



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR AREA

Serving the people of Homewood, Flossmoor, Glenwood,
Hazel Crest, Olympia Fields, Matteson, Chicago Heights,
Lansing, Harvey, South Holland, Country Club Hills and
Frankfort ILLINOIS



October 2018 --E-Bulletin--Volume XLVII Issue 2
www.lwvhfarea.com

Presidents' Message October 2018 Mary Emily Grant and Barbara Koger Hayes Co-Presidents

The fantastic Potluck Supper was a kickoff for the 2018-2019 general meeting. The Potluck Supper was held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, at 6:00 pm at the Irwin Center, Homewood. Members and guests served some of their favorite dishes. Everyone was having fun, and it was a pleasant and exciting evening. The League had approximately 40 people in attendance. Membership Chair Joan Strohm and Co-Chair Jennifer Eick Megan signed up several new League members. There were both current and former League members greeting each other with hugs and filling the room with laughter. Guests were speaking to board members, exchanging ideas and networking. Overall the Potluck Supper was productive.

The Guest Speakers included Frank Zuccarelli, Thornton Township; Maggie Crotty, Bremen Township; Keith Lott, Rich Township and Leticia Gonzalez, Bloom Township. The speakers covered many topics including the benefits and services the Township offers. A Q & A session followed their presentation.

The LWVIL hosted the State of the State Fundraiser event last Saturday, September 29, 2018, at the Arlington Heights International Race Track. The facilities were beautiful, and guests were welcome to tour throughout. At the event, the League announced their new Executive Director, Audra Wilson. Audra is an experienced public interest attorney with a depth of experience in poverty law and diversity. In 2013, Audra worked as Deputy Chief of Staff for United States Congresswoman Robin Kelly in the Second Congressional District of Illinois. Audra spent seven years on the faculty at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law as an Adjunct Professor and Director of Diversity Education and Outreach. Audra comes well-prepared with an array of experiences. She is well-grounded in the field of law and diversity. Therefore, I am confident that Audra will be a great leader for the organization.

On National Voters Registration Day, September 25, 2018, Chair Person Sandra Slayton was "hitting the ground running" with the assistance of other League members. The members were at three different High Schools in Thornton District #205, and one High School in Homewood High School District #233. League members were registering students to VOTE. Other League members set up voter registration at Sunrise Senior Living in Flossmoor. Please don't forget to vote on Election Day, November 6, 2018, and remind your family, neighbors and friends to vote.

For those of you who have been inquiring about the Membership Book for 2018-2019, it is in the process of being completed and should be ready to mail in the next week to ten days. Many interesting programs and activities have been planned for this year. You will find the dates and schedule in your new Membership Book. If there is a topic or an issue you would like to have discussed, please let us know. We welcome input from all of you. If you are aware of problems or needs in our communities that you would like the League to investigate or study, tell us. You are the eyes and ears and voices that help us identify concerns. We look forward to working together with all of you to make this a terrific year!

Thank you for your membership and participation in the work of the Homewood-Flossmoor Area League.

Barbara and Mary Emily



**WOMEN’S MARCH – THE
MARCH TO THE POLLS
Saturday, October 13th**

LWV H-F will meet up with fellow Leaguers on the west side of Buckingham Fountain between 9:45 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 13th, for another historic Women’s March - the March to the Polls. LWVIL is a sponsoring partner of the March to the Polls and encourages Leaguers to have fantastic visibility at the March to encourage voter turnout and participation in our democracy.

Joan Strohm has signs for LWV H-F members to carry during the March. Anyone who wants to carry a sign should contact Joan at (708)921-0859 and plan to pick up your sign from her home no later than Friday, October 12th.



