



# The Voter

Wheaton LWV January 2012

## From the Executive Committee

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### Important Dates!

1/16	Registration Deadline - Issues Briefing
1/24	Candidate Forum
1/25	Candidate Forum
1/29	Issues Briefing
2/16	Program Planning



Happy New Year!!!

We hope everyone's holidays were full of family, friends, fun and good health. Since we didn't have a December VOTER, we were unable to send out a Thanksgiving message, so here it is....better late than never.

We'd like to thank all our members who renewed their membership and welcome returning and new members. We'd like to send special shout outs to Roberta Jacobson for chairing the Education Study Committee, Beth O'Malley for once again chairing a successful Finance Drive, Bobbi Walsh for coordinating the Annual Holiday Brunch, and Phil and Mary Suess for once again hosting the very popular Brunch. Thank you all for your extra efforts on behalf of the Wheaton League.



We have much to look forward to in 2012. We are cosponsoring Candidate Forums along with the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and League of Women Voters of Glen Ellyn. There will be contested races for state senator, state representative, and all the county board members, not to mention county forest preserve races. The two nights, January 24<sup>th</sup> and January 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Wheaton Park District Community Center should be hopping. Any members who would like to volunteer to participate, please contact us at [exec-committee@wheatonlwv.org](mailto:exec-committee@wheatonlwv.org) or Jane Hodgkinson, our Voter Services Chair.

February 16, 2012 will be our Program Planning meeting, and we will be reprising the pot luck at Gary United Methodist Church which was so successful last year. Watch for email details in the coming months. As in years past, we'd like members to look over the LWV of Wheaton Membership Handbook for both local and national issues we might want to discuss or highlight at the planning meeting. 2012 is the year of a national convention for LWV US.

[http://www.wheatonlwvil.org/files/local\\_program.pdf](http://www.wheatonlwvil.org/files/local_program.pdf)

If you have any thoughts about program planning for 2012 and the future of our local and national League, please pass them on to [exec-committee@wheatonlwvil.org](mailto:exec-committee@wheatonlwvil.org) .

Since there was no member interest in participating in LWV US Privatization Study in 2012, the months of March and April are open for HOT TOPICS unit meetings. We'd like to hear from the members before planning these meetings. What "hot topics" would you like to learn more about? Please share your ideas with us at [exec-committee@wheatonlwvil.org](mailto:exec-committee@wheatonlwvil.org) .

Stay warm, stay dry, stay safe, stay healthy and stay involved!  
Denise, Liz, Di and Olga



NOTES TO MYSELF

Volunteer for  
Candidate Forums  
January 24-5

Attend Program  
Planning  
Potluck  
February 16  
(More good  
food!) ↓

Check out the new Supporter's  
list at the end of the Voter

Register by  
January 16  
For the  
Issues Briefing  
January 29



## LWVIL Annual Issues Briefing - Saturday, January 28, 2012

University Center · Conference Chicago · Lake Room · 525 South State Street · Chicago

[Register Online - Right Now!](#)

[Mail in Your Registration](#)

### PROGRAMS & WORKSHOPS

#### *Morning Session:*

**REGISTRATION, BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING Starts at 8:30 a.m.**

**ISSUE PROGRAMS 9:15 a.m. to Noon**

**VOTING IN ILLINOIS: MYTHS AND REALITIES**

*Information to aid in preparing for the 2012 elections*

**SUSTAINABLE FOOD & WATER SUBCOMMITTEE**

*Policy, Politics, and Progress in Protecting our Food Supply*

**LUNCHEON: Noon to 12:45 p.m.**

*IF YOU NEED A VEGETARIAN LUNCH OR HAVE OTHER DIETARY RESTRICTIONS, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 312-939-5935 EXT. 37 OR [EMAIL](#) THE OFFICE.*

#### *Afternoon Sessions:*

**WORKSHOPS: 12:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (select 1 of 3)**

- Legislative Outlook 2012**
- LWVUS Privatization Study**
- Candidate Forums 2012—What Planners Need to Know**

**WORKSHOPS: 2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (select 1 of 3)**

- Legislation, Regulation and the Illinois Smart Grid**
- LWVIL Pension Study**
- Candidate Forums 2012—What Moderators Need to Know**

#### *Directions to the 2010 Issues Briefing:*

***[University Center](#) is located on the southeast corner of State Street and Congress Parkway.***

### **Action Roundup**

#### **January Candidate Forums** Jane Hodgkinson

This year's primary election will be held on March 20, with early voting starting the last week in February. Our committee has been meeting since September to plan a candidate forum. Last year's redistricting effort, with the redrawn map, created a situation where every position is up for election. We have races where incumbents face incumbents in contested elections and representatives face senators. There could be more drama than an Elizabethan tragedy.

