



The Voter

Wheaton LWV August 2010

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Important Dates!

8/15	Membership Drive
9/16	Fall Feast
9/24	WCCHS Voter Registration
10/20	Candidate Forum
10/21	Candidate Forum



President's Letter

Wow, it's August already and the dog days of summer are on us. In the mountains of Montana it still feels like early summer and there is time to continue to enjoy the good weather. If you will indulge me this, I am happy to report that my new knee works great and allows me to take 4 mile hikes and fish in the Gallatin and Madison rivers with confidence again! Enjoy the rest of the summer, so you can be ready for all the fall activities! It is election season and we have much to do.

What's going on in the league right now?

- ❖ The **Membership Committee** participated in a unique opportunity to reach out to the 1100 teachers in CUSD 200 when they meet with the new superintendent August 2nd. Gift bags provided by the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and participating business will include a LWV bookmark that includes an invitation to join us for the Fall Feast.
- ❖ The **Diversity Committee** continues to work on a concept of a "Coffeehouse" where conversation, even debate, on various and current issues can be carried on with civility. What a concept! Interested in joining the conversation? For more information and meeting details look for the Diversity Committee report. They would love to hear from you.

What's coming up?

- ❖ Fall Focus is on Civic Engagement in the election and core League activities - be ready to volunteer!
 - ⇒ Illinois Student Vote – Supporting Mock Elections at 4-5 local high schools – dates TBD
 - ⇒ **New** - Voter Registration (9/24) and Candidate Forum Support for Community High School West Chicago (10/4)
 - ⇒ Candidate Forums (10/20 & 10/21) partnering with Wheaton Chamber of Commerce and LWV of Glen Ellyn
 - ⇒ **New** - we are working on the new Voter Guide as part of

VOTE411.org with LWVIL. Look for the article inside

⇒ Voter Registration

⇒ General Election 11/2

❖ **LWV– GOING GREEN II – to continue to manage expenses and save trees in the process**

⇒ Membership booklet will be posted on the league website*

⇒ Member list will be emailed to members after membership drive to print or keep in their computers*

* Members without computer access will receive a printed copy of both.

❖ **New** – We are considering a Technology Committee to look at using online tools and digital technology to connect with the community and will consider things like changes to the League website and use of social networking (like Facebook/Twitter)

❖ **Annual Membership Drive** which begins 8/15 includes the increases voted on at the annual meeting (Individual \$65 & Family \$97.50) and if you choose to make an additional donation to the League you can make it at the same time.

❖ **The FALL FEAST** is at 6:30 on September 16th at the Gary Methodist Church with Mai Thai Restaurant providing the meal. Dinner will be followed by an informative session on the work of our standing committees and our planned work for the year. **Mark your calendar!**

As you can see, this will be a busy fall as we focus on core league activities, so I look forward to seeing you all at one activity or another. Be generous with your time and bring your enthusiasm! See you soon.

Missey Wilhelm
President
League of Women Voters of
Wheaton
August 2010



The Wheaton delegation to the Convention



COD NEWS

There are two members of the LWV Glen Ellyn that are observing the COD board meetings now and posting observer reports on their website.

If you haven't seen this, you might be interested...CODiscover

Note to self -
Pay dues
promptly



LWVUS Public Education Study Committee

In accordance with the approval of delegates at Convention 2010, the LWVUS will undertake a study of the "Federal Role in Public Education." The study would focus on the role of the federal government in education policymaking, with possible consideration of funding, common standards and/or governance relationships among all levels of the government. Members of the committee will be responsible for developing study materials and consensus question, participating in reviewing/ tabulating all of the responses submitted by participating Leagues, and based on those, recommending position language to the Board. The LWVUS Board is now seeking applications from members who are interested in being on the study committee.

Deadline for Applications: August 16, 2010

In case you missed the email, you can see Missey's report on the Convention at
<http://wheatonlwvil.org/files/convention2010us.pdf>



**LWV OF WHEATON
INVITES YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS TO
A FALL FEAST**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH 2010 6:30 PM
MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**

**GARY METHODIST CHURCH
224 NORTH MAIN STREET
WHEATON, IL 60187-5328**

“Thai” in to the League at the Fall Feast, our first members’ meeting of the 2010-2011 year. Wheaton’s own Mai Thai Restaurant will provide several delicious chicken dishes, with fragrant white rice and cut fruit.

