



The Voter

Wheaton LWV March 2012

From the Executive Committee

In this month's issue:

From the Executive Committee	1
Bulletin Board	3
Priceless	4
Proclamation.....	5
Action Roundup	6
Meeting Highlights.....	6
Our Supporters	8

Important Dates!

3/1	LWVIL Phonathon begins
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



Spring is only a few weeks away, and we've enjoyed such a mild winter, the bulbs might be blooming by the time you read your VOTER. Let's hope that March does not come in roaring (like a lion).

Twenty three LWV of Wheaton members, including two past Presidents and eight current Directors from the Board, enjoyed a stimulating Program Planning meeting on February 16th. We also enjoyed some great salads, hot dishes and desserts coordinated by Special Project Chair, Bobbi Walsh.

We agreed to keep all our local programs as described in our Member's Handbook. Locally, we decided to move **public transportation** to the top of the list of our **Areas for Emphasis 2012-2013**. If you are interested in this topic, please contact Jan Kay, who will spearhead the working committee.



For the national convention in June, participants discussed three requests from other Leagues to support a) Dept. of Peace Study (LWV of Boone County MO), b) Study of Nuclear Energy as an Alternative Source (LWV of Lee County, FL) and c) Sentencing Policy Concurrence with LWVDC. The group supported all three requests, but we had to choose only one to recommend to LWV US. The choice was the

Sentencing Policy Concurrence, which supports alternatives to imprisonment and opposes mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses.

After eating and discussing local and national positions, Maria Owens, our new Program Chair, brought up **“Plan for the Future”**, a project which the Board has undertaken to grow and energize our League. We are looking for members to fill vacant positions on the Board of Directors. If you are interested please contact someone on the Nominating Committee (Charlotte Murphy, Chair, or Liz Quigg, Beth O’Malley or Barb Pape). We also passed around a sign-up sheet for four categories of member involvement which we believe need League attention. If any of the following committees interest you, please contact the Executive Committee at exec-comm@wheatonlwvil.org:

Membership Outreach -- Chair, Denise Niesman

Monthly Meeting Planning Committee -- Chair, Maria Owens

Observer Corp -- (no chair, but Missey Wilhelm is willing to conduct Observer Corp workshop if we have interested members...please name the Board or Commission you would like to Observe)

Special Projects Committee -- Chair, Bobbi Walsh

The month of March finds LWV of Wheaton involved with two events, both listed in the calendar. A **candidate forum** in Glen Ellyn for the candidates for the **6th Congressional District** is planned for March 8th, and the following Thursday, March 15th, we will be screening the film **Pricele\$\$** at the Wheaton Public Library. We hope to see many members at both events, and since they are open to the public, feel free to bring neighbors, friends and relatives along. We can all help the membership outreach program, even if we aren’t on the committee.

Denise, Liz, Olga, 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.

March 15
"Priceless"
at the
Wheaton Public Library



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

PROCLAMATION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH

March 2012

WHEREAS, housing is a human right and owning and affording a home is part of the American Dream; and

WHEREAS, 14,055 people experience homelessness each night in Illinois.

WHEREAS, foreclosures continue to rise in Illinois. In 2010, there were 151,304 foreclosure filings in Illinois- a 52.08% increase compared to 2008.

Whereas, renters are one the many hidden victims of the foreclosure crisis. In 2010, there were 5,904 apartment building foreclosures containing a total loss of 17,467 units in the City of Chicago.

WHEREAS, workers struggle to afford the rent. A full-time worker in Illinois must earn \$17.38 per hour in order to afford the cost of an average two-bedroom apartment (\$904) without paying more than 30% of income on housing.

WHEREAS, seniors, people with disabilities and others with limited incomes need affordable places to live. In 2010, a person with a disability receiving monthly SSI payments needed to spend 115% of their monthly income—an impossibility—in order to rent an average one-bedroom unit.

WHEREAS, the supply of affordable rental housing is inadequate. For every 100 extremely low-income renter households, Illinois has only 53 existing affordable rental units. Sixty-three percent of extremely low income-renter households pay more than 50% of their income on housing.

