



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF McLEAN COUNTY

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The League of Women Voters of McLean County newsletter, *the Voter*, is published 8 times a year

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The Voter

of McLean County

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March 2014

Save the Date: LWV Programs 2014

State Superintendent of Schools, Chris Koch Tuesday, February 18, 7:00 p.m.

- Old Main Room - Boone Student Center, ISU
- Illinois Education: Strengths, Issues and Challenges

Drinks & Dialogue

New Date: Tuesday, February 25, 5:00-6:30 p.m.

- A. Renée Wine Café, 306 N. Center St., Bloomington
- Talk about the 1965 Voting Rights Act – see page 3

International Women's Day Breakfast Saturday, March 1, 8:30 a.m.

- Uptown Normal Marriott - \$25.00 includes full breakfast
- Sit at the LWV table – see page 3

McLean County Sheriff's Forum Monday, March 3, 7:00 p.m.

- Community Room, Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
801 W. Market St., Bloomington
- Meet Sheriff candidates Jon Sandage and Jeff Elston

Consensus Meeting: Mental Health Study Tuesday, March 25, 6:30 p.m.

- Osborn Room, Bloomington Police Department
305 S. East Street, Bloomington
- See consensus statements on page 4

Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Wednesday, April 16, 5:30 p.m.

- Holiday Inn & Suites, 3202 E. Empire St., Bloomington
- Annual silent auction Fundraiser

From the Desk of Our President

2014 has gotten off to a great start! In January several of our League members traveled to Peoria to assist in a candidate debate sponsored by the Peoria League featuring the four Republican candidates for Governor. Not content to be mere spectators, McLean County League members were happy to function as official timers and “handlers” for the gubernatorial candidates. So thank you Leaguers Rose Marsaglia, Phylis VerSteegh, Sally Rudolph, Anne Nadakavukaren, and Judy Valente for assisting our colleagues in the Peoria League with this debate.

Another special thank you is in order for the Study Group who undertook an emergency study of the proposed Modified Ward System for the City of Bloomington. The March 18th ballot will ask Bloomington voters to consider the following question:

“Shall the City of Bloomington elect part of the councilmen at large (3) and part of the councilmen from districts (5) with staggered four-year terms and biennial elections?” Yes or No.

A host of League members participated in a study to help voters answer that question. The study included several interviews as well as research and analysis of 16 cities from across the country which have held similar referenda on their Council structures. See page 5 for a summary of their findings.

Therefore, a special thank you to all who donated their time, energy, and passion to so thoughtfully and thoroughly conducting this emergency study: Phylis VerSteegh (Study Chair), Carol Baker, Carol Reitan, Julie Prandi, Diana Hauman, Gary Hoover, Glen Ludwig, Janet Warfield, Julie Sullivan, Laura Baue, Marlene Gregor, and Sally Rudolph. I’d also like to recognize those who participated in presenting information and moderating the Consensus Meeting held on February 3rd. Phylis VerSteegh and Julie Prandi presented arguments in favor of and opposed to the Modified Ward System, Julie Sullivan presented the study group’s research findings, and Laurie Bergner moderated the entire meeting.

Even though most of us are still stuck in the midst of this snow-packed, chilly winter, spring is around the corner, and that means we need to be preparing for our League’s Annual Meeting (May 27) already! I draw your attention to page 8 of this issue of the Voter which outlines procedures for submitting any Program Proposals you wish to be taken up by membership at the Annual meeting. And finally, I hope to see many of you at our February 18th Program at Illinois State University featuring Illinois State Superintendent of Schools Chris Koch and at the Candidate Forum on March 3rd featuring the Republican candidates for McLean County Sheriff: Jon Sandage and Jeff Elston.

Sincerely,
Maureen O’Keefe
McLean County LWV President

Our League in Action

-  League members assisted the Peoria League of Women Voters in holding a debate on January 23 featuring the four Republican candidates for Governor.
-  Voter Registration Drives were held at Blair House on February 10, Heartland Community College on February 15.
-  League was asked to participate in interviews for the Unit 5 School Superintendent position; Camille Taylor, Kathy Tosh, and Maureen O’Keefe attended candidate interviews and posed questions aligned with League positions and values.
-  League members Julie Sullivan, Judy Buchanan and Sally Rudolph have been asked to serve on and appointed to a Mental Health sub-committee of the McLean County Executive Committee.
-  League held a Consensus Meeting on the Modified Ward System February 3; story about the meeting and its outcome appeared in the February 13 issue of the *Pantagraph*.
-  Leaguers Camille Taylor and Alexis Kalish presented the League’s position on Graduated Rate Income Tax at Kiwanis meeting on February 17.

