



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
ANOKA, BLAINE, COON RAPIDS AREA

THE VOTER – FEBRUARY 2017

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SAFETY FEBRUARY 13 MONTHLY PROGRAM

Jamie Schurbon from the Anoka Conservation District and Tannie Eshnauer from the Minnesota Department of Health will speak on drinking water of Anoka County communities Monday evening, February 13. Arrive at 6:00 at Andover City Hall's Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Boulevard, for light supper; the program begins at 6:30 p.m next door in City Hall Council Chambers.

Prior to the main program, Kathy Tingelstad will give a short presentation providing advice to members and participants who want to follow up on the state legislator interviews held on January 25. See also the Take Action posting in the "Reminders" section at the end of this newsletter

Whether you get your water from a private well or a public water supply, this meeting will have information for you.



Tannie Eshnauer is a planning director working with Clean Water Legacy activities for the Minnesota Department of Health's Drinking Water Protection and Environmental Surveillance and Assessment sections.

Ms. Eshenhaur lived for 13 years in Ethiopia providing health education about water and sanitation as part of a village water supply project. She began working at the Health Department in 2001 in the Site Assessment and Consultation Unit, specializing in risk communication for communities affected by environmental exposures to hazardous substances.



Jamie Schurbon joined the Anoka Conservation District (ACD) in February 2001 as the District Technician and was promoted to Water Resource Specialist later the same year. Mr. Schurbon is responsible for a variety of projects that protect or improve water quality including watershed level planning, the county geologic atlas and diagnostic studies. He leads construction of water quality projects such as riverbank stabilizations and rain gardens. He provides oversight to ACD's water monitoring program, including data analysis and reporting. He works closely with watershed management organizations and is the primary contact person for the Sunrise River Watershed Management Organization. In addition to his duties at the Anoka Conservation District, he serves as support staff to the Isanti Southwest Conservation District.

MEET YOUR STATE LEGISLATOR SESSION DRAWS MORE THAN 100

State Senator John Hoffman (Senate District 36), wearing tie facing camera, and State Senator Jim Abeler (Senate District 35) at back right-hand table were among *the state representatives and senators attending the "Meet Your State Legislator"* session on January 25 at the Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Coon Rapids.



Approximately 100 people from Anoka County and Champlin met with their state representatives and senators the evening of January 25 at the Anoka-Ramsey Community College for a question and answer session. The Anoka-Ramsey Community College Student Senate co-sponsored the event with the League of Women Voters ABC.

The event helped students develop as the next generation's leaders and decision-makers as part of the League's mission to encourage informed and active participation of citizens in their government. The primary LWV ABC organizers were Geri Nelson, Kathie Whelchel, Jeorgette Knoll, and Gretchen Sabel. Thanks to the many other volunteers who played supporting roles in this successful event!

After an overview of the purpose of the session and ground rules, participants sat at tables assigned by house or senate districts with their legislators to share their positions to questions prepared by LWV ABC and the student senate. Invitations went to seventeen state legislators who serve Anoka County and Champlin, and ten were able to attend.

CALLING TREE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Due to an increase in membership, LWV ABC needs additional volunteers to remind our fellow members about upcoming meetings. Volunteers alert up to ten members by phone or email approximately one week in advance of the monthly general membership meeting and special events.

Contact Bruce Pomerantz at 763-574-2330 or email brucep@usfamily.net

MARCH 13 MONTHLY PROGRAM: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Our national organization, LWVUS, concurred with the Behavioral Health position of LWV Colorado at Convention 2016. At our March meeting we will explain the updated position. Member, Sue Butler has arranged to have Rob Edward, Executive Director of the Lee Carlson Center for Mental Health and Well Being, and Scott Nadeau, Columbia Heights police chief, discuss different aspects of behavioral health concerns in our community.

SAVE THE DATE FOR LWV ABC ANNUAL MEETING

LWV ABC's Annual Meeting, one of our most important meetings of the year will be April 10, 2017 at Andover's City Hall Senior Center, starting with a potluck at 5:30 pm. This is a change from previous annual meetings which were typically held on _____ a _____ Saturday.

More information coming soon!

LWVMN News

League of Women Voters State Convention will be held on Saturday, April 29 at Normandale Community College in Bloomington. All members are welcome to attend. [Watch](#) for more details.

The final LWVMN [Board & and Committee Restructuring Report](#) is available online. The Board approved a streamlined structure and a move to a task force approach rather than standing committees. Examples are shown on the chart in the report. Members attending convention will ratify the structure as part of the revisions to the Bylaws.

The December 22, 2016 All Member News included an announcement of several staff changes in the state office. Susan Sheridan Tucker resigned with her last day being January 31, 2017. We've learned that many members may have missed the newsletter content due to the holidays. Please visit [December 2016 All Member News](#) for details.

REMINDERS

LWV ABC and LWV Minnesota need a record of your volunteer hours. This information is used in obtaining grants and for other purposes. [Record your monthly hours here](#). This site is also provided at the LWV ABC members-only website.

Take Action with LWV Minnesota

League advocacy is only as effective as the members who contact their legislators and speak in a clear voice urging elected officials to support League positions.

Legislators listen to their constituents

Even if you know your legislator agrees with League positions, it is still important to call. The legislator needs to know that people support the position. Otherwise, opposition contacts will seem to be the prevailing sentiment.

Subscribe to Action Alerts so you can take action when a bill is in committee or going to the floor. The Capitol Letter keeps you informed about legislative activity. Email, phone, write your legislators, attend Town Hall meetings and speak up.

Subscribe to Action Alerts [here](#).

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A Facebook group for LWV members and friends

Local Leagues = Grass Roots Power

LWV ABC welcomes all of our new members!

Keep in mind that when you join LWV at the local Level, you are also a member of the state and national Leagues. If you do not receive a bi-weekly email from the LWWUS President, Chris Carson and you would like to, let us know and we will make sure you are added to the mailing list. If you have questions about how LWV is organized, please contact a board member at lwwabc@gmail.com
