

The Voter

The official publication of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area

FALCON HEIGHTS, LAUDERDALE, LITTLE CANADA, MAPLEWOOD, ROSEVILLE

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League of Women Voters

ROSEVILLE AREA

Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood, Roseville

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We're on the Web!

www.lwvrosevillearea.org

And Facebook!

www.facebook.com/lwvRosevilleArea

And Instagram!

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League Unveils Local Housing Study at April 18 meeting

The League of Women Voters of Roseville Area will release its study of affordable housing and its availability in Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Little Canada, Maplewood and Roseville at the April 18 meeting. The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Autumn Grove Roseville Park building, 1365 Lydia Ave. W. Findings will be presented again at a 9:30 a.m. meeting April 19 at the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 3115 Victoria St. N., Roseville.

A ten-member League committee conducted the study, interviewing housing experts Craig Waldron, recent Oakdale city manager and Hamline University teacher; Barbara Dacy, Washington County HRA; Dan Hylton, Housing Link researcher; Paul Fate, recent CEO of



(Continued on page 4)

Comprehensive plan input opportunities

If you live in Roseville, go to this website: www.CityofRoseville.com/ComPlan to take the online survey and give input for updating the city's comprehensive plan. Don't forget to include the need for affordable housing, that our chapter is studying! You can also sign up to receive Comp Plan and Planning Commission updates.

If you live in one our other cities, be sure to let us know about similar opportunities so we can include them in the next Voter.

Annual meeting set for May 2

The Annual Meeting of the Roseville Area League of Women Voters is set for May 2 at Little Canada City Hall, 515 Little Canada Road East. A social hour will begin at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. The business meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

Members will elect new officers, approve a budget, and set the local program for the 2017-18 year.

This year, we are offering a full dinner featuring stroganoff for \$25. A vegetarian option is also available for that price.

Please send checks to Joyce Blomquist, 1980 Skillman Ave., Roseville, MN 55113 by April 20. Please indicate if you prefer the vegetarian option.

Questions? Contact Ann Cleland at 651-900-1759 anncleland@juno.com or Joyce Blomquist at 651-631--0688 cjblomquist@comcast.net

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Getting to Know League....Special Offer!

With increased interest in membership in the *League of Women Voters* (14% increase in membership reported by State some six weeks ago....and inquiries continually coming in at our local level), now is a good time to check your personal calendar for an important event, the **LWVMN State Convention**.

This convening of LWV members throughout the state provides a wonderful opportunity to meet and interact with like-minded people, observe and be part of LWV policy-making decisions. And, this year the convention will be held in **Bloomington on Saturday, April 29**. There is also a very interesting "**Legacy Luncheon**" followed by most informative workshops on **Friday, April 28**.

During the February LWV Board meeting, **monies were approved to assist ten members** with registration fees to attend this event. You can register online, and it would be prudent to do so soon. After registering, please contact me at lwvrosevillearea@lwvmn.org to be part of this special offer!

A full description of Convention details and Registration may be found at www.lwvmn.org/eventsmedia/2017-lwv-convention.

A quick summary of these *Legacy Luncheon & Convention* details:

- Ø April 28 Luncheon & Workshops (author, Lorna Landvik speaking at luncheon)
- Ø April 29 Convention
- Ø Bloomington, MN, Normandale Community College

So, click on the **Registration** button, retrieve your League button, get to know a fellow member by carpooling, and take the *plunge* for an invigorating and fulfilling experience!!

The march is over. What's next?



The January Women's March on Washington inspired thousands to get involved. That's what drew many to a special event March 29 sponsored by the Roseville Area League of Women Voters.

They included Roseville teachers Emily Weber, Jessica Lind, Kirsan Blasek, and Jovita Hernandez (not pictured) who participated in the march, and shared their experiences.

Other photos from the event are included on page 6.

(Photo by Beth Reinhart)

Seesaw

By Florence Sprague

Some books are worthy of a periodic rereading. For some it is just fun (ever read Thomas Gray, *Philosopher Cat?*), but for others it is because you see so many different things in them at different points in your life or of society. At 16, *Native Son*, by Richard Wright, perplexed me. At 50, I knew more and it was a gut punch. More recently, events have led me back to *Night*, by Elie Wiesel. Such a calm, matter of fact, recounting of inhumanity and horror that cuts right to the heart of a system of pointless cruelty and the reader's heart.

