

President's Message

Candidates seem to avoid our forums

As we approach the June primary elections, two points about the work of our Voter Services Committee are especially noteworthy.

First, Committee members deserve our appreciation for the extraordinarily hard work to organize and host candidate forums. Such forums have always been a valuable way to inform voters, but the steady decline in local news media coverage makes them increasingly important. COVID added to the challenge, so Voter Services made forums more accessible via YouTube. Please try to attend or view as many forums as you can and spread the word.

Second, there seems to be a growing reluctance from candidates to participate in our forums. We discussed this at our May Board of Directors meeting and there were a range of theories about why this is happening and how we can respond.

Some candidates may have concerns about being treated fairly, given positions taken by our state and national organizations. If so, we can and should do more to let candidates know that our local organization is committed to non-partisanship and fairness. Other candidates may not want to give underdog opponents additional exposure. While that might be a good campaign strategy, it doesn't serve the interest of voters.

We have discussed calling out candidates by name when they refuse to participate. That remains a distinct possibility.

The door is closing on forums leading up to the primary. But we will continue to find ways to host effective candidate forums for the general election in the fall.

That is central to our organization's purpose.

——— Terry Kohlbuss, LWVGP president

Important Dates:

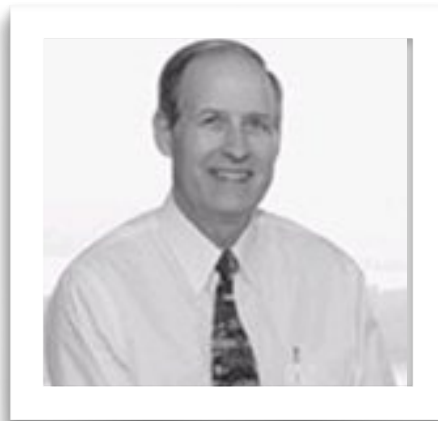
7-8 p.m. Thurs., June 9: Virtual Observer Training

4 p.m. Mon., June 13: LWVGP Executive Board

5-6:30 p.m. Wed., June 15: Drinks & Dialogue

5:30-7 p.m. Wed., July 20: Summer Social at Oliver's Pizza on Willow Knolls Road

MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS



Terry Kohlbus

Even in grade school, I was curious about how government works. In my freshman at Limestone High School, I ran for class president and flopped. I was more successful as a senior (Class of 1967).

It took me nine years to graduate from Bradley University with a Political Science major. Weak study skills and a diversion to Southeast Asia as an infantry squad leader contributed to my glacial academic progress. Since my dad advised having some employable skills, I also had a teaching certificate upon graduation from BU.

That led to two years at Galva High School where I taught government along with junior varsity football and basketball. Teaching was really fun, but it wasn't scratching my itch to know more about government from the inside.

My next stop was in the Public Works Dept. for the City of Peoria, where I learned more about sewers and garbage than any poli-sci major should ever have to know. When Mayor Richard Carver asked me to be his administrative assistant on a "time available basis," I may have become the only employee at City Hall who held two full-time jobs simultaneously. It was a master's level experience in how local government can work with excellent leadership.

When Carver left town Rob Parks replaced me (and cleaned up the messes I left.) I went on to run an employment and training agency. Perhaps my finest moment there was hiring a young professional named Rita Bryant — now known as Mayor Rita Ali.

Having worked in government, I thought I would try being an elected official. I became the Business Development Manager for a local engineering firm and ran for a seat on the Peoria County Board. Another flop! But I learned some important lessons about what I wasn't willing to do to get elected.

In 1996, fortune smiled and I was hired as the Director of the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. With a great staff, generous funding, good assignments and sincere Board members (with one or two exceptions) I could honestly say I had the best job in town.

Now I say, "With a magnificent marriage, adequate portfolio, extraordinary family (especially grandkids) and wonderful friends, I have the best retirement in town."

Looking back, I've learned a lot about how government works. Sausage really is an appropriate metaphor.

