

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE
HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR AREA**

**Serving the people of Homewood, Flossmoor, Glenwood, Hazel Crest, Olympia
Fields, Matteson, Chicago Heights, Lansing, Harvey, South Holland,
Country Club Hills and Frankfort ILLINOIS**



August / September 2018 --E-Bulletin--Volume XLVII Issue 1
www.lwvhfarea.com



Presidents' Message 2018
Barbara Hayes and Mary Emily Grant— Co Presidents

Welcome to the beginning of the LWV H-F Area 2018-19 year! We are excited about the upcoming year and are counting on all of you to participate in our activities and programs. As you are all aware, there is an Illinois general election on November 6, 2018. Our voter services committee will be out in full force, registering voters, educating them on issues, and getting residents to the polls. It will take all of us working together to accomplish these goals; but, as always, it will be well worth the effort. With voters' rights being threatened in all parts of this country, the League's work is more important than ever.

Your League Board has planned an interesting year of programs and activities beginning with our annual potluck supper on Tuesday, September 18th at the Irwin Center at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to bring a favorite dish to share. At our October meeting, we plan to address the Electoral College. Political Science Professor Joyce Williams from NIU is scheduled to be the guest speaker. Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors to join you for these events.

Many LWV H-F Area members have been busy this summer registering voters and sharing information about League at the Homewood Saturday Farmers Market. A lively group marched in Homewood's 4th of July parade, and H-F League members took part in the Third Annual WGN Block Party in Homewood on Friday July 13th.

Be aware that LWVIL and the Cook County LWV have some excellent programs coming up, too. You are always welcome and encouraged to participate. Join the League of Women Voters of Illinois on **Saturday, September 29, 2018**, for a new evening event, the **State of the State 2018, at the Arlington International Racecourse beginning at 5:00 pm**. This year's theme is "How do women manage the politics of politics?" This year's State of the State is sure to be a fun event so be sure to save the date. You should have already received the Evite that was sent out on August 27th. See the LWVIL website for a detailed schedule, tickets, hotel information and sponsorship ads. Remember that this is the LWVIL's only fundraiser and all net proceeds go to the Ed Fund.

The 2018 LWVUS Convention was held in Chicago June 28-July 1. The LWV H-F Area were entitled to three delegates, Barbara Hayes, Mary Emily Grant and Sandra Slayton. Among the 135 volunteers were members from our League. We want to extend a big thank you to Laura DeBolt, Joan Greenwood, Deborah Hampton, Bonnie McCoy, Maureen McSherry, Chris Schmitt and Glenda Townsend who volunteered and represented our League.

We are looking forward to an exciting and productive 2018-19 and hope we can count on you to help us make this another successful year for LWV-HF.

Your Co-Presidents,
Barbara Hayes and Mary Emily Grant

Ad Sponsors Spotlight!!



Leonard L Giampaolo

You can depend on me to explain American Family Insurance's broad range of competitively-priced business policies, which can be designed with coverages written for the specific kind of business being insured.

**2630 FLOSSMOOR RD
STE 204
FLOSSMOOR, IL 60422-
1561**
[Get Directions](#)
Phone: [\(708\) 798-2229](tel:(708)798-2229)



The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy. We never support or oppose any political party or candidate.

In This Issue:



Articles:

Pg. 1	Presidents Message
Pg. 1	Sponsors Spotlight
Pg. 2	September Potluck Supper
Pg. 2	Program and Event Reminder
Pg. 3-4	New Board Members
Pg. 4	Voter Services
Pg.	Farmer's Market
Pg. 5	WGN Annual Block Parade
Pg. 5	July 4th Parade
Pg. 6	Green Corner
Pg. 7-8	LWVUS June Convention
Pg. 9	LWVIL – State of the State Evening Event
Pg. 10	Cook County Food For Thought Luncheon
Pg. 10	Bulletin Alert
Pg. 10	Committee/Bulletin Committee
Pg. 11	Ad Sponsors

POTLUCK SUPPER MEET YOUR TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS SEPTEMBER 18, 2018 - 6:00 p.m. Marie Irwin Center, Homewood, IL

On Tuesday, September 18, 2018, the League of Women Voters Homewood-Flossmoor Area will host our Annual Potluck Supper at the Marie Irwin Center in Homewood, located at the intersection of Ridge and Highland Avenues. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m.

