

# THE VOTER

A Publication of



FEBRUARY 2025



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 5

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**IMPORTANT 'SAVE THE DATES'**

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**February 2025  
Voter Services Skills Training**

**2 pm (CT) Monday, February 17, 2025**



**League of Women Voters of Alabama**  
**Voter Services Education - February 2025**

**Voter Services Skills Training**



**Tuscaloosa Municipal Election on March 4**

**Municipal Elections across Alabama - preparing to GOTV**  
**NVRA - Voter Roll Maintenance (Alabama 2025 edition)**

**Tour of the brand new [Vote411.org/LWVAL](https://Vote411.org/LWVAL)**

**Monday, February 17 @ 2pm Central, via Zoom**

**Register Here: [bit.ly/4hdl7dB](https://bit.ly/4hdl7dB)**



On Monday February 17 at 2 pm central time, the LWVAL will offer important training for League Voter Services volunteers, allies and to the public at large.

This League's voter skills training is an important and accessible way for volunteers to learn about voting, elections laws and how to help voters overcome barriers to participate in municipal, state and federal elections.

**FEBRUARY TOPICS**

**Tuscaloosa Municipal Election on March 4**

**Statewide Municipal Elections in August 2025**

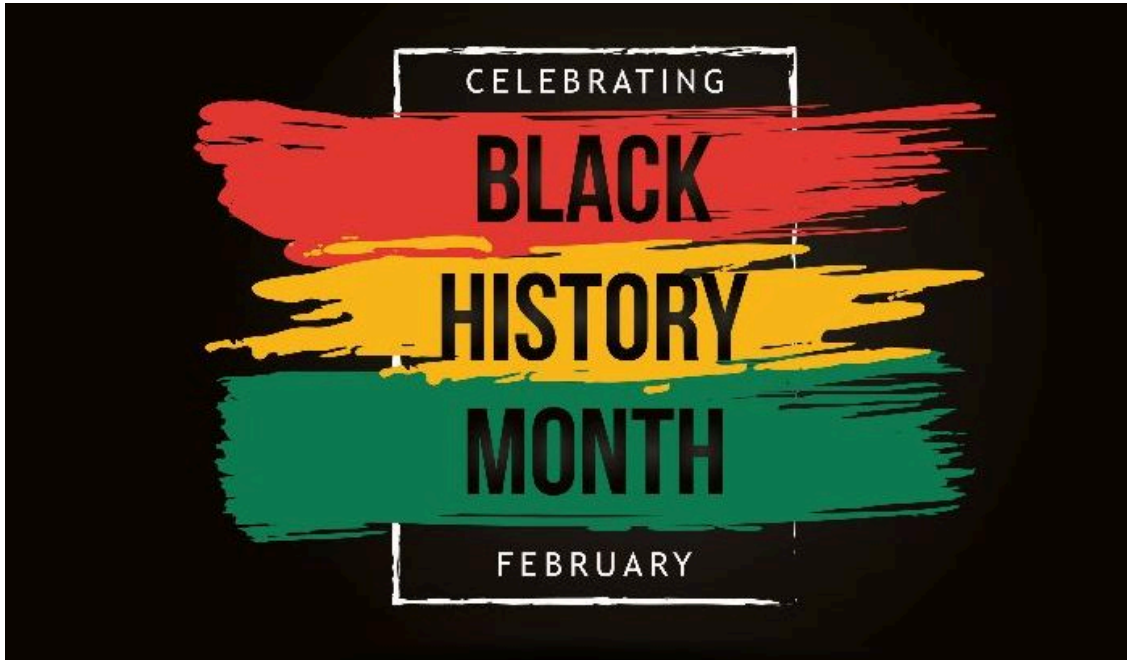