MEMBERSHIP

As we begin a new year in the League of Women Voters we encourage you to renew your membership or — if you are not already a member — please join us. This past year we experienced moderate growth in members and we are looking forward to an even bigger growth this year. To make that happen, we need you!

Dues can be paid at anytime by going online to www.lwvgp.org and clicking the “Join Us” link. Levels of membership are described. Select the level of support you want to provide and use your credit card to complete the transaction.

A fun way to pay is to attend the summer social at Oliver’s Pizza, 3300 West Willow Knolls Road on July 20. Learn about past accomplishments and President Terry Kohlbuss will share goals for 2022-23. Also, food and beverages are provided. Fun and networking are a part of the evening. A form appears elsewhere in The Voter. Although reservations are not required it is helpful if you could let me know whether you will be attending and the number of guests you will be bringing to be sure we have adequate food. Thank you.

The Membership Committee needs your help! We are committed to having representatives from the Committee at every live event during the coming year — armed with forms, brochures and other membership materials. If you are available to help, please contact me via text or email at the information below.

We are looking forward to a busy year. We need lots of volunteers. Thanks for all you do and don’t hesitate to contact the committee if you have a question. If we don’t have the answer, we know who does.

See you July 20th!

Jan Deissler – 635-1872 or jandeissler77@gmail.com

VOTER SERVICES

While the Voter Services Committee was not successful with several of the candidate forums that the League planned (six of the nine we attempted were cancelled, as noted below), we know that it is important to get information on the candidates to the voters.

I would remind you that the forums we did hold are available on the LWVGP’s YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHjdu-rif6_j7aqNLLIFXzKQ. Those would include the 17th Congressional District Democratic Primary; the Peoria County Sheriff’s Republican Primary; and the Peoria Public Schools, District 2 race (this is NOT a primary election rather it will elect two of the three candidates to the Peoria Public School Board).

Below we have provided our membership with links to the candidates’ Facebook pages or websites where we could identify them. We have done this for both

races in which we held a forum and those where we were not successful in getting the candidates to participate.

17th Congressional District Democratic Primary (watch the forum on the League's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHjdu-rif6_j7aqNLLIFXzKQ)

Jonathan Logemann (www.jonathanlogemann.com)

Jacqueline McGowan (www.jackiemcgowan.com)

Angie Normoyle (www.normoyleforcongress.com)

Eric Sorenson (www.ericforillinois.com)

Litesa Wallace (www.litesawallaceforcongress.com)

Marsha Williams (www.marshawilliamsforcongress.com)

17th Congressional District Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response from the candidates)

Esther Joy King (www.estherforcongress.com)

Charles Helmick, Jr. (www.helmickforcongress.com)

18th Congressional District Republican Primary

JoAnne Guillemette (www.guillemetteforcongress.com)

Darin LaHood (www.lahoodforcongress.com)

Walt Peters (www.waltpetersforcongress.com)

Michael Rebresh (www.rebreshforcongress.com)

37th Illinois Senate Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response from the candidates)

Brett Nicklaus (www.nicklausforillinois.com)

Win Stoller (www.winstoller.com)

87th Illinois House Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response from the candidates)

Mary Buress (www.buressforrep.com)

William Hauter (www.hauterforrep.com)

93rd Illinois House Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response or lack of willingness to participate from the candidates))

Mark Luft (www.markluft.com)

Travis Weaver ([travis weaver for representative - Search Results | Facebook](#))

105th Illinois House Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response or lack of willingness to participate from the candidates)

Kyle Ham([Kyle Ham for State of Illinois Legislative District 105 | Facebook](#))

Mike Kirkton([Kirkton for Illinois 105th District | Facebook](#))

Dennis Tipsword, Jr. ([Dennis Tipsword Jr. for State Representative | Facebook](#))

Donald Rients (www.rients.net)

There are no primary races in the 73rd or 92nd Illinois House.

There are no primary races in the 44th, 46th, 47th or 53rd Illinois Senate.