For this first program of the year, we have invited the Township Supervisors from Bloom, Bremen, Calumet, Rich, and Thornton Townships for what promises to be a very informative evening as we learn about Township structure, function and services as well as the Supervisors' perspectives on many current issues that are important to the communities they serve. This is a great opportunity for you to meet and ask questions of the Supervisors.

Please bring a friend or two along with your favorite dish and head over to the Marie Irwin Center for a delicious and educational evening filled with enlightened conversation and thought-provoking questions. You will also have an opportunity to learn more about the League of Women Voters Homewood-Flossmoor Area, a non-partisan political organization committed to informed and active political participation.



Program and Event Reminders

Tuesday, **September 18, 2018**, 6:00 p.m. –
Annual Potluck Supper
Marie Irwin Center, Homewood

Tuesday, **September 25, 2018**, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. -
National Voter Registration Day
LOCATIONS TBD

Saturday, **September 29, 2018**, 5:00 p.m. (dinner at 7:00 p.m.)
- State of the State 2018:
"How do women manage the politics of politics?"
Arlington International Racecourse

Wednesday, **October 17, 2018**, 7:00 p.m. – General Meeting –
"Electoral College"
Homewood Library



Meet our new Board Members



Barbara Koger Hayes
League of Women Voters H-F Area Newly Elected Co-President

Barbara has been a proud resident of the Village of Flossmoor for more than sixteen years. She is a retired Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Curriculum, and Special Education for School District #132. She has also held many positions post-retirement, including being an interim Case Manager at Prairie State College, and an adjunct professor at Concordia University Chicago, where she taught graduate students in Educational Leadership.

Throughout her years, Barbara has been involved in volunteering her services to the community. Barbara began with tutoring elementary students in reading and math. She served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader for the South Cook Area. She volunteered for Ingalls Hospital for over five years, and has been a Deputy Registrar for voters' registration, and volunteer for other non-profit organizations. Barbara has been a member of the League of Women Voters H-F Area for several years, currently serving as an executive member on the Board of Directors.

Barbara has two grown daughters who are both professionals. Michelle is a Senior Specialist of Fraud Prevention, and Melanie is an Attorney. Her daughters have blessed her with their amazing families, especially her four grandchildren, whom she loves dearly, and who help her to keep retirement interesting and exciting.

Some of her favorite hobbies include reviewing plays, reading, traveling, biking and dancing. Her best of times is when she is spending time with family and friends.



Deborah Hampton
League of Women Voters H-F Area Newly Elected Co-President

LWV-HF is pleased to welcome Deborah Hampton to the board as vice-president. Deborah is semi-retired and currently doing seasonal work as a Registered Certified Tax Preparer and part-time worker in the reference department at the Flossmoor Public Library. Prior to these endeavors, Deborah enjoyed a long and rewarding career in human resource management.

Deborah has a strong sense of social responsibility and has served the community in a number of ways including volunteer work for the South Suburban Family Shelter, the Homewood Flossmoor Area Green Committee, and her homeowner's association. She also participates in voter registration drives. Her interest in social activism and working towards change drew her to the League of Women Voters, and she has been an active league member for four years. Deborah says she is inspired by the league's mission of advocacy, education and action and she routinely seeks opportunities to contribute and support its goals. In her spare time, Deborah likes to read, garden, cook and travel. She and her husband Robert have lived in Olympia Fields for 23 years.



