



# Shop Talk

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

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

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## Who are the New Neighbors? The Demographic Shift affecting DuPage County



Our first meeting of the new season is Thursday, September 19, 7 pm, at the Elmhurst Public Library. Our speaker, **Candace M. King, Executive Director of the DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform**, will discuss the increase in DuPage County's low-income population, the impact of this demographic change, as well as the impact of changes in the economy, and why it is important to address these issues.

These new demographics reflect the growth in the number of persons in poverty or near poverty, the increased diversity of the population, and the aging of County residents. Ms. King will talk about the state of the Safety Net, including state cuts, federal cuts, and the changes attributable to implementation of the Affordable Care Act. She will conclude with a description of what local communities can do to help.

Come at 6:30 pm for our usual social time before the presentation.

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## President's Post: Sue Whitworth

"Progress is calling to you to make no pause. Act!" Thus LWV founder Carrie Chapman Catt responded to the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote on August 26, 1920. Women in Illinois gained this right in 1913 and actually cast their first votes in the 1914 election year.

Not stopping with the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, Carrie continued to take action against voter suppression. **Today the League of Women Voters must continue to act and defend voting rights against discrimination.**

Under the Voting Rights Act certain states were required to get federal approval before they could change their election procedures. The law was weakened recently when the Supreme Court made it possible for these states to change their election laws without federal approval. LWV encourages members to reach out to our members of Congress, encouraging them not to pause, but rather to act in order to protect voting rights across the United States.



Action is being taken at the state level of the League of Women Voters -- working with a campaign called **Yes for Independent Maps**. The goal is to get a redistricting reform amendment on the November 2014 ballot. Petitions are required to achieve this reform. Go to [independentmaps.org](http://independentmaps.org) for further details.

Watch your email for alerts on our most recent **Observer Reports**. Also, I hope to see all of our members at the Elmhurst Public Library on September 19<sup>th</sup> for our program on the shifting demographics of DuPage County. See the article above for details.

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## RSVP for *State of the State* Event by September 6



Join the Elmhurst League's table at the annual State of the State luncheon on **Tuesday, September 17**. The program includes a stellar group of Illinois women officeholders: **Attorney General Lisa Madigan** (left), **Senate Republican Leader Christine Radogno** (right), **Lt. Governor Sheila Simon**, and **State Rep. Patricia Bellock**. Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist, **Mary Schmich of the Chicago Tribune**, will moderate what is sure to be a lively discussion. Email Sue Whitworth ([president@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:president@lwvelmhurst.org)) if you would like to be part of our group.



## NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY: Tuesday, Sept. 24



On September 24 volunteers, celebrities, and organizations from all over the country will "hit the streets" for National Voter Registration Day. This single day of coordinated field, technology, and media efforts will create pervasive awareness of voter registration opportunities. The goal is to reach tens of thousands of voters who we could not reach otherwise.

In 2008, 6 million Americans didn't vote because they missed a registration deadline or didn't know how to register. In 2013, we want to make sure no one is left out.

To read more about this effort, go to [nationalvoterregistrationday.org](http://nationalvoterregistrationday.org) and go to the Elmhurst League website ([lwvelmhurst.org](http://lwvelmhurst.org)) in the next week or so for info on what we will be doing locally.

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### Cool Cities: League Rep Needed

This year's Green Fest on August 3 featured an energy efficient home, hosted by Elmhurst Cool Cities and Elmhurst College. ComEd and NiGas provided a video explaining energy audits and current energy rebates, and Conservation Services Group sent an energy auditor to explain in detail what an energy audit is. Elmhurst Cool Cities had a booth in Wilder Park with representatives explaining what Cool Cities is and their mission.



The Elmhurst League has been well represented in the Cool Cities group, but **we now need someone new to attend Cool Cities meetings**. Are you interested in the environment? Would you like to work with Cool Cities members from the Library, College, City Centre, Bike Club, cool citizens (interested residents), AAUW, Garden Club, several churches, the City and local interested businesses? We need you! For more information, please contact Sue Whitworth ([president@lwvelmhurst.org](mailto:president@lwvelmhurst.org)) .

## Get Ready to Discuss These Important Issues

### **Immigration:**

**Get ready by watching** a six-hour documentary chronicling immigration. It will be broadcast on Channel 11, beginning on Tuesday, September 17 at 8 PM.

**Get ready by attending** a program at Elmhurst College on Wednesday, October 9, 4 pm, in the Frick Center. William Perez will speak on **The Undocumented Students' American Dream**. Cost is \$10.

NOTE: In January the Elmhurst League will have a speaker on immigration.

### **Affordable Care Act:**

**Get ready by viewing** an animated video entitled **The YouToons Get Ready for Obamacare** at [kff.org/health-reform/video/youtoons-obamacare-video/](http://kff.org/health-reform/video/youtoons-obamacare-video/). KFF stands for Kaiser Family Foundation, producers of this video, which is recommended by our LWVIL Healthcare Issue Specialists.

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**Welcome to Our Newest Member: Betsy Aldred**

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### **Invitation from the Glen Ellyn League:**

The League of Women Voters of Glen Ellyn would like to invite members of the Elmhurst League to a special event on September 12 in honor of the 100th anniversary of women obtaining the right to vote in Illinois. **Leslie Goddard, PhD, historian and author, will make a presentation on the history of women's suffrage in Illinois.**

The event will take place at the Village Links in Glen Ellyn, 485 Winchell Way. Doors open at 7 pm. You are invited to socialize with other League members and guests until the program begins at 7:30. Send an email to Carrie Burrows ([carrieb131@gmail.com](mailto:carrieb131@gmail.com)) if you'd like to attend. "Light bites" and cash bar. Suggested donation of \$10 to support voter education.

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Visit our website [www.lwvelmhurst.org](http://www.lwvelmhurst.org) for the latest information on our issues and events.