Get Involved in Programs

Drinks and Dialogue –February 25



Join us early Tuesday evening, February 25, at A. Renée Wine Café in Bloomington to discuss the Supreme Court's ruling against the 1965 Voting

Rights Act. Learn more about the decision and its consequences by reading the following articles:

- [Supreme Court Ruling Opens Door to Widespread Voter Suppression](#) (*LWVUS*)
- [...Texas AG Suppresses Minority Voters](#) (*Think Progressive*)
- [...Impact on Elections in Buena Vista \(MI\) Township](#) (*Michigan Live*)

Casual conversation begins at 5:00, topic discussion at 5:30 p.m.

International Women's Day Breakfast – March 1

The International Women's Day Breakfast will be held at the Marriott in uptown Normal on Saturday, March 1, 2014 beginning at 8:30 a.m. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Please contact Kathy Nicholson-Tosh at 309-530-2050 or kn.ttosh@comcast.net if you would like to attend and sit at the League table. Or when contacting Karen Fleming for reservations, indicate you will be sitting at the League table. Thank you!

Interested in Poll Watching?

Folks who have done it before don't need training. Anyone who wants poll watch for the first time should contact JE Myers by email and she will send them Training Info. We are particularly looking for people who live in the "Out County" to cover their local polling place(s), especially Downs, LeRoy, Heyworth, Hudson, Gridley and Chenoa where turnout is heaviest for Primaries. Poll watching takes just 1 – 2 hours to do, it's EASY and interesting!

Help is also needed during the Sheriff's Forum, the evening of March 3rd. And if you have questions for the candidates, contact JE Myers as well: jemyers55@gmail.com

Donations Requested for April 16th Fundraiser

We're very excited that Rita B. Garman, Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court, will be our speaker at our April 16th Annual Dinner and Fundraiser. We hope this event is a great success, and as always at this time of year, we also remind members that we welcome any donations you'd like to make to our Silent Auction. All contributions will be greatly appreciated!

In the past, members have generously given of their talents by offering master gardening, cooking lessons, craft lessons or professional services of any kind. You've also donated your own hand-made crafts and art which are always treasured. As we move into the spring season, others may unearth gems in their spring cleaning activities that can also be donated to this cause, such as art work, jewelry, crafts, and knick knacks of any kind.

If you have donations for the Silent Auction, please contact: Kathy Nicholson-Tosh (309) 530-2050 or Maureen O'Keefe (309) 258-4233. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated.

Turn Off for Earth Hour – March 29

On Saturday March 29th, between 8:30-9:30p.m. cities around the world will participate in Earth Hour 2014. Participants will join together to turn off their nonessential lights and equipment for one hour to raise awareness about how energy efficiency and conservation can help reduce the negative impacts of global climate change.

In order to promote sustainability in our community the Ecology Action Center is asking community members to reflect on our ecological footprint as a community. We want to encourage all of McLean County to participate and make an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As a past participant in Earth Hour, the LWV of McLean County's participation will help make Earth Hour in Bloomington-Normal a continued success. For more information about Earth Hour you can visit www.earthhour.org.

--Miya Thalmann
mthalmann@ecologyactioncenter.org

McLean County Mental Health Study

Consensus Meeting – March 25

LWV McLean County will hold a special meeting on mental health on Tuesday, March 25 at 6:30 PM in the Osborn Room at the Bloomington Police Department. At this meeting the League Mental Health Study Committee will report on their 44 interviews with local mental health providers, advocates, funders and others involved in mental health services. The meeting is open to the public.

After the reports, League members will discuss the following consensus statements:

- 1) League supports funding which is effective for mental health services in McLean County.
- 2) League supports planning and coordination of mental health services in McLean County.
- 3) League supports a comprehensive array of services to meet the mental health needs of McLean County.
- 4) League supports the development of and support for a pro-active core leadership for mental health services in McLean County.
- 5) League supports “cradle to grave” mental health services for all citizens of McLean County.

We hope to have a large turnout so please mark your calendars now.