Laura Carroll DeBolt
New League of Women Voters H-F Area Treasurer

Laura Carroll DeBolt, the new Treasurer of the LWV H-F, grew up in Olympia Fields and now lives in Tinley Park with her husband, teenage stepdaughter and a menagerie of pets. She is a recovering real estate finance lawyer who has worked in banking for several years. She is also active as a pro bono immigration clinic lawyer and an avid gardener. She was inspired to join the League when she realized she had not done enough to encourage others to become active and informed voters.

Meet our new Board Members...Cont.

Geni Cutler

New League of Women Voters H-F Area Board member



Geni Cutler is one of the newest board members of the League of Women Voters H-F. Geni is active in the community! She is a member (and past president) of the Homewood Rotary, a board member of the Southland Chamber of Commerce, Unity Christian Academy, and previously served on the board of Seton Academy. She also serves on the Care Committee at First Reformed Church of South Holland. As executive director of Suburban Access since 2005, Geni has led a not-for-profit agency that connects individuals with intellectual disabilities to much needed services through service coordination and case management. Suburban Access has offices in Homewood and Westchester serving families in south and west suburban Cook County. Geni earned her Bachelor's degree from Trinity Christian College and has a Master's from St. Xavier University. She was born and raised in South Holland, where she lives with her husband, Colin, and she enjoys spending time with her children and her grandson. Geni is excited to be involved in the League as a board member.

Voter Services Report

The LWV-HF was invited to send participants to Voter Registrar Training hosted by Bremen Township. The training was scheduled for Saturday, August 18, 2018. The LWV-HF sent out an email blast inviting members to register for the training. Fifteen (15) applicants responded and were referred for training. Trainees who are LWV members will be sponsored by the LWV rather than Bremen Township. Once they receive their Registrar commissions, they will be able to register voters.

Please note that all Cook County Deputy Voter Registrar Commissions will expire on November 30, 2018, as they do every two years on the even numbered year. This applies as well to those receiving their commissions following the August 18, 2018 training. Registrars will need to reactivate their commissions by completing a Deputy Voter Registrar Oath of Office form which can be found at the Cook County Clerk's website, Deputy Voter Registrar Recommission.

The LWV-HF is looking for a Chairperson to lead the Voter Services Committee. Major Duties Include:

- Coordinate Voter Registration Drives
- Coordinate Candidate Forums
- Prepare Bi-Monthly Voter Service Activity Report
- Serve on LWV-HF Board
- Must have good verbal, written and interpersonal skills

For more information or if you have questions, contact outgoing Voter Services Chair, Sandra Slayton at sslayton@ameritech.net or (312)208-1158.

Homewood's Farmer's Market

The Farmer's Market is a great opportunity for the League to register voters and provide information on mail in ballots, provisional ballots, and other voter registration and voting details. LWV H-F committed to hosting a monthly booth at the Homewood Farmer's Market for the months of June, July, August, and September. Thank you to all the members who have volunteered their time to serve our community in this important way! And a big thank you goes to Carol Vance, who is not only storing the canopy for our booth but volunteered to set up and take down the canopy and banners for each of these dates. Our volunteers at the Farmer's Market are enjoying engaging with local citizens and have even given quizzes on the Constitution to interested participants!

LWV H-F Area Participate in The Homewood 4th of July Parade



A huge and enthusiastic crowd braved the threatening weather and sweltering heat as the League of Women Voters H-F Area proudly marched in The 2018 Homewood 4th of July Parade. About fifteen members, accompanied by children and grandchildren, walked the two-mile route, tossing tons of candy to the children along the way. Lillian Bacon, in her convertible decorated in red, white and blue bunting, led the way. A second car, with League banners, was driven by Joan Strohm.

Children and strollers were just as decorated as the cars, in streamers, fun 4th of July headbands and oversized sunglasses. They blew huge bubbles into the crowd as the audience scurried to pop them. Marchers wore red, white and blue, and carried signs, such as “LWV supports a Woman’s Right to Choose” and “100 years of Creating a More Perfect Democracy.”

