



The Voter

Wheaton LWV February 2012

From the Executive Committee

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Important Dates!

2/16	Program Planning at Gary United Methodist Church
3/8	Candidate Forum US Cong Dist 6, 7:00 at Glen Crest Middle School, 725 Sheehan, Glen Ellyn.
3/15	"Priceless" at Wheaton Public Library
3/20	Primary Election



This VOTER may hit the presses before the groundhog sees (or doesn't see) his shadow, but even if we are in for six more weeks of winter, considering how mild a winter we've had so far, we will probably be able to handle it.

A big thank you goes to our Voter Services Chair, Jane Hodgkinson, and to M.C. Missey Wilhelm for the work they did putting the candidate forums on January 24th and 25th together with our cosponsors, the LWV of Glen Ellyn and the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce. There are so many races and so many candidates that it was a daunting task. Members of the public that came to either or both forums got a very good look at their prospects for future state representative, state senator, county board member and county forest preserve board member. For those who may wonder why we held candidate forums in January, when the primary election is on March 20th, it is because the first day of Early Voting is February 27th and the last day of Early Voting is March 15th. We do have one more candidate forum scheduled for March 8th for candidates in the 6th Congressional District. The incumbent has been invited...will he be there?

Two very important dates coming up for Wheaton League are February 16th, when we will combine business with pleasure at our annual members only Program Planning Meeting at the Gary United Methodist Church. And, March 15th will be movie night this year. We will allow plenty of time for discussion after screening "Priceless" a timely documentary about campaign contributions and the clout of lobbyists. Hope to see many of our members at both events.

Think Spring!

Denise, Liz, Olga and Di

NOTES TO MYSELF



March 8

Don't forget the Candidate Forum!!
US Cong Dist 6,
7:00 at Glen Crest Middle School,
725 Sheehan, Glen Ellyn.



Make a dish to take to
the
Program Planning
Potluck
February 16, 6:30 pm



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



March 15
"Priceless"
at the
Wheaton Public Library



Please join the Wheaton League of Women Voters for the Annual



February 16, 2012
6:30 p.m.
Gary United Methodist Church
224 North Main Street
Wheaton, Illinois

A **potluck** is a gathering of people where each person or group of people contributes a dish of food prepared by the person or the group of people, to be shared among the group

First letter of your last name tells you what to bring



A-G



H-R (Salads)



S-Y (Hot dishes)

2012-2013 Program planning meeting to follow
Please bring your Wheaton LWV Membership Handbook
(available online)



Help with set-up and clean-up always welcome
Call Bobbi Walsh if you have a question

PROGRAM PLANNING MEETING

Every year, after our social hour, we take a look at our Wheaton positions to see if we need to tweak any old positions, keep them, change them, eliminate them and discuss any new issues we might want to study. In preparation, we encourage everyone to read their Membership Handbook, pages 16-18. This can also be found at our website www.wheatonlwvil.org

Since 2012 is an even numbered year, we will also be discussing the positions of the League of Women Voters of the United States, as the national convention will be held this year in Washington, D.C. LWVUS positions can be found in Impact on Issues or at <http://www.lwv.org/content/impact-issues>

Two Leagues have contacted us to support their proposals for the 2012 convention. We will decide at the program planning meeting whether to support their efforts. Details of both requests follow.

We want to notify you that the LWVDC (Washington, D.C.) will sponsor the following proposal for concurrence at Convention 2012 in June:

"Sentencing Policy

(1) The LWVUS believes alternatives to imprisonment should be explored and utilized, taking into consideration the circumstances and nature of the crime.

(2) The LWVUS opposes mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses."

A study published this month has revealed that up to 41% of young people in the United States have been arrested by age 23 for something other than minor traffic violations. The United States is the largest jailer of citizens per capita in the world, with enormous economic and social costs. Much imprisonment is due to harsh mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses. After imprisonment, having a criminal record carries a lifetime of daunting obstacles to succeed as a productive citizen.

1) Please use this link (www.lwvdc.org) to find educational information about the proposed concurrence on the LWVDC website.

2) Then please print that information to read and consider during your League's Program Planning.

3) At Program Planning, we hope your League will recommend this concurrence on the LWVUS response form as follows:

Title: Sentencing Policy

Summary of concurrence: Alternatives to imprisonment and no mandatory minimum drug sentences.

Name of League position: LWVDC Criminal Sentencing

Location of League position: LWVDC.org

Many of you may remember 2008 when LWV of Wheaton went to national convention and tried to propose a study for a cabinet level Department of Peace and Nonviolence. In 2010, the **LWV of Boone County, Missouri** took up the project, and LWV of Wheaton supported their proposal for a study for the Department of Peace. Boone County, unsuccessful in 2010, is giving it another try in 2012. They have contacted all 800 local Leagues to support them.

New Program statement (<300 words, actual 269)

The LWV of _____ proposes the adoption by LWVUS of a national study in support of violence reduction in the United States and the establishment of a cabinet level Department of Peace.