Tuesday January 24 and Wednesday January 25, our League will co-sponsor two nights of Candidate Forums at the Wheaton Park District Community Center with the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and the Glen Ellyn League. On Tuesday night, we will have the candidates for state representative and senate and on Wednesday night the candidates for county board and forest preserve. Doors will open in the Memorial Room (large auditorium on north end of the building) at 6:30 and the event will start promptly at 7:00 and conclude around 9:00.

Volunteers will be needed from our league for timers, and sorting questions during the forum (arrive by 6:30), welcome table and membership table before the event (arrive by 6:15). Am hoping those who have done this before will step forward and let me know what they want to do. The Glen Ellyn League will handle voter registration and the Chamber of Commerce will have coffee.

Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about which district now serves you and meet your candidates. If you would like to volunteer please contact Jane Hodgkinson.

### **Education Study Consensus Meeting Report**

Twenty-four members of the Wheaton League met on November 17<sup>th</sup> to hear presentations and grapple with the 15 consensus questions. Missey Wilhelm was the facilitator, and Beth O'Malley was the recorder. Joan Fefferman, Pam Belfor, Roberta Jacobson and Diane Niesman presented material on history, League positions, common core standards, and funding and equity issues. Denise Curtis took care of us with a perfect room setup, and hot coffee and cookies, much appreciated on a brisk night.



We submitted our report to LWVUS by the deadline of 11/30. The results of consensus meetings nationwide may allow LWVUS to play an active role in the upcoming debates on the Federal government's role in education, particularly the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including NCLB. We may be able to speak to the role the Federal government has in ensuring that all children have access to decent schools, as well as commenting on any national curriculum that may be proposed.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this most basic of League activities.

### **Environment**

Beginning January 1, 2012, it will be illegal for consumers to dispose of electronic items in the trash and illegal for landfills to accept them in DuPage County. Violations carry a \$7,000 fine. Electronics such as computers, printers, TV, digital converter boxes, to name a few contain hazardous materials such as lead and mercury. They are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. waste system.

The DuPage County Environmental Committee has worked for years to increase recycling and to decrease the amount of electronics in area landfills. According to Jeff Redick, the chairman of the committee, the county's efforts seem to be working. In 2008, 370,000 pounds of electronics were recycled. In the first 11 months of 2011, 1.35 million pounds had been saved from landfills.

Electronic recycling, including household batteries, takes place the second Saturday of every month from 9:00 AM-Noon at the Public Works Facility on Liberty.

January's recycle date is January 14th.

**Observer Report**      Jan Kay

For several years I have been the observer for City Council in Wheaton for our League Unit. This has offered much to think about as I attend most Council sessions and Planning sessions on Monday evenings each month.

Usually the Council minutes are posted in the VOTER from the City's website and these always give the reader major actions taken by the City Council. Hopefully the members have read many of the reports and have been enlightened on the issues dealt with by our elected officials.

One can also watch the council meetings online or on the local Ch. 10 T V station as well. By so doing the discussions of the evening can be heard well.

I would like to suggest to go online to the City's web site or read the Wheaton Weekly online and look at two specific items: 1] the newly adopted budget item and 2] the Strategic Priorities along with the Priority Indicators.

Both of these items will give the public a good look at where Wheaton is putting its emphasis for the coming year[s].

In looking at the Priorities especially, the League should compare those with the positions we hold re different items. This helps us decide on possible Action items and/or Action Committee work for the coming year as we do our PROGRAM PLANNING in February.

In addition, I had a first experience recently when I attended the College of DuPage Board meeting as just a citizen of DuPage County. While we all vote for the Board members, I have to admit my ignorance in actually knowing the members and most of all the various issues brought before that Board each month. Perhaps this is your situation as well.

My recommendation to our League Unit is that we have a representative[s] attend these meetings as much as possible in order to be better acquainted with the governance and educational issues at this fine institution here in DuPage County.

We know one of League's major positions is to maintain an open government at all levels, National, State and Local, including County. I believe the League might well advocate for such even in the College of DuPage work. To have our observers present will certainly be a positive

action towards an openness in all public elected bodies. This is a positive thing for all, officials as well as the public.

