

The Voter

Nov 20

2023



**Empowering
Voters
Defending
Democracy**

At a time when we feel the pressures of defending our democracy; advocating for women's rights, equitable educational opportunities; and protection of the rights of *all* voters - along with the constant conflicts we face in our communities and across the globe, it is easy to lose track of all that we have to be thankful for.

There was a time, not that long ago, when people of color could not sit next to white people in public. Or non-heterosexual members of our family could not be themselves - even at home. We have a long way to go, but we have come so very far. Thankfully.

Mark Your Calendar

November

23 **Thanksgiving**

December

6 **CKC Board Mtg** 7 pm, Geneva Library

12 **Veteran's Open House**, VFW Post 6791,
West Chicago 7-8 pm

15 **Third Friday Member Coffee**

21 **Third Thursday Member Cocktails**

JANUARY 2024

3 **CKC Board Mtg** 7 pm, Geneva Library

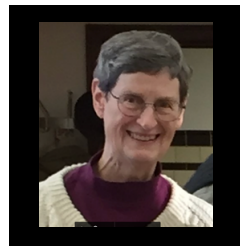
18 **Third Friday Member Coffee**

19 **Third Thursday Member Cocktails**

25 **Candidate Forum**

31 **Candidate Forum**

Featured Members - Hewly Prucher



Hewlett (Hewly) Prucher grew up in Chillicothe, Ohio and has lived in St Charles for about 25 years. Her work at the St Charles Public Library centered on putting on story times for the children at preschools & daycare centers.

She joined CKC about 15 years ago for a selfish reason: to meet people whose ideas more closely matched hers in encouraging all citizens to vote. She says that she came to the right organization! Hewly loves Voter Services where she spends countless hours each year registering voters and helping with the candidate forums.

As Membership Chair for one term, she states that all she can say is "that any Board position is a time-consuming labor of love. Remember to give a shout out to all our current Board Members!"

Voter Service Training & Meeting

The Voter Services Committee is coordinating a Voter Registrar training session to be followed by a Voter Services meeting to discuss upcoming candidate forums.

If you're not yet a registrar, or if you need to refresh your skills, watch for more information.



Kane County Elections will host public demonstrations of voting machines.

Mark your **December** calendar!

12/2 Noon to 5 p.m. at the Kane County Flea Market,
525 S. Randall Road, St. Charles

12/5 1 to 4:30 p.m. at Geneva Public Library,
227 S. Seventh St., Geneva

12/7 3 to 7 p.m. at the Aurora Public Santori Library,
101 S. River St., Aurora

12/16 10 a.m. to noon at Dundee Township -
Randall Oaks Library,
500 Randall Road, West Dundee

12/16 12:30 to 4 p.m. at Dundee Township -
Fox River Valley Library,
555 Barrington Ave., W. Dundee

Representative Maura Hirschauer invites
AREA VETERANS
to a free
VETERANS' OPEN HOUSE
at
Dec. 12, 2023 7pm-8pm VFW Post 6791
431 N Neltnor Blvd
West Chicago, IL 60185

- Join a Veterans Community Advisory Committee
- Local Resources for Veterans
- State & Federal Program Assistance & Support

Learn more at:
www.repmaura49.com/tag/veterans
or by calling 331-465-9661

Maura HIRSCHAUER
State Representative // District 49

WE'VE BEEN BUSY:



Bill Koehl
Nov 15th Tri-Cities Clean Energy



Third Thursday
Members Cocktail



Patti, Pat & Terry
Nov 13th Citizenship Event



Third Friday
Members Coffee



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Recap of the Tri-Cities Clean Energy Community Meeting

A Tri-Cities Clean Energy community meeting was held at the Baker Community Center in St. Charles on November 15, 2023.

The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness about clean energy issues in the Tri-Cities. In addition, action items were identified on which Tri-Cities residents and businesses can collaborate with city council members in order to reduce and eventually eliminate the emission of greenhouse gases in the Tri-Cities and to transition the Tri-Cities public utilities to clean energy.

Carl Van Dril, Co-Chair of the Naperville Environment & Sustainability Task Force (N.E.S.T.), gave an overview of N.E.S.T.'s mission and how N.E.S.T. can support St. Charles, Naperville's fellow IMEA member, in achieving these goals. Maureen Stillman, N.E.S.T. Energy Committee Chair, shared more detailed information about Naperville's and St. Charles' complicated relationship with IMEA and Prairie State Energy Campus. She urged St. Charles City Council members to vote "no" on the renewal of its IMEA contract when it is asked in 2024 to renew it 11 years before the contract ends.

Bill Koehl of Geneva explained the differences between Geneva and Batavia, both members of NIMPA. He urged Geneva to become an "Electric City"—to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging Geneva residents and businesses to replace their gasoline and natural gas motors and appliances with electric motors and appliances. Susan Russo urged Batavia to also become an "Electric City". Batavia's long-term contract with NIMPA to 2056 (unless Prairie State retires earlier) and its purchase of more electricity than it uses presents Batavia with a particularly difficult situation. Policies and programs that encourage Batavians to use more electricity rather than gasoline or natural gas will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Scott Allen, Renewable Energy Policy Coordinator for the Citizens Utility Board (CUB), was the keynote speaker. Scott drew on his experiences at CUB to explain the differences between investor-owned utilities (ComEd and Ameren) and public utilities and how the customers of public utilities and rural cooperatives are excluded from some of the benefits of clean energy opportunities under the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), largely because public utilities and cooperatives lobbied to have themselves exempted from CEJA's provisions. Scott assured the audience that the efforts to make public utilities and cooperatives more transparent and help them transition to clean energy would not force them to utilize the Illinois Power Agency or come under the umbrella of the Illinois Commerce Commission.

You can watch the meeting on YouTube (start at approximately 12:30)



Tri-Cities Clean Energy will have a planning meeting on Monday, November 27, at 7 p.m. at the St. Charles Public Library.



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