--Sally Rudolph

Committee Members Appointed to Advisory Group

LWV McLean County's Mental Health Study Committee is well represented on the County Board's two newly appointed Mental Health Advisory Groups. Study chair Sally Rudolph plus Judy Buchanan and Julie Sullivan have been appointed to the advisory groups by County Board Chairman Matt Sorensen. Rudolph and Buchanan will serve on the “Best Practices” committee which will look into mental health services in other areas of Illinois while Sullivan will be a member of the “Needs Assessment” committee, which will assess our local services.

In addition, study committee members Victoria Harris and State's Attorney Jason Chambers also will serve. Harris will be representing the county board and Chambers will be representing his office. Other League members who will be serving are Judge Elizabeth Robb, Mayor Tari Renner, Cheryl Gaines and Judge Rebecca Foley.

The two advisory committees are expected to report on their research in about four months, according to Chairman Sorensen.

--Sally Rudolph

Mental Health Study Committee Chair

GRIT: The “Ask for Signatures” Continues

League of Women Voters members continue to be a vitally important part of the effort for the November ballot placement to tame the gerrymandering beast. The bitter cold has slowed but not stopped progress. By the time you read this, the results from several major events will be in – for example, we have an aggressive target of 1000 signatures set for the annual Bloomington Kiwanis Pancake Days.

Recently Senator Jason Barickman invited me to speak about gerrymandering at the Monday evening political science class he teaches at ISU. It was a great experience. After I concluded my remarks, the Senator shared with the class some real life observations on what he has seen and experienced in Springfield linked to map making. It was indeed an unsettling description of a process that ignores basic principles of democracy. We all owe it to ourselves and our families to stop this self-serving practice.

I know Leaguers are very busy with many routine and special projects. While still a new LWV member,

I have a hunch that just like many other groups, there are core members who make big commitments of time and energy to many projects. And then there are others who are typically only mildly involved. I admit to being biased about the importance of getting the Independent Map amendment positioned for voter action. But I am compelled by my passion for a better Illinois to ask and encourage those who have not yet been circulating a petition to get involved this month. Across the LWV membership, if we could ramp up participation to the 50% level, with a signature capture rate of 25 each, we could get a much needed 1000 more signatures.

Thanks to the many already supporting the effort. For those ready to engage, please get in contact with me by email, glen@creativeagsolutions.com, or phone 309-585-1273.

--Glen Ludwig

Modified Ward System: Information Summary, February 13, 2014

In December 2013 a petition drive resulted in a referendum being placed on the March 18, 2014 ballot concerning whether or not the city of Bloomington Illinois should adopt a "Modified Ward System" of government. The referendum question voters will be asked to consider is:

Shall the City of Bloomington elect part of the councilmen at large (3) and part of the councilmen from districts (5) with staggered four-year terms and biennial elections? Yes or No

In January 2014 the McLean County League of Women Voters conducted an emergency study to determine if it could arrive at a local League position concerning this proposed structure for the Bloomington City Council. It presented its findings at a meeting that was open to the public on February 3, 2014. League members subsequently participated in a consensus meeting. On February 11, 2014, the Board of Directors of the McLean County League of Women Voters determined its members had not reached a consensus on the proposed referendum.

The purpose of this article is to present a summary of research gathered by the McLean County League of Women Voters through its study of the proposed Modified Ward System for Bloomington. The study group conducted eight interviews and researched sixteen cities across Central Illinois the United States that have held similar referenda on their council structures.

We will also outline the *Pro* and *Con* arguments concerning the Modified Ward System that were presented at the League's February 3rd Consensus Meeting held at Mt. Pisgah Church in Bloomington.

History of the Ward Structure in Bloomington

- **1850** – Ward System (4 wards) Population was 1000 in 1840
- **1914** – Commission Form
- **1923** – Ward System
- **1952** – At-Large System, plus a City Manager
- **1979** – Ward System, current system in Bloomington. (Change to the Ward system passed by 24 votes.) Illinois Statute allowed for 18 Wards; Bloomington decided to have 8.
- **2006** – Due to increased population, the number of Wards, which must be compact and contiguous, was increased to 9.

Research Findings

Costs of Moving to a Modified Ward System

The study group contacted Bloomington City Manager

David Hales regarding possible costs associated with changing the Council structure. He has not studied this, but said there would be costs associated with redrawing the Ward maps. The Council would be responsible for this. Tracey Covert, City Clerk, said with a reduction in the number of councilmen (9 to 8), there would be a \$4800 savings in salary.

Experience of Modified Ward System in other Central Illinois Cities

Champaign and Peoria both have Modified Ward Systems.

