



The League of Women Voters of Elmhurst
Over 75 Years of Public Policy Debate and Voter Education in our Community

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Shop Talk

Judicial Elections in Illinois
The Honorable Robert J. Anderson
18th Judicial Court

Thursday, January 17th at 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Public Library

Judge Robert J. Anderson of the 18th Judicial Court in Wheaton will be our featured speaker on Thursday, January 17th. Judge Anderson will discuss the judicial election process in Illinois, including how candidates are determined, what limitations are placed on their political activity, and how their campaigns are financed.

The Illinois LWV is currently looking at proposals to develop a Judicial Election Evaluation Commission to help voters make informed decisions about judicial candidates. This program is intended to demystify the judicial election process as it currently exists so members may better understand underlying problems and proposed changes.

Great Decisions
Barbara Swords

Thursday, January 10, 2008 at 9:15 am

The discussion will focus on Chapter 8, "Helping the World's Endangered Children."

Serious problems of "deep-seated poverty, political corruption, prejudice, war, disease, and social mores" remain today in spite of large amounts of foreign aid over the last 50 years.

How do these problems affect children throughout the world? Who can best provide solutions -- the United Nations,

governments of wealthy nations, private individuals like Warren Buffett and Angelina Jolie? What policy options should the United States adopt?

Thoughtful reading and discussion will help us examine these issues on January 10, 2008.

(Note: the meeting is a week later than normal to accommodate the recent holidays.)

Voter Registration

Myrrha Guzman

ATTENTION REGISTRARS: WE NEED YOU to help with our registration drive!

We are registering voters at the Elmhurst Public Library on

Sunday, January 6 from 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

and on

Tuesday, January 8 from 5 pm – 9 pm.

If you have not registered a voter in a while, this is the time to dust off your registrar badge and voter forms, and help increase the voting citizenry!

Please contact Myrrha Guzman at voterregistration@lwvelmhurst.org

Presidential Primary Voters Guide

Jeanne Davik

LWV Elmhurst Website

www.lwvelmhurst.org

The 2008 Presidential Primary Voters Guide published by the LWVUS Education Fund is now available on our website. Both Republican and Democratic candidates were invited to participate as long as they (1) had declared themselves as candidates and (2) had met the Presidential Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements.

All candidates each received the same 5 questions and their responses were limited to 50 words each. The questions are:

Fossil Fuels: What should be done, if anything, at the federal level to reduce our use of and dependence on fossil fuels?

Iraq and the Middle East: What should be our short-term and long-term goals in the Middle East?

Health Coverage: What should the federal government do, if anything, to ensure that every American has health coverage?

Campaign Spending Limits: Please explain why you do or do not support setting spending limits for political campaigns and providing a set amount of public funding for all candidates who agree to take no private contributions.

Immigration: What should the federal government do about immigration?

If a candidate did not respond by the deadline, "No Response" was printed in the guide along with the candidate's picture and website address.

For the Democrats, there are responses from Joseph Biden, Jr., Hillary Rodham Clinton, John Edwards, Barack Obama, and Bill Richardson. Chris Dodd did not respond by the deadline.

Republican responses include those of Rudy Guiliani, John McCain, Ron Paul, Tom Tancredo and Fred Thompson. Mitt Romney did not respond by the deadline.

To access the Voters Guide, go to <http://www.lwvelmhurst.org> and click on the 2008 Presidential Voters Guide link on the left side of the homepage.

Invitations for the annual LWV Illinois State of the State Luncheon are out and we are looking forward to hearing Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan speak on the **State of the State's Environment** on January 24th at the Union League Club in Chicago.

As an added bonus, the LWVIL is offering local Leagues a profit sharing opportunity: if

10 or more members attend we will receive a share of the profits for our local league.

So far, Gail Anderson, Donna Blue, Jeanne Davik, Jan Dorner, Corinne Johnson, Laura Kratz, and Jan Vanek are going. There's always room in our carpools so contact Donna Blue or any of the other attendees if you would like to ride with us.

