



League of Women Voters of Greater Rockford

*Lwv news*

We are sad to announce the death of loyal leaguer Janet Ellis. Even with hospice in attendance she was able to use an absentee ballot to vote in the fall election..

Directory corrections:

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Elaine Harrington cell phone  
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the land line).

Jeanne Claeys new email:  
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Leigh Lakey email:  
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## Rockford VOTER

January 2013

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Local Government Committee meets the second Wednesday of each month at Noon at Katie's Cup. 2013 activities will include educational opportunities for league members and the public.

*Primary Candidate Forums*

1:00 pm on Sunday, February 10, 2013, Allen Chapel,  
3000 Rural Street, Rockford, IL 61107

*Mayoral and Aldermanic Primary Candidates*

6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 6, 2013, Sullivan Center  
at the Rockford Public Library

6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 20, 2013, Sullivan Center  
at the Rockford Public Library

Details to follow - Watch for future emails on candidate forums!

Please join us on Wednesday, January 9th, at Noon at Katie's Cup!  
Paula Lind

Voter Service meets at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 3, and we have some decisions to make.

### **MEETINGS:**

LWV Scholarship Fund: The Community Foundation

VOTER SERVICE  
COMMITTEE:

LWVGR BOARD  
MEETING: the  
second Monday,  
North Suburban  
Library, 5:00.

HEALTH CARE  
COMMITTEE: third  
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.  
P.A.Peterson

IR COMMITTEE:

LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT:  
Wednesday, January  
9 at noon, Katie's  
Cup

EDUCATION:  
January 22, 9a.m.,  
Stockholm Inn

ENVIRONMENTAL  
ISSUES:

informs us that for the League to give the \$500 Wyeth scholarship, we will need \$178.80 (Wyeth bequest fund is \$321.20, short the \$178.80). In the past I have appealed to members to give donations to meet the \$500 amount and have always been able to make up the difference. Because of low interest rates since the recession, we have had to supplement. Contact Jeanne Claeys to make a donation to the fund.

Health Issues Committee reports interesting news from Chicago Newspaper! Voters in Northwest Chicago community passed a Mental Health initiative by a 74% majority. They were the first in Illinois to consider a new binding referendum to fund services to expand mental health services in the North River community. They had the opportunity to tax themselves, through property tax, to pay for some free mental health services that the government has chipped away. The measure's supporters say they hope other neighborhoods follow suit with their own ballot-based solutions.

The need for education on Mental Health Issues and the Affordable Care Act has been brought to the public's attention by the media. It is time for the LWV health committee to set our priorities and be the catalyst for change.

Join us for on the 3rd Thursday of the month for our meeting.

When: Thursday, January 17, 2013

Time: 5:30- 6:30

Location: P.A.Peterson Centerfor Health Library  
1311 Parkview Ave. Rockford 61107

Elaine Pfluger, LWV Health Committee Chairman

Phone: (779) 423 0342

Education Committee reports we didn't meet due to the holidays but will meet in January at the Stockholm Inn at 9 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday instead of our regular third Tuesday. That date is January 22. Dyanna Chandler will

give a report on the bus trip sponsored by RPS to view the schools in need of repair. Claire McIntyre, chair.

## State/Local Program Planning Meeting

Wednesday, January 23

Stockholm Inn

5:00 p.m.

As a grassroots organization we have a responsibility to choose issues for citizen education and areas of action.

We have a room for dinner-on-your-own and discussion of the LWV State and Local program. RSVP with Karen Fysh. The state program issues are found on the state league website: LWVIL.

Local program issues in four specific areas are included here.

LWVGR Local Program 2010-2012

In concert with the LWVIL and LWVUS positions

EDUCATION

- Support a public school system that is equitable both in quality for all students and in financing for the taxpayer
- Support the implementation of action plans as developed in partnership with school personnel and citizens

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Support policies/programs through organizations and coalitions that promote the well-being, development, health and safety of all children
- Focus on prevention of crime and violence by supporting activities of the Violence Prevention Collaborative
- Support the study of a comprehensive approach on planning and conducting behavioral health services to meet the needs of the citizens of greater Rockford

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Support improved election services for all citizens of Winnebago county by consolidating the administration of election services in an independent county-wide commission created by the enactment of enabling legislation by the State of Illinois
- Support home rule in Rockford
- Support efforts to reduce the size of the Winnebago County Board

#### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Support the Winnebago County 2030 Land Resource Management Plan
- Support improved waste management
- Support the protection and conservation of natural resources including land, water and air

### **LWVIL ISSUES BRIEFING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2013**

Transportation to Chicago is arranged in car pools. Part of the registration fee is paid by the local league. Contact Karen Fysh if you are interested. We can promise a most

informative and educational day.

## Womanspace Event

The LWVGR would like to invite you to attend this special Womanspace event on January 23. Please respond to Karen Fysh at pfeffer43@charter.net We would like to have a table of 8 of our members there. This is an opportunity for us to meet new potential members and liason with other organizations.

"A celebration of the gifts of women to our community"

You have been selected as one of a limited number of service organizations who are invited to join us.

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

7:00-8:15 a.m.

Radisson Conference Center

Presented by Womanspace

Free, by invitation only

Breakfast buffet and program

- Join in a heartwarming celebration of the many gifts that women bring to our community
- Enjoy inspirational stories that reveal the connecting, empowering, and transforming influence of Womanspace.
  - Make new friends and build your community connections.
- Don't miss this opportunity to gain recognition for your organization and expand your network.

Organizations who register a table of 8 or more will be offered the opportunity to have an informational display at the event - on a space available basis: first come, first served.

RSVP with Karen Fysh by January 14.



See the pins LWVIL is selling in honor of 100 years of women voting in Illinois. The design is the logo created by the Evanston League for the various events planned for the coming year.

If you'd like to purchase a pin the cost is \$5.00.

The pins will be on sale at the Issues Briefing in February and can be ordered through Claire McIntyre.

## **Dates to Remember**

*LWVIL CONVENTION  
JUNE 7-9, 2013*

**LWVGR CONTACTS**

President: Karen Fysh - [pfeffer43@charter.net](mailto:pfeffer43@charter.net)  
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*The purpose of the LWVGR shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.*

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