- Champaign has had this structure in place for twenty years and feels it provides a good balance of input and responsiveness. Dorothy David, City Manager, said if there is a transition to this system in Bloomington, it is important to educate the citizens in the process.
- Peoria moved to a Modified Ward System in 1987 as the result of civil rights litigation and the issue of cumulative voting. They find there is now less "deal making."

Other Cities That Held Referenda on Their Council Structure

The League also examined fourteen other cities that have held referenda on their Council structure and found that within these cities:

- 50% approved an at-large structure
- 25% approved a modified ward system
- 25% approved a ward approach

In each instance, the change was based on the perceived needs of the city involved. For example, in 1983 Greensboro, NC, moved from an at-large to a modified ward structure to assure representation for the African American population. The League also found that in each city we studied, *each city thought their city council structure best encouraged citizen participation.*

Pro and Con Arguments

Study group members compiled a list of arguments in favor of and opposed to the Modified Ward System based upon information provided by the individuals who were interviewed for the study and the research they collected. **These arguments do not represent the views of the McLean County League of Women Voters.**

Summary of arguments:

- Cont. page 6

Arguments in Favor of a Modified Ward System:	Arguments Against a Modified Ward System:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensures less conflict among council members by balancing out members whose primary focus may be “my own-Ward” only. ▪ Provides balance between specialized and city-wide councilmen. They can educate each other. A good alderman finds balance between what is good for the ward and what is good for the city. ▪ Facilitates more attention being paid by the entire Council to Bloomington’s long-range issues. ▪ Provides citizens more options of contacts – their Ward representative, the at-large councilmen, and the mayor. ▪ Expands the pool of qualified candidates who wish to serve on City Council, for example, citizens who have strong civic reputation, e.g. from serving on various Boards or committees planning events on behalf of charitable organizations, etc. ▪ Addresses extremes and may alleviate “East side/West side” rivalry. ▪ Eliminates the need for each alderman to be involved in all issues, i.e., the “Ward Boss” attitude. ▪ Provides a good balance of representatives, a higher level of accountability, and a more balanced approach ▪ At-large councilmen are more likely to pass on citizen concerns that are brought to them. ▪ The current system, the Ward System, was passed by only 24 votes in 1979 and the Modified Ward System was not available 35 years ago when that vote was taken. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Having three at-large representatives would decrease the accountability of council members; each Ward would be larger and there would be twice as many citizens to represent. ▪ Ward representatives are specialists for their Ward and at-large members would not have this level of knowledge. ▪ No evidence exists that Ward aldermen don’t represent the entire city. ▪ A new kind of candidate emerges; at-large candidates would likely have more resources and be more “alike,” with less diversity, e.g., individuals who are beholden to the Chamber of Commerce, large corporations, and/or Unions. ▪ Creates a two-tiered Council; possibility exists for at-large representatives to have more stature in the community. ▪ Ties could be more frequent with 8 members; the Mayor would vote more often to break ties. ▪ Discourages rich discussion among council members because councils using Modified Ward System tend to become homogeneous, leading to less discussion. (The Normal at-large Council has less discussion and more unanimous votes.) Current Council process is “slower and messier,” but that is perceived as good. ▪ A Modified Ward System is less democratic and could result in less power for minorities; access to aldermen would be limited. ▪ At-large representatives may not appreciate the localized nature of districts such as Historic Neighborhoods and areas being revitalized.

--Maureen O’Keefe & Phylis VerSteegh

Observer’s Report: CIRA 01/23/2014

The League has chosen the Central Illinois Regional Airport Authority (CIRA) as one of the governmental bodies to observe. I have been attending the CIRA Board meetings as the LWV representative.

The CIRA Board is one of the most effective and transparent boards I have served on or observed. They are fortunate to have an outstanding board chair and executive director. No specific item of interest has developed over my tenure that may be of interest to the LWV that isn’t already public information. The board is aware of my attendance and who I represent. That alone may be the value of our observation.

--Gary Hoover

Voters' Information - *Upcoming Election March 18, 2014*

McLean County Voting:

County Clerk Office, 115 E. Washington St., Room 102, Bloomington ■ ph# (309) 888-5190

February 18 is **the last day** to register to vote or update your name or address for the March 18, 2014, election.

- 17-year-olds who will be 18 **on or before the November 4, 2014 General Election** may register now and vote in the General Primary Election on March 18, 2014, according to new Illinois law.
- February 18 is **the last day** to register to vote or update your name or address for the March 18, 2014 election.
- 17-year-olds who will be 18 **on or before the November 4, 2014 General Election** may register now and vote in the General Primary Election on March 18, 2014, according to new Illinois law.