As the League marched by, the welcoming crowd cheered, with groups calling out “thank you!” The League, and its message of political access for all, was a hit with Homewood.

H-F Area League of Women Voters at WGN Summer Event



While the temperature soared to 94 degrees, the H-F Area League of Women Voters made a cool showing at the WGN Morning News Annual Block Party on July 13. The party, which included a parade and other attractions, was hosted by WGN and broadcasted live from downtown Homewood. League members had a great time marching in the parade, many of them dressed in white and wearing sashes marking the 100-year anniversary of the formation of the League of Women Voters (and its history stemming from the suffragist movement). Other league members manned a table to answer questions and provide information about the league and voting.





“Oceans of Plastic” from [The Week Magazine](#), July 2, 2018
Climate Change

Green Corner

Since the 1950s, only 21% of plastic waste produced has been recycled or incinerated. Plastic is cheap, versatile and indestructible. China is responsible for the largest amount of plastic waste, about 30% of the global total, and the USA ranks 20th. Unfortunately, most plastic waste winds up in the ocean in five huge masses of plastic debris, called gyres, which are created by the ocean's currents. The largest of these gyres is known as “the great pacific garbage patch,” and is located between California and Hawaii. It is currently twice the size of Texas and growing exponentially! Humans and marine life are both at risk, and fish, birds and mammals are washing up on beaches around the world. A whale was recently found with 17 pounds of plastic waste in its system, including 80 shopping bags that inhibited digestion and ultimately caused its death. Seafood and drinking water can also be affected as there are trillions of nanoparticles dispersed in the water.

Growing efforts to reverse the damage of plastic waste include the #StopSucking Campaign to get rid of disposable straws, and the emergence of municipal laws banning plastic bags. But, bigger solutions are needed and will require global cooperation. * The European Union has launched a plastics strategy to recycle ALL plastics by 2030. A Dutch Company has a project called “Ocean Cleanup” with long floating barriers to trap and remove plastics. Some scientists in Europe have discovered an enzyme that can degrade polyethylene, which makes up 40% of plastic content. It can be mass produced by harvesting the larvae of the great wax moth.

Many other solutions are also being considered, but old-fashioned volunteer clean up events remain important. Beaches, parks, and rivers all need cleaning, and the reduction of plastic by consumers can also make a difference. Want a really easy way to get involved? Ask for a biodegradable container for take-home at restaurants. The server may look at you cross eyed, but you will encourage awareness!

LWV H-F Climate Change Meeting info:

The Climate Change Committee will meet Monday, September 10th at 1:00 pm at the home of Doris Pierce, 20623 Corinth Rd. Olympia Fields. We welcome new members to join us if they would like to participate in our research work and the active work we do to promote best consumer practices. There is always much to learn. We meet once a month for a few hours to share information and plan a public meeting which will be held in April. If you are new to us, please bring in an article and source to share.

Help us Host: We also help with hosting of our public LWV H-F program meetings by providing post-consumer or recyclable goods and cleanup. For further info on meetings and hosting, please call Carol Vance 638-3653 and leave a message.



LWVUS National Convention 2018

The League of Women Voters of Homewood Flossmoor Area Returns from the National Convention.

The League welcomed more than 1000 members to Illinois.

Homewood, Illinois – The League of Women Voters of HF Area was represented by Mary Emily Grant, Co-President and delegate; Barbara Hayes, Co-President and delegate; and Sandra Slayton, Voters Services Chair and delegate at the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) 53rd National Convention held June 28 – July 1 in Chicago, IL. The Convention was hosted by the League of Women Voters of Illinois and Chicago. The event kicked off a two-year celebration of the coming 100th Anniversary in 2020 of women gaining suffrage and the establishment of the League of Women Voters.