Why has there been the recent surge of bomb threats to Jewish Community Centers and other Jewish institutions? What has awakened and unleashed the latent anti-Semitism which so many had hoped and believed to be not latent or dormant, but truly exorcised?

Whether such threats and attacks are made on Jewish institutions and individuals, Muslim institutions or individuals, people who are immigrants, people who look like they might be "other" or from a banned nation, they are frightening. They are dually frightening — both for the actual harm inflicted and threatened, and for the divisive and destructive attitudes abroad in this country that they both reflect and reinforce.

Before they began to disappear from playgrounds, every child learned to fly up and down on the seesaw, or tee-totter. Children quickly learned that it was both more fun and easier to bounce and fly up and down over and over rather than to sit still and wiggle minute amounts to achieve a delicate balance with both riders on the same level. Both types of activity were soon perceived to be easier when the riders were of not too dissimilar size and energy.

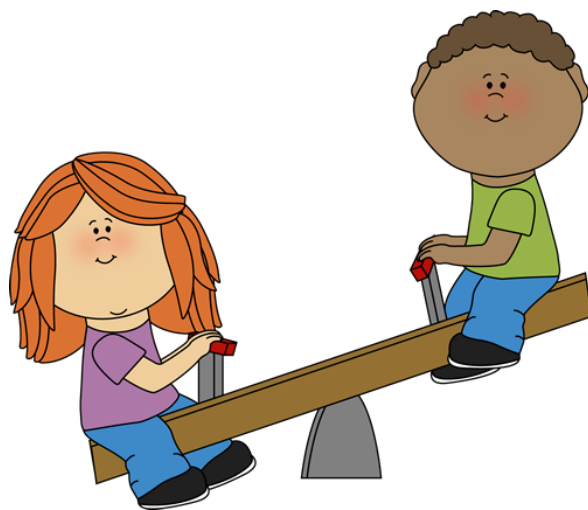
An effective response to threats against Muslims or Jews or any group benefits from patience. Not the patience of ignoring something in hopes that it will just go away, but the patience that provides a firm base for calm perseverance in the face of outrage rather than hysteria. Speak the truth. Listen, share, engage, lobby, teach, learn, listen some more, explain, study, welcome... persevere.

It seems to be human nature to want to put oneself and one's group UP by putting other persons and groups DOWN. But what we really need is to wiggle ourselves to a balance point. That is more work and, as we are seeing now, not particularly stable if we are not paying attention. What can we do to make it more stable? Help ALL to see that they benefit from balancing. Someone does come down as the other comes up, but we all benefit from the parity of balancing.

Within the groups that are UP there are still individuals who are DOWN. And on most playgrounds, there have never been enough seesaws for everyone to play at the same time; those on the sidelines just want to join the game. And just as seesaws are fewer these days because many consider them dangerous, so too is it dangerous to put some people UP at the expense of others.

Persevere. We are a society out of balance.

Editor's note: Florence Sprague is a member of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area



"Windows and Mirrors for All" has been a regular column in the Voter since 2004. The title is derived from an essay by Emily Style, "Curriculum as Window and Mirror," found in Seeding the Process of Multicultural Education. Style states that "education needs to enable the student to look through window frames in order to see the realities of others and into mirrors in order to see her/his own reality reflected." People of all ages need both mirrors and windows with which to view the world, but too often we only have mirrors.

Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Tour set for May 16

The Roseville Area League of Women Voters has a tour of the Eagles Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cottage Grove on May 16 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We will carpool from the parking lot just north of the Roseville Ice Arena, leaving there at 9:15 a.m.

The plant has primary and advanced secondary treatment before the water is discharged to the Mississippi River. It has won several awards for progressive steps in wastewater treatment and sustainability. It is one of eight plants operated by Metropolitan Council Environmental Services. (MCES).

I will need to know who plans to participate by May 8 at the latest as I need to submit the list to MCES for a security check prior to our tour. When you respond, please also indicate your willingness to drive. The day of the tour, a government issued ID will be required. The tour certainly will require some walking, one-third will be outside, and perhaps some stairs. If this is an issue, please ask and I will follow up.

On the day of the tour, we will schedule a place where those who are interested can enjoy lunch together.

