



The League of Women Voters of Elmhurst
Celebrating 75 Years of Public Policy Debate and Voter Education in our Community

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Laura Kratz, Editor
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Shop Talk

Legislative Update on Health Care
Kay Pankau, Illinois Hospital Association

Thursday, October 18th, 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Public Library

What's happening in Springfield regarding health care? Join us as LWV Elmhurst member Kay Pankau leads us in a discussion of the latest regulations that our legislators have passed.

Kay is a nurse-attorney and works in the legal department of the Illinois Hospital Association (IHA), the trade association that supports and advocates on behalf of nearly 200 hospitals in Illinois. Her work includes legislative and regulatory analysis and development, and she provides legal and compliance information to IHA members.

Great Decisions
Barbara Swords

Thursday, October 4, 2007. 9:15 a.m.

We will discuss Chapter 3, "Mexico: neighbor in turmoil."

The narrow victory in July, 2006, for President Calderon over the popular leader of the opposition Obrador has led to controversy and, at times, stalemate for Mexico's national government and to unsettling conditions and events in the provinces.

How will Mexico's internal disagreements and difficulties about economic conditions and social issues affect U. S. --Mexican relations and U. S. policies about immigration, trade, and human rights? Such issues as these are currently and widely discussed in the media--we need to keep up on these matters and share with our colleagues on October 4.

As we look ahead: We will discuss our potential role in the LWVUS Immigration Study. November 1--discussion of Chapter 6, "War Crimes;" December 6, Chapter 7, "Central Asia;" January TBD, Chapter 8, "Helping the World's endangered children."

[N.B. Parking: Our group is allowed to park on the east side of Fairfield, around the corner on Uteley street, and, of course, in Barbara's driveway.]

Elmhurst LWV Voter Service: Volunteers Needed

Gail Anderson, Voter Service Chair
voterservice@lwvelmhurst.org

Candidate Forum/Voter Guide

Be a part of sculpting the two most visible faces our league presents to the community. If you have opinions or concerns about how **your** League orchestrates these events, this opportunity is for you!

Seeking volunteers to help revise the League guidelines for Candidate Forums and the Online Voter Guide. Meeting time to be determined, I will work around the schedule of the volunteers.

Voter Registration Chair

Do you want to be more involved in the League but not take on a major commitment? Then this job is for you. This committee chair selects locations

and arranges for volunteers to be available to register voters prior to elections.

To get involved, please contact Gail by phone or email.

LWV Elmhurst Issues and Action: Cool Cities Initiative

The Cool Cities committee has met the first two of the five milestones required to become a Cool City and is working on Number 3:

Milestone 1: Create a Cool Cities Campaign - Complete

The steering committee began meeting over the summer.

Thanks to Jim Babcock of the Sierra Club, we are now registered on the Cool Cities website at <http://coolcities.us/cityProfiles.php?city=1119&state=IL>. You can also find the Elmhurst listing by going to www.coolcities.us and clicking on Illinois. Scroll down through the alphabetical list to Elmhurst.

Milestone 2: Engage the Community – Complete

The coalition has grown and we continue to invite groups and individuals to join the initiative. Various groups have scheduled programs on environmental issues.

Milestone 3: City Signs the US Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement – Now Pending

The committee has formally asked Mayor Marcucci to sign the US Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement to curb carbon dioxide emissions. The City's Public Affairs and Safety Committee and the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee were copied on the request and discussed it at a joint meeting on Monday September 24th. The recommendation to support the initiative may go to the full City Council for approval as early as Monday, October 1st.

September 18, 2007

The Honorable Thomas Marcucci
Mayor, City of Elmhurst
209 North York Road
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Dear Mayor Marcucci:

On behalf of our collective members, we respectfully request that you sign on to the US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement to reduce carbon emissions. We believe that the City of Elmhurst will benefit from participation in the Cool Cities initiative because:

- Reducing carbon dioxide emissions improves the air we breathe and the quality of life for everyone in Elmhurst.
- Investing in technology and adopting practices that are environmentally sustainable are cost-efficient and use taxpayer revenue wisely.
- Participating in this program will focus community and media attention on all of the environmentally friendly actions the city and community undertake for the betterment of Elmhurst, including the steps that the City has already taken.

We are united and ready to support the City of Elmhurst in the Cool Cities initiative by:

- Assisting staff with the necessary emissions inventory and other labor-intense activities;
- Promoting the City's accomplishments wherever environmentally sustainable practices are in place;
- Educating the community and conducting our own projects and programs to further improve our local environment.