Our program for the evening will be close to home. We’ll have an informative session on the work of our standing committees, and our planned work for the year. There is plenty of parking around the church, and there is an elevator for ease of access.

BRING A FRIEND OR TWO, AND INTRODUCE THEM TO LEAGUE.

**LET JOAN KNOW YOUR FRIENDS’ NAMES
SO WE CAN INTRODUCE THEM AT THE DINNER
VOLUNTEER FOR SETUP OR CLEANUP**





NEW FOR 2010 - **VOTERS GUIDE**

This year, the League of Women Voters Education Fund launched an exciting addition to VOTE411.ORG. Resources available to everyone include information on voting in your state, (deadlines, election info and more), voter registration online, polling places, **and now** Voters' Guide, created using the new candidate and ballot measure software. Voters simply enter their address to access relevant state and local information.

The League will ask candidates to participate in Vote411 through a custom email tool, Candidates then enter their own information, using an individual id and password. They respond to LWV provided questions as well, all online.

In Illinois we are hoping to cover these races:

Governor, LT Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Treasurer
US Senator
All Representatives in Congress
State Senators who are running this year
All State Representatives

In DuPage, we'll cover races for County offices, Forest Preserve, and local races such as park districts, township races, etc. Referenda wording and information will also be available on this site.

This newly enhanced system is a wonderful way to provide voters with the information they need to make informed choices at the ballot box.

Roberta Jacobson will be working with Jan Dorner, LWVIL to coordinate this for Dupage County.

WORKGROUPS AND OTHERS

SYNOPSIS

Diversity Frank Goetz

Imagine a place in the world where people of all walks of life can and do gather regularly to engage in conversation, perhaps even debate, with friends and strangers alike, the major issues of the day. The Diversity team, along with active citizens in the broader community, would like to create such a place at the College of DuPage. Planning meetings have been held every 2 weeks since late May.

Emerging from the discussions is the vision of a course in civic engagement being taught by a community activist as part of Continuing Education. This course would be advertised in the COD bulletin with a catchy title (e.g., Civil Discussion or Civil War?) and would use The People's Coffeehouse at COD as a laboratory.

This is all just in the brainstorming stage. Join us at our next meeting on Tuesday July 13th at 11:30 AM at the RJN Foundation Building, at 213 S. Wheaton Ave. All our meetings are open to the public. They will continue to be on Tuesdays at 11:30 AM every two weeks, including July 27th, August 10th, 17th & 31st, and September 14th & 28th. For more information please contact Frank Goetz.

Environment Diane Niesman

The next electronic recycling date is August 14, 2010 from 9:00 AM to Noon at Public Works Facility at 821 W. Liberty Drive in Wheaton. Household batteries such as AA or AAA; lithium; those used in hearing aids, cameras, etc.; are now being accepted and do not need to be sorted.

NOTE: Batteries for cars, sump pumps, boats and other engines will NOT be accepted.

Wheaton's Home Energy Savings Program, funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was so successful that applications are no longer being accepted. 200 applications were received and are being reviewed in order of receipt. Rebates for energy efficiency improvements will be awarded as funds are available.

Housing Action Group Jan Kay

The Wheaton League of Women Voters continues to be active in our pursuit of affordable housing options here in Wheaton and DuPage County. We have been actively working as part of DuPage Housing Action Coalition, following legislation on the State and Federal levels this spring. Due to the budget crisis in Springfield, much other legislation did not progress as readily as we would wish. DHAC is fortunate to have Business and Professional People for the Public Interest and Housing Action Illinois delegate a staff person to help guide our work here.

The League observes the work of the Wheaton City Council to always be aware of opportunities for additional affordable housing opportunities for individuals, families, including those with disabilities as well as seniors. We also await the time to work with the City staff on their stated priority for more committed developments of moderate income housing in Wheaton.

The League continues to work actively with the Responsible Budget Coalition on the State's fiscal policy which includes dollars for housing work.