**(Preparing to GOTV)**

**NRVA - Voter Roll Maintenance (Alabama 2025 edition)**

**Tour of the brand new [Vote411.org/LWVAL](https://Vote411.org/LWVAL)**

Click below to register and receive a zoom link

Register for February Voter Services Training

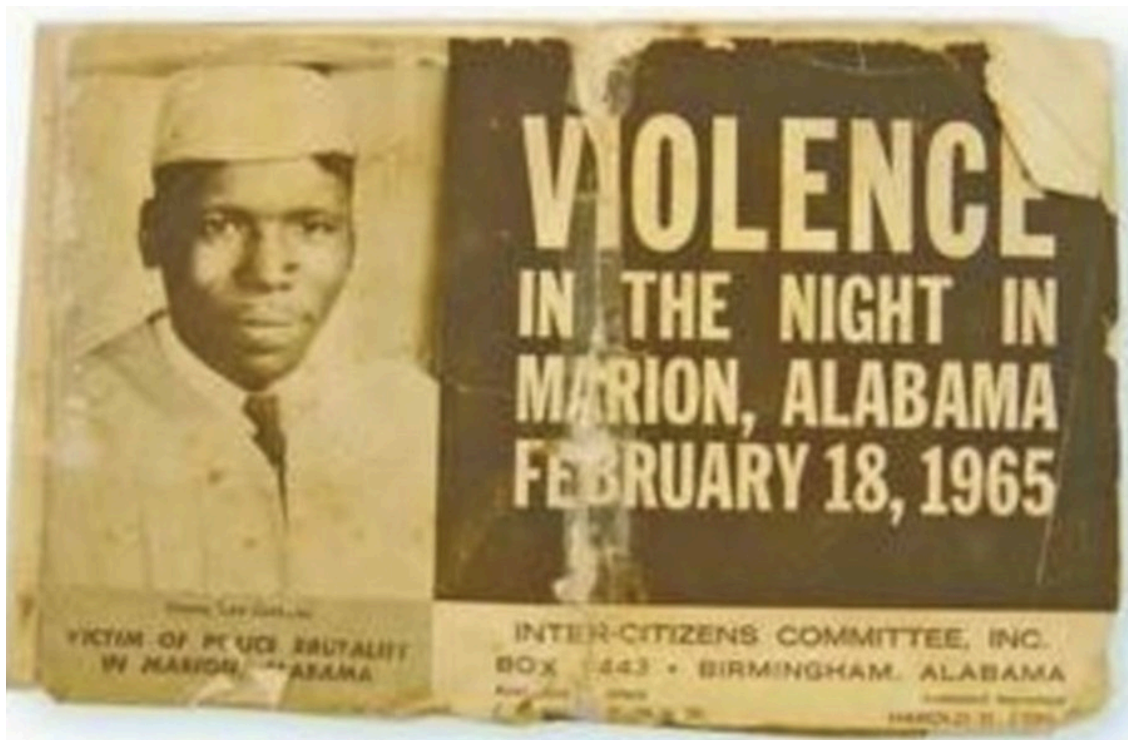


Black History Month

## A February Entry in Alabama's *Bloody Sunday* Story

Jeanine Normand

**Editor's Note:** *When I was researching 'Important Dates' for this issue, I ran across February 18, 1965 and Jimmie Lee Jackson. His name sounded familiar but out of reach for my recall. I then read about him and realized - we need to know this story. Because the night of February 18, 1965 was the impetus for Bloody Sunday. And **exactly now** is when we need to know and understand about Mr. Jimmie Lee Jackson. Thanks to Baldwin County Leaguer Jeanine Normand for crafting this story on very short notice.*



On February 18, 1965, Reverend C. T. Vivian led a peaceful march in Marion, Alabama to protest the prejudicial jailing of the young, civil rights activist, James Orange, who was the field secretary for the Southern Conference Leadership Conference. The participants left Zion United Methodist Church, intending to march to the Perry County Jail. At the post office, a harsh line of city, county, and state law enforcement officers awaited them. The ensuing brutal attack by state troopers resulted in many gruesome injuries among the marchers, including the tragic shooting of marcher Jimmie Lee Jackson.

