

Message from the President



Hello League Members, COVID-19

Pursuant to the most recent directive from CDC that all groups are urged to cancel or postpone all events with 50 or more people for the next 8 weeks, we are postponing and/or canceling all upcoming events scheduled through the end of May 2020. This is also in line with Governor Pritzker's stay-at-home rule of March 21. We will re-evaluate events/ activities that are scheduled to take place thereafter as we get new

guidance from the governor and the CDC. The safety of our community is of utmost importance to us, so we are being cautious as we attempt to battle this virus. We will continue to provide updates as they develop. Thank you for your understanding.

On the lighter side, our Voters Service Chair, Pat Jackson, and her committee registered 234 residents this year. Of the 234 registered members, 96 of them were high school students from neighboring south suburban schools. Kudos to them for excelling in enthusiasm and pride in building productive team dynamics.

Our membership has grown, we now have 121 members, thanks to our League members for the advancement of our goal. We are performing with unusual speed at a high rate of output. Thanks to our Membership Chair, Joan Strohm and her committee, as well as our Communication Chair, Dominique Newman. One of our Goals was to increase membership by 15%. We will fulfill this goal by the end of the fiscal year!

This brings me to our March 3rd Super Tuesday Party held at the Flossmoor Brewery. Thanks to Joan, Dominique and our League members for bringing in new members. The members and guests had a good time interacting with each other and discussing League activities and events. Getting acquainted and watching the results was exciting. We welcome our new members. The names and pictures of our new members will be posted in an upcoming bulletin.

Carol Vance, Chair of our Climate Change Committee has demonstrated creative strength in providing valuable insights on Climate Change and how we can make an impact on the environment.

In closing, please remember to be proactive by practicing social distancing and stay safe!

VOTER SERVICES

**Making a Difference in our
Community**

YOUTH VOTER REGISTRATION

The Voter Services team worked to meet the requirements of the Youth Voter Registration Grant we were recently awarded. Three days were spent at Governor State University assisting with voter registration. A total of 89 new voters joined the rolls and our League was responsible for 46 of those. On February 17, 2020, we were also at Homewood Flossmoor High School where we registered 50 new voters, giving us a total of 96 New Youth Voters. Registration will continue as soon as practicable at four other high schools including Thornton Fractional South in Lansing.



Homewood-Flossmoor High School South Building

ELECTION JUDGE SURVEY PROJECT – MARCH 17, 2020 PRIMARY

The Voter Services Committee was responsible for carrying out the Election Judge Survey Project for the March Primary. The goals of the survey were to:

1. assess how well the new equipment works,
2. ensure the election judge training is adequate and,
3. identify problems that can be corrected in the future.

Board members who are also election judges were asked to sign up and complete the survey for their precincts. Other board members were asked to be poll watchers. Pat Jackson, Voter Services Chair, provided the seven-question survey and credentials for poll watchers. Unfortunately, due to concerns about the spread of Coronavirus, volunteer poll watchers were not allowed into the polling places.



Governor's State University



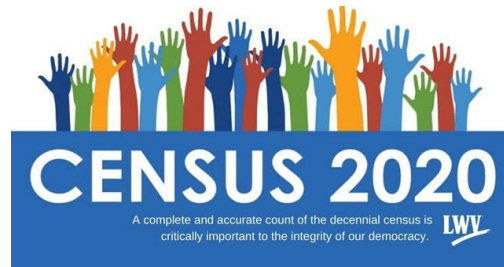
Homewood-Flossmoor High School North Building

LWV-HF Hosts Super Tuesday Event

On March 3rd, a League of Women Voters HF Area Super Tuesday event was held at

the Flossmoor Station Brewery. Thirty-five members and guests enjoyed good fellowship and lively political discourse. In the process, we were able to welcome four new members into the League.

The event proved a success. Guests were able to meet with League members and gain a better understanding of the mission of the League of Women Voters.



Don't forget to complete your Census application. The online application takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. You may also mail in your response. The 2020 Census data will be used to determine how hundreds of billions in federal funding will be distributed and provide information that will impact communities for the next decade. The results of this once-a-decade count will determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives. They are also used to draw congressional and state legislative districts. Have an impact...make sure your household is counted!