Healthcare OPEN Call or email Missey Wilhelm to get involved

A new easy and comprehensive government site, [HealthCare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov), has been launched to take the mystery and confusion out of the new Affordable Care Act, and make decisions regarding health care coverage understandable. Visit <http://www.healthcare.gov> where you will have an opportunity to ask questions, give feedback and receive answers from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Viable Downtown Wheaton Carol Honeywell

The loss of several retail businesses in Wheaton's downtown, especially on Main Street, is a cause for concern. Empty stores create a negative feeling for a shopping area. It does not take long for customers to find other, more vibrant places for their shopping needs. The uncertainty of how the Wheaton Grand Theater project will be resolved adds to the empty building problem.

Wheaton Public Library and City Council Carol Honeywell

A recent decision by the Board of the Wheaton Public Library to close its doors on Fridays as a way to make up for a decrease in revenue from the City of Wheaton, has resulted in a proposed ordinance by a member of the city council. The ordinance would require the library to be open at least four hours a day for six days a week during the summer, and at least four hours a day for seven days during the rest of the year. The ordinance would also shorten a board term from the present three years to a term of two years.

Library Board President Colleen McLaughlin voiced several concerns, among them the fact that the ordinance as originally proposed, did not allow for days when the library has normally been closed. Not all council members voted in favor of preparing the proposed ordinance, though a majority did vote to go forward with its preparation. In addition to the proposed ordinance, (which will be voted upon at the August 2nd council meeting), Mayor Michael Gresk determined that board members who voted in favor of the Friday closing would not be reappointed to the board.

From the board's position, the loss of \$300,000 in funding for the library for the second consecutive year meant that adjustments in the budget would be necessary, in addition to the ones previously made. The need to staff the library for all of its services and for the safety of our patrons precluded laying off any employees. After months of study and

discussion of a variety of options, the majority of the board members agreed that a one day a week closing, on the least busy day of the week, would have the least impact on patrons and staff.

Full disclosure: I currently serve on the Wheaton Public Library

Wheaton City Council Highlights

Meeting: June 7, 2010

City Council Approves Water Rate Change

The City Council voted 6-1 to approve a 25-cent increase per 100 cubic feet to the City's water rate for a two-year period. The City of Wheaton combined water/sanitary sewer/stormwater management rate after the increase will be \$4.45 per 100 cubic feet of water used. The rate is reviewed annually and the increase is needed to address increasing water expenses projected for at least the next five years.

Courthouse Square Project Ordinance Passes

By a vote of 5-2, the Council passed an ordinance amending the Courthouse Square Development Agreement. The City previously entered into a development agreement with Courthouse Land Development LLC using Tax Increment Financing. The modifications are intended to allow development to continue, thereby creating additional revenue, rather than risking the possibility that no development occurs at the site.

Alarm Monitoring Ordinance Reviewed

The Council received a first reading of an ordinance that would establish a uniform system for private alarm systems connected to the Wheaton Wireless Alarm Network. The proposed ordinance would require all fire and hold-up alarm systems within the City to directly connect to the City's central station, which will be located at Fire Station 1 by way of the City's wireless alarm network. A monthly fee of \$85 per wireless subscriber would be required, and the agreement also would include alarms in the Winfield Fire Protection Unit.

Council to Vote on Northside Residential Overlay District Amendment

The Council received a report from the Planning & Zoning Board with recommendations regarding the Northside Residential Overlay District. A proposed text amendment would expand the unenclosed front porch incentive provision to allow for wrap-around front porches. It also would expand the provision to allow for up to 250 square feet of any enclosed porch, deck and patio not finished for year-round use to be excluded from the Floor Area Ratio.

Meeting: July 6, 2010

Residents Appointed/Reappointed to City Boards and Commissions

The Council approved the appointment of Mary Landreth and the reappointment of Erin Birt, Ronnie Gillis and Desiray Young to three-year terms on the Community Relations Commission; the reappointment of Mary Vieregg to a three-year term on the Environmental Improvement Commission; the appointment of Trent L. Nichols to a three-year term on the Historic Commission; the appointment of Bruce Fogerty and Barbara Wonser and the reappointment of Stacy Slater to three-year terms on the Library Board.

Council OKs Improvements to Unfinished Subdivision

To address undeveloped lots in the Amberwood Estates Subdivision, the Council approved a bid to complete required subdivision improvements such as re-grading stormwater swales, completing paving Landon Circle, replacing dead trees, re-seeding undeveloped lots, installing sidewalks and other improvements. The developer of the subdivision planned to build 33 homes on the former site of the Sunny Ridge family service center, but due to the economic downturn, only one home has been built. The contracted work will be funded by the developer's letter for credit.