After cruelly beating Jimmie Lee Jackson, an Alabama State Trooper then shot him in the stomach. Jackson had been valiantly trying to protect his mother from being beaten, too, which had enraged the state trooper. Eight days later on February 26, 1965, in a Selma hospital, Jimmie Lee Jackson died from his unwarranted gunshot wound and beating. There

were two memorial services held for the lamentable circumstances of his death. Martin Luther King, Jr. spoke at one:



"Jimmie Lee Jackson's death says to us that we must work passionately and unrelentingly to make the American dream a reality. His death must prove that unmerited suffering does not go unredeemed. We must not be bitter, and we must not harbor ideas of retaliating with violence. We must not lose faith in our white brothers."

Civil rights leaders called for a peaceful march from Selma to Montgomery. The main purpose of this march was to bring attention to three main issues: the unjustifiable death of Jimmie Lee Jackson, the ongoing police violence against citizens, and the continued quest for voting rights for all.

Governor George Wallace ominously ordered Alabama state troopers to "use whatever means necessary to stop the march." The march was held a few days later on March 7, 1965. Law enforcement responded with shocking, unbridled viciousness toward the brave and respectful marchers, who merely tried to peacefully walk over the Edmund Pettus Bridge. This event became known as Bloody Sunday.

Television coverage of the horrors of Bloody Sunday rightfully ignited national outrage. Bloody Sunday, a model for non-violent resistance, maintains pivotal significance in American history as the turning point for voting rights. Bloody Sunday changed the minds of the majority of Americans to support of civil rights for African Americans.

**60 years ago...**

**February 18, 2025 - Honoring the memory of Jimmie Lee Jackson.**

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***And so....  
Please Join the League for the 60th  
Anniversary  
of the Bloody Sunday Bridge Crossing***



# Crossing the Pettus Bridge in Solidarity and With Purpose

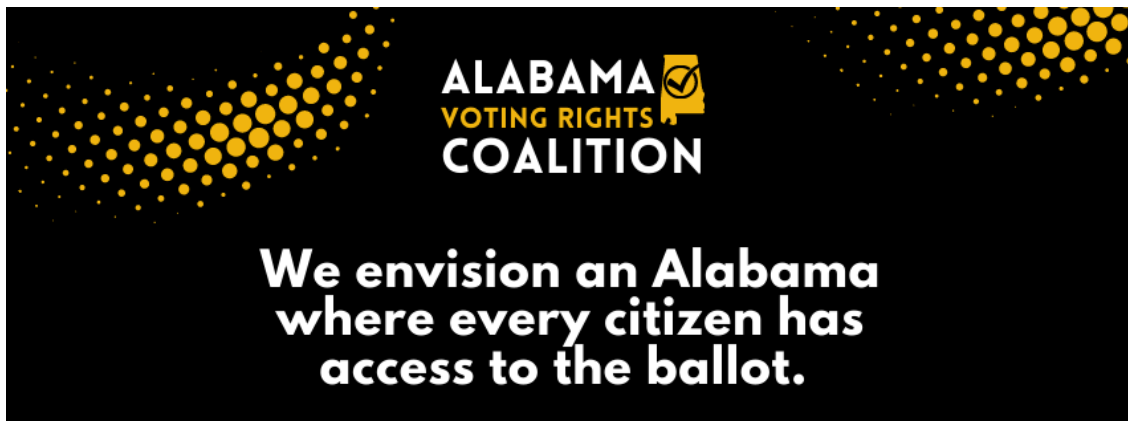
March 9, 2025  
10 am - 5 pm

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If you are planning to attend the 60th Anniversary of Bloody Sunday with the League in Selma, please RSVP with us at the link below.

[RSVP with the LWV of Alabama](#)

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**\*\* Save the Date APRIL 1, 2025 \*\***

**Alabama Voting Rights Coalition  
2025 Lobby Day**

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The League of Women Voters of Alabama is one of the founding members of the AVRC. Save the date, Tuesday April 1, 2025 for the Alabama Voting Rights Coalition 2025 Lobby Day. This important event will be 10:30 am to 2:30 pm in Montgomery on the 1st of April. We are expecting a huge crowd of all ages and walks of life to lobby legislators for the Alabama Voting Rights Act (SB7/HB60); the Early Voting bills (HB59 and HB71); the disabled voter designated delivery of absentee



ballot bill (HB77); and the newly filed Absentee Affidavit Envelope Curing bill (HB97). It will be a day brimming with positive energy and advocacy!