Tazewell County Treasurer Republican Primary (forum was cancelled because of lack of response from the candidates)

Hannah Clark ([Hannah M. Clark for Tazewell County Treasurer | Facebook](#))

Mindy Darcy ([Mindy Darcy for Tazewell County Treasurer | Facebook](#))

Peoria County Sheriff Republican Primary (watch the forum at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHjdurif6_j7aqNLLlFXzKQ)

Jason Buckley (www.facebook.com/jasonbuckleyforsheriff)

Chris Watkins (www.watkinsforsheriff.com)

Peoria Public School Board – District 2 Election (watch the forum on at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHjdurif6_j7aqNLLlFXzKQ)

Paris McConnell (www.linkedin.com/in/paris-mcconnell-14ba8023/)

Dan Walther (www.linkedin.com/in/daniel-walther-b70b6834/)

Gregory Wilson (www.linkedin.com/in/gregoryscottwilson/)

We hope this information is helpful to you. Early voting and vote by mail started on May 19th. Contact your election authority to find out the locations for early voting or to request a vote by mail ballot. Election day is June 28,2022 and the polls open at 6:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. Please make a plan to vote!

Many thanks to my team of volunteers for putting in lots of hours and much work trying to get these forums scheduled. They are Anne Warth, Connie Romanus, Joyce Rosenberger, Irene Pritzker, Pam Schubach, Mary Jane Crowell, and Eileen Steed.

———— Roberta Parks, Voter Services Committee Chair



VOTE



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Illinois and activated by you.

IllinoisVoterGuide.org

PEORIA CITY COUNCIL: April 26

Council members approved 13 consent agenda unanimously, as well as minutes of April 12, 2022 joint city council/township minutes.

Communication from City Manager Patrick Urich to approve intergovernmental agreement to establish public health equity fund between city, Peoria County and Peoria County Board of Health of \$600,000 over four years. Goal to address health and safety outcomes in impoverished areas. Mayor Rita Ali suggested presentation of plan as it is developed.

Urich and Community Development Director Joe Dulin presented a communication about amending comprehensive plan that includes East Bluff Housing Needs Assessment and Community Revitalization Plan. Plan supported by District 3 Councilor Tim Riggerbach passed 10-1, At-large Councilor John Kelly opposed.

Council amended the city code for the stormwater utility fee; property owners able to prove all stormwater was retained on property may be eligible for a reduction in fee. This application process requires engineering reports and paperwork.

Finance Director Kyle Cratty presented overview of pension fund structures in Illinois and ongoing consolidation of police and fire pensions. See minutes at www.peoriaorg.gov for full discussion.

Continued concerns regarding panhandling at intersections and public safety had the attention of the council and citizens. Interim Corporation Counsel Chrissy Kapustka gave presentation on existing state laws and ordinances related to this issue, as well as provided options being used by other municipalities.

Urich provided information on predicted Ameren energy rate increases related to Regional Energy Supply Auction on April 14. The current contract with City will expire at end of May 2022, resulting in energy purchases on volatile market. More information is anticipated over next few weeks. Rate increases raised from \$5/megawatt to \$236/megawatt and could result in consumer expense increase of \$500 per year.

The Peoria City Council meets at 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. You can listen on WCBU radio, view on public access channel 22 or watch online <https://peoriail.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

———— Connie Romanus, Observer

PEORIA CITY COUNCIL: May 10

During the Township portion of the meeting, Trustees certified the actions taken at the April 12 Annual Meeting regarding an advisory question at Nov. 8 general election: “Should the State of Illinois Adopt an Independent Citizens Commission for the Federal and State Redistricting Process, that Would be Guided by Principles Established in Fair Maps Initiatives?” This will be submitted to the Peoria County Election Commission by the Town Clerk to be placed on the ballot.

Nine consent agenda items were approved without discussion. Under regular business, the Council approved CDBG Public Service Commission to funding for non-profit capital program in amount of \$563,085. These funds will be used for neighborhood revitalization and healthy living programs.

