



# CommunicAbility

A Quarterly Newsletter For Our Community Members with Disabilities

## Summer/Fall 2018 Vol. 18, Ed. 2

### Articles

- Never Surrender. Vote.
- Voter Resources
- Voter Checklist

### NHU Features

- Word Search

*“The most important political office is that of the private citizen.”*

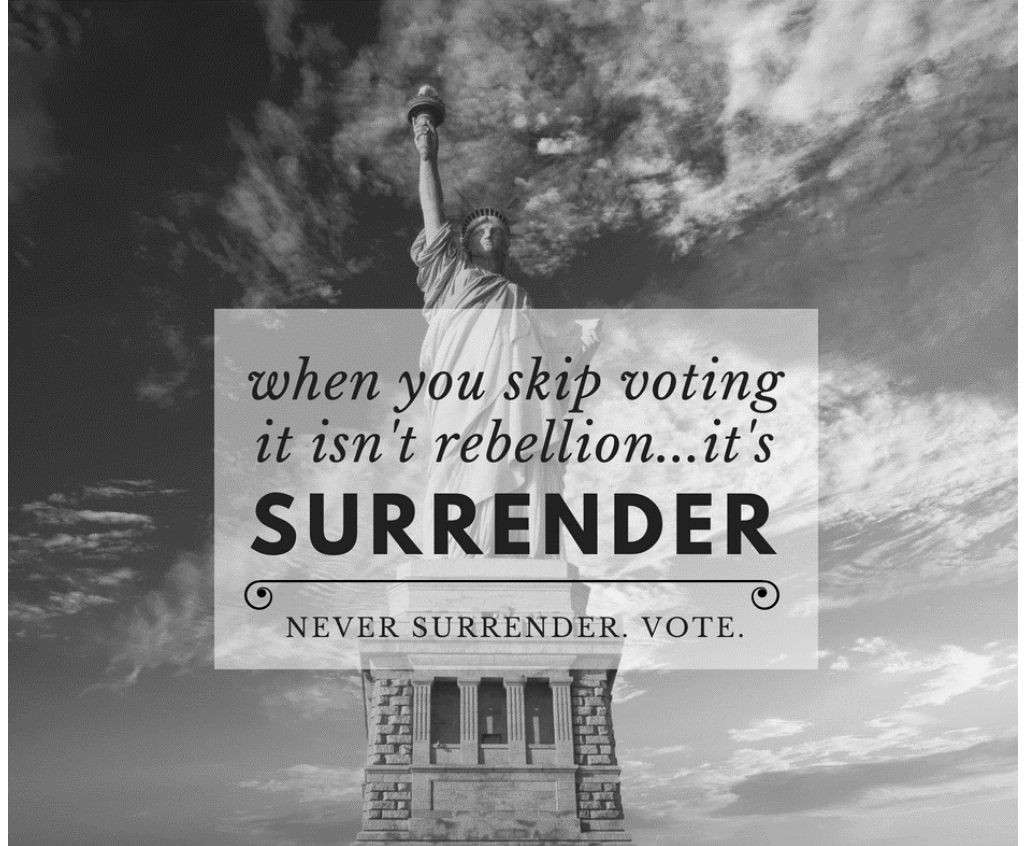
- Louis Brandeis

## No Internet?

If you do not have access to the Internet at home, and are unable to access the websites listed in this newsletter, we would be happy to mail you a printed copy of the information that is available online.

To request a printed copy, please contact us via phone 414-299-0124.

Thank you!



If you have a disability, a chronic illness, or a pre-existing condition, as it's referred to these days, you do not have the luxury of sitting back silently as your legislators make decisions about YOUR life.

There has been a lot of very serious discussion on reforming our nation's social safety net...this includes Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, Housing Vouchers, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), among many others. **If you rely on any of these programs, the upcoming Midterm election is indeed about your very existence.**

What would you do if reforms made it more difficult to live in a safe, affordable home...or to put a healthy meal on the table...or to hire a home health aide...or to access public transportation...or to get the medication you need to survive?

As a disability advocate, I know these things are not easy as it is. Have you thought about what you would do if any one of these programs wasn't there?

Have you talked to your Senators and Reps about what these programs mean to you? Do you even know where they stand on these issues?

New Horizons Un-Limited is a Milwaukee-based, non-profit organization that provides individuals with lifelong disabilities increased access to the information, tools and life experiences that will enable them to improve their lives.



[new-horizons.org](http://new-horizons.org)



[facebook.com/NewHorizonsUnLimited](https://facebook.com/NewHorizonsUnLimited)



[twitter.com/newhorizonsmke](https://twitter.com/newhorizonsmke)

## Never Surrender. Vote. *(continued from page 1)*

Not too long ago, the ONLY place for a person with a disability was an institution. Jobs? Forget about it! The hard work of advocates and legislators have made living and working in the community possible.

Thanks to publicly funded social service programs, people with disabilities are contributing, now, more than ever before! We have made great strides over the decades.

We must not step backwards, but keep our eyes on a future that values ALL people, and invests in their potential, rather than seeing them as a burden.