Feel free to send questions. It should be a great learning experience!

Donna Peterson

Phone: 651-633-0923

Email: peter080@umn.edu



Eagles Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cottage Grove. Linda Henning, who has scheduled the tour, encourages all of us to watch an 18-minute video about their services. www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1aABVbI4JE&t=87s.

League Unveils Local Housing Study

(continued from page 1)

Common Bond; Dr. Edward Goetz, Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) at the University of Minnesota; Libby Starling and Beth Reetz, Metropolitan Council; Commissioner Mary Tingerthal, Katie Topinka, Minnesota Housing; Cathy ten Broeke, Minnesota State Director to Prevent Homelessness; and Cathy Bennett, Urban Land Institute.

The committee also worked with three University of Minnesota graduate students, who prepared a complementary study, for their Capstone Project, that includes a framework or blueprint to guide inner-ring suburban cities as they hopefully work to ensure that housing of all types is available within their borders.

The League study found that affordable housing is important not only for reasons of justice and fairness, but also to ensure that our cities are economically viable. Part of reaching that goal is to ensure a ready pool of employees are available in the city to match employer needs, including restaurants and businesses like Walmart.

The report is dedicated to long-time League activist Ann Berry, a passionate advocate for fair and affordable housing. Berry died in 2016.

The report was e-mailed to all members in February. It can be read along with notes from each interview at www.lwvrosevillearea.org.

The League committee is co-chaired by: Rebecca Bormann, Mindy Greiling and Bonnie Koch. Members are: Judy Berglund, Emma Duren, Georgeann Hall, Claire Jordan, Kathy Juenemann, Kris Nagy, and Beth Salzl.



The study is dedicated to long-time League member Ann Berry

What can you do to help people with mental illness? Empathize.

What can you do to help a friend or neighbor who is mentally ill and in crisis? Listen. Empathize. Try to remember an incident in your life that is in some way comparable. Call for help. You may be saving a life.

That was the advice of Molli Slade, an experienced mental health social worker, who spoke at the March 21 meeting of the Roseville Area League of Women Voters. She noted that trends to deinstitutionalize, which began in the 1960s and 1970s, have left thousands of mentally ill people with little or no support; thousands are homeless, others are in jail.

Chances are, you know someone who is coping with mental illness, and you can relate to them if you try, she noted. "Think of a day when you didn't want to get out of bed, and you didn't," she said.

Slade also praised efforts by police and first responders to receive and use training in dealing with mentally ill persons in crisis, and she shared the Ramsey County Crisis Line, 651-266-7900.

Watch Slade's remarks at our Web site, www.lwvrosevillearea.org.

Above: Molli Slade with Roseville Police Chief Rick Mathwig.

At right: League members Bonnie Koch and Huda Yusuf.

Below: A letter from League member and former state Rep. Mindy Greiling seeking support for a mental health liaison officer in our next city budget. The League encourages members to do likewise.



Dear City Manager Trudgeon and City Council Members:

I'm writing to ask you to include a community mental health liaison officer in our next city budget. As you know our police department has asked for this vitally needed position for the last two years. They suggest patterning the job after the one in Madison, Wisconsin, an enlightened city in terms of mental illness and the birthplace of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) – a wonderful organization for which I was honored to serve on state and national boards.

Roger and I have a son who has a serious mental illness so we have had occasion to call the police over the years for assistance. As a person who has discussed our situation publicly many times, I have heard from many other people in our community who also have family members who need help from the police at times. We are very pleased that Chief Mathwig's leadership is resulting in a significant increase in police training for dealing with our family members.

Let's take our valued and trusted police officers at their word when they say they also need more help in successfully handling people with mental illness in our community through the addition of this valuable position.

I co-chaired the recent League of Women Voters of Roseville Area policy study. We were happy to find that Roseville funds a person to assist with domestic violence crises, but also noted that there are substantially more local police calls involving persons with mental illness and that, in this case, there is no such person.

I look forward to one or all of you championing this important issue by putting it forward for budget consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mindy Greiling

Nominating committee recommends Mills, Hood for leadership roles

The Nominating Committee of the League of Women Voters of Roseville Area has recommended Rita Mills for a second term as president. Members will elect new officers at the annual meeting in May.

