WANT TO SERVE ON THE LEAGUE BOARD?

The Nominating Committee is looking for people who are interested in serving on the board or on a committee that a board member heads up. The board meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10:00 am until noon, usually at the League office or at the Meadows Conference Center. Meeting on Saturday was done to accommodate the schedule of working board members. In the past, the board met on the first Thursday of the month at noon.

If you have any questions or want to explore the idea of board service more thoroughly, please contact chair Eileen Rosenblum ([eileen.rosenblum@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.rosenblum@gmail.com); 469-879-8801) or Linda Wassenich ([LindaVote@gmail.com](mailto:LindaVote@gmail.com); 214-368-5305).



## CALENDAR

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There will be NO Unit Meetings in February. Our next Unit Meetings will be March 11<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding those meetings in late February. Thank you!



### **LWV Dallas General Program: *Women's Vote: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow***

March 19, 2020

Time: Starts 11:30 AM - Ends 1:30 PM

Place: Midway Hills Christian Church, in the Community Room, 11001 Midway Road, Dallas, TX 75229.



This program will begin with Patty Jantho's skit, ***"We Hold These Truths"*** which reviews the long struggle to get the vote. Following the skit Elisabeth MacNamara, recent past President of the LWVUS, has been invited to speak about the League. She will discuss recent League successes and challenges as well as goals for the future.

Lunch will be available for purchase.

# CALENDAR

## LWVD Calendar 2020 January through April

DATE	DAY / TIME	EVENT / LOCATION
<b>JANUARY 2020</b>		
1	<b>Wednesday OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>New Years Day</b>
1	Wednesday	First day to apply for Ballot by Mail for May 2 Joint Election
2	Thursday, 5:00pm	Board reports due, lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net
4	Saturday, 10:00 - Noon	LWVD Board Meeting ( <i>League members welcome</i> ) Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas, TX 75204
8 - 9	Wednesday - Thursday	Unit Meetings - Money in Politics (a LWV US priority issue). Ann Drumm will present "Imagine a Government Run by People, Not Money"
9	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
11	Saturday, 10:00am - 11:00am	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
16	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
18	Saturday, 10:00am - 11:00am	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
20	<b>Monday OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>
22	Wednesday	Our Body, Our Lives reception celebrating Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision January 22, 1973 (LWVD is a sponsor and helps at registration)
23	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
25	Saturday, 10:00am - 11:00am	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
30	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
31	Friday	PMP Membership report for LWV US due from LWVD office
<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b>		
		Black History Month
		NO Unit meetings, NO Board Meeting, Periodic Program Review
3	Monday	Last day to register to vote for March 3, 2020 Primary Election
3 - 7	Monday - Friday	Probable week for Voter Guide distribution for March Primary Election
11	Tuesday	Candidate Forum - TX 108 Democratic Primary
TBD	TBD	Candidate Forum - TX 108 Republican Primary
13	Thursday, 11:00am - 1:00pm	<b>SUSAN B ANTHONY LUNCHEON &amp; SILENT AUCTION</b> Lakewood Country Club, 6430 Gaston Ave., Dallas
14	<b>Friday</b>	<b>100th ANNIVERSARY of LWV</b>
15	Saturday	Susan B. Anthony's birthday (200th Anniversary)
17	<b>Monday OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Presidents' Day - Washington's Birthday</b>
18	Tuesday	<b>EARLY VOTING BEGINS</b> for March 3 Primary Election
20	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
28	Friday	<b>EARLY VOTING ENDS</b> for March 3 Primary Election
<b>APRIL 2020</b>		
1	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>2020 CENSUS DAY</b>
1	Wednesday, Midnight	Board reports due, lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net
2	Thursday	Last day to register to vote to participate in May 2nd Joint Election
4	Saturday, 10:00 - Noon	LWVD Board Meeting ( <i>League members welcome</i> ) Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas, TX 75204
8 - 9	Wednesday - Thursday	Unit Meetings - Content TBD
9	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
10	<b>Friday OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
11	Saturday, 10:00am - 11:00am	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
12	Sunday	Easter
16	Thursday, 6:00pm - 7:00pm	Volunteer Deputy Registrar Class - <i>PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS</i> : 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, TX 75247 (near Stemmons & Regal Row)
17 - 19	Friday - Sunday	<b>LWV TX Convention, Austin, TX</b>
20	Monday	<b>EARLY VOTING BEGINS</b> for May 2nd Joint Election
22	Wednesday	Earth Day
23 - 26	Thursday - Sunday	EarthxConference, Fair Park, Dallas, TX
28	Tuesday	<b>EARLY VOTING ENDS</b> for May 2nd Joint Election
29	Wednesday, Midnight	Board reports due, lwvdallas@sbcglobal.net
<b>SAVE THE DATES:</b>		
May 16	Saturday	Annual Meeting, The Edgemere
June 25 to 28, 2020	Thursday - Sunday	LWV US 54th National Convention, Hyatt Regency and Liaison Hotel - Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.
September, 26 2020	Saturday, Luncheon	100th Anniversary Celebration of the 19th Amendment