Finally, I also encourage us to keep up with the workings of the DuPage County Board. There are many different committees of the Board such as Health and Human Services, Development, Environment, Transportation, Finance etc. which will be of interest to our League and the actions taken which impact us and upon which we have positions at one or more levels in League.

I realize this takes people to represent the League, but this is what League is all about!  
LET'S DO IT!!!

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## Nov. 7, 2011 City Council Meeting Highlights

### Developer Presents Luxury Apartment Proposal

Developer Morningside Equities Group Inc. presented to the Council its project proposal to build a luxury apartment development at the vacant site bounded by Front, Scott, Wesley and Cross streets. The developer sought input from the Council regarding their proposal and the possibility of using tax increment financing to fund aspects of the development. The City will be conducting an analysis to determine the need for TIF assistance and the appraised value of the property. The Council was generally supportive of the plan and, after reviewing the analysis, felt they could find ways to work with the developer on their request for TIF assistance.

## Nov. 21, 2011 City Council Meeting Highlights

### Council Votes to Add Hair Stylists as a Permitted Use in Downtown District

The Council unanimously approved an ordinance that adds hair stylists as a permitted use in the C-2 Zoning District. The Council previously discussed the issue at the Nov. 7 meeting after receiving a report from the Planning and Zoning Board denying a request to allow hair salons to become a permitted use in this downtown C-2 Zoning District.

### Five-Year Contract with Public Works Union Approved

The Council unanimously adopted a resolution authorizing a collective bargaining agreement between the City and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, the union representing the City's Public Works Department. The agreement is a five-year contract that includes a number of adjustments relating to benefits and wages over the term of the contract.

### Resolution Identifies Strategic Priorities

In order to guide the decisions of the City Council and City staff, the City Council developed a set of Strategic Priorities. The Council identified four priorities during a planning process: financial stability, quality infrastructure, efficient and effective services, and economic development. The resolution defines the Council's goals for each

priority and lists key performance indicators to help measure the City's progress toward these goals.

### Three-Year Contract for Paramedic Services Awarded

The Council awarded a three-year contract to Kurtz Paramedic Service, the current provider of paramedic services for the City. The contract includes a 1.6% increase for the first year of the contract and a 2% increase for each of the following years in the contract.

## Dec. 5, 2011 City Council Meeting Highlights

### Council Approves Amendment to Annexation Agreement

The City Council unanimously approved an amendment to the Amberwood Estates Subdivision annexation agreement that alters the front and side yard setback requirements for the properties. The subdivision's new owner requested a uniform front yard setback requirement of 30 feet, plus modifications for how the side yard setback requirement is calculated within the subdivision. The changes to the setback requirements are consistent with an amendment approved for the Legends Subdivision.

### Residents Appointed to City Commissions

The Council approved the appointment of Nancy Flannery to the Community Media Commission and the reappointment of Dottie Mackie to the Band Commission.

### Council Receives First Reading of Tax Levy Ordinances

The Council received the proposed 2011 Property Tax Levy ordinance for a first reading. The revenues generated from the 2011 Property Tax Levy will be received in fiscal year 2012-2013, and the proposed ordinance levies \$18,581,736, which is a decrease of \$132,864, or 0.7%, from the previous year's levy. The Council will formally consider the ordinances at its Dec. 19, 2011 City Council meeting. The Council will also formally consider the levy and appropriations ordinances for Special Service Area 2 and Special Service Area 3 at this meeting, which fund downtown parking enforcement services and the maintenance of the Streams waterway.

### Bid for Briarcliffe Boulevard Improvement Project Approved

The Council approved a bid for an outside engineering firm to begin work on the Briarcliffe Boulevard Improvement Project. The roadway was originally constructed in the 1960s, and there has been a significant increase in pavement failures within the past five years.

## Dec. 19, 2011 City Council Meeting Highlights

### Liquor License Approved for Future Movie Theater

The City Council passed an ordinance amending the Wheaton Liquor Control Ordinance to allow a movie theater to



obtain a liquor license. The owner of the building in Rice Lake Square that formerly housed Linens 'n Things is converting it into a restaurant/movie theater that will serve alcoholic beverages.

## Property Tax Levy Decreased

The City Council approved ordinances that establish the City's tax levy for 2011. The ordinances represent a decrease of \$132,864, or 0.7% from the 2010 tax levy. The City will receive revenues generated by the 2011 Property Tax Levy in fiscal year 2012-2013.