Other officers and committee chairs recommended are:

Vice-President – Sherry Hood

Past President – June Stewart

Treasurer – Joyce Briggs

Secretary – Mary Peterson

Administrative Assistant – Barb Barany

Archivist – Dan Salzl

Membership Team Leader – Beth Reinhart

Program Team Leader – Bonnie Koch

Action Team Co-Leaders – Mindy Greiling and Gladys Jones

Voter Services Team Leader – Karen Lake

Communications Team Leader – Barb Anderson

Nominating Committee – June Stewart, Shirley Bradway, Mary Duddleston, Mary Jo Rourke



Rita Mills



Sherry Hood

More photos from the Women's March Follow-up



The Women's March on Washington inspired many women (and men) to get involved in civic affairs. Chatting at a March 29 meeting sponsored by the Roseville Area League of Women Voters are Karen Lake, Judy Stuthman and Huda Yusuf (at left) and Rep. Jamie Becker-Finn, new member Azalia Salm-eron and Sherry Hood. (Photos by Beth Reinhart and Rita Mills)

LWV RoMaFH 2017-2018 Proposed Budget

	Budget 2016-2017	YTD March 2016-2017	Proposed Budget 2017-2018
INCOME:			
Dues (110 pd members/\$70 dues)	7,700.00	6,655.00	7,700.00
Contributions (unrestricted)	2,000.00	4,013.00	2,110.00
Ann Berry Memorial		935.00	0.00
Annual Meeting	750.00	900.00	1,100.00
Misc., Incl. Voter Service Grants	0.00		
Unit Meetings	0.00		
Holiday Dinner	600.00	650.00	850.00
Reserves	1,215.00		
In Kind	0.00	51.82	
TOTAL INCOME	12,265.00	13,204.82	11,760.00
EXPENSES:			
Program Division			
Program	250.00	250.59	250.00
CMAL Meeting	0.00		
Community Relations Division			
Public Relations/Advertising	25.00		25.00
Publication Purchases	100.00		100.00
Finance Committee	150.00	72.14	150.00
Voter Service/Citizen Info	250.00	248.89	250.00
Organization Division			
Printing	500.00	1,312.75	750.00
Voter Mailing	50.00		Incl. in Printing
Membership	300.00	56.64	300.00
Unit Meetings	0.00		
Paypal fees		15.01	20.00
Annual Meeting (food/booklet)	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Catering	Incl. in other areas		Incl. in other areas
Publishing/Printing/Misc.	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Membership Directory	Incl. in Printing		Incl. in Printing
Board Expense			
President/Vice President	25.00		25.00
Secretary	25.00		25.00
Treasurer	25.00	14.25	25.00
Board Expense	100.00	93.92	100.00
Facility Honorarium	200.00	200.00	200.00
Delegate, Travel, Affiliation			
Delegates, Convention, Workshop	2,500.00	1,788.40	1,000.00
Miscellaneous			
Recognitions and Remembrances	100.00	350.00	100.00
Other Club Dues (Gavel Club)	15.00		15.00
Dues (Regional Water Interleague)		25.00	25.00
Holiday Dinner	750.00	803.64	850.00
Annual Meeting	600.00	1,107.73	1,100.00
Miscellaneous	150.00	77.99	150.00
Website	100.00	614.55	500.00
Archivist	0.00		
In Kind	0.00	51.82	
Per Member Payments			
PMP National (\$30.00/110 members)	3,300.00	3,280.00	3,300.00
PMP State (\$25.00/110 members)	2,750.00	2,434.37	2,500.00
CMAL Dues (\$1.00/110 members)	0.00		0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	12,265.00	12,797.69	11,760.00

Judy Berglund, editor
2075 Farrington St.
Roseville, MN 55113

Calendar

April

- 18 *Housing study presentation*, Autumn Grove Parks building, 1365 Lydia Ave. W., Roseville
- 19 Housing study findings present again at 9:30 a.m., Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 3115 Victoria St. N., Roseville

May

- 2 Annual Meeting, Little Canada City Hall.
- 16 Eagles Point Wastewater Treatment Plant tour, Cottage Grove, 10 a.m.



Spring is here!

Time to pay your dues! Send your check to Joyce Briggs, 2750 Dale St. N., #45, Roseville, MN 55113.