

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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Outstanding September Programs

If you need a ride to any of these events or are able to provide one, please call Sherry Hood, sherryhood@comcast.net or 651-633-1434, or Bonnie Koch, touray@aol.com or 651-683-2992.

Becoming American: A Documentary Film and Discussion Series on the Immigration Experience

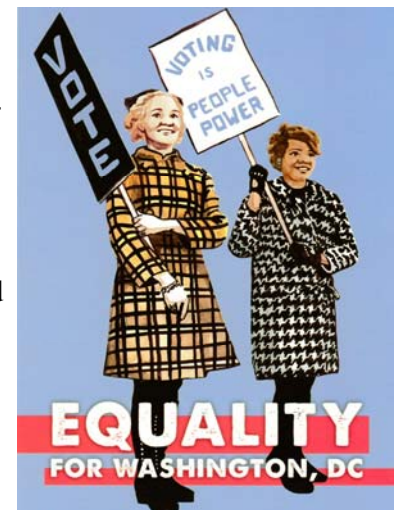
With support from the LWV of Roseville Area, the Shoreview Library has secured a grant to offer a six-part immigration program. The introductory session, *The Refugee Journey in 2018*, will be held Tuesday, September 4, at 7 p.m. at the Shoreview Library, 4650 N. Victoria (just north of Highway 96). Speakers from the International Institute of Minnesota will discuss the refugee journey, from life in a refugee camp to the details of the resettlement process. Learn what refugee status means and how the Institute navigates administrative roadblocks to help refugees resettle. The presentation will be followed by time for Q and A.

Fix the Hole in our Democracy: End Taxation Without Representation

Make Democracy Work! Find out why statehood would give the residents of Washington, DC, their first representation in Congress since 1801. The LWV of Roseville Area will co-host with the LWV of New Brighton on a presentation by a DC League member discussing the path for DC statehood including how DC is governed today, Congressional intervention in local DC affairs, and what you can do. In November 2016, 86% of DC citizens voted to petition Congress for statehood for the residential and commercial parts of the city. LWVUS has supported full representation for the people of DC since 1938.

DC Statehood Matters is on Monday, September 17, at 6:45 p.m. for conversation and refreshments with the speaker starting at 7 p.m. The event will be at the New Brighton Community Center, 400 10th St. NW, New Brighton, on the northeast corner of 10th St. (same as Long Lake Rd.) and Old Highway 8. A flyer is attached to the digital copy of *The Voter* to share with your friends or post at an appropriate venue.

Directions to the program: Take Hwy 96 W to Old Hwy 8, turn south (left) to the stop light and then left into the parking lot. Or take 694 W to Long Lake Rd, turn south (left) onto Long Lake Rd, which becomes 10th St., and go straight through 2 stoplights, turning left into the parking lot.



Find us on our website and other social media sites!

Website:
www.lwvrosevillearea.org

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/lwvRosevilleArea

Instagram:
www.instagram.com/lwvrosevillearea

YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjWhyaOul7m9LEgYY8IMPfg>

Viewing and Discussion of a US Drug Costs Documentary

The Roseville Area Advocates for Minnesota Health Plan will host a viewing of the documentary “Big Pharma: Market Failure” on **September 20**. The 50-minute film explores the problem of extreme drug prices in the US and how they impact the public, businesses, and the economy. The event will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Autumn Grove Park Building, 1395 Lydia Ave. W., Roseville.

On **September 26**, League members Mindy Greiling and Beth and Dan Salzl will host a follow-up discussion using videos of Senator John Marty discussing single-payer health care and answering questions. LWVUS’s health care position includes support of the single-payer approach. The discussion will take place at Mindy’s home at 6:30 p.m., 2495 Marion St., Roseville. Refreshments will be served.

LWV of Roseville Area Social Event: *The Agitators*

Looking for a fun night out while brushing up on your women’s suffrage history? *The Agitators* will be performed at Park Square Theater in St. Paul from September – October.

“Susan B. Anthony, a famed suffragist, and Frederick Douglass, a former slave who became a renowned civil rights leader, were friends and allies – and sometimes, adversaries. This is the story of their enduring and tempestuous 45-year friendship, from the Civil War through the changing of the Constitution. They agitated the nation, they agitated each other and today they challenge and inspire us.”

Join fellow League members (and invite friends) to attend on: **Thursday, October 18 at 7:30 at the Park Square Theater for a group discounted rate of \$30.**

We have enough commitments to get this discounted price and will reserve another block of tickets. However, it is important for you to get your name on the list. Information on paying for the ticket will be forthcoming.