The Public Works department was recognized for its efforts to coordinate area road repairs and avoid conflict with state roadwork schedule over the next year. Some of the areas to be addressed are Orange Prairie Road, Nebraska from University to Sterling Ave, Allen Road from Northmoor to War Memorial Dr.

Council deferred voting on Video Gaming Ordinance until May 24. Information on fee structure for other communities in Illinois is available city website (go to Agenda, click on item 22-119 to view), as well as proposed Ordinance. Minutes, agendas and recordings of meetings are available at <https://peoriail.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

———— Connie Romanus, Observer

PEORIA CITY COUNCIL: May 24

Council members discussed request from City Manager Patrick Ulrich and Chief of Police Eric Eschavarria regarding approval of \$25,000 for Cure the Violence, Assessment using American Recovery Funds. Police gave presentation on evidence-based initiatives to reduce gun violence.

Some councilors expressed frustration at not being kept up to date on gun violence initiatives and asked for quarterly updates. After more than one hour of debate, the vote was 5-5, with At-Large councilors Zach Oyler, Sid Ruckriegel, Kiran Velpula, John Kelly and District 2 Council Charles Grayeb voting nay. During the debate, District 4 Councilor Andre Allen encouraged the council to trust the Chief of Police and efforts that were successful in Decatur.

A presentation on the Municipal Aggregation Program and current state of the electricity market was made by representatives for Good Energy, local electric buying group for past ten years. Charles Decastage explained the process for buying power at auction this spring in view of electricity shortages, decommission of coal powered energy and insufficient renewable energy sources. Auction rates were as high as \$236.66/MW-day vs \$5.00/MW-day. Good Energy representatives are continuing to monitor pricing and encourage approximately 38,000 area residents that have opted into city plan not to opt out of the program. Ameren has purchased energy for June and July at higher rates. Ulrich hopes to have electric energy contract for City of Peoria from Good Energy within next 10 to 12 days. If residents opt out during this time, they will not be able to get back into city plan. Click on item 22-177 on Agenda to get summary of presentation.

Council amended traffic and motor vehicle code to be unlawful for occupant of motor vehicle to interact with pedestrian while vehicle is not legally parked and on traveled portion of roadway. In addition, this action makes it unlawful for an individual to remain on median on roadway when not lawfully crossing roadway.

Meeting agendas, video and minutes are available at: <https://peoriail.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Next meeting is 6 p.m., June 13.

————— Connie Romanus, Observer

PEORIA COUNTY BOARD: May 12

Peoria County Board met May 12 with all present but Member Kate Pastucha. Two members participated via phone, Brian Elsasser and Steve Rieker.

A proclamation recognizing the 36th Annual Gerald Brookhart Arts in Education Spring Celebration began the meeting. Monica Hendrickson, Peoria City County Health Department Administrator's tenth anniversary with the department was also recognized.

There were no Citizen's Remarks.

The Consent Agenda passed 17-0 without discussion. Items included:

- o An intergovernmental agreement with the City of Peoria and the Health Department establishing the Peoria Health Equity Fund. The county and city commit to providing \$600,000 each for four fiscal years to address health inequities and the social determinants of health. Federal ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds will be utilized.

- o Acceptance of two grants to support PCAPS activities.

- o Land surveying contract.

- o Infrastructure, road improvement, or matching funds for projects on Sheridan Road and Cedar Hills Drive.

- o Courthouse fire alarm inspection contract.

- o County jail HVAC improvements.

The regular agenda consisted of several items and all were approved following questions and discussion.

- o A special use request for a private landing strip in Kickapoo Township.

- o One-time ARPA-funded bonuses for county employees.

- o Pay increases for the County Clerk, Treasurer, Sheriff, County board members, committee chairs and the board chair. Increases were small and will not again increase for multiple years.

- o A resolution recommending the construction of a new Health and Human Services Campus on the property currently occupied by the City/County Health Department. The Health Committee reviewed more than 30 potential sites.