A study of the Department of Peace has aspects which fall under two general areas of League positions - Social Policy and International Relations.

The important aspects in the Social Policy area are violence reduction programs through 1) school based educational programs teaching children conflict resolution techniques, and 2) programs reducing domestic violence and the associated violence against children by getting best practice programs widely integrated throughout the country.

In the International Relations area the Department of Peace will focus U.S. attention on 1) training professionals to assist in dealing peacefully with both pre and post conflict situations, and 2) addressing developing problems early in the process before becoming an armed conflict.

An important aspect in both areas is the training of professionals in the discipline of conflict prevention and management. This will be done through a Peace Academy and through grants to develop such programs in educational institutions around the country.

By having a cabinet level Secretary of the Department of Peace there will be greater opportunity to address developing problems early and with a wider set of tools rather than with the more limited tools the government currently has.



BULLFROG COMMUNITIES presents
a film by **HABITAT MEDIA** produced and directed by **STEVE COWAN**

*"...Priceless could hardly be more timely
and is a must-see film for any American concerned
about the health of our democracy!"*

Dr. Robert Watson, Author, Campaigns and Elections

PRICELESS

A non-partisan look at the
consequences of big money
campaign donations and a
Capitol overrun by lobbyists

OUR SCREENING DETAILS:

Bullfrog Communities

Wheaton LWV Presents **PRICELESS**

March 15, 2012

Wheaton Public Library, Large Meeting Room

Free Admission. Doors open 6:30 pm, film starts at 7:00 pm

Details at wheatonlwv.org

Action Roundup

Environmental

Electronic Recycling for February will be Saturday, 2/11, 9:00 AM - Noon at the Public Works Facility on Liberty.

Voter Services

We had two candidate forums, co-sponsored with Glen Ellyn League and Wheaton Chamber, on Jan 24 and 25 at the Wheaton PD Community Center. Approximately 40-plus candidates were invited for state and county offices. Attendance was probably less than 100 people each night.

The recording will be available to us for our website soon. We will share the link when it becomes available.

There will be a forum on March 8 for congressional district 6 at 7:00 at Glen Crest Middle School in Glen Ellyn (doors open at 6:30). We expect that the democratic candidates will be there but don't know about Peter Roskam. We could use help publicizing this next event and will need some volunteers to help with greeting, sorting questions, etc.



Jan. 3, 2012 City Council Meeting Highlights

Water Rate Change Approved

The City Council voted 6-1 to approve an increase to the City's water rate effective for bills issued after Jan. 3, 2012. This is necessary due to the rate increases imposed by the City of Chicago and the DuPage Water Commission. The City will increase its rate at the same level as the DuPage Water Commission is raising its cost for the City to purchase water, a 30-percent increase. The average resident's water bill, based on 9,000 gallons used in a month, will increase by \$9.60 per month.

Residents Appointed to Commission

The Council approved the appointment of Mitch Williams and Anthony Trendl to three-year terms on the Fine and Cultural Arts Commission.

City Approves Storage Agreement with Wheaton Historic Preservation Council

A resolution unanimously approved by the Council establishes a temporary storage agreement allowing the Wheaton Historic Preservation Council to temporarily store artifacts and historic documents in the lower level of the City Hall Annex. The Wheaton Historic Preservation Council currently stores these items in a Glen Ellyn storage space and in

the former Hubble Middle School, but the school will be demolished within the next year and the storage facility can no longer meet the Historic Preservation Council's storage needs.

Contract with Municipal Band Conductor Approved

The Council unanimously approved a one-year contract to retain the services of Bruce Moss as the Wheaton Municipal Band director. The proposed salary for 2012 is the same as has been paid to Moss for the past three concert seasons.

Jan. 17, 2012 City Council Meeting Highlights

Funding for Pace Route 714 Approved

The City Council unanimously approved an amendment to the 2011-2012 budget to allocate \$7,500 to assist with the funding of Pace Route 714. Pace requested that the City of Wheaton, the City of Naperville, DuPage County and the College of DuPage each contribute \$7,500 in order to continue operating Route 714. Pace will assume full funding for this route starting May 1, 2012.

Council Considers Changes to City Code Relating to Mayor's Vote

The City Council received the first reading of an ordinance that would modify the wording in several sections of Chapter 2 of the Wheaton City Code. The changes would clarify that the Mayor votes on all matters brought before the City Council and updates the definition relating to the duties and powers of the Mayor. The City Council previously discussed the need to change language within the City Code in this section in order to clarify who is eligible to vote. The Council will vote on the ordinance at the Feb. 6, 2012 City Council meeting.



Finance Department Receives Award for Budget Presentation

Mayor Gresk presented the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2011 to Director of Finance Bob Lehnhardt. The Government Finance Officers Association presented this award to the City's Finance Department for excellence in budget presentation. To receive this award, a government unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, operations guide, financial plan and communications device to the City's residents. This is the 10th consecutive year the City of Wheaton received the award.

