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**October Bulletin Reissuance to Include Voter Services Article**

1 message

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League of Women Voters of the Homewood-Flossmoor Area <lwvhfareaboard@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 9, 2023 at 2:47 PM



**October 2023 Bulletin**  
and  
**Program Meeting October 18th**  
(formerly Oct 11th)



*and the*



National Council of Jewish Women  
South Cook Section

*Proudly co-Hosting*

**Take Action:**  
**Sunset Invest in Kids**  
Public Funds for Public Schools

**Wednesday, October 18, 2023, 7:00 PM**  
**Flossmoor Public Library**  
**1000 Sterling Ave., Flossmoor**  
**Helen Wilson Meeting Room, Lower Level**

**Our guest speaker is Cassie Creswell, Director of the Illinois Families for Public Schools**

The Invest in Kids school voucher program diverts up to \$75 million from public education and sends public dollars to unaccountable, nontransparent private schools, while over 80% of our public schools in Illinois are underfunded.

Join us and hear from experts as we gear up to fight any attempt at extending Invest in Kids. This is your opportunity to be informed on the issue and take action by contacting your state legislator.

## **Action Alert**

No need to wait. You can take action NOW! Tell your state senator and state representative to **vote NO** on any legislation that revives or funds the Invest in Kids school voucher program.

***“I am a constituent who resides in your district at (address). I am calling to tell you to let the Invest in Kids voucher program end as scheduled and to oppose any attempt at making it permanent or extending it. Public funds should be for our public schools.”***

Constituent contact makes a difference! Make calls and send emails no later than October 24, the first day of the fall veto session in Springfield.

### **League Position**

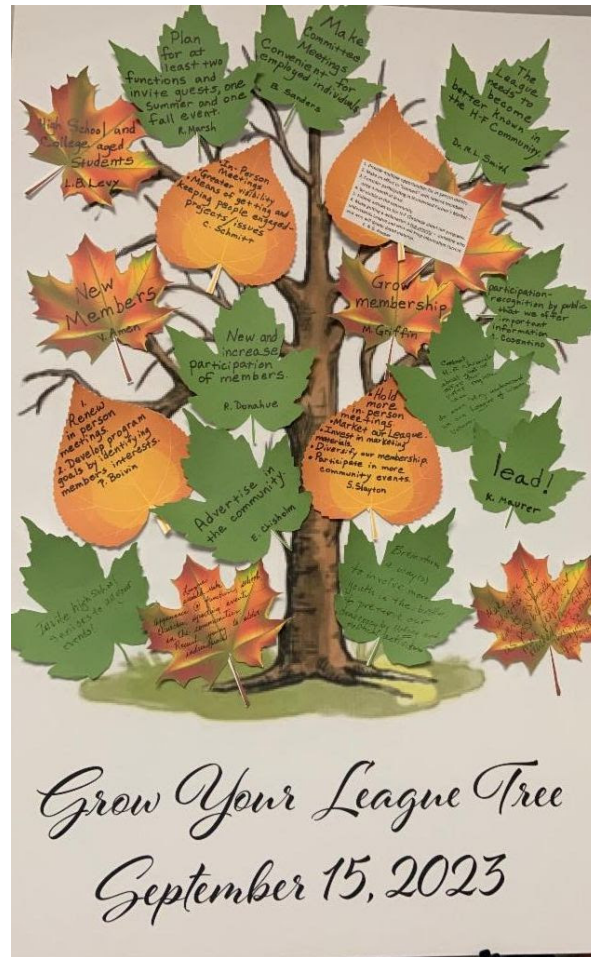
The League opposes proposals that would provide public funds for private schools. State funding levels should be sufficient to enable districts to provide for all students an education that meets both standards established by the State Board of Education and legislated mandates.

***Congratulations!!***

Past-President Barbara Hayes was married to Edward James Seaton on Saturday, September 23, 2023.



