



Message from the President

October/November 2019

The League of Women Voters Homewood-Flossmoor Area Board is gearing up for fall activities. We will be registering voters with the help of the Voter Services Committee, making plans for celebrating the League's 100th Anniversary, increasing membership, and continuing our involvement with community activities.

The September 9th Potluck Supper and Meeting was a wonderful event! In addition to great food and camaraderie with our fellow league members and guests, we had an opportunity to formally recognize our 50-year members. Sylvia Tillman, former LWV-HF Co-President, and I presented those valued members with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation for their participation and achievements with the League. Erin Roeper, who is currently serving as LWV-IL 100th Anniversary Commemorative Event Chair, gave a preview of upcoming plans to celebrate this momentous event over the next year. LWV-HF members Lorea Farley and Cheryl Berger are also serving with Erin on the Commemorative Committee. And, lastly, we heard from local mayors and an administrator: Mayor Rich Hofeld, Homewood; Mayor Paul Braun, Flossmoor; and Brian Mitchell, Village Administrator, Village of Glenwood. Each presented updates on events, activities, new and proposed



Voter Services Report

September: Voter Registration

We started the month of September with Flossmoor Fest on Saturday, September 7, registering seven new voters, six of them youths, and assisting another with a change of address.

National Voter Registration Day was Tuesday, September 24, 2019, and the League demonstrated its commitment to strengthening our community by registering voters at multiple sites. We had previously met and collaborated with our League Partners in Park Forest to ensure that all of our suburban schools were covered. **We are so excited about the opportunity to empower our young people to "Rock the Vote" for the 2020 election.**

We hosted voter registrations in the South Suburban School Districts including District 233, Homewood - Flossmoor High School in Flossmoor; District 205, Thornwood High School in South Holland, Thornton Township High School in Harvey and Thornridge High School in Dolton; District 228, Hillcrest High School in Country Club Hills, and Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights. The senior living facility, Sunrise of Flossmoor, the Lansing Public Library, and Governor's State University were also included in our outreach to provide voter registration services at those sites. Our efforts paid off and as a result of our hard work, 130 new voters are now registered! Our work is so important, providing opportunity for everyone to vote, but it is also fun! **A BIG THANK YOU!!** to all the Deputy Registrars and members who volunteered their time and effort to help

businesses, and plans for their respective communities. We were honored to have them in attendance and thanked them for their participation. Please look for pictures of the event in this bulletin.

League members make a difference throughout the community in many ways. Among other things, our monthly program meetings provide information on current topics affecting the population, e.g., Immigration and Climate Change. We provide a service to the community by conducting voter registration drives and candidate forums; we actively promote environmental sustainability; and, we are involved in community-sponsored activities. Our October 9, 2019 program meeting will feature the 2020 Census. On November 6, 2019, the topic will be the Legalization of Recreational Marijuana in Illinois. These meetings will be held at 7:00 PM at the Grand Prairie Library, 3479 W. 183rd St, Hazel Crest.

I sincerely thank the LWV- HF Area Board for the work they do on a regular basis. During the month of August, I was, unfortunately, absent from League activities due to illness. During that time, Sandra Slayton, Vice President, stepped up to orchestrate and ensure continuity. That function involves organizing, planning strategies, executing programs, and making sure committee assignments and responsibilities are met. Sandra and other members totally demonstrated their dedication to the League and to achieving high level goals. Their commitment serves as inspiration for us all. For that, I, hereby, give the Board, Committees and the entire HF Area League well -deserved praise for their contributions. Well done!

Barbara A. Hayes, President LWV H-F Area

make Voter Registration Day a success.

October - Deputy Registrar Training
Deputy Registrar Training will be hosted by our League Partner, The Park Forest League of Women Voters, on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at the Chicago Heights Public Library, 25 W. 15th Street, Chicago Heights. The following members and a guest signed up for the training:

Pat Barker
Yvette Harris-Black
Joan Mackinnon
Lillian Lee
Debbie Fentress
Marietta Burk

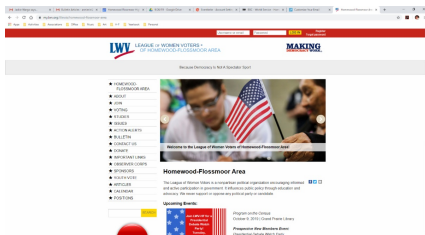
November - South Suburban Access
Tuesday, November, 19, 2019, will be a great opportunity for the League to register voters and provide voting information to clients of South Suburban Access. League members will be volunteering to assist South Suburban Access in packing groceries for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

LWV/NCJW Partnership
The League is excited to partner with the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) to conduct voter registrations and plan candidate forums.



RSVP

Check Us Out - Our New Website Is Up and Running!



SEE MORE

It's here: our new and improved website and we're excited to introduce you to our new look! If you are looking for fantastic resources on voting, you'll find them on the website. Want to know the latest League of Women Voters action alerts, find bulletins, check out Observer Corp articles and our latest programs? Then, [HTTP://lwhfarea.org](http://lwhfarea.org) is the place to go.