Council Reviews Proposed Ordinance

The City Council received the first reading of a proposed ordinance regarding the Library Board. If passed, the ordinance would reduce the length of Library Board terms from three years to two years and would set forth a minimum number of hours and days for the library to be open each week. The Council will vote on the proposed ordinance at its Aug. 2, 2010, meeting

Meeting: July 19, 2010

Additional Park Lighting Approved

The City Council unanimously approved an ordinance to allow the Wheaton Park District to install additional lights for one of Atten Park's softball fields. The Park District requested a special use permit to install lighting on softball field #15 to improve player safety. The City Council held a public hearing regarding the request on July 12.

Council Approves Vacation of Railroad Crossing

In regard to an ordinance to vacate the Chase Street roadway/rail crossing at the Union Pacific railroad tracks, the Council voted 3-2 in favor of vacating the crossing. Union Pacific has major capital improvements proposed along their west line track system that require the closure of the Chase Street crossing to construct a track crossover. In

return, Union Pacific will construct a pedestrian underpass at this location. Union Pacific's improvements are intended to increase the speed of freight train traffic and reduce wait times at intersections.

- 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 2009 Finance Drive. When you patronize them, thank them in person for supporting the Wheaton League of Women Voters.

ALBERT ROSE	A A ROSE CONSTRUCTION CO	P O BOX 802, WHEATON 60187	630-653-4400	
ROCKNEY J HOWARD	AMERICAN ENTERPRISE BANK	25W411 GENEVA RD, WHEATON 60187		RJHOWARD@AEBANK.NET
HENRY BERTALMIO	BEST-WAY RUG & FURNITURE CLEANERS	319 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-7940	BESTWAYRUG@YAHOO.COM
KELLIE C BORTER	BORTER HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING CO, INC	0N441 PLEASANT HILL RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-5885, 630-668-6198 FAX	BORTERHVACKCB@AOL.COM
ERIC D BRUSS APLD	BRUSS LANDSCAPING INC	1607 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-665-1600	TLUSSOW@BRUSSLANDSCAPING.COM
BRUCE W WISNER DDS MS	CENTRAL DUPAGE ORTHODONTICS LTD	300 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-3317	
LORI J MILLER CFP	CHICAGO NORTH FINANCIAL GROUP, FINANCIAL ADVISOR/WEALTH MANAGER	500 PARK BLVD, STE 400, ITASCA 60143	630-333-5873, 630-875-1649	LJMILLER@SBCGLOBAL.NET , LJMILLER@METLIFE.COM
CHRISTOPHER BARTON, EXECUTIVE V.P.	COMMUNITY BANK	100 N WHEATON AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-933-0900	CBARTON@COMMBANK-WGE.COM
JOHN T BOMHER, MEMBER	CUSD 200 BOARD OF EDUCATION	130 W PARK AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-690-4631	JBOMHER@CUSD200.ORG
J R MCBRIDE, MEMBER, DISTRICT 4	DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD	421 N COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-407-6000	JRMCBRIDE5@MSN.COM
DEBRA OLSON, MEMBER, DISTRICT 4	DUPAGE COUNTY BOARD	421 N COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-407-6000	DEBRA@DEBRAOLSON.COM , DOLSON@DUPAGECO.ORG
THOMAS BOZONELOS	EGG'LECTIC CAFÉ	145 N HALE ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-9001	EGGLECTICCAFE@AOL.COM
MICHAEL J GRESK	FIRST CHOICE BANK	330 S NAPERVILLE RD, WHEATON 60189	630-260-2000 city hall	MGRESK@FIRSTCHOICEBANKS.COM
DAVE DIERSEN	GOP USA	915 COVE CT, WHEATON 60189	630-653-0462	DIERSEN@AOL.COM
JAMES P HOFNER, CPA	HOFNER & HOFNER LLC	855 W PRAIRIE AVE, WHEATON 60187	630-462-9777	JIMH@HOFNERHOFNER.COM
TIM S HULTGREN	HULTGREN FUNERAL HOME	304 N MAIN ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0027	TIM@HULTGRENFH.COM , WWW.HULTGRENFH.COM