- o Suspension of the Rules to permit extension of the Declaration of Emergency due to COVID-19 in the county.

Two items of note during Miscellaneous and Announcements:

- o District 1 representative Sharon Williams reported that activity continues to reinvigorate the currently stalled Hanna City Rail-to-Trail effort.

- o County Administrator Scott Sorrell reported on anticipated significant electricity rate increases this summer. Chairman Andrew Rand requested a June update.

You can link to the agenda and video here: [Agenda & Video](#)

———— Jim Runyon, Observer

ELECTION COMMISSION: May 10

Only Commissioners James Manning, Matt Bartolo, and Jeanne Williamson were in attendance on May 10, although that was enough for a quorum.

Discussion on the payment of returned vote by mail ballots was deferred until next month because Commissioner Sandra Burke has some input but could not attend the May meeting.

Executive Director Tom Bride told the Board that primary ballots to be sent overseas would go out May 14 and early voting would start May 19.

Training on the new voting equipment continued throughout the month of May. Staff is still working through various issues such as provisional ballots.

In addition to the dropbox at the Election Office, two more boxes will be located at the Peoria Civic Center box office and the North Branch Library in Peoria. They will be available for two weeks starting June 13. They have not yet been installed, and will have a better camera. Staff is working on an intergovernmental agreement with the library and will probably have one with the Civic Center, as well. There was a short discussion about the possibility of people putting many ballots in a drop box at one time. Director Bride assured the Board that each ballot goes through the same vetting process, checking signatures against those on file. Cardboard voting booths have been procured from St. Louis County and will be used until permanent ones arrive from the vendor

———— Irene Pritzker, Observer

PEORIA HOUSING AUTHORITY: May 2

The Peoria Housing Authority Board of Commissioners met May 2 in person and virtually. Several individuals spoke during community comments at beginning of meeting. One Sterling Towers resident complained about bed bug infestation that has led to sleeping in car. CEO Jackie Newman planned to meet with this person after meeting. Landlord complained about communications and lack of respect of PHA employees. He needed to have electrician do some repairs and inspection scheduled before work completed.

Minutes of the March 7, 2022 regular meeting were approved, as well as the March 7 closed session meeting and the March 31 special meeting.

This observer is monitoring PHA website for posting of meeting minutes within 10 days of Board approval per Illinois Open Meetings Act. As of May 18, 2022, the minutes of February 7 and March 7, 2022 meetings were not available on website. It is also noted that CEO report and reports listed under Consent Agenda are not readily available to the public to review. This lack of transparency raises concerns that PHA does not have an effective plan in place to follow Open Meeting Act. Note: LWVGP requested FOIA in March from PHA to review meeting reports

and minutes not posted at that time. PHA staff and legal representative forwarded records that were requested in reasonable timeframe.

Reports approved by consent agenda. Resolution approved to amend employment contract of new Chief Executive Officer, who started April 25. Under new business, Chair Carl Cannon announced “lunch and learn” meeting scheduled for Board members on May 17.

Agendas are posted on website: [www peoriahousing.org](http://www.peoriahousing.org).

————— Connie Romanus, Observer

GREATER PEORIA SANITARY DISTRICT: May 17

The meeting took place in the small conference room due to HVAC construction. All trustees were in attendance in person or via phone or video conferencing. Officers were unanimously re-elected and consent agenda passed unanimously.

Investment Committee meeting: Investments are getting higher interest rates 2.06% for treasury bills. Offsetting that is greatly increased costs for chemicals and electricity. Stock market being up means the pension fund is significantly better which impacts the budget positively. Personal Property Replacement Taxes revenue is also up significantly and is used for capitol projects.

Finance: The State of Illinois has many past-due GPSD bills. Still working with utility billing software which would need to interact with Illinois American Water usage data. GPSD is using Cyber security software.