Early Voting for March 18, 2014 Primary Election

Early voting will be available in **the County Clerk Office, 115 E. Washington St., Room 102**, March 3 through March 15, 2014, Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Early Voting will also be available at the ISU Bone Student Center, 100 N. University St., Monday through Thursday, March 3 - 6 and March 10 - 13 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Early Voting is available for those who choose to vote prior to Election Day. You must show a state issued photo ID in order to vote early.

Grace Period Voting for March 18, 2014 Primary Election

Grace period voting is for those persons who did not register to vote or change their address before the close of registration. They may come into the County Clerk Office to register to vote or change their address during this period. They must also vote in at the time of registration.

Grace period registration will be available in the Clerk Office February 19 through March 15, 2014, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday March 8 and March 15, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Absentee Voting for March 18, 2014 Primary Election

You may request a ballot be mailed to you beginning February 6, 2014. You can download the Absentee Ballot Application [HERE](#). The last day we can mail an absentee ballot overseas is February 18, 2014, and the last day to mail within the United States is March 13, 2014. March 17, 2014 is the last day to vote absentee in person in the County Clerk Office.



City of Bloomington Voting:

Board of Elections, 115 E. Washington St., Room 403, Bloomington ■ ph# (309)-888-5136

Tuesday, February 18, 2014	Last day to change address or register to vote
Wednesday, February 10 through Saturday, March 15, 2014	Grace period resgistration/change/apply to vote in the Board of Elections office, during office hours only
Monday, March 3 through Saturday, March 15, 2014	Early voting in the Bloomington Board of Elections office only. Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturdays 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon Voter must present government-issued photo ID to vote early
Thursday, March 13, 2014	Last day for election authority to mail absentee ballot (signed application must be received in office by this date)
Tuesday, March 18, 2014	General Primary Election: Polls open 5:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Voters can vote on the two referenda without requesting a Republican or Democrat ballot by asking for a NON-PARTISAN BALLOT.	

It's Your Turn:

Call for Proposed Studies 2014

A key philosophy of the League of Women Voters is grassroots citizen involvement. For 80 years, the League of Women Voters of McLean County has studied local issues, has reached consensus, and has taken action to improve our community.

How does our League decide what issues to tackle?

It's up to you. All League members are encouraged to submit proposals for a new study or a re-study of a current program position (found in the Yearbook). At the Annual Meeting, May 27, 2014, League members will be asked to decide whether or not to adopt any proposed studies.

What kinds of issues are appropriate to recommend for study?

A local League study should be in line with the League's mission, should focus on local public policy issues, should lead to a consensus meeting, and, if consensus is reached, should lead to League action. If the proposal is for a re-study of a current local program position, the proposal should reflect changing conditions which warrant re-studying the issue. Issues which have State or National scope are not appropriate for a local League study.

How do I submit a program proposal?

All proposals must be submitted to Maureen O'Keefe **no later than March 17, 2014**. Study proposals for 2014--2015 will not be accepted after that date. All proposals must be in writing. Please note that, according to LWVUS protocol, program proposals from the floor at the Annual meeting are not allowed, as the full membership has not been notified. All proposals must be submitted in advance.

Please note that, according to LWVUS protocol, program proposals from the floor at the Annual meeting are not allowed, as the full membership has not been notified. All proposals must be submitted in advance.

What do I include in my proposal?

You must include:

- **Your name and contact information**, including phone number;
- **Title** of the proposed study;
- **Rationale** for the proposed study. What is the problem and why should our League study this issue?
- **Scope** of the study. In broad strokes, outline how the proposed study fits the League mission and suggest possibilities for education, consensus and action.
- **Leadership** for the study. League members have great ideas, but League study and action requires leadership. In the past, several studies have foundered for lack of a leader. If you propose a study, you must be willing to chair it or be willing to recruit a chair. Your proposal must include names of possible chairs.

What happens after my proposal is submitted?

- The Program Planning Committee reviews the proposal for conformity to League guidelines. You may be contacted if your proposal needs modification or clarification.
- At the April Board meeting, the Board of Directors reviews the proposal and recommends or does not recommend the proposal for adoption at the Annual Meeting.
- All proposals, recommended and not recommended, are published in the Voter one month before the annual meeting.