Presidents' Message	Pg.1
Women's March	Pg.2
October Program	Pg.2
Voter Services	Pg.3
Publicity-New Committee	Pg.4
Mailed Bulletin	Pg.4
Upcoming Event Reminders	Pg.4
Memorial to Deceased Members	Pg.5
Green Corner	Pg.6
Password Security	Pg.7
Contributors and Committee	Pg.7
Ad Sponsors	Pg.8

**October Meeting
The Electoral College
October 17, 2018~ 7:00 p.m.
Homewood Library**

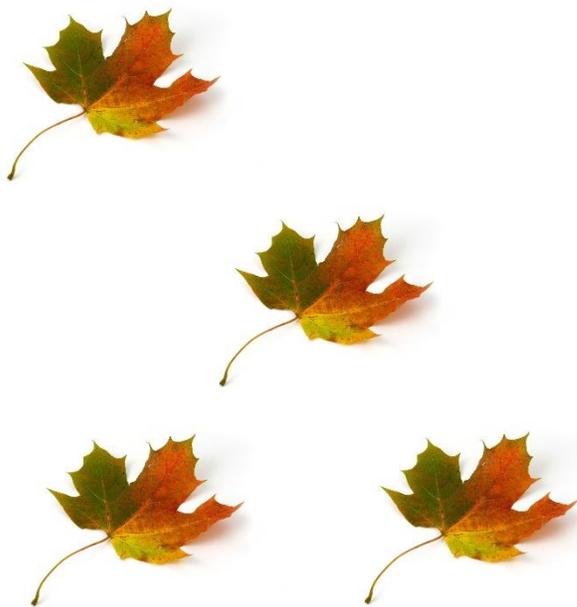
Should We Abolish the Electoral College?

It takes at least 270 electoral votes to win the presidency and there are 538 electoral votes in all. When citizens go to vote on Election Day, they are voting for the representatives in the Electoral College from their state who will then vote for the President. There have been five times in history when the Electoral College and the national popular vote have not agreed. Most recently, in the 2016 and 2000 elections, both elected presidents did not win the most votes from the citizens.

The LWV has advocated for abolishing this antiquated system since 1970, and there is a growing consensus of Americans that agree. In 2017, LWV-Illinois began a project to make abolishing the Electoral College a primary goal for all 700 leagues across the country.

This month's speaker, Joyce Williams, is the Director of Voter Registration for the League of Women Voters of the La Grange Area and a member of the speakers bureau for the League of Women Voters of Illinois' Electoral College Committee. She has been working closely with Rosemary Heilemann, Electoral College Issue Specialist, since June 2016. Joyce also ran the electoral college caucus at the League's national convention this past summer.

Please join us at the Homewood Public Library, 17917 Dixie Highway, Homewood, IL 60430, at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 17th, to hear why the League of Women Voters advocates to abolish the Electoral College.





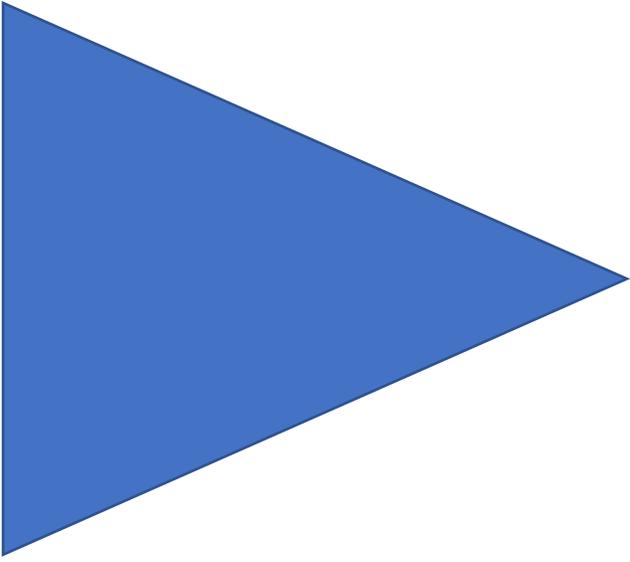
The LWV H-F Area was among the many organizations and businesses participating in a lively and successful Flossmoor Fest on September 8th. Our voter registration booth was stationed in front of the Flossmoor Station Restaurant and from our vantage point we enjoyed performances by the Homewood-Flossmoor High School Band, the Jesse White Tumbling Team, as well as excellent local musicians and school choirs. As anticipated, most Fest goers were already registered voters; however, we were glad to be there to register five (5) individuals who had recently moved into the area and needed to register in their new precinct. Our presence created goodwill, camaraderie, and recognition for the LWV H-F. Several people, including one of our bulletin sponsors, American Eye Care Center, stopped by to express an interest in joining the league or to thank us for the League's work in the community. We invited several interested individuals to attend our September 18th Annual Potluck meeting.