If you rely on federally and locally funded programs to help you live and work in the community, you need to pay attention. You need to understand what is at stake. You need to vote!

On Tuesday, November 6, 2018 you will have the privilege of

choosing YOUR local and federal officials (most notably the United States House of Representatives). Do not squander this opportunity. You have just under two months to educate yourself on the issues and candidates.

The future is ours, but only if we work for it!

Are you ready? If not, here are some resources to help you vote with confidence. It's time to get to work!



Project Vote Smart will help you find the candidates that best match your hope for our country. You can read their bio, review their legislative voting record, learn about their position on the issues, review their ratings by various political organizations, view their speeches, and see who is funding their campaign.

Visit: [votesmart.org](http://votesmart.org)



Voter laws and policies vary widely from state to state. Do you know what's required to vote in your state? Rock the Vote has created an excellent resource that will quickly connect you to your state's voting information.

Visit: [rockthevote.org/voting-information](http://rockthevote.org/voting-information)



The American Association of People with Disabilities via their REV UP campaign offers an amazing collection of information regarding politics and disability issues specifically. Their 2018 Election resource in particular provides a good understanding of what is at stake.

Visit : [aapd.com/advocacy/voting/election](http://aapd.com/advocacy/voting/election)



how to know what to believe

Do you know how to separate fact from fiction in news and politics? The truth is, many of us don't. We often unwittingly use biased news to confirm our own biases. The News Literacy Project is here to help us become more aware of bias in the media and in ourselves.

Visit: [newslit.org/get-smart](http://newslit.org/get-smart)

We have created a Voter Checklist to help you prepare for the 2018 Midterm Election. Please share with your family, friends, and colleagues, and encourage them to vote. Let this be the year where our vote makes the difference.

Our checklist is available online: [new-horizons.org/pdf/voteck.pdf](http://new-horizons.org/pdf/voteck.pdf)

*New Horizons Un-Limited*  
*A Grassroots NPO for People with Disabilities*

*Vote as if your life depends on it.*  
*Because it does.*  
- Justin Dart

# VOTER CHECKLIST

## ARE YOU READY TO VOTE?

### Eight THINGS YOU NEED TO DO BEFORE NOVEMBER 6th

**Review your I.D.**

Many states require a valid state-issued photo I.D. Check your state's requirements here: [usa.gov/voter-id](http://usa.gov/voter-id)

**REGISTER to vote**

Is this your first time voting? Have you moved or changed your name recently? Check your registration status here: [vote.gov](http://vote.gov)

**REQUEST an ABSENTEE BALLOT**

If you have a disability or other reason that prevents you from going to the polls on Election Day, be sure to request an absentee ballot by your state's deadline. Find your local election office here: [usa.gov/election-office](http://usa.gov/election-office)

**VERIFY polling place ACCESS**

If you choose (or are required) to vote in person and need assistance, be sure to verify the process to request it ahead of time via your County Clerk's Office.

**REVIEW your SAMPLE BALLOT**

Check out who exactly is on your ballot ahead of time. Request a sample ballot via your local Election Office. Find your office here: [usa.gov/election-office](http://usa.gov/election-office)

**KNOW your CANDIDATES**

Which candidates best represent the needs of our country and its citizens? Find out here: [votesmart.org](http://votesmart.org)

**CHECK your FACTS & BIASES**

You cannot believe everything you read or hear. Always validate claims and accusations before jumping to conclusions. Always check multiple, non-biased sources. Be sure your bias is not guiding your decisions.

**ENCOURAGE OTHERS to VOTE**

There is strength in numbers. Talk to everyone you know about the importance of voting. Share this checklist. Help others prepare for Election Day on November 6, 2018.

**Return Service Requested**

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## Never Surrender! Vote!

One final reminder and encouragement to cast your ballot on Tuesday, November 6th. Contemplate each of these words as you consider your and your country's future.

***"Vote as if your life depends on it... because it does!"***

BALLOT	PEOPLE POWERED
BE INFORMED	RESEARCH
CANDIDATES	SILENCE IS CONSENT
CHANGE	SPEAK UP
CHOOSE	UNITE
DEMOCRACY	VOTE
ELECTION	YOUR FUTURE
IDEAS	YOUR RIGHTS
MOVE FORWARD	YOUR VOICE

W Y K O T G O I A L L M O O Z O T E  
M U N I T E D E M O C R A C Y I N A  
O E U O E X U E S O O H C F K Z E K  
V D O Q B O Z J P S J N X N O N S M  
E I L A Y Q D M F D O B X G P R N V  
F P E O P L E P O W E R E D M P O I  
O M R C A N D I D A T E S X R T C D  
R A Y B C U D E M R O F N I E B S E  
W E R U T U F R U O Y B N B S W I A  
A U U U O S I O M T P P T A E T E S  
R E S P E A K U P V A D O L A P C G  
D E D K Y E L E C T I O N L R U N A  
F G Y O U R V O I C E Z V O C N E A  
A N I J S Y V S E C D R P T H K L Y  
A A O S T H G I R R U O Y T F T I K  
F H N R L J U I O A T I R Y A P S L  
R C E W E A O D M X H S J C L U P K



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