



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® ABC

February 27, 2014

### **Welcome to the LWV ABC Newsletter – the LINK!**

What do you have to contribute for the next issue of this newsletter? Consider sharing events, follow-up on past meetings, info on member accomplishments, etc! Please direct your ideas and comments to Gretchen Sabel, at [gpsabel@yahoo.com](mailto:gpsabel@yahoo.com). Deadline for submittal of material is noon on March 20. Thanks!

Also, - remember to check our Facebook page for meeting information, too!

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-ABC-Minnesota/423643367725301>

### **Our Next Meeting – March 9 – ARCC Student Senate guest speakers**

March 9 meeting - We will be learning all about Minnesota State College Student Association (MSCSA) and "Active Millennials" from current **Anoka Ramsey Community College President Kevin Parker, previous President Thomas Berg, and current Minnesota State College and University Board student representative Kelly Charpentier-Berg**. You will be hearing about their activities in educational issues of higher education as well as their community activism. Plan to be inspired by the commitment of these students to speaking up for education and actively participating in community programs!

6pm at Andover Senior Center, Monday, March 9. Kathie Whelchel is organizing this session - will be very informative! All are welcome to attend. (Right – a nice picture of AR campus in warmer times... we can't promise green grass for our March meeting, but it is coming, sooner or later.)



### **LWV ABC Annual Meeting**



The Annual Meeting will be held at the **Andover Senior Center on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 12:30**. This is the meeting where we do the business of the League: elect officers, adopt a budget, hear reports on the activities of the last year and brainstorm programs for the Summer Salons and the next year, and present the Zilla Way and Friend of League awards. It's a great time to get to know the members and the League! **Bring a dish to share for lunch**. Member dues for 2015 can also be paid at this meeting – you will receive a dues notice in the mail soon.

*(OK, this isn't what our Annual Meeting will be like, but it will be fun. See you there! )*

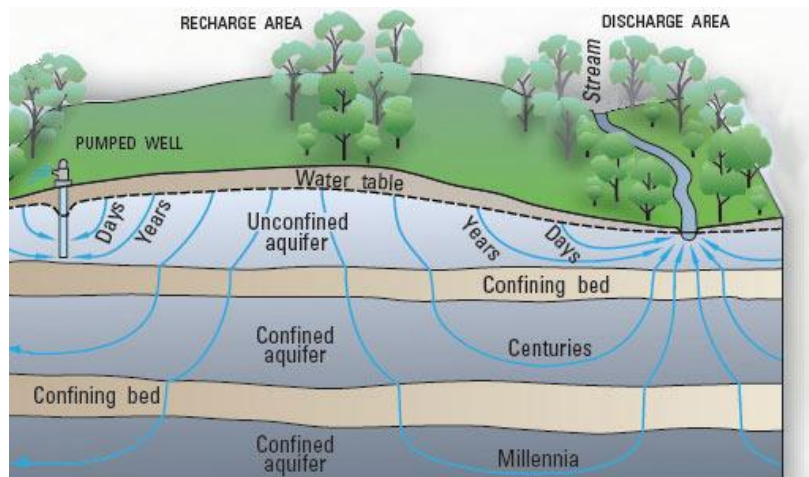


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## Our Last Meeting – February 9

Thanks to our guests Lanya Ross from Met Council and Bart Biernat from Anoka County Environmental Services. We had an excellent discussion on what's happening with groundwater and surface water in our area. There are significant concerns about water supply – although the Twin Cities is one of the most water rich areas in the country, we are facing alarming water level declines and possible shortages if the rain doesn't fall when needed. You can watch the video on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rN80l1oEqSI>



## Pollinator Update

Lots going on in our pollinator advocacy! This is exciting work! We will get updates on activities in Champlin, Andover and other cities at our Annual Meeting. Now is the time to get involved!

Volunteers are needed – we will have a booth at the upcoming Green Expo at the National Sports Center in Blaine on April 25, and are planning to also have people ‘pollinating’ ideas of pollinator protection at local farmers markets and other events. We will also look into participating in area parades this summer. Think about what you could do to help here. You will be provided with materials and talking points, and maybe even a costume! (Have you been in a parade? It's a lot of fun! We need to know that we'll have folks to participate in the parades before we look for spots. Signups will be available at our March meeting and at the Annual Meeting.)

### Parade schedule:

- June 13 (need to confirm date) – Champlin (Father Hennepin Days)
- June 27 – Blaine Festival
- July 4 – Coon Rapids 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade
- July 11 – Andover Family Fun Fest Parade



2013 Andover Parade – Susan Anderson was a hit in her lamb suit!



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## **Other upcoming meetings – help needed in planning, and hosting**

The Board discussed possible topics for the meetings for the rest of 2015. Your help is needed in refining these topics, or coming up with more timely, interesting or relevant topics. We will discuss this at the Annual Meeting, this will be a good time to bring your ideas.

Brainstormed list of possible programs for the balance of the year:

- March – ARCC students (program final)
- April – Annual Meeting (program final)
- May – Anoka County government – public participation
- June – Libraries – changes in technology, use? Impact on local libraries
- July – Styrofoam and other recycling (field trip)
- August – Pollinator recap, picnic at Geri's
- September – Kickoff
- October –
- November –
- December – Lively Issues/potluck



Coon Rapids Styrofoam Recycling Machine

## **Events of interest**

**Board Meeting:** ABC Board meeting will be held on March 23 in the meeting room at Davanni's Coon Rapids (next to Applebee's at Round Lake and Hwy 10). All interested members are welcome. Starts at 11am.

## ***Saturday, Feb 28 (yes, that's tomorrow, or today if you are reading this on Saturday) - Springbrook Spree***

This is a fun and educational event. There's a buffet dinner, a great silent auction and lots of good folks to meet.

This year's event features the BEEZ KNEEZ. For more information, visit the Springbrook website at

[http://www.springbrooknaturecenter.org/springbrook\\_page.cfm?ID=42](http://www.springbrooknaturecenter.org/springbrook_page.cfm?ID=42)