## Council Considers Water Rate Change

Due to significant rate increases soon being imposed by the DuPage Water Commission and the City of Chicago, the City Council received a first reading of an ordinance that would increase Wheaton's water rates by approximately 30 percent starting in January 2012. City Manager Rose stated the City's water fund cannot sustain the additional \$125,000 per month increased cost for water without an increase in rates.



## Council Votes 4-3 to Establish Special Service Area

The Council received an executive summary from the City Attorney regarding an objector's petitions against the formation of proposed Special Service Area 7. The Special Service Area would tax property owners within a defined downtown area, and tax funds would support the Downtown Wheaton Association and its marketing activities for downtown Wheaton. To prevent the creation of the Special Service Area, at least 51 percent of electors and property owners of record in the special service area would need to sign petitions objecting to its creation. Based upon evidence presented and guidance from a recent case in the 2nd District Appellate Court, the City Attorney concluded that only 43 percent of the electors submitted petitions opposing the Special Service Area's creation, which was not legally sufficient to prevent it. The City Council then had the opportunity to vote whether or not to establish Special Service Area 7, and the Council voted 4-3 in favor of its creation. The tax rate assessed for Special Service Area 7 will be \$0.45 per \$100 of assessed value.

- Please see <http://www.wheaton.il.us/government/councilhighlights/2010/> for additional highlights or <https://dm1.wheaton.il.us/meetingview/> for minutes of the meetings or videos.
- Please see [http://www.cusd200.org/board\\_of\\_education/highlights.htm](http://www.cusd200.org/board_of_education/highlights.htm) for District 200 school board meeting highlights.
- Please see <http://www.cod.edu/adminstr/boardmin.htm> for the minutes of the COD Board of Trustee meetings.
- Please see <http://www.wheatonparkdistrict.com/pgs/about/bmeetings.html> for minutes of Wheaton Park District meetings

# We Thank Our Local Supporters

Every fall the Wheaton LWV asks businesses and professional people in the community to help support our work. The names on these pages are those who responded to our 2011-2012 Finance Drive. When you patronize them, thank them in person for supporting the Wheaton League of Women Voters.