Stay tuned for more information!

## LWVAL NEWS and EVENTS



The 2025 Legislative Session started on Tuesday February 4.



Be sure you keep up with what's going on by visiting both the Alabama Channel and the Alabama Channel's YouTube Channel (if you've not subscribed, DO IT)

[Visit The Alabama Channel](#)

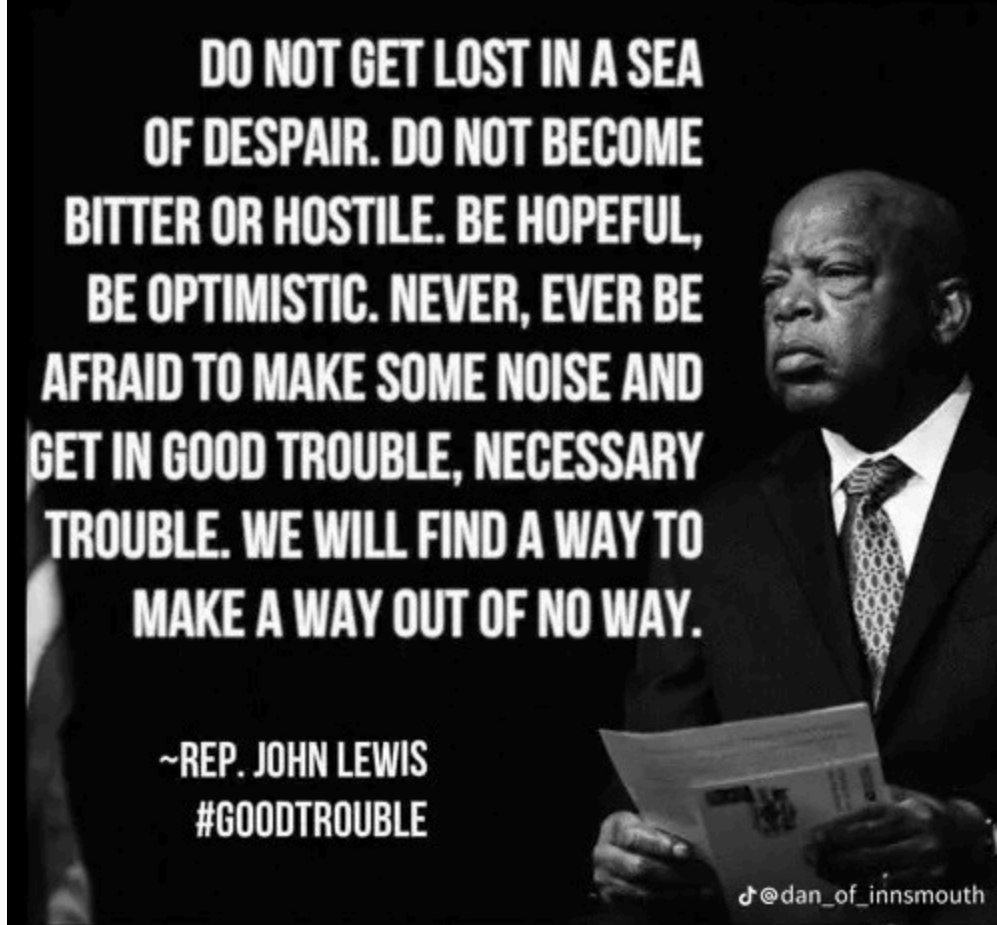
**Watch it live on YouTube!**

**The Alabama Channel's YOUTUBE Channel**



The League's 'Take Action Tuesdays' has TAKEN off. Feedback from members and friends has been overwhelmingly positive.

