LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS

P.O. Box 4034, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308 Phone: <u>940-692-8498</u> (President Kaye Holland) Web Page: <u>www.lwvtexas.org/local/wichitafalls</u>

VOTER for December 2016

Cheryl Miller, Executive Director, Humane Society of Wichita County

Wednesday, December 7, at Luby's Cafeteria.

Go thru lunch line prior to noon call to order.

"The Humane Society of Wichita County"

Cheryl Miller is the Executive Director of the Humane Society. She has been licensed as a General Vet Tech for the past 12 years. Currently, she lives on a small ranch outside of Archer City, where they raise Darfur lambs and her husband trains horses.

She will be talking about the animal rescue community in Wichita Falls, how the HSWC fits in that community, how the HSWC helps the county, and how the HSWC is funded.

MEMBERSHIP!

The League Year runs from July 1st to June 30th. Individual member dues remain at **\$60** per member. Dues for a family (couple) are **\$90**. Per Member Payments (PMP) required by the State & National Leagues require us to remit virtually all of these dues on to them. Therefore, donations from members, friends, & others are essential for us to issue Voters Guides during each election season. If you haven't renewed your membership for this year, please do! Your League needs you!

Either bring your dues (and contributions) to a meeting, or mail to the treasurer at our P.O. Box 4034, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308. Make checks payable to LWV-Wichita Falls.

MENTAL HEALTH STUDY

At the annual meeting, we approved a study on mental health. Since this was brought up and approved at the meeting, no study Scope and Focus was approved. The Board approved the following Scope and Focus at their board meeting.

Ashley McErlean, LMFT-A, agreed to chair this study. Please sign up to participate, so we can set up times for the study group to meet to learn about this important topic. We certainly got a lot of information from Roddy Adkins at the last meeting.

Mental Health in Wichita Falls

Scope: This study will review the mental health issues in Wichita County, with a focus on the issues mental health problems bring to the community as well as the types of available treatment and their efficacy.

Focus: The following areas are within the scope of the study.

• The specific mental health concerns within Wichita County

• The impact of mental health issues on government agencies and the community as a whole

- · Treatment facilities and options within Wichita County
- Funding sources for mental health treatment
- · Gaps in mental health screening and treatment, if any
- Laws or regulations that impact mental health screening and treatment

THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT...... Kaye Holland

I certainly hope everyone has had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. Even though it is hard to believe, December is upon us. Now we look forward to Christmas.

The League of Women Voters of Wichita Falls is embarking on the study of Mental Health in the Wichita Falls. This study will include examining specific mental health concerns in Wichita County. This study has many aspects to examine including treatment facilities , funding, laws or regulations, as well as impact of mental health issues on government agencies and the community as a whole. Everyone is touched by these issues in one form or another. Please consider signing up for this important committee. I'll have a sign-up sheet at the December meeting.

Several of our members took the test and signed up to be Volunteer Deputy Registrars. If you did this, you received numbered voter registration forms and had to take each form to the courthouse when you registered a new voter. The leftover numbered registration forms are due to be returned to the Wichita County Clerk's office by December 31, 2016. Most of you know this, but this is a reminder.

There will be no board meeting in December. See you Wednesday. Bring a friend.

Kaye

Bring a friend to our meeting on December 7.

Feel free to forward this VOTER to your friends & associates. Feedback to Penny Miller at <u>pdmiller.lwv@gmail.com</u> or <u>940-867-9761</u>