AARP to Mobilize Voters Ahead of 2018 Midterm Elections
Nationwide Campaign Aims to Help Voters Age 50+ Hold Politicians Accountable

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, AARP launched “Be The Difference. Vote™,” a comprehensive voter engagement campaign to support Americans age 50-plus as they vote in the 2018 midterm elections. The campaign will provide information on where politicians stand on the issues and help these decisive voters hold politicians accountable for their positions this November. AARP's effort will seek to get the largest possible turnout of 50-plus voters at the polls in the general election in November. It will also work to ensure issues of particular importance to older voters are front and center—issues like Medicare, Social Security, financial security, prescription drug costs, and caregiving.

“Older voters are a major force in elections, yet time and again, some candidates, campaigns and policymakers underestimate their influence,” said Nancy LeaMond, AARP’s Executive Vice President and Chief Advocacy & Engagement Officer. “Our work will not only mobilize 50-plus voters, it will also bring the issues they care about to the forefront of campaigns across the country. Older
voters are watching and they vote in impressive numbers.”
“This campaign is AARP’s biggest effort yet and it will use every tool at its disposal. We will mobilize voters by integrating technology, events, data, polling and earned and paid media,” added John Hishta, AARP’s Senior Vice President of Campaigns.
The “Be The Difference. Vote” campaign includes a one-stop online portal — aarp.org/vote — that will provide people with the information they need about this year’s elections, including:
- a pledge to take action
- voter guides
- issue briefings
- poll results
and how federal elected officials voted on key issues, like the health care repeal bills last year.
A centerpiece of AARP’s voter engagement efforts is an online voter pledge. The text of the pledge is as follows: “I pledge to be the difference and VOTE in the election this year. Every vote counts, and together, we the people can hold politicians accountable and make them pay attention to important issues like Medicare, Social Security, prescription drugs, caregiving, and financial security.”
In battlegrounds across the country, AARP will track key races, sponsor debates, and host candidate forums, issue forums, and tele-townhall events. Election information will be provided through a full-scale digital effort, including aarp.org/vote, the AARP Now app, social media outreach, graphics, and news alerts. AARP will also use direct mail, phone banks and transportation assistance to help people get to the polls.
Additionally, AARP and POLITICO are teaming up to create a new series, entitled “The Deciders,” which will combine analysis, demographic profiles of the 50-plus electorate, and stories capturing voter sentiments in battleground states such as Florida, Pennsylvania, Arizona and Ohio. POLITICO will also hold events in key states featuring candidates from both parties.


Ride With Us For New Adventures
Friday, May 25 we will leave Wheatsville at 10:00 am and return around 4:00 pm for a stroll and some fun exploring Asian culture at the 99 Market. Enjoy a stroll and fun exploring some Asian culture at “99 Market” This new supermarket is the size of Walmart and is a treat for the eyes. It was established in 1984, with its first store in Little Saigon, California. They have grown to become the largest Asian supermarket chain in the United States, with over 50 store locations in California, Nevada, Texas, Washington State, New Jersey and Oregon. This Asian market has numerous tanks stacked with fresh live seafood: catfish, tilapia, Dungeness crabs, lobster, mussels, clams, eels. There is a marvelous bakery as you enter the front door. We will eat at a Chinese restaurant on Airport Road prior to touring the supermarket. Rain date will be the following week.
For additional info contact Pat Thomas at 512-441-1485 or pthomas1@austin.rr.com
Pat Thomas is on vacation during May but she promises some fun adventures starting June 3rd. That is the date CapMetro has selected to begin new bus schedules. https://www.capmetro.org/remap/. To get the public acquainted with new routes CapMetro will be offering everyone a free ride between the dates of June 3rd-9th. The new route 7 will enable us to explore the area around the convention center and the Rainey street district. This area will also provide us with the option to ride the LightRail train all the way to Cedar Park. There is an extra fee for LightRail but it is a fun all day adventure. I’ll send out additional information after I return from vacation in Santa Fe.
May Celebrations

Birthdays
Crespin Guzman 2
Helen Carr 5
Rita Coyne 8
Wanda Hasley 9
Shirley F. Washington 14
Petr Skalnik 19
Darrel Jennings 21
Ignacio Espinoza 22
Laurel Burnett 26
Lynn McEnelly 28
Kim Nguyen 29
Tom Bauer 31
Vangie Ramos 31

Future Programs:
June Immigration Lilliana Mendoza
July Ice Cream Social
August 360.org

Chapter 2426 Treasurer’s Report:
Checking $2519.16
Travel $1645.31
Savings $25.00

YIPPEE! I WOKE UP!
Why retirees are always so happy

How grandchildren perceive their grandparents
I was in the bathroom, putting on my makeup, under the watchful eyes of my young granddaughter, as I’d done many times before. After I applied my lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye....

My young grandson called the other day to wish me Happy Birthday. He asked me how old I was, and I told him, 72. My grandson was quiet for a moment, and then he asked, "Did you start at 1?"

2018 Officers
And Committee Chairs

Officers
President: Pete Skalnik 214-704-9562
Vice President: Elaine Benton 512-799-2224
Secretary: Ed Gonzales 512-444-3335
Assistant Secretary: Marilyn Totten 512-280-8030
Treasurer: Barbara Fetonte 512-282-1944
Assistant Treasurer: Rosie Perez (512) 440 7050

Board of Directors (in addition to officers):
Mary Ragland 512-280-8661
Al Prewitt 512-287-9847

Committee Chairs
Community Svc: Pat Thomas 512-441-1485
Greeters: Marilyn Totten 512-280-8030
Health: Barbara Kaiser –512-282-0960
Gail Glick 512-547-4153
Hospitality: Al Prewitt -512-287-9847
Legislative: Debbie Galloway 512-217-1566
Membership: Margaret Hughes 512-956-3297
Newsletter Editor And Web Manager: Diane McGowan-512-892-4416

Program: Jose Saenz
Phone Committee Chair
Elaine Benton 512-799-2224
Sunshine: Doris Thorne 512-382-9130
Travel Mario Macaluso 512-432-5255
April Chapter Meeting
Texercise speaker, Rusty Cribbs, presented each member with a booklet on exercise for seniors.

Some members received a door prize.

Members participated in some standing exercises for balance.

President Pete Skalnik always leads with a smile.

CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BY SOUTH AUSTIN AARP CHAPTER 2426 VOLUNTEERS

PLEASE BRING THIS INFORMATION TO THE CHAPTER MEETING

AND TURN IN TO : ED GONZALES

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Total Volunteer Hours

May, 2018