



Intercom

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President's Corner

Mary Truss

This is it; one of the hottest years in the last decade. The League of Women Voters of the Park Forest Area intends to keep the heat going into the fall, winter and spring. Our area has so many issues that need the league's attention. Our educational system is crumbling around us and voter participation is low. Residents are feeling the heat as our taxes increase, jobs decrease, and home ownership is becoming a privilege of the past. Issues, issues, issues, so what do we as a league do? Do we become a part of the problem and do nothing or do we become a part of the solution? The league cannot address all of these issues, but together we can address some of these issues such as voter participation and local education concerns.

The LWVPPFA board of directors have planned an exciting year, starting with the **"Potluck Kickoff"** "at the home of Marge Friedman-Scherr (honorary member), September 15, 2010 at 6:30PM in Park Forest, Illinois. Dr. Blondean Davis will be our speaker. Dr. Davis has established the first free charter high school in the south suburb. When you come to hear her speak don't forget to bring a dish and a friend to share.

Voter education is a very important part of what we do. The voter service committee will be very active with registering voters, conducting local high school mock elections and getting out the voters. The committee will be an important link to the county clerks in the area. In order to achieve this task the voter service committee will need your help as well. Please consider saying yes when the committee ask for help.

On August 26, 1920 the 19th Amendment was passed which gave women the right to vote. The League of Women Voters is 90 years old and we are going to have a birthday party to celebrate at the Park Forest Village Hall October 10, 2010 at 2:00PM. We will be screening the movie Iron Jawed Angels with a discussion of the 19th Amendment afterward, while we eat cake. Ask your friends, family and elected officials to stop by and congratulate the "League" on this legacy.

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Summer Breakfast

Pamela Wickliffe

Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant, Ed.D., Superintendent, Will County Regional Office of Education graciously agreed to be our guest speaker for the summer breakfast.

She explained her process of appointing a new school board member, Anthony Bouzas, when Mokena District 159 Board of Education failed to reach a consensus in naming a new member. He previously served on the board from 2005-2009 before losing a re-election bid. District 159 is currently facing a \$2.7 million budget deficit, and Bertino-Tarrant said Bruozas' past experience will be helpful as the board navigates the district's difficult financial situation.

This is only the second time that Bertino-Tarrant has appointed a new school board member, and she wanted to select someone who had run for the board before. Prior to making her final decision, she said, she spoke with Superintendent Karen Perry and Brouzas, and was looking for board stability and civic-mindedness.

The Will County Regional Office of Education is the go-to place for teachers to register their teaching certificates, as well as administrators, school service personnel, and applications for its substitute teacher registration and certification.

The weather kept some people away, but the breakfast was held indoors, and we had some time in Myrtle Martin's garden afterwards. Thank you Myrtle, for your lovely setting and hospitality.

In November the League of Women Voters Park Forest Area will encourage all registered voters to come out and vote for the candidate of their choice. Why; because the League of Women Voters make democracy work for all.

Programs

Pamela Wickliffe

2010-2011 Kick-Off Potluck

Wednesday, September 15, 2010, 6:30 PM

33 Monee Road

Park Forest, IL 60466

Please plan to attend our Potluck Kick-Off meeting at the home of Marge Freidman-Scherr. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Blondean Davis. Bring a dish to share and a friend.

Film Screening & 90th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, October 10, 2010, 2 PM

Park Forest Village Hall

350 Victory Drive

Park Forest, IL 60466

Join us for a film screening and discussion of *Iron-Jawed Angels*, Alice Paul (played by Academy Award-winner Hilary Swank) and the women of the 1918 Women's Suffrage movement fight for the right to vote and run for office. Sacrificing their health, marriages, and the limited amount of freedom they had, women were imprisoned and forced-fed after picketing and hunger-striking against war-time president, Woodrow Wilson, but survived to see the results of their efforts.

Iron-Jawed Angels is an important history lesson told in a fresh, and blazing fashion. Two thumbs up! (Rodger Ebert and Richard Roeper).

The public is encouraged to attend this FREE film screening and help us celebrate the 90th anniversary of the League of Women Voters.

Observer Corps Training

November 2010, TBA

Park Forest, IL 60466

Join the League in one of its most important functions, taking notes and reporting on public meetings in our area. This a training opportunity for civic leadership within the League.

Holiday Potluck

Monday, December 20, 2010, 6:30 PM

622 Old Forge Lane

University Park, IL 60484

Bring a friend who is interested in the League, and some holiday food to share.

Cocktail Party & Silent Auction Fundraiser

Thursday, January 6, 2011, 7 PM

Tall Grass Art Center

367 Artists Walk

Park Forest, IL 60466

Fun and fundraiser for LWVPFA. Let's kick the New Year off with good will and cheer. In order to insure the continued success of previous years we you're your assistance in obtaining items for the silent auction baskets. If there are questions or clarifications needed, please feel free to email Mary Dankowski at mdankowski@vopf.com, or the League president, Mary Truss, at President@lwvpfa.org.