Climate Change Committee Green Corner

Our Earth, Our Planet, The Home for our Children

How Climate Change Plunders the Planet

(from the EDF (Environmental Defense Fund))

A warming earth disturbs weather, people, animals and much more. The years 2015 through 2018 were the four hottest years ever recorded. Here, we look at three critical aspects of an increasingly warmer planet: **Heat of Weather and Oceans, Human Life and Prosperity, and Hostile Natural Habitats**

- 1) Heat alters ice, weather and oceans. Melting glaciers and polar ice contribute to rising sea levels. Melting sea ice exposes darker ocean waters which absorb more sunlight than ice, heating the ocean and speeding a relentless cycle of melting and heating.
- 2) The oceans are getting hotter, expanding and becoming more acidic. They are getting hotter because they absorb 90 percent of the extra heat in the climate. This shift causes the oceans to expand contributing to higher sea levels, and strips corals of their vivid color. Meanwhile, a third of carbon dioxide emissions end up in the oceans, triggering a chemistry change that makes the water more acidic, dissolving the shells of sea creatures. The ocean is almost 40 percent more acidic than it used to be.
- 3) Weather continues to become more extreme. Worldwide, heatwaves are occurring more frequently. Increased evaporation fuels storms, making more events like hurricanes. Storm surges cause greater damage. In arid areas, droughts and wildfires are intensifying.
- 4) Agriculture is affected and, consequently, our food supply. Extreme weather causes unpredictable water supply, weeds, diseases and pests, which all affect yield and farmers' ability to thrive economically.
- 5) Warmer polluted air affects our health. More smog affects lungs and triggers asthma attacks. Warmer freshwater causes bacteria to grow and contaminate drinking water.
- 6) Infrastructure and transportation are damaged and disrupted. Extreme weather burdens electrical supplies and affects how we travel.

- 7) Entire ecosystems are at risk of collapsing. Natural habitats are becoming inhospitable to some species, such as walrus and polar bears among many others.
- 8) Coral reefs are “bleaching” due to the oceans becoming more acidic. As a result, fish are being deprived of nourishment, for example, the calcium needed for the growth of shellfish.
- 9) Forests have more deadly infestations of insects caused by milder winters and longer summers allowing insects to thrive.

What **You** Can Do About Climate Change

ACT NOW WHEN IT MATTERS THE MOST. Change your own behavior, when and where possible, to reduce your carbon footprint. Support local, state, and national representatives who favor strong environmental policies. Do your part. We owe it to our children.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL and PREVENTION (CDC) REGARDING THE CORONAVIRUS

Get ready for COVID-19 now

Take actions to reduce your risk of getting sick



If you are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19 because of your age or because you have a serious long-term health problem, it is extra important for you to take actions to reduce your risk of getting sick with the disease.

- Stock up on supplies. **(Governor Pritzker discourages unnecessary panic buying.**
- **Take everyday precautions** to keep space between yourself and others.
- When you go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often.
- **Avoid crowds** as much as possible.
- **Avoid cruise travel** and non-essential air travel.
- **During a COVID-19 outbreak in your community, stay home** as much as possible to further reduce your risk of being exposed.

Have supplies on hand



- **Contact your healthcare provider to ask about obtaining extra necessary medications** to have on hand in case there is an outbreak of COVID-19 in your community and you need to stay home for a prolonged period of time.
- If you cannot get extra medications, consider using mail-order for medications.
- **Be sure you have over-the-counter medicines and medical supplies** (tissues, etc.) to treat fever and other symptoms. Most people will be able to recover from COVID-19 at home.
- **Have enough household items and groceries** on hand so that you will be prepared to stay at home for a period of time.