These calls to action are crafted by Lobby Corp Director Kim Bailey and intentionally designed so that they don't require much time to accomplish. The calls reflect what is happening in the legislature related to the League's priority bills and those of our partner organizations. The calls are dispatched the first thing each Tuesday morning. Be sure to notice these emails and accomplish your calls for the day!



## Tuscaloosa Municipal Elections

March 4, 2025

Election day for the city of Tuscaloosa is Tuesday March 4. The qualification period for the 16 races was January 14-28. 25 candidates were announced on Friday January 29. Ten of the 16 races are unopposed.

The deadline for registration, whether online or in person is Monday, February 17. Mailed registrations must be received by Monday, February 17.

A team of league members from state and Greater Tuscaloosa are working to set up Vote411 as a voter resource for this election. The project will serve as a pilot for a possible statewide larger project to implement Vote411 for 50 cities in August 2025.

A candidate forum is planned for 6:30-8:30 pm Thursday, February 18 at Grace Presbyterian Church (113 Hargrove Rd, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35401). All candidates will be invited.

[Visit Tuscaloosa Election Page](#)

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## LOCAL LEAGUE NUGGETS

### **League of Women Voters of Tennessee Valley**

The League of Women Voters Tennessee Valley participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr parade in Huntsville on Saturday, January 18, 2025. The parade was organized by the Delta Theta Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, Inc.

Members of the LWV Tennessee Valley in the MLK Jr. Parade Grandstand were Lawanna Harvey LWVTNV President and Kathy Jones LWVAL President. Riding in the car and providing Voter Services (naturally!) were Heather Morgan, Tara Bailey, and Roger Ellis.



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The League of Women Voters of the Tennessee Valley, the Huntsville Alumni Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta, and the Mississippi Valley State University Alabama Alumni Association had a great time working together to provide voter services at the Pre-Valentines Day Sip, Shop, and Sway Delta Marketplace in Huntsville Alabama.

From Left to right: Jenella L Lymon President, Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU); Latana Erves, Huntsville Alumnae Chapter of DST; Kathy Jones, President League Women Voter Alabama; Angeline Brownlow, MVSU; Bernard & Elaine Simelton MVSU; State Rep. Laura Hall: Huntsville Alumnae Delta Sigma Theta Chapter; Roger Ellis: Voter Services Director LWVTNV and Director on LWVAL Education Fund



LWV Tennessee Valley at the Learning Quest rally day to advertise a 2 day class entitled **◆Voter Education by the League of Women Voters◆**. The class will be taught by local and state League leaders. LWVTNV member Wanda Shoultes will be the class coordinator. All League members are encouraged to attend! Pictured from Left to Right: Kathy Jones, Wanda Shoultes, Cate Hewitt, Roger Ellis




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## League of Women Voters of Baldwin County

The Alabama Channel Director Tara Bailey was a presenter at the Alabama Arise meeting in Baldwin County on January 27, 2025.

LWVBC Members came out to support Alabama Arise and meet Alabama Channel's Tara Bailey. Sixty people were in attendance. Two attendees were motivated to join the League immediately following the meeting.



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## League of Women Voters of Greater Tuscaloosa

The League of Greater Tuscaloosa held a virtual 'Meet Your Legislators' event on January 14, 2025. Dr Jackie Northrup moderated the event.



January 14, 2025  
LWVGT Virtual 'Meet and Greet' with State Legislators

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## League of Women Voters of Greater Birmingham

The League of Greater Birmingham held a 'Meet Your Legislators' event on January 21, 2025. LWVGB President Scottie McClaney moderated the event.



