

Northwest Democrats News

**26 YEARS
And
Still Kicking**



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December 15th PROGRAM:

All of our Texas Legislature elected officials have been invited to discuss the agenda for the new legislative session that begins in January, 2019. The goals and issues that they will be working on will be discussed. Please join us for this important meeting at 8:30 am, Luby's at Huebner and Floyd Curl.

SPECIAL PROJECT:

Refugee Bus and Airport Ministry

When released at the bus station, families have no money, food, water or supplies to provide comfort on their journey. We need your help to provide families with basic supplies as they begin their long journey to reunite with loved ones around the United States. It costs \$25 to provide one family with these supplies. For the airport ministry, it costs \$10 to provide one family with these supplies. See page 3 of newsletter for items that can be donated. Money is also an option.

**Contact Gene Marck,
210-273-9201, if you have any questions.**

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To submit an article or other info, email Brenda Middleton at:
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A Few JOYCE Words

As this year ends all of us will have differing memories of what was most important to us. For me, it will begin with the death of my oldest child, my daughter, Sylvia, on August 8th. 2018 was a bad year for my family - too much illness, too many hospital stays, requiring too many visits, too harsh an ending for some.

In the political realm, it will be two things: 1) the deterioration of my confidence that a president is meant to lead the country, but not to destroy our faith in the office as Trump has done. It seems that every time I feel things cannot be worse, they become worse. In the 58 years since I first cast my vote for John F. Kennedy, I had always believed that no matter who was elected to the office that person understood the Constitution and his role in the provisions of that document. Not anymore. I am convinced that not only does Trump not know anything in that document, but he is not interested in understanding the presidential role provided within it. Rather than serving as our leader in the Executive Branch, he prefers the role of "Campaigner in Chief." I would be dishonest if I did not say that, in addition, to my joy that Democrats retook control of the U.S. House of Representatives, the repudiation of Trump's philosophy in the House was absolute. Unfortunately, things did not end so well for a couple of our Democratic senators.

2) The election of 2018 did produce someone who has reminded us of the power of government to aspire to do great things, to provide the promise of a different approach to public office. The promise of a man like Beto O'Rourke is needed in an executive office such as governor or president far more than a legislative one. His vision, concern for people and focus was one of our biggest losses. I wonder how things would have turned out if he had run against Governor Greg Abbott instead of Ted Cruz. Well, he is young and will have another opportunity to run.

In the meantime, it seems only Robert Mueller can save our country from more problems caused by this president. He and the Democratic majority in the House (led by Speaker Nancy Pelosi) will

provide the assurance that someone will be watching his actions as well as serving as a check on the issues Trump puts forward.

As everyone should know by now, our 41st president, George H. W. Bush passed away this weekend and will have been buried by the time we meet. He was a man who knew the value of compromise and how to get things done. I remember well his statement when Iraq moved into Kuwait - "This shall not stand." I quoted it so often in the years that followed when something happened at home that I disagreed with.

We lost one early member of Northwest Democrats, Raul Campbell, a Vietnam War survivor who had suffered terrible injuries there. Now a second longtime member, Bill Stavisky, is in the hospital very ill. He needs our support and our prayers. Things don't look good for Bill right now. Bill was our first officer to serve as the Special Projects leader. He kept that position for a number of years and was very successful in leading us to participate in many different activities. ★

Items Needed for Bus Station and Airport Ministry

Bus Station Backpack

Toiletries in a quart size ziplock bag: 2 toothbrushes, travel size toothpaste, package of hand wipes, 2-3 hair bands

Snacks in a gallon ziplock bag: 2-3 packets of trail mix, 3-4 granola bars, 2-3 packages of animal crackers, 2-3 packages of Cheezits, 2-3 packages of salty snacks (peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers etc.)

Other Items: 2 pens, 1 small note pad, coloring book and crayons, small blanket (4×6), a bottle of water, stuffed animal

Small size English-Spanish dictionary (optional but highly recommended)

Airport Backpack

SNACKS: Granola Bars or similar healthy snack, Salty Snacks (peanut butter crackers,, cheese crackers), Totts or Welch's snack packs

TOYS: Stuffed animals (new or like new) need to be under 12"

Small size English-Spanish dictionary (optional but highly recommended)

If you would like to volunteer to fill backpacks, please email the IWC at sanantoniowelcome@gmail.com or call/text Paula Henderson at 210-

912-9508

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IMPORTANT DATES

December 15	Northwest Democrats meeting
December 25	Christmas Day
January 1, 2019	New Year's Day
January 19	Northwest Democrats meeting
February 3	NWD Super Bowl 53 Event