See also: [Get Your Home Ready](#)

Take everyday precautions



Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Take everyday preventive actions:

- Clean your hands often
- **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, or having been in a public place.
- If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- **To the extent possible, avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places** – elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, handshaking with people, etc. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something.
- Wash your hands after touching surfaces in public places.
- **Avoid touching your face**, nose, eyes, etc.
- **Clean and disinfect** your home to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example: tables, doorknobs,

- light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks & cell phones)
- **Avoid crowds**, especially in poorly ventilated spaces. Your risk of exposure to respiratory viruses like COVID-19 may increase in crowded, closed-in settings with little air circulation if there are people in the crowd who are sick.
- **Avoid all non-essential travel** including plane trips, and especially avoid embarking on [cruise ships](#).

Additional important information is available at cdc.gov/coronavirus

OBSERVER REPORT

Observer: Lillian Bacon
City of Country Club Hills
Regular Board Meeting
Monday February 10, 2020

Mayor: James Ford
Treasurer: Deborah McIlvain
City Clerk: Patricia D. Hutson
Ward 1: Edward Gillispie
Ward 2: Vincent Lockett
Ward 3: Lisa Evans
Ward 4: Ricardo Spivey

Mayor James Ford called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Journal of Proceeding

Alderman Lockett motioned for the approval of minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting of January 27, 2020 and the Administrative meeting February 3, 2020. Both were approved.

Mayor Ford motioned that the resignation of CCH Fire Lt Michael Perry be accepted and approved. The motion was accepted and approved.

Mayor Ford motioned that the new Volunteer Commission appointments be approved. Those appointments are:

Pastoral Commission - William Jenkins
Theater/EDC Commission - Richard Taylor
Fire and Police Commission - Michael Perry
Fire and Police Commission - Eddie Parker

All the volunteers were approved and appointed to their respective commissions.

The Mayor motioned to approve the Wage Schedule. It was tabled.

City Clerk's Report: The clerk reminded residents of the Black History Program at Hill Crest High School, 3 pm to 5 pm, February 29, 2020. The Village will be closed Monday as it is a Holiday.

Finance Committee Report: Alderman Lockett, Chairman, requested approval of February 10, 2020 vouchers and the theater contract. The vouchers were approved. The theater contract was tabled.

Alderman Lockett stated that city employee salaries need to be reviewed again and a cap placed on the salaries which is why the wage schedule was tabled. Mayor Ford stated that they will be looking at salary capping as well as concerns about the increased fee to seniors.

City Treasurer's Report: No report.

Alderman Gillispie stated that we need to be aware of the importance of the Census and its impact on the amount of federal dollars our community receives. He asked that everyone please cooperate and complete the form in a timely manner.

Alderman Davis stated that seniors (who have questions regarding park district fees or programs) should attend the Park District board meeting. The City does not have any input on the park district budget. He also acknowledged the concern regarding the red-light cameras but reminded residents that red-light violations bring needed funds to the city.

Alderman Spivey informed residents that the Economic Development Commission, the Plan Commission and the Zoning Board will meet Wednesday, the 19th at 7:00pm at the Fire Station.

He requested an approval for a zoning change for Cargo Vans of Chicago, LLC II, from C1 to C3 changing the current business from a Car Wash to a Used Car Lot. The request was

denied.

Alderman Spivey requested an approval for Ordinance Amending "Regulations for Cannabis". It was approved.

He also informed the residents that the restaurant Sea Food Shack will be coming in the future.

Public Portion

A spokesperson for Hope Organization, informed the council that the seniors' program yearly fee increased from \$12.00 to \$36.00 yearly for residents, and from \$24.00 to \$60.00 yearly for non-residents. She stated that this is a hardship for some seniors and wants the Council to investigate it. The Mayor reiterated this was a matter to be taken up with the CCH Park District Board, but that he would investigate it.

Another resident stated that something needs to be done regarding the red-light cameras. She stated it is an expense to residents, does not prevent accidents and needs to be phased out.

Alderman Evans will chair a meeting for Insurance, Risk Management, and Personnel on February 26, 2020 at 6:00 pm. She stated that she was unaware of the fee increase by the park district and she will be looking into it. She also made a statement about the red-light cameras - that she has seen accidents and does not think that they are for safety.

Adjourned at 8:20 pm

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These businesses, leaders, and community service organizations have honored us with their support of our work through ad sponsorship. Please support them in turn, as a win/win for us all! We are very grateful to each of them.



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