In Our Community

Items of Interest for League Members

The recent AAUW program, ***Climate Observations: What are researchers learning?*** will be rebroadcast on government access cable channel 6 in January on Sundays at 7:00 pm, Tuesdays at 4:00 pm, and Saturdays at 5:00 pm. Presented by Douglas Sisterson of Argonne Laboratory, this informative and entertaining discussion of global warming is highly recommended by League members who attended.

On January 11th from 9:30 – 11:30 am SCARCE will conduct a free **Greening Your Home workshop** at 799 Roosevelt Road, Building 2, Suite 108, in Glen Ellyn. Topics include reducing waste, green shopping, energy conservation, recycling, hazardous household waste, odds-n-ends recycling and greener cleaning. To register, call SCARCE at (630) 545-9710 or email them at ecoed@sbcglobal.net.

Keeping it Green

The following information comes to us from SCARCE (School and Community Assistance for Recycling and Composting Education) whose online newsletter is funded by the DuPage County Board:

Please be aware that the Hazardous Household Waste Collection site located at 1979 Brookdale Road (behind the fire station) in Naperville has changed its hours:

Saturdays and Sundays
9:00 am to 2:00 pm
(closed on holidays)

Laura Kratz will take a load to the Hazardous Household Waste Collection site on **Saturday, February 2nd**. If you have any of the items listed above that you would like to send along, you may bring them to her house between 8:30 and 11:00 am that day or call her to make arrangements.

Tips and Techniques for living in a greener world

They are working hard to keep hazardous waste out of the landfill. The site accepts:

- All types of batteries (except auto)
- Oil-based paint, varnish and solvents
- Auto fluids
- Aerosol cans
- Household cleaners
- Sealed fluorescent light bulbs & tubes
- Hobby chemicals
- Unknown substances
- Expired and unused medications

Please keep items in their original containers if possible.

Volunteer Judges Needed for 2008 History Fair

Donna Blue

March and April 2008

Locations Vary

Are you looking for a fun and intellectually rewarding springtime opportunity to contribute to the education of young students and their experiences of satisfaction at academic accomplishment?

The Chicago Metro History Education Center (CMHEC) is seeking volunteers from LWV to serve as judges at History Fairs during March and April. There are various dates, particularly on Saturdays and weekday evenings. Volunteers do not need lofty academic credentials to serve as judges at these events. Love of history, interest in education, and civic-mindedness are all that is needed to participate. Novice judges are teamed with veteran judges and

brief judges' orientations are conducted prior to each judging session.

The History Fair, an educational program for nearly two decades, is an important component of history education for students in grades 6 through 12 in Cook, Lake, and DuPage counties. Student projects include research papers, exhibits, documentaries or performances on topics in Chicago and Illinois history. The projects are judged by volunteers from all parts of the community.

Click here --

http://www.lwvelmhurst.org/HF_JudgingForm2008.PDF -- for details on dates and locations and to sign up to be a judge.

For more information about CMHEC visit <http://www.chicagohistoryfair.org>.

Upcoming Events

Voter Registration	Elmhurst Public Library	January 6 th and January 8 th
Cool Cities Coalition Green Fest Planning Meeting	Elmhurst Public Library	January 9 th , 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Great Decisions	Barbara Swords	January 10 th , 9:15 am
Green Home Workshop	SCARCE, Glen Ellyn	January 11, 9:30 am
LWV Elmhurst Board	Gail Anderson	January 12 th at 9:00 am

LWV Elmhurst	Elmhurst Public Library	January 17 th from 7:00 – 9:00 pm
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Judge Robert Anderson
Judicial Election Practices and Procedures in Illinois

LWVIL State of the State Luncheon	Union League Club, Chicago	January 24 th at Noon
Cool Cities Coalition	Elmhurst Public Library	January 30, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Hazardous Household Waste Collection	Laura Kratz	February 2 nd , 8:30 – 11:00 am