January 21, 2025  
LWVGB Virtual 'Meet and Greet' with State Legislators

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**IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATES**



February - [Black History Month](#)

February 3 - [Anniversary of 1870 Ratification of 15th Amendment Giving Black Men the Right to Vote](#)

February 12 - [NAACP Founders Day](#)

February 14 - [League of Women Voters Day & Valentines Day](#)

February 21 - [National Caregivers Day](#)



The Equal Justice Initiative daily calendar for the month of February

[EJI Calendar for February](#)

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## February Birthdays of Note

Frederick Douglass February 1, 1818  
Langston Hughes February 1, 1901  
Gertrude Stein February 3, 1874  
Rosa Parks February 4, 1913  
Abraham Lincoln February 12, 1809  
Susan B Anthony February 15, 1820  
Sidney Poitier February 20, 1927  
Nina Simon February 21, 1933  
George Washington February 22, 1732


**(Editor's Suggestion - Consider learning something new about these individuals on their birthdates)**

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# IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

(YOU CAN STILL WATCH IT!)

## LWVAL Voter Education Series A Conversation: Early Voting For Alabama Presented Jan 16, 2025





League of Women Voters of Alabama  
*Voter Education Series*



**A Conversation:  
Early Voting For Alabama**

Thursday, January 16 at 6:30 PM via Zoom  
Register Here: <https://bit.ly/4iyjsvl>

 <p>Representative Adline Clarke District 97</p>	 <p>Representative Thomas E Jackson District 68</p>	 <p>Sam Duff Voting Rights Policy Strategist   ACLU of Alabama</p>
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Watch 'Early Voting for Alabama'

## LWVAL Voter Services Skills Training Presented Jan 21, 2025



League of Women Voters of Alabama  
Voter Services Education - January 2025

Voter Services Skills Training



Alabama Municipal Elections in 2025

We Need Early Voting in Alabama ... What You Can Do!  
Newly Expanded Moral Turpitudes List + Rights Restoration



Tuesday, January 21 @ 2pm Central, via Zoom

Register Here: [bit.ly/4eKwHeS](https://bit.ly/4eKwHeS)



Watch Voter Services Skills Training Jan 2025

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LWVAL Voter Education Series  
Improving Maternal Outcomes in Alabama  
Presented Jan 23, 2025



# League of Women Voters of Alabama

## Voter Education Series



### Improving Maternal Outcomes in Alabama

Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

Register Here for a Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/4itro61>



**Marilyn Lands**  
AL State Representative  
District 10




**Susan Dubose**  
AL State Representative  
District 45




**Dalia Abrams**  
Co-Founder of Alabama's First  
Community Doula Program  
Women's Health Advocate  
Doula Trainer


[Watch 'Improving Maternal Outcomes in Alabama'](#)

## H.I.V.E Alabama 2025 Legislative Preview Presented Jan 28, 2024




Tuesday, January 28  
**NOON ZOOM**  
See Event for Registration Link


  
  
Elaine Burdeshaw & Elliot Spillers Alabama Appleseed

  
Jennifer Harris  
Alabama Arise

  
Paula Wilson  
Moms Demand Action  
for Gun Sense AL

  
Kathy Jones  
League of Women  
Voters of Alabama

  
Marva Douglas  
Action Coalition  
for Transit in Alabama

  
Cindy Lowry  
Alabama Rivers Alliance

  
Jessica Hayes  
Read Freely Alabama

Watch this most informative 2025 H.I.V.E. Legislative Preview at the link below.

[Watch Hive 2025 Legislative Preview](#)

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## The VOTER *LAGNIAPPE*



NATIONAL MUSEUM  
*of* AFRICAN AMERICAN  
HISTORY & CULTURE

 Smithsonian

During Black History Month, the Smithsonian celebrates Black people's often invisible labor of all kinds - across time, industry, and community

### Invisible Changemakers of Industry

[Read - Invisible Changemakers](#)

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SMITHSONIAN COLLECTION STORY  
A Photo Essay: African Americans At Work

[Visit the Photo Essay](#)