Founded in Chicago in 1920, the League of Women Voters is active in all 50 states with more than 750 chapters across the country. More than 1,000 League leaders from 49 states and the District of Columbia attended leadership workshops and heard from guest speakers about League priorities.

“We all want to see a League of Women Voters that’s suited to meet the 21st- century demands, that works hard to court a new generation of leaders and activists, that looks like the people and communities for whom we so fervently advocate,” said Chris Carson, LWVUS president in her opening remarks to the Convention delegates and attendees.

The Convention kicked off with a conversation on redistricting where attendees heard from Ruth Greenwood and Nick Stephanopoulos. Greenwood served on the legal team for the plaintiffs in the United States Supreme Court case *Gill v. Whitford*, which the court decided in June.

“Partisan and racial gerrymandering is a huge problem in this country, and the League is fighting to make sure the voters elect politicians who truly represent their interests, rather than elected officials picking their constituents,” said Barbara Hayes, affiliation with LWV HF Area. “The League continues to fight back by working with the Change Illinois coalition to pass legislation for a better redistricting process in Illinois.”

Over the four-day convention, delegates voted on the priorities that the national organization should focus on for the next biennium. The Campaign for Making Democracy Work includes ensuring a free, fair, and accessible electoral system for all eligible voters by focusing on voting rights, improving elections, and advocacy for the National Popular Vote Compact, Campaign Finance/Money in Politics, and redistricting. The League will prioritize legal arguments or defenses necessary to ensure ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which after Illinois’ successful ratification this spring, only requires one more state.

Attendees also heard from Elaine Weiss, author of *The Women’s Hour*, at a banquet where Leagues were recognized with awards for their work. The League of Women Voters of Naperville was awarded the Empowering Voters, Defending Democracy Award in the Community Connection category. The award recognized the “Stroll to the Polls” project which the League spearheaded with Waubonsie Valley and Metea Valley high schools in Aurora. Voter turnout in targeted precincts doubled thanks to their efforts.

“Hearing Elaine Weiss recount the final push for women’s suffrage in this country reminded me how important the League of Women Voters is to this day,” said Glenda Townsend. “The number of women in elected offices does not reflect the demographic makeup of women in our communities.” This is an important midterm election year and the League is committed to making sure the voters in Illinois have the resources they need to participate in November.

LWVUS National Convention 2018-Continued

The League held several workshops, caucuses and information sessions that were very interesting, stimulating and interactive. The sessions were lively and penetrating. They encompassed means of attracting new members and using strategies for retaining current members.

A portion of the day designed for training delegates on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion was conducted by Diversity Dimensions. The interactive training was used to discuss the importance of self-awareness, intention, and impact when applying a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens to social impact work at the national, state, and local level, and to leadership and culture.

The Convention was a huge success; League members were proud to be participating during a historical era in the preparation for the League's 100th Anniversary in 2020. The LWV HF Area would like to thank our League members who were part of the 135 volunteers during Convention: Laura DeBolt, Joan Greenwood, Deborah Hampton, Bonnie McCoy, Maureen McSherry, Chris Schmitt, and Glenda Townsend. We would also like to thank those who attended as our delegates: Mary Emily Grant, Barbara Hayes, and Sandra Slayton. And we also thank and acknowledge those who simply chose to attend: Sharon Cooper and Carolyn Cosentino. H-F Members Erin Roeper served as the Local Arrangements Chair for the Convention, and Sylvia Tillman was Co-Chair of the Information/Hospitality sub-committee

Many Leagues participated in the wares table at the Convention. Three of our members helped sell pins: Veronica Amen, Carolyn Consentino, and Penny Thomas. We also owe thanks to members of the Glenview-Glencoe LWV who staffed the table during other time periods. Ann Yoshida (co-president of the G/G League) invited us to share a wares table and was very supportive of this joint venture. She also served as the co-chair of the Volunteer Committee for the Convention.