ALBERT ROSE	AA ROSE CONSTRUCTION	PO BOX 802, WHEATON 60187	630-653-4400	
KIM VAN BORTER	ACCEL ACCOUNTING SERVICES	PO BOX 5243, WHEATON 60189	630-260-2555	<a href="mailto:KVANBORTER@ACCELACCOUNTING.COM">KVANBORTER@ACCELACCOUNTING.COM</a>
TIM BENSHOOF	BENSHOOF & COMPANY INC	PO BOX 355, WHEATON 60187	630-462-6780	<a href="mailto:BENSHOOF-COMPANY@SBCGLOBAL.NET">BENSHOOF-COMPANY@SBCGLOBAL.NET</a>
HENRY BERTALMIO	BEST-WAY RUG & FURNITURE CLEANERS	319 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-7940	<a href="http://BESTWAYRUG.COM">BESTWAYRUG.COM</a>
KELLIE C BORTER	BORTER HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING	ON441 PLEASANT HILL RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-5885	<a href="http://BORTERHEATING.COM">BORTERHEATING.COM</a>
ERIC BRUSS	BRUSS LANDSCAPING INC	1607 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON	630-665-1600	<a href="http://BRUSSLANDSCAPING.COM">BRUSSLANDSCAPING.COM</a>
DR. BRUCE WISNER & DR. LAURENCE GOLDEN	CENTRAL DUPAGE ORTHODONTICS LTD	300 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-3317	<a href="http://CENTRALDUPAGEORTHO.COM">CENTRALDUPAGEORTHO.COM</a>
CHRISTOPHER BARTON, EXECUTIVE VP	COMMUNITY BANK-WHEATON/GLEN ELLYN	100 N WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-933-0900	<a href="http://CBWGE.COM">CBWGE.COM</a>
DR. HELEN DANE	DANADA VETERINARY HOSPITAL	10 W LOOP RD, WHEATON 60187	630-665-6161	<a href="http://DANADAVET.COM">DANADAVET.COM</a>
PAUL P DIDZEREKIS	PAUL P DIDZEREKIS, ATTORNEY AT LAW	610 W ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-653-7710	
JAMES P. HOFNER, CPA	DUGAN & LOPATKA, CPAS PC	104 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-665-4440	
J R MCBRIDE	DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD, DISTRICT 4	489 TAFT AVE., GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-790-1140	<a href="http://VOTEMCBRIDE.COM">VOTEMCBRIDE.COM</a>
FRED BUCHOLZ	DUPAGE COUNTY RECORDER	490 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, SUITE 4, GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-918-4554	<a href="http://FREDBUCHOLZ.COM">FREDBUCHOLZ.COM</a>
TOM BOZONELOS	EGG'LECTIC CAFÉ	145 N HALE ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-9001	<a href="http://EGGLECTICCAFE.NET">EGGLECTICCAFE.NET</a>
KATHLEEN & MICHAEL GRESK		424 S WEST ST, WHEATON	630-945-4711	<a href="mailto:MGRESK@PROVIDENCEBANK.COM">MGRESK@PROVIDENCEBANK.COM</a>
DAVE DIERSEN	GOP USA ILLINOIS	915 COVE CT, WHEATON 60189	630-653-0462	<a href="http://GOPILLINOIS.COM">GOPILLINOIS.COM</a>
BOB F HAEGER	LANGAN HAEGER VINCENT & BORN INSURANCE	290 S COUNTY FARM RD, STE T, WHEATON 60187	630-668-6644	<a href="http://LANGANINS.COM">LANGANINS.COM</a>
LORI J MILLER CFP	LPL FINANCIAL	27W130 ROOSEVELT ROAD, SUITE 101, WINFIELD, IL 60190	630-690-0000	<a href="http://YOURWEALTHDIVA.COM">YOURWEALTHDIVA.COM</a>
MARY LOU MCLENNAN	MARY LOU MCLENNAN PC	209 S NAPERVILLE RD WHEATON 60189	630-682-0440	<a href="mailto:MLMCLENNAN@AOL.COM">MLMCLENNAN@AOL.COM</a>
JOHN B KINCAID	MIRABELLA, KINCAID, FREDERICK & MIRABELLA, LLC	1737 S NAPERVILLE RD, STE 100, WHEATON 60189	630-665-7300	<a href="http://MIRABELLAKINCAID.COM">MIRABELLAKINCAID.COM</a>
ARTHUR E PAPE, ESQ	THE PAPE LAW FIRM	100 W ROOSEVELT RD, BLDG A-3, STE 102, WHEATON 60187	630-933-9300	<a href="mailto:APAPE@PAPELAW.COM">APAPE@PAPELAW.COM</a>
ROY PEREGRINE	PEREGRINE, STIME, NEWMAN, RITZMAN & BRUCKNER, LTD	221 E ILLINOIS ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-1900	<a href="http://PSNRB.COM">PSNRB.COM</a>
SUSAN C ROLEWICK	ROLEWICK & GUTZKE PC	1776 S NAPERVILLE RD, #104A, WHEATON 60189	630-653-1577	<a href="http://RGLAWFIRM.COM">RGLAWFIRM.COM</a>
JAMES E BRAMSEN	SPRAYING SYSTEMS CO	P O BOX 7900, WHEATON 60187	630-665-5000	

DOUGLAS P CARLSON, DVM	<b>VILLAGE ANIMAL CLINIC</b>	25W510 GENEVA RD, CAROL STREAM 60188	630-690-9191	<a href="http://VILLAGEANIMAL.COM">VILLAGEANIMAL.COM</a>
EDWARD J WALSH	<b>WALSH, KNIPPEN, KNIGHT &amp; POLLOCK</b>	2150 MANCHESTER RD, WHEATON 60187	630-462-1980	<a href="http://WWW.WKKPLAW.COM">WWW.WKKPLAW.COM</a>
ROBERT D HUTCHINSON	<b>WHEATON BANK &amp; TRUST</b>	211 S WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-1800	<a href="http://WHEATONBANK.COM">WHEATONBANK.COM</a>
ROBERT PASZCZAK	<b>WHEATON BANK &amp; TRUST</b>	211 S WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-1800	<a href="http://WHEATONBANK.COM">WHEATONBANK.COM</a>
ROGER BENSON	<b>WHEATON SPORTS CENTER</b>	1000 W PRAIRIE AVE, WHEATON 60187		
THOMAS J WILLIAMS	<b>WILLIAMS-KAMPP FUNERAL HOME INC</b>	430 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0016	<a href="mailto:TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM">TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM</a>
DOUGLAS SAMUELS	<b>YOUNG'S APPLIANCES</b>	500 CRESCENT BLVD, GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-469-2288	<a href="http://YOUNGSAPPLIANCES.COM">YOUNGSAPPLIANCES.COM</a>