Operations: There were no violations, no backups. They received a Peak Performance Award for the second year. GPSD is ahead of regulations regarding phosphorus using biological removal – 80% reduction. One of two “screw pumps” went out and they are dealing with it as an internal maintenance project. (They also have a backup pump.) Of note nearby but downstream is the high Kickapoo Creek phosphorus level which is due to farm fields and residential septic systems. Also contributing can be stream erosion. A Bradley student summer study is going on.

Construction & Planning: new residential connections are up this year. Approved \$60,699 change order to a sewer lining project which needed bypass pumping and included unexpected pipe failures.

GPSD will participate in an Illinois watershed study group.

Ameren may want an old landfill site that GPSD owns for a community solar project. However there was discussion about the degraded panels at the end of panel life including heavy metals.

The Audit will be reviewed at the July meeting.

————— Cheryl Budzinski, Observer

PEORIA SCHOOL BOARD: April 25

Peoria Public Schools Board met April 25 with all seven board members present.

PPS Announcements (Upcoming Events)

o PPS is hosting the Annual Kindergarten Roundup at the Peoria Zoo on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. In addition to activities for the kids, parents will find out what they need to know for school registration in August. The event is free of charge.

o Planning is underway for 2022 Summer School programming, scheduled for grades K-8 from June 13 through July 1 and for high school students June 6 to June 24. Students will attend the school they normally attend during the school year. Registration is open at www.peoriapublicschools.org/summerschool2022

Superintendent Dr. Sharon Desmoulin-Kherat congratulated four PPS teachers – Emily Dawson, Shannon Sailer, Michelle Salazar and Lauren Wulf for earning advanced teaching credentials by achieving National Board Certification. The rigorous program, which is paid for by the state for eligible teachers, takes educators approximately two years to complete.

According to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, their program was designed to develop, retain and recognize accomplished teachers, as well as generate ongoing improvement in schools nationwide. Dr. Desmoulin-Kherat said data shows that students taught by teachers with National Board Certification learn more than those taught by teachers who are not certified. She also praised the newly-certified PPS teachers for their dedication to being “lifelong professional learners.”

Student Showcase: Middle School Speech Team

At the start of the school year, six PPS middle schools implemented a new speech and debate program targeted at fourth graders to improve their oral communication, vocabulary, analytical writing and public speaking skills. The schools – Glen Oak, Harrison, Lincoln, Trewyn, Roosevelt and Sterling – are using a program developed by Bradley University alumni Salvatore Trajino of Advantage Communications.

The program will continue next year with the addition of Sterling Middle School and under the continued direction of Advantage Communications District Director Haleemah Na’Allah. The Executive Director of PPS Middle Schools, Dr. Jerry Bell, says the hope is that up to 350 students will participate in the upcoming school year. The PPS District Championship was May 14 at Manual High School.

District Presentation: Woodruff Solar Panel Installation

Solar panels installed last year at Woodruff Career & Technical Center are now up, running and producing renewable energy. The construction process began in 2019, funded by a \$1.6 million award from the Edwards Power Plant in Bartonville. Ruyle Mechanical Services began construction at Woodruff in August 2021 with roof updates and the installation of 545 solar panels covering 17,000 square feet.

Ruyle estimates an annual energy production of more than 318,000 kWhs, which will offset 226 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year, saving school district about \$16,000. Woodruff Technical Education instructor Michael Brix says students in Woodruff's Renewable Energy Program have been able to observe installation throughout the construction process, conferring with electricians and laborers on site working the project, which has produced approximately 1,400 union job hours. Next semester students will monitor the solar panels, studying the energy production onsite.

Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda, which can be found at <https://peoriapublicschools.org/domain/57> was approved unanimously.

To see the meeting, go to the Peoria Public Schools' YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFNU3PTGzEyjDH6qV7FKSnA>.

———— Becky Doubleday, Observer

SPRINGDALE CEMETERY MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY: April 19

Two trustees participated by phone, one was absent and five were in person.

