



# Shop Talk

*A publication of  
the League of  
Women Voters of  
Elmhurst.*

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Visit us at website [lwvelmhurst.org](http://lwvelmhurst.org)

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## Next Meeting's Hot Topic: Fracking in Illinois *Jan Dorner*

Join us on Thursday, April 17, 7 pm, at the Elmhurst Public Library to learn about hydraulic fracturing (aka *fracking*).

**Jen Hensley**, program manager of the **Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club**, will explain what fracking is and address questions and concerns about enforcing legislation designed to protect our air, water, and land.

**Position of the League of Women Voters** (National) relative to this topic: The League believes in promoting resource conservation, stewardship, and long-range planning. The responsibility for managing natural resources should be shared by all levels of government. Pumping high pressure water and chemicals underground to fracture geological formations and release their hidden fuel (natural gas or oil, in the case of Illinois) poses a threat to drinking water and other water resources. This seems contrary to the management of part of a life-supporting ecosystem.



Come at 6:30 pm, thirty minutes before the presentation, to socialize with other League members. For further information about this and other League events, go to [www.lwvelmhurst.org](http://www.lwvelmhurst.org).

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## President's Post: Sue Whitworth

**Miss Representation** is a terrific documentary that we featured at our March program. This film features some very bright and intelligent teenagers and adults from around the country, all eager to change the media culture that promotes an overwhelming value on youth, beauty and sexuality.



One valuable weapon in dealing with this media culture is **how and where we choose to spend, or not spend, our money.** This not only includes products and services but extends to video games and movies. It was great to see civic-minded teenage girls in the film who want to be judged on their accomplishments and not their fashion. It gave me another reason to be a proud member of the League of Women Voters, a group started by intelligent, brave women who demanded equality for all and wanted democracy to succeed.

Thank you to everyone who pledged donations during our **finance drive.** Your generosity will help LWV of Elmhurst continue to make democracy work in our community.

**Members - Save the Date:** LWV Elmhurst Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8th, at the home of Maria Hirsch. Join us for some social time at 6:30 pm with the meeting beginning at 7 pm.

*(Editor's Note: This is one of our very few members-only events.)*

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## Municipal Electricity Aggregation in Elmhurst Sue Williams

Cool Cities is once again working to raise awareness about municipal electricity aggregation in Elmhurst. In 2012 Cool Cities and the LWV helped raise awareness on this option, but **the two-year electricity contract is up this year.** Cool Cities has again created an outreach campaign to show our leaders that we want them to consider renewable options with the 2014 electricity contract. A *Clean Energy Photo Campaign* was presented to the Finance Committee on March 24.

Are you interested in the environment? Join **Cool Cities** on Tuesday, April 1, 7 pm, at the Elmhurst Public Library.



**Elmhurst College Recycling Extravaganza:** Saturday, April 12, 9 am - Noon at Elmhurst College's Alexander Street parking lot. For a complete list of accepted items, go to: [http://media.elmhurst.edu/documents/Recycling\\_Extravaganza\\_Update\\_2014.pdf](http://media.elmhurst.edu/documents/Recycling_Extravaganza_Update_2014.pdf)

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## Committees in Action

### Membership

Please welcome our newest member, **Marti Deuter**.



### Nominating

We're looking for **a few good women!** Contact Dorothy McGuire [secretary@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:secretary@lwvelmhurst.org) or Jan Dorner [publicity@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:publicity@lwvelmhurst.org) to add your name to the list. Elections will be held at our Annual Meeting on May 8.

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## Looking Ahead . . .

### National Voter Registration Day: September 23, 2014



National Voter Registration Day was started two years ago. In 2013 over 800 registration events took place nationally, with over **56,000 people registering to vote**. We plan to participate this September, so if you are a deputy registrar, pencil in the day for registering voters!

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### LWV Lake Michigan Region - Annual Meeting Traverse City, MI: October 3-5, 2014

The overall topic this year is **Climate Change and Biodiversity of Lake Michigan**. Speakers include Dr. David Bunnell, Research Fishery Biologist, U.S. Geological Survey; Dr. Jeffrey Andresen, Associate Professor of Geography, Michigan State University; and Hans VanSumeren, Director of Water Studies Institute, Northwestern Michigan College.

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**Visit our website** – <http://lwvelmhurst.org>– for the latest information on our issues and events, as well as past issues of **Observer Reports** and **Shop Talk**, which you can print.