Visit our website often. We are still a work in progress so you can expect changes from time to time. We will continue to build and refine the appearance and the resources offered to ensure the site is user-friendly, informative and interesting. And, we'd love to hear from you. Let us know what you think about the site. Send suggestions and comments to Joan Strohm, jdsjan@aol.com, chair of the website committee.

Observer Report

Homewood Public Schools School District 153 Board of Education Public Hearing and Regular Board Meeting September 16, 2019

All members of the Board of Education were present at the Public Hearing to discuss the FY 2020 Budget. Dr. Gibson gave an overview of the FY 2020 Budget and how it compared to last year's budget. He explained the factors that drive the budget, e.g., property values, expenses and spending levels.

There were a few clarifications given by Board members. Member Deb Havighorst complimented Dr. Mitchell, the Board, and Staff for developing the budget.

The Public Hearing was adjourned, and the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting was called to Order. The Board approved the minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 12, 2019. The following future dates were reported:

- September 22 Foundation 153 Fund Run
- September 26 Willow Open House – 6:45 - 8:00 pm
- September 27 Early Dismissal
- October 3 Choir Showcase Concert – 7:00 pm
- October 9 Yom Kippur – No School
- October 10 No Classes
- October 11 No Classes
- October 14 Columbus Day – No Classes

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Mitchell discussed meetings regarding Long Range Planning for the district. He also gave an update on meetings in Springfield. Dr. Mitchell will be a speaker at an upcoming meeting in Springfield.

The Board went into Executive Session and then returned to the regular Board Meeting, approving the following Consent Items:

1. Personnel Report

2. School Business Official to Pay the Usual and Customary Bills for Oct. 2019.
3. Recognition of 6th Day Enrollment Numbers (1970)
4. Approval of the Administrators' Compensation Report
5. Approval of Tuition Reimbursements and Salary Adjustments
6. Review Policy 7:180 Regarding Bullying
7. Approval of New Clubs

The Board also approved the following Action Agenda Items:

1. Second Payment of August 2019 Bills and First Payment of September 2019 Bills.
2. Adoption of the FY 2020 Budget.
3. Employment of Personnel

The Board Adjourned

Environmental/Climate Change

Solar Power Hour

The Chicago Southland Green Committee hosted a Solar Power Hour on August 29 at the Flossmoor Library. Solar Power Hours are offered by the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) in partnership with the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA). Both organizations are advocates for cheaper, more efficient and renewable energy, and they have partnered to help Solarize Chicagoland communities. The program combines education and information about solar discount opportunities. League member, Deborah Hampton, and others in attendance learned the basics of solar power and its financial implications for households. Participants also learned about the concept of *Net Metering* which means any excess electricity produced by your solar system is exported to the Utility grid and you receive credits towards your electric bill. They also learned how solar panels are installed and about incentives offered by both state and federal governments. Additional information about Solarize Chicagoland can be found at solarizechicagoland.com.

The Greenest Region Compact (GR2)

Collaborating for Sustainable Communities

Established by the **Metropolitan Mayors Caucus**

The Greenest Region Compact is an agreement through the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus that aims to promote sustainability in Chicagoland through 49 goals designed to “guide municipal action, support mayors in their role as environmental leaders and foster collaboration that will have positive impacts on the region,” according to MMC. (HF Chronicle March 28, 2019)

The member municipalities of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus seek a vibrant, sustainable future for their communities and the greater Chicago region. By consensus, the members formulated goals that focus on enhanced quality of life for residents, protection and stewardship of the environment, and sustainable economic vitality.

The members of the compact therefore, pledge to support the goals of the GR2 in their own communities, and through collaboration, throughout the entire region in the following areas:

Climate Energy Water Land Recycling		Economic Development Sustainable Communities Mobility Leadership Municipal Operations
--	--	--

A detailed GR2 report can be found on our website, <http://lwwhfarea.org/> .

In addition, all 49 goals along with the full report, *Greenest Region Compact, Opportunities & Impact*, 2014, can be found at <https://mayorscaucus.org/> .

Congratulations to the Village of Hazel Crest for recently voting to host a GR2 corps member (An Americorps volunteer) for a year to work with the mayor on environmental issues.

**GET INVOLVED! Find a group, pick a goal, work toward community sustainability!!!
Let your mayors and village managers know what you are doing and what you need to
succeed.**

Contacts:

**SSMMA South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association:
linda.pendleton@ssmma.org**

PSRSN Prairie State Regional Sustainability Network: jackie.k.smhec@gmail.com

WCRSN Will County Regional Sustainability Network: jackie.k.smhec@gmail.com

October Program

Join us for a discussion on the importance of the Census. Kimberly Garrett and Jeanine Beasley with the Census Bureau will be with us to speak on the census and the important roll you can play and to answer any questions you may have.

This program takes place at the Grande Prairie Library at 7:00 PM, 3479 183rd St, Hazel Crest, IL 60429.