Website <http://www.lwvpfa.org>

The minutes for the annual meeting have been posted on the website. Please check the home page for the latest voting links to Dr. Blondean Davis, speaker at the upcoming Kick-Off Potluck, and Eleanor Roosevelt's mutually beneficial work forth League of Women Voters. Remember, the website is also the place to find the Intercom and Observer Reports. To conserve on paper and our attempt to go "green", you will only be able to read the Intercom after this issue via our website unless you notify Mary Truss to have one mailed to you. Please check our website for LWVPFA updates.

Observer Corps

The observer corps is alive and growing. The League has been asked to take a more active role in observing school boards and municipal board meetings. Therefore, we are asking for volunteers to join the observer corps committee.

Barbara Sturges and Suzie Brown have volunteered to conduct observer corps training. We, the League, need your help! Please contact Mary Truss at 708-534-2156 www.mtruss50@sbcglobal.net or Barbara Sturges www.bikebarbara@juno.net.

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Brown

This year's membership campaign is "**Ask Someone to Join!**" When visiting with your friends or new acquaintances, remember to tell them about the League and the benefits of membership such as learning about issues through studies and programs, getting to know their public officials, making an impact through lobbying, helping their community – and that is just the beginning.

We already have two new members who I'd like to introduce to you at this time.

Welcome to: Geraldine Tyler – GERATYL@aol.com

Theresa M. Settles – tsettke2@msn.com

We are so happy to have you as members and look forward to getting to know you and working with you.

Obtaining new members is important and exciting, but we also want to maintain our current members. We are still waiting for many of you to send in your renewals. You really do not need to wait for us to contact you to renew – please do send in your renewals as soon as you can!

Just to give you an idea of where our members live. The breakdown by town is as follows:

- Park Forest – 54
- University Park – 9
- Crete – 5
- Richton Park – 5
- Matteson – 3
- Olympia Fields – 3
- Bourbonnais, Chicago Heights, East Hazel Crest, Flossmoor, Mokena, New Lenox, Oak Forest, Palos Hills, and Sauk Village each have – 1

Voter Service

Claudette Hall

Last day to register to vote is October 5, 2010. Early voting begins October 12, 2010. Last day of Early Voting is November 2, 2010.

Members of the Voter Service Committee are preparing for another active year. Pat Cline is chair of the committee. Sandra Warren, Jerry Bridges, Jacquelyn Parker, Sally Wallach, and Claudette Hall are the members. Local high schools and colleges will be contacted to arrange Voter Registration Drives with the schools.

Committee members were notified LWWIL has funding to

conduct Mock Elections in local area high schools. Our youth will register to vote, get a voter's card and choose candidates using actual voting equipment. The votes will be counted and results provided. The purpose of Mock Elections is to give students voting experience as close to the actual process as possible. This exercise will be very beneficial to our students.

News from League of Women Voters of Illinois

Sharon A. McGuire

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS: September 25

LWWIL is sponsoring Regional Training Workshops in Arlington Heights, LaGrange and Bloomington. The workshops will provide opportunities for League leaders who are responsible for Membership, Communications) website, newsletter, PR), and Finance to network. All three workshops will be held on Saturday, September 25, from 9:30-11:30 am. Send an email to info@lwwil.org indicating which workshop is nearest to you. Directions to that workshop will be emailed back.

Pamphlet on RECALL Issue Now Available

At the general election, voters will be asked to decide whether the Illinois Constitution should be amended to add a new Section 7 to Article III, Suffrage and Elections. The proposed amendment would provide for a special election to recall a governor and for a special election to elect a successor governor. The LWWIL Recall Committee has prepared a packet of background materials for local Leagues that is available at www.lwwil.org. Direct questions to Paula Lawson at issues@lwwil.org or Mary Schaafsma at marys@lwwil.org.

COMING THIS FALL: Easy-to-Use Online VOTERS' GUIDE

LWWUS has incorporated new software into the: On Your Ballot" section of Vote411.org. This online tool allows LWWIL to publish an online Voters' Guide for all the state constitutional offices, US Senate, US Congressmen, all state representatives and the state senate districts that are up for election in an easy-to-use electronic format. LWWIL's plan is to have this voters' guide live by the time early voting begins (October 12th).

CALENDAR OF EVENT

9/15/10 2010-2011 KICK-OFF POTLUCK
10/05/10 LAST DAY TO REGISTER
10/10/10 FILM SCREENING & 90TH
ANNIVERSARY
10/12/10 EARLY VOTING BEGINS
10/28/10 LAST DAY OF EARLY VOTING
11/02/10 ELECTION DAY
11/10 OBSERVER CORPS TRAINING
12/20/10 HOLIDAY POTLUCK
1/06/2011 COCKTAIL PARTY & SILENT
AUCTION FUNDRAISER



90th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PARK FOREST AREA welcomes all persons interested in promoting responsible government at any level. Good government does not happen without active citizen participation. The LWV studies issues, gets to know public officials, observes at public meetings, lobbies on issues, registers voters, and provides many educational services

LWVPFA
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www.lwvpfa.org

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