Manager's Report included 49 burials to date in 2022 which is higher than previous years.

- o The Charlotte Ann Cripe Estate included an unrestricted \$88,506 bequest to Springdale. This will be used for the "restricted" (endowment) fund and for needed security upgrades and landscaping upgrades.

- o Discussion of a tax deductibility of contributions memo from Clifton Gunderson satisfied previous questions about whether contributions to Springdale are tax deductible.

- o There is a marked increase in visitors to the office.

- o In response to an April inquiry and request regarding allowing memorial plaques for loved ones scattered or entombed in the Prairie Gardens Scattering area, there was discussion about the long standing posted "Ground Rules," original design, and ongoing maintenance. There will be an agenda item at the June meeting capturing the sentiment and rules regarding this request.

o There was continued discussion about when the new Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) is active since representatives from the City, County and Park District to the Springdale Board will change with the new IGA. And, can new Springdale Board officers be elected in June not knowing who will be on the Springdale Board?

o Five large dead trees had to be cut down for \$4,500. The professional tree persons also ground 20 stumps. Springdale staff then remove the tree and chip it. Springdale received/planted an additional 18 trees from the city contract with Hoerr and plan to ask the community to buy trees to plant.

o There was a Bid Meeting regarding the creek-bed project which will start in the summer or fall but the White Bridge replacement will not be part of that project.

o A major act of vandalism occurred 4/24 weekend. There was significant damage and after unsuccessfully trying to fix the damage, Heritage Restoration, Inc was called to repair the damage.

General Manager Matuszak suggested strategies to eliminate the vandalism which could also address some loud and unruly behavior observed after services. Gates (one with no entry after hours and an exit gate which only opens from the inside) and improved deterrence and surveillance techniques were discussed. There are four access points plus neighborhood access trails to the cemetery. It is a large property with limited lighting and access to electricity and wifi.

o Matuszak praised City Manager Patrick Urich and Public Works Manager She Maroon for their fast response to his request to fill potholes with “hot patch” before the Memorial Day race and events.

Memorial weekend activities started Saturday May 28 with a race/walk called Race for Preservation.

———— Cheryl Budzinski, Observer

Observer Training

LWV-trained Observers work to keep local governments accountable and community members informed. With local news sources shrinking, it's a vital and respected service to the whole area.

If you want to become an Observer, virtual training will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, June 9. You must be a member to attend and registration closes 24 hours before the event.

For more information, call Cheryl Budzinski, 309.253.9594

[Register to attend.](#)



It's Happening in July!

You're Invited!

Summer Membership Social

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Oliver's

3300 W Willow Knolls Drive, Peoria

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Please come and bring prospective members to celebrate our League's successes this past year and hear about plans for the upcoming year. League members and their invited guests are welcome. RSVP names by July 15 by responding to this e-mail or by phone to Jan Deissler 309-635-1872.

RENEW RENEW RENEW!!!

Renew your League of Women Voters' membership (Due July 1)

**Your membership gives the League the political
clout to make democracy work!**

3 ways to renew, plus more membership categories

Please choose the renewal option that works best for you

- 1.** In person, at the Summer Renewal Social with check or cash.
- 2.** Online, go to www.lwvgp.org.
- 3.** Mail, use enclosed form and mail a check payable to LWVGP, P. O. Box 9786. Peoria 61612-9786.

As a member you will receive electronically our newsletter, *The Voter*, and alerts on breaking action in Illinois and Washington, D.C. You will also have opportunities to:

- Connect with and strengthen our community
- Help shape the policy decisions that affect our lives
- Learn more about and foster dialog on a broad range of issues
- Help preserve our constitutional rights and liberties

The League of Women Voters, making democracy work!



**League of Women Voters
of Greater Peoria**

413 W. Lawndale Ave., Peoria, IL 61604

**League of Women Voters of Greater Peoria Board of Directors
2021-2022**

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president@lwgo.org

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Newsletter

Terry Bibo Knight
terry.bibo.freelance@gmail.com