

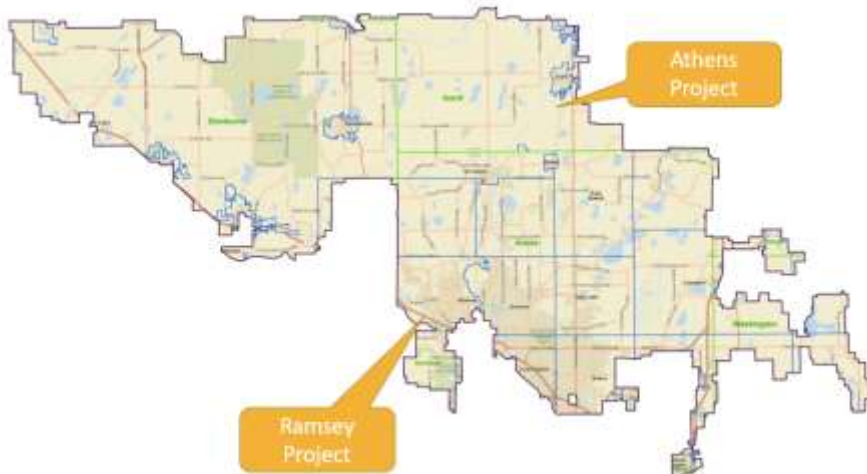
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**Solar Energy Development in our Area
- Brian Burandt, Vice President of
Power Supply and Business
Development for Connexus Energy
February 11 at Andover City Hall**



Our February meeting will feature Brian Burandt, Vice President of Power Supply and Business for Connexus Energy. He will tell us about Connexus’s projects that couple solar generation with storage for versatility and to help with peak demand management. We’ll also get into ways that solar generation can grow in our area and explore the outlook for the continued use of coal in our generating mix.



Join us at 6pm in the Andover Senior Center for a light dinner. We’ll migrate up the sidewalk to Council Chambers at 6:30 for the program, which will be filmed by QCTV for later cablecast. Connexus is a leader in the development of solar + storage, and Brian has an interesting story of how the recent cold snap (the one at the end of January) affected power supplies.

January 14 – LWV Consensus Discussion – Metropolitan Council Governance

Our January meeting focused on responding to a survey sent out to all metro area Leagues regarding Metropolitan Council Governance. It was quite the process, but we prevailed and gathered the requested responses from our membership. Susan Anderson will be filing the responses and will keep us abreast of developments as the study moves ahead.

Legislative Interviews set for January 30 – Cancelled due to weather

Sadly, the horrible cold prevented us from holding this event. We were not able to find a date that worked for rescheduling.

Water Action Day

April 10, 2019 – State Capitol, Senate Office Building, State Office Building and environs

Minnesota's 2019 Water Action Day has been set for April 10. Last year, more than 700 people came to the State Capitol for Water Action Day. These citizen lobbyists took the message of water protection to their legislators through 145 legislative meetings, touching about 70% of the legislature.



This year's all-day event includes free breakfast and briefings in the morning, both on how to actively engage legislators and on the water issues that we face in Minnesota. Throughout the day, attendees will meet with legislators to urge them to protect our water, and the Clean Water Rally will be held in the Capitol Rotunda at 2:00 pm. **Register now [at this link](#) so meetings with your legislators can be set up! The threats to Minnesota's waters are real this session - make your voice heard!**

REQUEST FOR HELP... LWV Upper Mississippi River Region is one of the many organizations working together to make this event a success. This year, Lonni McCauley is in charge of staffing the kitchen to keep this army of volunteers well-fed. **She is seeking volunteers to work a shift - if you are able to help, email us at lwvumrr@lwvmn.org . The shifts available are:**

7:00 - 8:30 a.m.
8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

10:00 - 1130 a.m.
11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Grand Opening of the LWV ABC Historical Display

On January 19, forty people gathered at the Anoka History Center for the Grand Opening of a new exhibit chronicling the 80-year history of League of Women Voters in Anoka County. This exhibit, co-developed by the League of Women Voters of Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids Area and the Anoka County Historical Society, will be on display at the History Center through most of 2019.

The League of Women Voters arose directly from the Women's Suffrage Movement which began in Seneca, New York in 1848. The Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association was founded in 1881. Suffragists were active in Anoka; prominent Anoka resident Dr. Flora Aldrich supported Suffragists. In October, 1919, the Minnesota Woman Suffrage Association reincorporated as League of Women Voters, Minnesota. In 1938 a Chapter was founded in Anoka which today is Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids Area League of Women Voters. Mary Spurzem, wife of Dr. Ray Spurzem, was the original LWV organizer in Anoka.