**SPOTLIGHT ON TEAMWORK!**



***THE POWER OF YOUR VOTE!*** (Revisit the Foundation of Our Organization) was the theme of the League event on Friday, September 15, 2023, sponsored by the *Membership Committee*. And, as always, there was Food, Fellowship, Information, Fun, Reuniting and Recruiting! *Patricia Jackson*, our Treasurer, made lovely autumn centerpieces to decorate the tables, as well as the Bingo boards/paddles. Even though *Molly Deugaw*, a new member and chairperson of the *Hospitality Committee*, was unable to attend, she enlisted three of her committee members, *Peg Boivin*, *Debbie Meyers-Martin*, and another new member, *Rhonda Carter*, who did an excellent job of providing food service efficiently and with a smile. **(Teamwork!)**

*A Panel*, of *Co-Presidents*, *Deborah Hampton*, *Sandra Slayton*, and *Vice President*, *Carolyn Cosentino* presented brief but in-depth information. Starting with the origin of the League of Women Voters organization in 1920, the origin of our Homewood-Flossmoor Area League, and including facts, statistics, and accomplishments to date. Who knew what a crucial role our League played in promoting recycling as well as monitoring the safety of our drinking water? **(Teamwork!)**

This was a perfect segway for our guest speaker, *Judge Deidra Dyer*, and her topic, **THE POWER OF YOUR VOTE!** *Judge Dyer* was solicited by *Trinita Henry* and the Program Committee **(Teamwork!)** and delivered informative, instructional information in a persuasive yet graceful manner. Very powerful! Above, Judge Dyer accepts a token of appreciation from the LWV-HF.

And finally, the Fun – Bingo! Four beautiful autumn-themed prizes were provided by *Sharon Johnson*, mother of member *Chastity Neal*, MC extraordinaire **(Teamwork!)**.

Other highlights of the evening included a display of Historical Handbooks, very interesting, provided by *Erin Roeper* (always willing to lend a hand). The idea of a Grow Your League Tree was introduced to us by *Deborah Hampton* and brought to fruition by *Pat Jackson and Trinita Henry (Teamwork!)*. There was lots of picture-taking, laughter, and socializing throughout the evening.

What a great start to our 2023-2024 yearly meetings, events, and activities. FYI, Membership dues are still being collected. If you have not paid yet, please use the self-addressed, stamped envelope you received in June to mail in your check (P.O. Box 801, Flossmoor, IL 60422) or pay electronically with Zelle to: League of Women Voters Email [lvvhfaraboard@gmail.com](mailto:lvvhfaraboard@gmail.com) If you need an application form, contact *Lorea Farley, Membership Committee Chairperson* by telephone (708-566-0975) or email ([loreafarley60430@yahoo.com](mailto:loreafarley60430@yahoo.com)).

**Teamwork** makes the dream work! There is a space for everyone- as a committee member, volunteer, or even as a supporter. Find your space and (continue to) be a part of the League of Women Voters Homewood-Flossmoor Area **Team!**

## **Sand Ridge Nature Center Guided Walk**



A stormy day was predicted for Sand Ridge Nature Center on Sept 26 as League members met for an indoor presentation from Forest Preserve Dist staff member MJ. The event was one of the series planned by LWVCC. Joining us at the nature center were Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller, 6<sup>th</sup> District, Jeremy Young-District Director for Miller, and Warren Callahan-Chief of Staff for Commissioner Stanley Moore, 4<sup>th</sup> District. Also in the top picture are Laura Davis LWV Palatine, our own Carolyn Cosentino, and Michele Nicolai-LaGrange.

The weather cleared, and the indoor talk led to a visit to one of the cabins onsite and a 1-mile walk over land that was once Lake Chicago. Lake Chicago was the larger ancestor of Lake Michigan 16,000 years ago. As Lake Chicago receded over thousands of years, it left behind ridges – Tollston, Dune Ridge, Calumet Ridge, Glenwood Ridge. The ridges, modest high points, provide geographic markers around the lake. Not overwhelming in height, but we have enough to provide solid walkways through the area for indigenous peoples, freedom seekers, and settlers. Skies brightened as we walked the path to the ridge line. We, HF Area members, talked with Leaguers from Skokie, Palatine, and LaGrange. Along the path, we saw hen mushrooms, chokeberries, marsh mallow, and a tiny toad. It was a great opportunity to learn more about our region and talk with interesting people. Always nice when the day becomes sunnier than expected. In the second picture, Co-President Sandra Slayton takes a selfie with the walkers.

