



Shop Talk

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

Vol. 64 #2
September, 2012

Jeanne Davik, Editor
shoptalk@lwvelmhurst.org

Holding Two Elected Offices Concurrently – Good Idea or Bad?

Elmhurst League explores this issue on **Thursday, September 13, 7 pm, at the Elmhurst Public Library**. The meeting is open to all – so invite friends and neighbors! Our panel includes:

- Barbara Sturges and Mike Brown from the LWV of Park Forest. Their League has already conducted a study on the issue.
- Heidi Keenan, attorney and member of the Homewood Flossmoor LWV. She also participated in the Park Forest study.
- Paul Fichtner, DuPage County Board member (District 1) and Elmhurst resident. He will explain why the *County* decided to put an advisory referendum on this issue on the November ballot;
- Dannee Polomsky, Elmhurst Alderman (Third Ward) and member of the Elmhurst League. She will explain the *City's* referendum on holding dual offices, likewise on the November ballot.

That's **two different referenda** on Dual Offices on the same ballot. Because of differences in wording, these items could be confusing, and League members will no doubt be called upon to explain them.



Come Early to Eat and Talk!

Come at 6:30 pm for a half hour of socializing and networking before the program. Enjoy light refreshments while learning what League members have been up to since we last met. Get a preview of upcoming events and activities, leading up to the big election in November. Finally, be sure to let us know if you'd enjoy having a social half-hour like this every month before our meeting.



President's Message from Susan Rose - September, 2012

Hello Everyone. As this long hot summer turns to fall, the League of Women Voters of Elmhurst is busy pursuing our primary mission – **Educating and Registering Voters**. In the 92 years since the 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote, the League of Women Voters has worked

tirelessly to educate and mobilize new voters. We remain fiercely committed to that mission.

The LWVUS has just launched their revised voter information website vote411.org/ , which I encourage you to visit. There's also a wealth of election information on our State League website: lwvil.org under the "Voting and Elections" tab. And, thanks to Myrrha Guzman, our own website has extensive election information specific to our area: lwvelmhurst.org/Election.asp. Visit our website also for more information about the LWVE and our activities. (You can also find a membership form there.) The success of the League depends on you.

Election Time Means the Fun of a Local Candidate Forum!

Get out your datebook and save **Wednesday, October 17, 7-10 pm**. That's the date of the Elmhurst League's forum for **DuPage County Board candidates, Districts 1 and**



2. Ten candidates have been invited. The session will also include information on the two ballot proposals that deal with the holding of dual elected offices. The forum will be held at the **Community Bank of Elmhurst**, second floor.

Downers Grove League Candidate Forum Covers Additional Races

The Downers Grove/Woodridge/Lisle LWV is sponsoring a forum for **DuPage County Board and Forest Preserve District 2 and 3 candidates** on **Tuesday, September 25, 7-9 pm**. A bit of overlap with ours, but voters in District 3 will be especially interested in this one – as well as District 2 voters who want to hear their Forest Preserve District candidates. It will be held at the Downers Grove Village Hall Council Chambers, 801 Burlington Ave.

Promote the Illinois League's Voter Registration Days, Sept. 29 - 30

If you know anyone who may not be registered, who has moved, or whose name has changed, tell them about our League's Voter Registration events. Voter Registration Day is a promotion by the State League, but *local promotion* – **you, talking to friends and neighbors** -- will make the most difference!

Voter Registration Schedule at the Elmhurst Public Library

Tuesday, Sept. 25	3pm – 6pm
Saturday, Sept. 29	9am – noon LWVIL Voter Registration Day
Sunday, Oct. 7	1pm – 4pm
Tuesday, Oct. 9	5pm – 8pm Last Day (without driving out to the County Complex)



League Studies Pension Reform; General Assembly Adds Constitutional Amendment Referendum to Nov. Ballot

Leagues throughout Illinois are taking an in-depth look at the five public pensions systems in Illinois and potential changes to that system. The Elmhurst League will tackle these Pensions issues at our October meeting: **Thursday, October 18, 7 – 9 pm, Wilder Mansion**. Ralph Martire from the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability will be the presenter. The public is invited.

Meanwhile we've learned that a **Constitutional Amendment referendum on Illinois Pensions will be on the November ballot**. The Amendment would provide that no benefit increase under any public pension or retirement system in Illinois may become law without a three-fifths majority vote of the General Assembly. Read the complete proposal at ilga.gov/legislation. In the search box on the left of this page, insert HJR0093 and indicate you want Full Text.

Final Notes, Short and Sweet:

- **Mock Elections in Area High Schools – Oct. 2, 3, and 4.** Eight volunteers who are available during school hours are needed for this valuable and rewarding program. Contact Maria Hirsch: voterregistration@lwvelmhurst.org soon. Schools include York and Glenbard East.
- **Interested in Doing Voter Registration?** Opportunities abound, including Elmhurst Train Station, Villa Park Library, and Elmhurst College. If you would like to help and are already a registrar, need to be recertified, or would like to become a registrar, contact our Voter Registration Chair, Maria Hirsch, at voterregistration@lwvelmhurst.org
- **Lake Michigan League Convention, Sept. 28-29, in Michigan City, Indiana.** This InterLeague Organization focuses on water issues, and Lake Michigan has plenty! For info on the group, the issues, and the convention, go to lakemichiganlwv.wordpress.com/
- **LWV Elmhurst Board Changes.** Cathy Ficker Terrill, recently appointed to the DuPage Election Commission, has stepped down as our Program Chair. Laura Kratz, who was elected *Shop Talk* editor, will instead continue in the Publicity position. Jeanne Davik, who was elected to do Publicity, will instead edit *Shop Talk*.
- **Visit our website, lwvelmhurst.org,** regularly for all the latest info on our issues and events.