



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

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Laura Kratz, Editor
shoptalk@lwvelmhurst.org

Shop Talk

Susan G. Komen for the Cure Health Care Advocacy
Pat Rowland, President, Chicagoland Affiliate
Thursday, March 20, 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Public Library

Susan G. Komen for the Cure is well known as the nation's largest not-for-profit source of funds for breast cancer research.

In addition, the Foundation's local affiliates raise money and provide grants to area health care providers such as the DuPage County Health Department, DuPage Community Clinic, and the Robert Crown Center for Health. These grants are used toward education, breast cancer screening, and treatment of the medically underserved.

What may not be as well-known is that the Foundation also has a grassroots advocacy program to educate Congress, federal officials, state legislators, and other policy makers about breast cancer.

Top priority for the Chicagoland Affiliate is advocacy for laws to help the underserved women of Illinois receive the treatment they need. Chicagoland Affiliate President Pat Rowland will provide an overview of proposed Illinois legislation to provide access to quality breast cancer screening and treatment for all Illinois women.

Great Decisions Barbara Swords

Thursday, March 6, 2008, 9:15 am

Discussion will focus on issues raised in Chapter 2: "European integration: looking ahead."

In the 50 years since its founding, the European Union has become a single integrated market, with a single European currency, and a major legislative force in many areas of economic and social life--such as environmental policies and gender equity.

New challenges are arising as the EU discusses expanding its membership to include Muslim countries in the Balkans--and especially, Turkey.

For the new U.S. presidential administration in January 2009, what will be the impact of new EU policies on European citizens and existing national policies? Should the U.S. support European policies? Oppose them? Emulate them in the U. S.? Promote bilateral cooperation with Europe?

Chapter 2 presents for us a good background of facts and a thoughtful discussion.

Consensus Question: Should there be an Illinois Constitutional Convention?

Background material on the Constitutional Convention question that will appear on the November ballot has been widely disseminated in various League publications and on our website. (See last month's *Shop Talk*, the *Illinois Voter* and the LWVIL website <http://www.lwvil.org/ConCon.asp>)

Now it is time for our League to get together to discuss the pros and cons of the issue. Our consensus will be added to those of the rest of the Leagues in Illinois and the state board will vote on a position.

Bring your lunch or a cup of coffee and join in the discussion.

Policy Decision

LWV Elmhurst Board

Shop Talk and Observer Reports to be Distributed Electronically

Due to rising costs, the LWV Board has voted to discontinue mailing hard (paper) copies of *Shop Talk* and *Observer Reports* to members who have internet access.

This change will become effective after our annual meeting in May 2008.

Printing costs have recently risen and postage is scheduled to go up again this spring. Although increases in our per member payments to the State and National

LWV also strain our budget, the board has worked hard to keep our dues reasonable and has not passed these added costs on to our members.

If you are currently receiving publications by regular mail and are ready and willing to start receiving them electronically at this time, please email our editors at shoptalk@lwvelmhurst.org and observerreports@lwvelmhurst.org

Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade

Cool Cities Coalition

All LWV Elmhurst members are invited to join the fun as we march in the 12th annual St. Patrick's Parade with the Cool Cities Coalition. We will be distributing bookmarks to publicize our upcoming Green Fest and displaying our Cool Cities banner. A hybrid car, foot pedaled surrey and bicyclists will

Saturday, March 15th at Noon

Spring Road from Wilson north to the train tracks

round out our group. This is the third largest St. Patrick's parade in the Chicago area. Contact any of our Cool Cities reps to find out where our staging area will be: Jan Vanek, Lisa Landreth, Sue Williams, Donna Blue and Laura Kratz.

Keeping it Green – Tips and Techniques for Living in a Greener World

Not interested in building a big compost pile? How about disposing used coffee grounds in your yard? According to LWV member Mary Kies, the grounds sweeten our soil. You can put them around most garden plants (except clematis) or toss them on your lawn – even in winter.

Items of Interest

The Impact of the Iraq War on the US and the World
Elmhurst College Panel Discussion

Wednesday, March 5th at 7:00 pm
Blume Board Room, Frick Center

The State of Veteran Affairs in Illinois
Tammy Duckworth, Director of Illinois Veteran Affairs
Sponsored by the LWV of Glen Ellyn

Friday, March 7th at 7:30 pm
The Meadows of Glen Ellyn
60 Nicholl Way, Glen Ellyn

The Glen Ellyn League invites everyone to hear Illinois Veterans Affairs Director Tammy Duckworth speak on Veterans Issues ranging from post-traumatic stress disorder to support for military families to current legislation in Congress that could affect the GI bill. Anyone interested in carpooling for this free event may call Co-President Donna Blue.

Genevieve Staudt Lecture
Elmhurst College

Wednesday, March 12th at 4:00 pm
Schaible Science Center, Illinois Hall

Dr. Mardge Cohen, Director of Women's Research at the CORE Center, Cook County's major facility for prevention and treatment of AIDS will present "Caring for Women with HIV: Local and Global Challenges." The Staudt lecture is an annual event honoring Women's History Month.

Calendar

LWV Elmhurst Constitutional Convention Consensus

March 5 at 12:30 pm
Elmhurst Library

Panel Discussion: The Impact of the War in Iraq
Blume Board Room, Frick Center

March 5 at 7:00 pm
Elmhurst College

Great Decisions
Barbara Swords

March 6 at 9:15 am

Caring for Women with HIV
Women's History Month Lecture

March 12 at 4:00 pm
Illinois Hall, Elmhurst College

Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Parade
Cool Cities Coalition

March 15
Spring Road

Cool Cities Coalition Meeting

March 19 at 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Library

LWV Elmhurst General Meeting

Susan G. Komen Legislative Advocacy in Illinois
Pat Rowland, Executive Director

March 20 at 7:00 pm
Elmhurst Library