At the Annual Meeting, a majority of the members present and voting adopt or reject the proposal.

Leaguers Work on State Gubernatorial Debate

On a very cold Thursday, January 23, several from our League ventured out to help with the LWV of Illinois sponsored GOP primary gubernatorial debate in Peoria. It was co-sponsored by and held in the studio of WTVP and was carried by nine downstate public television stations.

When we arrived, we were immediately assigned duties. Rose Marsaglia became the official time keeper while Anne Nadakavukaren and Phylis VerSteeh held the paddles that told the candidates when to STOP talking. Sally Rudolph was named one of Kirk Dillard's "handlers" while Judy Valente-Reynard did the same for Bruce Rauner. This meant simply that we were required to make sure the candidates were in the studio on time.



Anne Nadakavukaren with her paddles in hand. Candidates (l-r) are Bill Brady, Dan Rutherford and Bruce Rauner. Kirk Dillard is obscured by the camera.

LWV Interviews Candidates for Unit 5 Superintendent

After interviews with seven qualified candidates, followed by a Special Session meeting of deliberation and consensus building, the Board of Education presented three final candidates for Superintendent of McLean County Unit District No. 5. The three candidates visited our community on January 30, January 31, and February 7 for second interviews. Members of the community were invited to the interviews to ask questions and record observations. President Maureen O'Keefe, Vice President Kathy Tosh, and Observer Chair Camille Taylor represented the League of Women Voters.

Unit Five used a process of developing a profile of the desired new superintendent through interviews with members of the Unit 5 Board of Education, district staff, and community members in November. An on-line survey was also used to gather input through December 2013. In addition, focus groups and the on-line survey were used to develop a document outlining the district's perceived strengths and challenges.

Some of the perceived district's strengths were the quality and dedication of teachers and staff as well as the strong parent, community, business, and university support for the schools. Some of the challenges were continuing strong student achievement in tight financial times and changing demographics and the balancing consistent district wide standards with the needs of students in individual buildings.

Two of the desired traits of a new superintendent are a proven track record of successful leadership in complex, diverse, and political environments, and the ability to create positive, collaborative consensus-building relationships with the staff and the community. The strengths/challenges document and the desired profile were made available prior to the interviews.

The three finalists are:

- Dr. Mark Daniel, Superintendent of Dowagiac Union Schools in Dowagiac, Michigan
- Dr. Todd Koehl, Superintendent of O'Fallon School District #90 in O'Fallon, Illinois
- Dr. Michael Popp, the Executive Director at Indian Prairie School District #204 in Aurora, Illinois.

All three candidates were asked questions from other community groups such as the Music Parents, Youth Build, Charter School, Heartland Community College, the NAACP, etc. The candidates' answers revealed various levels of expertise and knowledge.

As League members, we posed a wide array of questions to the candidates including: their views on the Graduated Rate Income Tax (GRIT) proposal, what efforts they would make in recruiting and retaining more minority staff in Unit 5 in order to have the staff more accurately reflect the student demographics, how teachers' evaluations would be impacted by assessments done on technology when the technology malfunctions, ideas about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering Math) education, and the status of Civics/Government education currently being taught in our schools.

Each member of the audience had to complete a form indicating his/her impressions of the candidates, their strengths/weaknesses or concerns. These were given to the Board of Education which will be used in their final deliberations. The Unit 5 Board plans to announce the name of the new superintendent by the end of March.

--Camille Taylor, Kathy Nicholson-Tosh & Maureen O'Keefe

18th Annual International Women's Day Breakfast

In celebration of International Women's Day—A worldwide event.

Co-Presenters:

Soroptimist International Bloomington-Normal
League of Women Voters of McLean County



Many Faces, Many Roles

Understanding the many roles women play.

Saturday, March 1, 2014

Uptown Normal Marriott

Doors open at 8:30 a.m.— Event 9:00—11:00 a.m.

*Table Sponsors \$250/8 seats includes:
sponsor recognition at table & in event program
and any advanced advertising.*

Tickets \$25/each or \$10 age 18 and under.
Checks payable to SIBN and mailed in advance to
Karen Fleming

1416 Godfrey Drive; Normal, IL 61761

(309)454-2513

e-mail: kfleming1973@gmail.com

Free Parking

South of the Marriott in the
connected parking garage only.

On this day in the Twin Cities, we affirm our support for women
around the world in our common pursuit of peace and prosperity,
and come together to learn from each other.

Like us on Facebook

McLean County International Women's Day