JOHN MILLNER	ILLINOIS SENATOR 28TH DISTRICT	290 SPRINGFIELD DR, STE 225, BLOOMINGDALE 60108	630-351-9340	JOHNJMILLNER@AOL.COM
FRANCO COLADIPIETRO	ILLINOIS REPRESENTATIVE 45TH DISTRICT	123 N ROSEDALE, STE 100, BLOOMINGDALE 60108	630-272-4545	FRANCO@COLADIPIETRO.COM
CAROL & PAUL MORGAN	INKWELL	119 E ROOSEVELT RD, LOMBARD 60148	(630) 268-0050	INKWELL1@FLASH.NET
JILL CARD	JEANS AND A CUTE TOP SHOP	204 W WESLEY ST, WHEATON 60187	630-690-5287	CARDRJ@COMCAST.NET
BOB F HAEGER	LANGAN HAEGER VINCENT & BORN INSURANCE	290 S COUNTY FARM RD, STE T, WHEATON 60187	630-668-6644	HAEGERB@LANGANINS.COM
JOHN B KINCAID	MIRABELLA, KINCAID, FREDERICK & MIRABELLA, P.C.	1737 S NAPERVILLE RD, STE 100, WHEATON 60189	630-665-7300	
DR CONRAD W STOLL & DR CYNTHIA LOGAN	OPTOMETRISTS	214 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-4144	STOLLPATROL@AOL.COM
PATRICIA A PAPE	PAPE & ASSOCIATES	618 S WEST ST, WHEATON 60187	630-668-8710	PAPPAPEL@SBCGLOBAL.NET , OFFICE@PAPEANDASSOCIATES.COM
ROY PEREGRINE	PEREGRINE, STIME, NEWMAN, RITZMAN & BRUCKNER, LTD	221 E ILLINOIS ST, WHEATON 60189	630-665-1900	RPEREGRINE@PSNRB.COMMURPHY
KENNETH F POLACH, MAI, SRA	POLACH APPRAISAL GROUP, INC	1761 S NAPERVILLE, WHEATON 60189	630-682-4650, 630-682-4814 FAX	KEN@POLACHAPPRAISAL.COM
W THOMAS POWELL	POWELL & BOYER	124c S COUNTY FARM RD, WHEATON 60187	630-588-1996	TOM@POWELLANDBOYER.COM
SUSAN C ROLEWICK, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR	ROLEWICK & GUTZKE PC	1776 S NAPERVILLE RD, #104A, WHEATON 60189	630-653-1577	SUSANR@RGLAWFIRM.COM
DALE R SHOWALTER	SHOWALTER ROOFING SERVICE, INC	25W048 RAMM DR, STE 1, NAPERVILLE60564	630-499-7700	DALE@SHOWALTERROOFING.COM
VALERIE KOEHLER	TASTING DEVINE	127 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-752 9463	TASTINGDEVINE@HOTMAIL.COM
MICHAEL C PHILLIPS	THE BANK RESTAURANT & BAR	121 W FRONT ST, WHEATON 60187	630-665-2265	INFO@THEBANKWHEATON.COM , WWW.THEBANKWHEATON.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

DAVID BLAND	THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA	1926 N MAIN ST, WHEATON 60187	630- 665-0130 X354	DHBCONSULT9@YAHOO.COM
DOUGLAS P CARLSON, DVM	VILLAGE ANIMAL CLINIC	25W510 GENEVA RD, CAROL STREAM 60188	630-690-9191	DCARLSON@VILLAGEANIMAL.COM
EDWARD J WALSH JR	WALSH, KNIPPEN, KNIGHT & POLLOCK	2150 MANCHESTER RD, WHEATON 60187	630-462-1980, 630-462-1984 FAX	ED@WKKPLAW.COM , WWW.WKKPLAW.COM
RUTH D CARLSON	WHEATON BANK & TRUST	211 S WHEATON AV, WHEATON 60189	630-690-1800	RCARLSON@WHEATONBANK.COM
THOMAS J WILLIAMS	WILLIAMS-KAMPP FUNERAL HOME INC	430 E ROOSEVELT RD, WHEATON 60187	630-668-0016	TJW@WILLIAMS-KAMPP.COM