RSVP and send questions to lwvrosevillearea@lwvmn.org.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

LWV of Roseville Area Board Members

Officers:

President
Sherry Hood

Vice President
Barb Barany

Secretary
Mary Peterson

Treasurer
Joyce Briggs

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Action/Advocacy
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Beth Reinhart

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Karen Lake

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Members-At-Large

Stephanie DeBenedet
Rachel Geiser
Beth Salzl
Karen Schaffer

Give yourselves a round of applause, LWV of Roseville Area members, for helping to make this primary election turnout the best since 1982! To those of you who registered new voters, marched in local parades to make our League more visible and pertinent, organized the wonderful programs that educate and inspire our communities, put together the candidate forums that inform us, and kept the mechanics of our organization functioning and performing well, a mighty **Thank You!!!**

We have our vision of Making Democracy Work For All and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion guiding us in this year and next. I think of what Tahnea Brown said to Minnesota Public Radio this past primary election day, "There are so many people who fought and died for my right as a woman to vote and my right as a black person to vote. And every time I vote, I bring my daughter, because as a black woman in America, it's important...our voices need to be heard."

Let us remember her words as we plan ahead! God bless us all!



Sherry Hood

2018 Candidate Forums

LWV of Roseville Area is sponsoring candidate forums for the 2018 election. The purpose of the candidate forums is to give voters an opportunity to hear candidates discuss the issues of importance to them in this election. The candidates will answer written questions from the public during these moderated events. Written questions will also be accepted via email until noon the day of the event at lwvrosevillearea@lwvmn.org. In the email subject area, indicate which candidate forum the question is for. These events are free and open to the public.

MN House 43B. Tuesday, September 4, 7-8:30 p.m. Maplewood City Hall Council Chambers, 1830 County Road B E, Maplewood. The two invited candidates are Rachael Bucholz and Leon M. Lillie; Moderator Linda McLoon.

Maplewood Mayor and 2 City Council seats. Thursday, September 6, 7-8:30 p.m. Maplewood City Hall Council Chambers, 1830 County Road B E, Maplewood. The two invited mayoral candidates are Margaret Behrens and Nora Slawik. The four invited city council candidates are Marylee Abrams, Kevin Berglund, Kathy Juenemann, and Nikki Villavicencio; Moderator Linda McLoon.

Lauderdale Mayor and 2 City Council seats. Monday, September 17, 7-8:30 p.m. Lauderdale City Hall, 1891 Walnut Street, Lauderdale. The mayoral candidate Mary Gaasch and three city council candidates, Roxanne Grove, Zak Knudson and Andi Moffatt, have been invited to participate; Moderator Kitty Gogins.

Little Canada Mayor and 2 City Council seats. Thursday, September 20, 7-8:30 p.m. Little Canada City Hall Council Chambers, 515 Little Canada Road E, Little Canada. The mayoral candidate John Keis and three city council candidates, Tom Fischer, Andrew Henderson, and Christian Torkelson, have been invited to participate; Moderator Linda McLoon

MN House 66A. Thursday, September 20, 7-8:30 p.m. Roseville City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive, Roseville. The two invited candidates are Jon Heyer and Alice Hausman; Moderator Florence Sprague.

Roseville Mayor and 2 City Council seats. Thursday, October 4, 7-8:30 p.m. Roseville City Hall Council Chambers, 2660 Civic Center Drive, Roseville. The two mayoral candidates Tammy McGehee and Dan Roe and four city council candidates, Jim Bull, Wayne Groff, Dannah Thompson, and Bob Willmus, have been invited to participate; Moderator Florence Sprague.

Independent School District 622, 3 School Board members. Thursday, October 11, 7-8:30 p.m. North St. Paul High School, District 622 Education Center, 2520 E. 12th Avenue, North Saint Paul. The four candidates, Caleb Anderson, Andres Gonzalez-Butron, Benjamin Adam Jarman, and Michelle Yener, have been invited to participate; Moderator Kitty Gogins.

Outlawed

By Florence Sprague

“Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable...Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

Where do you look for insight into tough topics? If one is lucky, every now and then you come across a writer who states things clearly and directly, someone who cuts to the heart of a matter, laying bare human truths. Trevor Noah does that in his memoir of his childhood in South Africa, *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*.

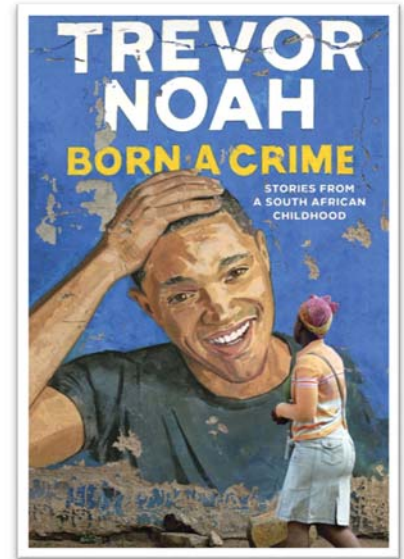
Too often when we talk about sensitive topics we either muddle a painful truth by trying to be non-confrontational or allow vitriolic anger to preclude further conversation. Noah manages to avoid both, using anecdotes from his own life as his touchpoint. He shows how bigoted South African society was, how it destroyed lives, communities, and cultures. His almost matter-of-fact style makes it easy to see how the truths of his life also lay bare some truths about people broadly and about our own society.