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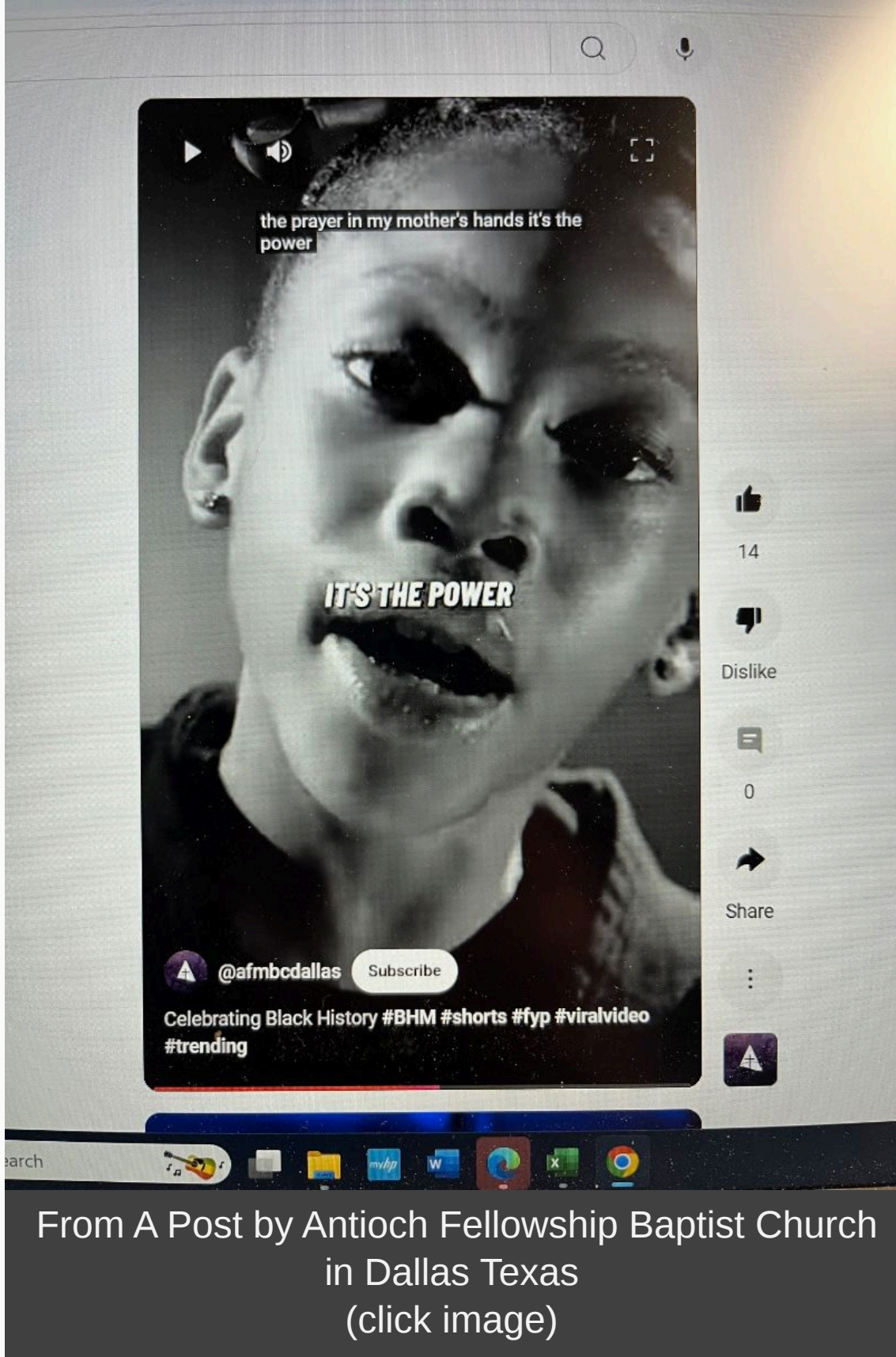
HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
from the Obama Foundation



THE HISTORY OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH  
The History Channel



Still I Rise by Maya Angelou  
(No other introduction needed....)



Thank you for reading this issue of The Voter.  
We welcome your ideas and feedback at [TheVoter@LWVAL.org](mailto:TheVoter@LWVAL.org).



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**AND If you've received this email from a friend and would like to subscribe to the LWVAL Interest Group, click the link below.**

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League of Women Voters of Alabama  
P.O. Box 12938  
Huntsville, AL 35815

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