We are extremely thankful to our predecessors Erin Roeper and Sylvia Tillman who have enriched our League by providing continued leadership to their board successors. Erin and Sylvia have dedicated themselves to the League and its members by helping to shape policies, start critical dialogue, and by pushing for excellence in our members and beyond. The current leadership of the LWV HF Area has big shoes to fill and acknowledges that we stand on the shoulders of giants.





LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

2018 State of the State

- Keynote Speaker: Sheila Simon, former Lieutenant Governor of Illinois
- Panel featuring Rep. Beth Coulson (Ret.)
- State Sen. Karen McConaughay (Ret.)
- Moderated by Rep. Elaine Nekritz (Ret.)

“How Do Women Manage the Politics of Politics”

WHEN: Saturday, September 29, 2018
WHERE: Arlington International Race course
2200 W. Euclid Ave. Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Time: 5-11 p.m

Schedule:

5-7: Winner's Circle Tours

6-7 General Admission Cocktail Hour CASH BAR with light hors d'oeuvres
6-7 Premium Donors Cocktail Hour PRIVATE OPEN BAR with Photo OP

7-8 Dinner: herb roasted chicken breast with browned potato trio, ratatouille stack, and natural thyme, rustic greens salad, lemon berry parfait dessert and cash bar; Vegetarian/Gluten Free dish available upon request

8-8:30 Keynote

8:30-9:15 Panel

9:15-10 Cash Bar & Networking



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ILLINOIS

The LWV of Cook County held its Fundraising Luncheon Food For Thought (formerly Lunch and Learn) featuring Cook County Clerk David Orr on Monday, July 16, 2018 at the DePaul University Center, Chicago, IL.

Mr. Orr, a staunch voting rights advocate with 39 years of service to the citizens of Chicago and Cook County, will not seek reelection this term. In parting, he enthusiastically shared with us his history of activism and continued passion, vision and hope for reforming a system that too often marginalizes significant portions of the electorate or is easily compromised by outdated or insufficient technology and protocol. He implored election officials to take heed and underscored that they are at the front lines in this battle and must provide local officials with the resources needed to protect election integrity and security.

This was a very informative and educational luncheon that indeed provided all who attended with an ample serving of "Food for Thought."

**H-F AREA BULLETIN ---
ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE**

www.lwvhfarea.com

MEMBERS WHO PREFER TO RECEIVE BLACK AND WHITE PRINT COPIES OF THEIR BULLETINS BY MAIL MAY DO SO BY PAYING A YEARLY \$10 PRINTING AND POSTAGE FEE.

Write a \$10 check to H-F AREA LWV with "Mailed Bulletin" noted in the Memo and mail to: Chris Schmitt at 1636 Thomas Ct., Flossmoor, IL—60422 by September 15, 2018. Our faithful 50 year or more members receive mailed copies free for their long-standing dedication.

Bulletin
Contributors:

Mary Emily Grant
Deborah Hampton
Barbara Hayes
Chris Schmitt
Sandra Slayton
Glenda Townsend
Carol Vance

Committee:

Mary Emily Grant, Co-President/Writer
Barbara Hayes, Co-President/Writer
Dominique Newman —Proofreader
Chris Schmitt—Bulletin Coordinator
Alesia Young—Webmaster

*Friendly
Reminders*

OUR 2018-2019 SPONSORS



ANTHONY DELUCA



Nail Savvy



Drew Mormann, Agent



Sco's Southside Auto Bath



STRICTLY
T.E.A.M.S. USA

I of The Needle



All your protection under one roof.

Leonard L. Giampaolo



The Heart of Service. Every Day. Every Where.



The Law Office of
Thomas E. Brabec
18154 Harwood Ave., Suite 204
Homewood, IL 60430-2154
Telephone: 708-968-0580
t.brabec@sbcglobal.net

Wills, Trusts and Estate plans, Real estate,
Litigation



American Eyecare Center