Carolyn Cosentino,  
Vice President



## HF Board Meeting - 8-15-23

- Budget report - HF plans to end this school year with a small budget surplus
- Students return 8-16-23. Staff returning and new staff beginning went well.



- Board adopted the consent agenda including approval of board minutes for three special summer meetings, disposal of obsolete technology, and approval of monthly expenditures, reimbursement to the Imprest fund and payroll.
- Board approved three resignations, eight hires, four extra-responsibility contracts, and summer staffing contracts.
- Board approved Memorandum of Agreement with HFEO.

**Submitted by**  
**Sylvia Tufts, Observer**



### **NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY**

The Voter Services Committee of the Homewood-Flossmoor League of Women Voters participated in the National Voter Registration Day on September 19, 2023. Working with the National Action Network, which primarily focuses on voter registration, the Voter Services Committee chairs obtained materials (voter registration stickers and signs) and also attended several online workshops to prepare for National Voter Registration Day.

Nine registrars from the Homewood-Flossmoor League of Women Voters volunteered to register new voters at several high schools within the area. These schools included Hillcrest High School,

Homewood-Flossmoor High School, Marian Catholic High School, and Bloom High School. In total, we registered 39 new voters. The Voter Services chairs extends thanks to the following members for their invaluable help in making our National Voter Registration Day a success: ***Erin Roeper, Margaret Smith, Connie Thomas, Elaine Chisolm, Sandra Slayton, Patricia Jackson, and Deborah Hampton.***

This is just the beginning of our voter registration campaign as we look ahead to future elections. We strongly believe that voting is both a privilege and a responsibility that every citizen must partake in; therefore, by way of informational and educational discussions as well as periodic voter registration drive, we will continue to do our part to make this a reality.

Voter Services Committee Co-Chairs,  
Mary Griffin  
Veroncia Amen

## THINK GREEN



The Go Green Reads book discussion group aims to raise environmental awareness, inspire people to take individual and collective action and create more sustainable, just, and resilient communities. The group's discussion is based on Tatiana's Scholssberg's book, *Inconspicuous Consumption: the environmental impact you don't know you have*. The Go Green Reads book discussion group collaborates with the Book Stall

bookstore. The book is also available in book, eBook, eAudiobook, and Kindle through the SWAN library system. If you're interested in joining in this timely discussion, please see the information below:

**Inconspicuous Consumption: the environmental impact you don't know you have, By Tatiana Schlossberg**

**Monday, November 13, 2023**

**7 – 8, Central Time**

Updated with a new insightful preface and afterword, *Inconspicuous Consumption* is a fascinating and unexpectedly entertaining look at the way our everyday lives impact environmental pollution and climate change. With urgency and wit, former New York Times science writer, Tatiana Schlossberg, examines unseen environmental impacts in four areas - the Internet, technology, food, and fuel - to explain how interconnected we are. Read or listen to the book (or don't - no pressure!) and join us for a discussion on how daily activities like watching Netflix, eating a burger, or just turning on the light impact the environment and have far reaching consequences. More importantly, she empowers her audience to make more informed choices and to better understand our potential as consumers and voters, leaving readers feeling energized rather than hopeless. Please register below and [email Go Green Reads at gogreenwinnetka@gmail.com](mailto:gogreenwinnetka@gmail.com), with any questions.

[REGISTER HERE](#) Please join us for  
**REGISTER HERE** discussion  
whether you have read  
the book or not – All are

*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, political organization whose mission is to encourage informed and active participation in government; to increase understanding of major policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. Membership in the League is open to anyone regardless of gender, race, or ethnic group.*

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