WHEREAS, the number of people Illinois Homeless Service Providers have had to turn away has greatly increased within recent years. During FY11, Illinois agencies provided comprehensive shelter and transitional housing to 42,068 people but had to turn away 36,983 requests due to a lack of space. In Chicago, providers had to turn away 4,775 requests for services for homeless youth due to a lack of resources.

WHEREAS, homelessness among school age children is on the rise. During the 2009-10 school year, there were 33,367 students defined as homeless enrolled in Illinois public schools, representing a 27% increase over three years.

WHEREAS, lack of affordable housing exposes women and children to violence.

WHEREAS, fully accessible housing for people with disabilities is in short supply.

WHEREAS, many more people live in nursing homes and other institutions than necessary.

WHEREAS, the talents of grassroots organizations, non-profit housing professionals, financial institutions, elected officials, and government must be combined to address the immense challenge of ensuring that every person in Illinois has access to affordable housing.

THEREFORE, I, Patrick Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2012, as AFFORDABLE HOUSING MONTH in Illinois.

Action Roundup

Environment

Electronics recycling (including household batteries) will take place on Saturday, March 10th from 9:00 AM to Noon at the Public Works Facility on Liberty Street.

Wheaton Ranks Fourth in State for Energy Savings

WHEATON, Ill. – Since June 2010, Wheaton residents have collectively saved more than \$20,615 and nearly 185,000 kWh in energy by using the CUB Energy Saver program. Recently released standings from the Citizens Utility Board place Wheaton fourth in Illinois for energy saved through the program.

This free online tool uses information from residents' ComEd bills to build customized money-saving plans for households by showing them ways to reduce their energy use. It also gives users the ability to track their energy usage over time. Wheaton currently has 327 households participating in the program.

The Citizens Utility Board is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization created by the Illinois General Assembly to represent residential utility customers in Illinois. To learn more or enroll in the CUB Energy Saver program, visit www.CUBEnergySaver.com.

Housing

March is Affordable Housing Month in Illinois. See the Governor's proclamation.

• Feb. 6, 2012 City Council Meeting Highlights

City Code Changed to Clarify Language about Mayor's Vote and Powers

The City Council approved an ordinance modifying wording in several sections of Chapter 2 of the Wheaton City Code. The changes 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 in this section in order to clarify who is eligible to vote.

Council Approves Appointments to Boards and Commissions

The Council approved the reappointment of Cathy Coleman to the Environmental Improvement Commission for a three-year term. The Council also appointed Councilman John Rutledge to the TIF Joint Review Board to replace former Councilwoman Liz Corry.

Police Collective Bargaining Agreement Approved

A resolution authorizing a collective bargaining agreement between the City and the union representing Wheaton police officers was approved. The three-year agreement, retroactive to May 1, 2011, makes adjustments for a variety of benefits and wages for police officers.

City Adopts Bicycle Plan

The City Council amended the Comprehensive Plan by approving the addition of the Wheaton Bicycle Plan. Using funding from the federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation grant the City received, the City contracted Active Transportation Alliance to help develop the bicycle plan in cooperation with a task force of representatives from Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission, various City departments, the Wheaton Park District, DuPage County Forest Preserve District and Community Unit School District 200.

Wheaton Supports Fire/Rescue Alliance

In order to improve cooperation among the Wheaton Fire Department and West Chicago, Carol Stream and Winfield Fire Protection Districts, the City Council approved a resolution supporting the establishment of the West Suburban Fire/Rescue Alliance. The four entities have been working together to make their training and operations more uniform and to better combine resources in order to enhance public health and safety.

Feb. 21, 2012 City Council Meeting Highlights

Main Street Property Sale Approved

The City Council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the sale of the City-owned property at 109 N. Main St. The City previously acquired the property through eminent domain proceedings. Roy and Karen Millonzi purchased the property for \$200,000 and plan to rehabilitate the property and open an Aveda Salon.

- 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