We will be very proud when Elmhurst joins the 600 other American cities that have already signed on to the Cool Cities initiative. Through these united efforts we all – government agencies, citizens, homeowners, businesses, and community organizations alike – continue to improve our local environment and enhance the high quality of life we share in the City of Elmhurst.

Sincerely,

Elmhurst League of Women Voters, Donna Blue, President
Elmhurst AAUW, Connie Baker, President
James Babcock, member Sierra Club
Marilyn Arado, Elmhurst Garden Club
Jan Happel, Heavens and Earth Gardeners NFP
Debbie Reynolds, Safety Officer, Elmhurst Memorial Healthcare
Joe Drogos, Assistant Director Public Relations Elmhurst College

Enclosures:

US Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
Cool Cities Packet

cc: Members, Public Affairs & Safety Committee and Development, Planning & Zoning Committee

Elmhurst LWV Issues and Action: 2006 District 205 Referenda Monitoring

Committee members Cheri Niewiara, Maureen Polte, Gina Brigham, Jan Dorner, and Laura Kratz met to discuss areas of focus, criteria for monitoring the referenda progress, and to identify

information sources. A program on the findings is scheduled for our February General Meeting. Members are welcome to join by contacting anyone on the committee.

LWV Elmhurst Administration

Jan Dorner, Directory Editor
publicity@lwvelmhurst.org

Directory/Yearbook

The directory was passed out at our Sept. 20th meeting. If you were unable to attend, I will be delivering as many as I can on my trusty bike - Great cardio workout and nonpolluting to the environment! If you are able to deliver some, let me know and I'll drop off a group to you. Thanks!

Note: There were some post-publication changes and corrections to the Directory. Email Jan to get the list.

LWV Elmhurst Administration

Laura Kratz, 1st Vice President

Finance Drive

The LWV Finance Drive will be held in October this year and, once again, we will be asking for your financial support. Our League has been very reluctant to pass on state and national dues increases to our members over the past several years. This has meant, however, that our dues do not cover as large a portion of our local operating expenses

as in the past. We hope you will consider making donation to our local League.

For the first time, members may donate online. If you do so before the mailing, we will not send you a letter. Just go to the website, click on "Support LWV" and then click on "Make a Donation."

In Our Community

Elmhurst College Cesar Chavez Lecture

Wednesday, October 17th, 4:00 pm

Founders Lounge, Frick Center

Award-winning journalist, experienced candidate debate moderator, and host of WTTW's *Chicago Tonight*, **Phil Ponce**, will present the Cesar Chavez lecture at Elmhurst College this year. His topic is **A Culture in Transition: Latinos and the American Mainstream**. The lecture is

part of the College's annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration designed to spotlight Latino culture and to educate the greater Elmhurst community. Tickets are not required for this free event. The Frick Center is located at 190 Prospect Avenue in Elmhurst.

Change the Clocks.....Test Your Toilets

With the end of Daylight Savings Time comes the reminder to change our clocks and test our smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. It's also a good time to check toilets for leaks, a common water waster in homes.

Sometimes we can hear a leaky toilet but more often, according to the DuPage County Water Bureau, leaks are silent which is why they are often overlooked.

Open the top of the tank. Place several drops of food coloring into the water. Wait 10 to 30 minutes. If you see the dye color in the toilet bowl, you have a leak. If you really want to be sure, take a pencil and mark the water level inside the tank. Then turn off the incoming water valve and wait another half hour. If the water level has gone down, you have a leak at the seal, between the tank and the bowl. The most common causes are faulty flapper, cracked seal, or worn out tank ball, all easy to repair.

Sources: Water districts/bureaus nationwide encourage homeowners and businesses to check for silent toilet leaks as a way to conserve clean water. Credit for checking at the end of Daylight Savings Time goes to the Portland, OR Water Bureau website.

-----Cut and Post -----

LWV Elmhurst Events and Activities

- Great Decisions Thursday October 4th 9:15 am at the home of Barbara Swords
- Board Meeting Saturday October 13th 9:00 am at the home of Jan Dorner
- Phil Ponce Lecture Wednesday October 17th 4:00 pm Elmhurst College
Frick Center
- Cool Cities Committee Wednesday, October 17th 7:00 pm Elmhurst Public Library

LWV Elmhurst General Meeting Illinois Healthcare Legislative Update	Thursday, October 18th 7:00 pm Elmhurst Public Library
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Save the date:

November 11th *Iron Jawed Angels* Film Screening and Dessert Party
Sunday Afternoon Join us as we wrap up our 75th anniversary year!