The LWV H-F conducted voter registration drives at four local high schools as well as Sunrise Senior Living Center on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, National Voter Registration Day. In addition to Homewood-Flossmoor High School which is on our rotation list for voter registration, we reached out to Thornton High School District 205, encompassing three schools and they enthusiastically welcomed our interest in holding voter registration drives at their campuses. Registration was conducted simultaneously at Thornton Township HS in Harvey; Thornwood HS in South Holland; Thornridge HS in Dolton; Homewood-Flossmoor North and South Campuses in Flossmoor; and Sunrise Senior Living Center in Flossmoor. Our goal was to give the high school students a tool they will use for a lifetime and create voter awareness for the upcoming November 6th General Election. Our League netted 34 new registered voters on National Voters Registration Day.

To the registrars and assistants who contributed positively to the political process by volunteering time and effort to seek out and register new voters, "Thank you! Grazie! Danke! Mercie! Gracias! Dziekuje!"





**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
THE LWV H-F AREA IS FORMING A NEW
PUBLICITY AND SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE**

#LWV

Are you well versed in hashtags and can't go to sleep without checking Facebook? Do you check your email before anything else in the morning? Have you ever written a press release? Do you want to know how?

LWV H-F Area is starting a Publicity and Social Media Committee. We're looking for members interested in being a part of our social media presence and keeping the media up to date on our exciting programs and events.

If you're interested in participating, please contact Annie Lawrence at annierie@gmail.com or 708-772-1374 or send a message through Facebook.

Even if you have no experience with publicity and marketing but have an interest, drop us a line.

LWV H-F AREA BULLETIN -- ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE
www.lwvhfarea.com

LAST CALL!! MEMBERS WHO PREFER TO RECEIVE BLACK AND WHITE PRINT COPIES OF THEIR BULLETINS BY MAIL MAY DO SO BY PAYING A YEARLY \$10 PRINTING AND POSTAGE FEE.

Write a \$10 check to LWV H-F AREA with "Mailed Bulletin" noted in the Memo and mail to: Chris Schmitt at 1636 Thomas Ct., Flossmoor, IL 60422 by OCTOBER 26, 2018.

Our faithful 50 year plus members receive their mailed copies free for their longstanding dedication.

Program and Event Reminders

Wednesday, **October 17, 2018**, 7:00 p.m. – Electoral College
Guest Speaker – Political Science Professor from NIU, Joyce Williams
Homewood Library

Monday, **November 5, 2018**, 6:00 p.m. – LWV H-F Board Meeting
TBA

Wednesday, **November 28, 2018**, 7:00 p.m. – Immigration
Homewood Library

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR AREA FONDLY REMEMBERS TWO OF OUR DEAREST MEMBERS



IN MEMORY OF DONNA ROACH

Donna Roach, a resident of Flossmoor for many years, joined the League of Women Voters in 1978 and was an active, dedicated member for forty years, always inviting new people to join our League. Donna passed away peacefully early Thursday morning, March 23, 2018. She will be deeply missed.



IN MEMORY OF BARBARA GRAVES

League of Women Voters 50+ year member Barbara Graves died on May 16, 2018 from complications of pneumonia. Born and raised in Chicago, she lived in Homewood and for 42 years in Flossmoor. Barbara, who would have been 92 years old on June 25, 2018, loved League. In recent years she actively attended Green Committee meetings as well as most of the LWV H-F Area monthly program meetings. She will be sorely missed.



Union of Concerned Scientists, the New Watchdog of the Environment: Political Motives Exposed at the EPA and other agencies.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was once a watchdog for clean air and water and provided guidelines for safe practices to protect our natural resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) mission has been to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, oceans, and coasts and to share that knowledge with others. Also, it promotes the conservation and management of coastal and marine ecosystems and resources. But in 2017 things changed and there is deep concern that the role and mission of these agencies are now under the shadow of the new administration, abandoning protections and placing protections for the economy instead, as if nature existed for human consumption and profit.

The Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) puts rigorous, independent science to work to solve our planet's most pressing problems. Through member contributions, (you don't have to be a scientist to join) the funding has allowed UCS to take on the latest rollback of protections and to fight back for the continued missions of these vital agencies.