He does not sugarcoat his own personality or idealize himself; he readily admits that many things he did in his youth, though ingrained in the functioning of his community, were illegal, though he did not comprehend this at the time. These were the tools of survival in poverty and segregation. He credits a classmate who gave him a CD writer with helping him to succeed; as he points out, it does no good to teach a man to fish if he is too poor to own a fishing rod. Seed capital is not a handout, but a business necessity. Money gives you choices and empowerment.

The most remarkable person in his stories is his mother. She is a truly unique and courageous woman. She did not have family or economic support for her own life, yet she challenged the restrictions of the racist society, pushing boundaries often. Noah observes that she helped him by showing him a wide variety of options in a multi-faceted world, raising him to know that there was a larger life outside the township. No one had done this for her. How did she learn to do it?

Every chapter has a gem, a nugget of perception and wisdom, a window and an unexpected mirror. In a country with 11 official languages, he notes that the first way people connect is by language. He learned several African languages as well as English and it helped him time and again. Sadly there are many evils in the world—the worst one is the one that affects you and yours and we gain nothing by claiming to out suffer one another. Assuming that another person has the same information as you do often leads to misunderstanding and hurt; assuming that your pain is more worthy than theirs is arrogant. People are more willing to accept an outsider who is working to assimilate rather than an insider seeking to disavow the group.

There are too many ideas to paraphrase them all here; you’ll have to read it for yourself. It is a journey worth taking. Apartheid has ended, but the truths he has distilled from living under it remain powerful.



Refunds for Political Contributions in Minnesota

By Cecilia Warner

Minnesota has a program where individuals who contribute money in 2018 to a candidate for **state office** or a **state-level** political party may get a refund for their contribution. The maximum refund is \$50 per individual. The goal is to encourage grass roots participation in the political process.

To receive the refund, an eligible individual who has donated to an appropriate candidate or political party in 2018 will receive a Form EP-3 (2018 Form PCR, Political Contribution Refund Application), Minnesota Political Contribution Receipt, and directions for mailing it to the Minnesota Department of Revenue. The application and receipt must be filed by April 15, 2019. Within 4 to 6 weeks after filing, your refund should arrive.

For more information see:

http://www.revenue.state.mn.us/individuals/individ_income/Pages/Refund_for_Political_Contribution.aspx

July Event Recap: Brews and Book Reviews

On July 24, for the second summer in a row, League members gathered at Bent Brewstillery in Roseville for the Brews and Book Reviews event. The gathering organized by Rachel Geiser is a chance for others to recommend great books to those in attendance and hear about a number of other highly acclaimed works to add to their reading list.

Bent Brewstillery is a locally-owned brewery and distillery in Roseville. The business remembered the event from the previous year and was happy to host again, setting aside tables and lowering music for the group. Those who attended sipped beer and locally-made kombucha while enjoying the literary discussions. League members were joined by friends, members from other local LWV chapters, and those who had seen the event on social media.

If you weren't able to attend, but would still like to know which books were recommended by the group, the list of books will be posted to the lvvrosevillearea.org website. The group had a wonderful time with insightful conversation. We hope to see you all there next summer!



August Event: League Members in Canadian Days Parade

By Sherry Hood

The LWV of Roseville Area members marched on August 6 in the Canadian Days Parade in Little Canada. It was a wonderful, fun event and the people of Little Canada came out in full force to view it. Kudos to a fabulous city that is part of our LWV of Roseville Area community.



August Program Recap: Second Chance with Sarah Walker

On August 21 at the Lexington Park Building in Roseville, a large group of League members and non-members from the community gathered to hear Sarah Walker give a thought-provoking presentation on “A Second Chance for Those Who Have Been Incarcerated.” Walker is the founder of the Minnesota Second Chance Coalition, a nonpartisan coalition of over 50 organizations who advocate for policies and outreach to enable individuals who have been incarcerated to transition successfully into communities and prevent relapse into the criminal justice system.

After beginning with how she found herself in this advocacy field, Walker gave facts and statistics to help illustrate why the current policies in the nation (the US incarceration rate is eight times the world average) and Minnesota specifically (Minnesota has the eighth highest rate of people under correctional control in the nation) aren’t working. The coalition is working to maximize returning citizens’ access to employment, housing, and education and to become fully contributing members of their communities. She mentioned barriers that aren’t obvious that prevent an individual from successfully transitioning back into society, including a lack of voting rights for those on probation or parole, the impact of criminal records in applying for a job, and careers that are forbidden or require special permission to hold.