The exhibit brings attention to the variety of League activities and the many ways LWV ABC members have been involved in community service beyond League. The timeline banner shows the highlights. The section on LWV-ABC members who have been elected to public office is representative of the variety of offices held. LWV projects across the years are documented as is the LWV's extensive voter service work.

The event Saturday was attended by current Minnesota Senator Jim Abeler and Minnesota Representative John Heinrich. Former Minnesota Representative Kathy Tinglestadt was a member of the exhibit committee, along with the first women elected to the Anoka City Council, Zilla Way. LWV ABC member Sandy Connor spearheaded exhibit development, working with Anoka County Historical Society Director Rebecca Ebnet-Desens and staff members Audra Hilsey and Sara Given.

Figure 1: LWV ABC President, Gretchen Sabel and Anoka County Historical Society Director Rebecca Ebnet-Desens cut the ribbon on the exhibit





Figure 2: : LWV ABC President, Gretchen Sabel and Anoka County Historical Society Executive Director, Rebecca Ebnet-Desens cut the ribbon on the exhibit



Figure 4: Banner introducing the exhibit



Figure 3: Senator Jim Abeler and Representative John Heinrich visit with LWV ABC member Wes Volkenant



Figure 5: Zilla Way shares recollections of LWV Anoka founder Mary Spurzem

**Drafts and Discourse –
Monday, February 18 at Torg Brewing – 7pm**
8421 University Avenue, Spring Lake Park

Drafts and Discourse is on the third Monday of the month! We will be meeting at Torg Brewing in Spring Lake Park. This newly-opened brewery at 8421 University Ave NE has lots of room and is fully accessible for all. We will meet here at 7pm for... well, drafts and discourse.



For our February meeting, we will continue our solar discussions, talking about opportunities in solar power and will also work on putting together material for a booklet on the LWV History display.

For more information on Torg Brewery, like them on Facebook [at this link](#) or visit their website: <https://www.torgbrewery.com/>

The brewery is located just south of Northtown on the same frontage road as Key's Café. Turn east from University at 83rd Avenue.



Minnesota Historical Society Event:

"Votes for Minnesota Women" Capitol Tour -- Saturday, March 16, 11:00 am

Hosted by Minnesota Historical Society in honor of the upcoming 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment. Take a special tour of the Capitol that focuses on Minnesota women who played significant roles in securing the right to vote. Plus, learn about the first elected women to take office in Minnesota, what role they played in state government, and how women today participate in elected office.

Cost: \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, veterans/active military, and college students, \$8 age 5-17; MN Historical Society members save 20%. **Order tickets at:** <http://www.mnhs.org/event/6800>



Save the Dates:

Monday, February 11. **LWV ABC Meeting – Solar Energy Development.** Meet at 6pm for light supper, meeting to follow. Andover Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Blvd, Andover. All are welcome!

Monday, February 18 – **Drafts and Discourse** at Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park, 6-8pm; 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park (just south of Northtown on the same frontage road as Key's Café). The February topic will be solar energy development.

Monday, February 25, 11am – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's in Coon Rapids (Hwy 10 frontage road just south of Round Lake Blvd exit). Order food at 11, meeting commences at 11:30.

Monday, March 11. **LWV ABC Meeting – Recycling in Anoka County** - Meet at 6pm for light supper, meeting to follow. Andover Senior Center, 1685 Crosstown Blvd, Andover. All are welcome!

Monday, March 18 - **Drafts and Discourse** at Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park, 6-8pm; 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park. The January topic will be Metropolitan Council Governance.

Monday, March 25, 11am – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's in Coon Rapids (Hwy 10 frontage road just south of Round Lake Blvd exit). Order food at 11, meeting commences at 11:30. This is a good opportunity to learn more about what LWV ABC is up to!

Do you have Information to share with LWV ABC?

Four ways to stay in touch with LWV ABC

Visit our public website: www.lwvabcmn.org. If you need a refresher on accessing the Members Only section of the website, send an email to lwvabc@gmail.com. We will reply with the link for you to bookmark.

We're on Facebook: Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook".

Our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*: Members and other interested persons receive our newsletter by email in the early part of each month. Issues are also available on our LWV ABC website, www.lwvabcmn.org.