This year a survey by UCS of more than 60,000 federal scientists across agencies captures instances of egregious political interference in science over the past year. Their work at the EPA, NOAA, USDA and other agencies assert that serious abuses of science are taking place. Examples: The EPA under Scott Pruitt proposed to restrict its own access to the best available science through the ironically named "Secret Science" initiative. Through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request UCS uncovered grave agency misconduct: i.e., the suppression of a study on harmful chemicals in the drinking water on US military bases. UCS publicized this, and a public outcry ensued, and the study was then released. More examples: UCS is suing EPA leadership for its attempt to roll back current fuel standards that cut transportation-related emissions, the biggest source of climate change in the US. UCS is a part of lawsuits demanding that scientists without industry conflicts are restored to the EPA's Science Advisory Board. At NOAA, Trump appointee Rear Admiral Gallaudet tried to change NOAA's mission to include a new protection to safeguard economic impact of existing protections in order to render them ineffectual. UCS launched a media blitz about how the proposed changes, that wanted to eliminate references to climate change and resource conservation, would undermine the agency's vital work. Within days, the acting administrator rescinded the idea and promised that NOAA would continue with its existing mission. (Reference: www.ucsusa.org/EPA-FOIA)

Today's Recycling Tip is "Go for Seconds". Besides recycling cans and bottles, you can reuse things two, three or more times. You can reuse padded envelopes that come in your mail. Just scratch out the address, tear off the stamps and use it again.

Save the Date: The Film SMOG of THE SEA will run on November 4th at 4:00 pm at Homewood Science Center.





Its that time of year...Online Shopping, Travel and Consumer Emails....

Your security is important so please update/change your passwords...

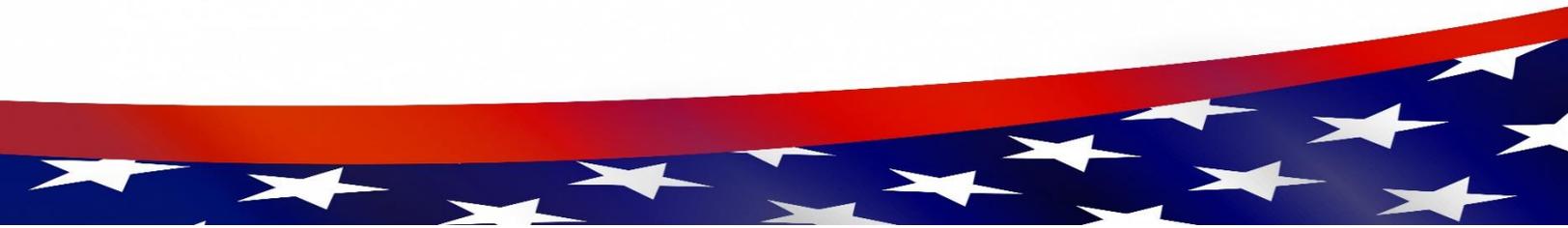
You should change your password in order to ensure the security of your computer account. If your password were not changed on a regular basis, your familiarity with your password would eventually lead to it's compromise. Once another person has acquired your password, they can use your computer account.

Bulletin
Contributors:

Mary Emily Grant
Barbara Hayes
Annie Lawrence
Chris Schmitt
Sandra Slayton
Carol Vance

Committee:

Mary Emily Grant, Co-President/Writer
Barbara Hayes, Co-President/Writer
Jennifer Eick-Magan—Proofreader
Chris Schmitt—Bulletin Coordinator
Alesia Young—Webmaster



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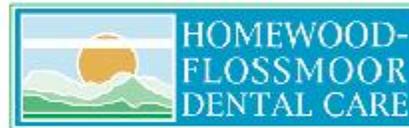
Nail Savvy



Sco's Southside Auto Bath



Drew Mormann, Agent



STRICTLY
T.E.A.M.S. USA

I of The Needle



Leonard L. Giampaolo



The Law Office of
Thomas E. Brabec
18154 Harwood Ave., Suite 204
Homewood, IL 60430-2134
Telephone: 708-960-0580
t.brabec@tbcglobal.net

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Linda Tyson