- 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 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	KVANBORTER@ACCELACCOUNTING.COM
GRISHMA PATEL, O.D., CONRAD STOLL, O.D.	ADVANCED EYE CARE & LASER CENTER	214 W. FRONT ST, WHEATON IL 60187	630-668-4144	ADVANCEDEYECAREANDLASERCENTER.COM
TIM BENSHOOF	BENSHOOF & COMPANY INC	PO BOX 355, WHEATON 60187	630-462-6780	BENSHOOF-COMPANY@SBCGLOBAL.NET
HENRY BERTALMIO	BEST-WAY RUG & FURNITURE CLEANERS	319 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-7940	BESTWAYRUG.COM
KELLIE C BORTER	BORTER HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING	0N441 PLEASANT HILL RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-5885	BORTERHEATING.COM
ERIC BRUSS	BRUSS LANDSCAPING INC	1607 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON	630-665-1600	BRUSSLANDSCAPING.COM
DR. BRUCE WISNER & DR. LAURENCE GOLDEN	CENTRAL DUPAGE ORTHODONTICS LTD	300 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-3317	CENTRALDUPAGEORTHO.COM
CHRISTOPHER BARTON, EXECUTIVE VP	COMMUNITY BANK-WHEATON/GLEN ELLYN	100 N WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-933-0900	CBWGE.COM
DR. HELEN DANE	DANADA VETERINARY HOSPITAL	10 W LOOP RD, WHEATON 60187	630-665-6161	DANADAVET.COM
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	VOTEMCBRIDE.COM
FRED BUCHOLZ	DUPAGE COUNTY RECORDER	490 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, SUITE 4, GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-918-4554	FREDBUCHOLZ.COM
TOM BOZONELOS	EGG'LECTIC CAFÉ	145 N HALE ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-9001	EGGLECTICCAFE.NET
KATHLEEN & MICHAEL GRESK		424 S WEST ST, WHEATON	630-945-4711	MGRESK@PROVIDENCEBANK.COM
DAVE DIERSEN	GOP USA ILLINOIS	915 COVE CT, WHEATON 60189	630-653-0462	GOPILLINOIS.COM
BOB F HAEGER	LANGAN HAEGER VINCENT & BORN INSURANCE	290 S COUNTY FARM RD, STE T, WHEATON 60187	630-668-6644	LANGANINS.COM
LORI J MILLER CFP	LPL FINANCIAL	27W130 ROOSEVELT ROAD, SUITE 101, WINFIELD, IL 60190	630-690-0000	YOURWEALTHDIVA.COM
MARY LOU MCLENNAN	MARY LOU MCLENNAN PC	209 S NAPERVILLE RD WHEATON 60189	630-682-0440	MLMCLENNAN@AOL.COM
JOHN B KINCAID	MIRABELLA, KINCAID, FREDERICK & MIRABELLA, LLC	1737 S NAPERVILLE RD, STE 100, WHEATON 60189	630-665-7300	MIRABELLAKINCAID.COM

ARTHUR E PAPE, ESQ	THE PAPE LAW FIRM	100 W ROOSEVELT RD, BLDG A-3, STE 102, WHEATON 60187	630-933-9300	APAPE@PAPELAW.COM
ROY PEREGRINE	PEREGRINE, STIME, NEWMAN, RITZMAN & BRUCKNER, LTD	221 E ILLINOIS ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-1900	PSNRB.COM
SUSAN C ROLEWICK	ROLEWICK & GUTZKE PC	1776 S NAPERVILLE RD, #104A, WHEATON 60189	630-653-1577	RGLAWFIRM.COM
JAMES E BRAMSEN	SPRAYING SYSTEMS CO	P O BOX 7900, WHEATON 60187	630-665-5000	
DOUGLAS P CARLSON, DVM	VILLAGE ANIMAL CLINIC	25W510 GENEVA RD, CAROL STREAM 60188	630-690-9191	VILLAGEANIMAL.COM
EDWARD J WALSH	WALSH, KNIPPEN, KNIGHT & POLLOCK	2150 MANCHESTER RD, WHEATON 60187	630-462-1980	WWW.WKKPLAW.COM
ROBERT D HUTCHINSON	WHEATON BANK & TRUST	211 S WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-1800	WHEATONBANK.COM
ROBERT PASZCZAK	WHEATON BANK & TRUST	211 S WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-1800	WHEATONBANK.COM
ROGER BENSON	WHEATON SPORTS CENTER	1000 W PRAIRIE AVE, WHEATON 60187		
THOMAS J WILLIAMS	WILLIAMS-KAMPP FUNERAL HOME INC	430 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0016	TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM
DOUGLAS SAMUELS	YOUNG'S APPLIANCES	500 CRESCENT BLVD, GLEN ELLYN 60137	630-469-2288	YOUNGSAPPLIANCES.COM