Walker spoke of the policies that have changed due to their lobbying at the capitol and the bipartisan support received to help make an incarceration-to-community transition more likely to be successful. She pointed out that reforms must be made bipartisanly so that neither party accuses the other of being “soft on crime” and that reforms affect people in all area of the state. She ended her talk with what changes we in the community can champion and the best way to support them, mainly contacting our representatives to make sure they know of the importance of the issue and your support.

If you missed the program, a recording is available to watch on our LWV of Roseville Area YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HrXoVoCVqag&t=5s>.



Voter Registration at National Night Out

By *Karen Lake*

Sherry Hood, June Stewart, and Karen Lake offered voter registration and voting information to attendees at the large August 7 National Night Out neighborhood event sponsored by the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul.



League members Sherry Hood, June Stewart, and Karen Lake

Future League Events

LWV of Roseville Area Events

Check the calendar carefully because not all evening meetings are on a Tuesday. League evening meetings will be recorded and available on our website: www.lwvrosevillearea.org.

- **October 16 – Finding a Meeting Ground for Gun Safety.** Speaker: Rev. Nancy Bence, Executive Director of Project Minnesota; 6:30-8 p.m.; Prince of Peace Lutheran Church 2561 Victoria St. N., Roseville.
- **October 18 — The Agitators Play.** Join other LWV of Roseville Area members and friends for a performance of *The Agitators* at Park Square Theater in St. Paul. The story is of the friendship between Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglas. To RSVP for tickets in the League block for a discounted \$30 rate or ask questions, email lwvrosevillearea@lwmn.org ASAP; 7:30 p.m.; Park Square Theater, 20 W 7th Place, St. Paul.
- **November 13 – Everyone Counts: Ramsey County Takes on the 2020 Census.** Speaker: Jolie Wood, Ramsey County Planning and Policy Department; 6:30-8 p.m.; Location TBD.
- **December – Service Project.** Service project at Second Harvest Heartland (limited to 20 League members) with luncheon to follow (open to all League members); Time TBD; Service Project: Second Harvest Heartland, 1140 Gervais Ave., Maplewood; Luncheon: Location TBD.
- **January 15 – Conversations with Constituents.** Interact with office holders in our five cities; 6:30 p.m. refreshments, 7-8:30 p.m. program; Roseville City Hall, 2660 Civic Center Dr., Roseville.
- **February 19 – Spotlight on the Metropolitan Council: Ripe for Change or Pretty Darn Good As It Is?** CMAL study update presentation, consensus; 6:30-8 p.m.; Location TBD.
- **March 19 – Elder Abuse.** Speakers: Jackie Herron, Author/Advocate, Kristine Sundberg, President of Elder Voice Family Advocates; 6:30-8 p.m.; Location TBD.
- **April 17 – Climate Change.** Speaker TBD; 6:30-8 p.m.; Location TBD.
- **May 7 – Annual Meeting.** LWV of Roseville Area League Annual Meeting; 5 p.m. social hour, 6 p.m. dinner, 7 p.m. meeting; Wakefield Park Community Building, 1725 Prosperity Rd., Maplewood.

Find the LWV Roseville Area Calendar at lwvrosevillearea.org/content/calendar

Find the LWV Roseville Area Events page at lwvrosevillearea.org/tags/events

September LWV of Roseville Area League events are detailed on page 1-2.

Rachel Geiser, editor
1223 Duluth Ct.
Maplewood, MN 55109

September LWV Events Calendar

- **September 4 – Refugee Journey: Film and Discussion.** See the full event description on [page 1](#); 7 p.m.
- **September 15 – LWVMN Legacy Lunch.** Brunch, program introducing centennial celebration events, and speaker Kathryn Haddad (“More than Camels and Hummus: Arab American Stories and the Importance of Community Building”). Free to Legacy Circle members and spouses, Other may purchase tickets for \$35 **by September 7 at 4 p.m.** on the LWVMN [website](#); 10 a.m.
- **September 17 – Fix the Hole in Our Democracy.** See the full event description on [page 1](#); 7 p.m.
- **September 20 – Big Pharma Documentary.** See the full event description on [page 2](#); 6:30 p.m.
- **September 26 – Single-Payer Health Care Discussion.** See the full event description on [page 2](#); 6:30 p.m.

The full event calendar is on [page 7](#).

The Voter Article Submission Deadline

Submissions for the next issue of The Voter are due 10 days before the end of the month. If you have any questions or information to submit for the newsletter, contact Rachel Geiser at rachelsoup@gmail.com.

