

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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**LWV MEPH Feb. 10: Solar Energy in Minnesota followed by CMAL Meet & Greet**

9:30-11:15 AM, Saturday, February 10, 2018

Third Floor Classroom, **Hopkins Fire Station**

101 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Hopkins, MN 55343

*(Just north of Excelsior Blvd at 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. Parking is available at Public Works, south of the fire station.)*

**Solar Energy in Minnesota: How local communities are driving the clean energy transition**

**Presented by Lindsey Forsberg and Isaac Evans**

Minnesota has recently become an unlikely source of dramatic solar growth. According to a new report by the Minnesota Department of Commerce, the state has installed three times more solar in 2017 than it had in the previous year. Though this is in part due to the completion of two larger utility scale projects, the primary driver of solar growth has stemmed from community solar gardens. Minnesota has the single largest community solar garden program in the nation, with installed capacity set to surpass total utility scale installations this year.

We will discuss what community solar is, how it differs from utility and residential solar, the state of community solar in Minnesota, and end by touching briefly on some of the important questions at the heart of our research at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Lindsey Forsberg and Isaac Evans are both graduate students in the Science, Technology and Environmental Policy program at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. They are part of a research team directed by Dr. Gabe Chan. Lindsey holds a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame, and spent the last several years working in the energy industry in San Francisco. Isaac holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and Spanish from the University of Minnesota and currently works with Minnesota Brownfields, a nonprofit working to encourage "land recycling" across the state.

Following the solar program, leadership from LWV Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues will make a short presentation about CMAL. LWV MEPH member Geneva MacMillan is a past president of CMAL, and all of us are members. CMAL is looking to introduce CMAL to members who may not know what it is, plus promote partnerships with local leagues on program.

This program is free and open to the public. It is hosted by LWV Minnetonka, Eden Prairie, Hopkins.

## **Not For Sale: Standing Up to Sex Trafficking**

*-According to the FBI, Minnesota is one of the 13 largest metropolitan regions for teen trafficking.*

Thursday, Feb. 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
Eisenhower Community Center Theater  
1001 Hwy 7, Hopkins, MN 55305

Join us for an informative workshop in which you will hear from a panel of local organizations and law enforcement agencies about how they are combating sex trafficking.

A Hopkins High School student-driven initiative is sounding the alarm and raising awareness with the event, **Not for Sale: Standing Up to Sex Trafficking**. Learn ways to spot the signs of trafficking and what to do if you suspect a person is being trafficked. And explore ways to be an ally in the fight against sex trafficking.

Concept by Hopkins High School Junior Jessica Melnik and fellow students. Panel followed by Q&A session. Free and open to the public. Seating is first come, first served. Resource fair to follow.

## **March 3: Growth & Justice Presents:**

### **One Minnesota Public Policy Blueprint: Closing Our Regional Divide and Other Disparities**

9:30 – 11:00 AM, Saturday March 3, 2018  
Council Chambers, Minnetonka Community Center  
14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345

Growth & Justice President Jane Leonard and Senior Policy Fellow Dane Smith will outline their “One Minnesota” policy agenda for state and local decision-makers that is aimed at closing our rural-metro divide and helping all Minnesotans understand the value of reducing inequality and racial disparity in all our regions. Elements of this “equity package” include investments in workforce preparedness, universal broadband access, affordable health care for all, renewable energy and transportation/transit.

Hosted by LWV South Tonka, LWV Minnetonka, Eden Prairie, Hopkins and LWV Wayzata, Plymouth Area  
Free and open to the public

## **LWV MN: Day At The Capitol – March 5, 2018**

LWV Minnesota is hosting its Day at the Capitol on March 5. The goal is to allow LWV Minnesota members to learn more about our advocacy work, to meet with their legislators, and to become more familiar with the Capitol. While this event is designed for LWV Minnesota members, anyone who supports LWV Minnesota's mission is welcome to attend as well.

If you are an LWV Minnesota member, please register before January 30, 2018, so that staff can attempt to schedule a time for you to meet with your legislator on this day.

9 AM - Meet for coffee

9:30-10 AM - How to be an Advocate Bootcamp

Throughout the day - LWV Minnesota scheduled legislator appointments, committee hearings, and possibly floor session

Register to attend at [www.lwvmn.org](http://www.lwvmn.org); News & Events Tab; Events Calendar; click **2018 Day at the Capitol**.

## **LWV West Metro: March 17 Redistricting: Who Wins, Who Loses**

10:00 -11:30 AM (9:30 Coffee), Saturday, March 17

Council Chambers (3rd floor), St. Louis Park City Hall, 5005 Minnetonka Blvd, St. Louis Park, MN

Speakers: Professor Larry Jacobs, Humphrey School of Public Affairs; Common Cause – a nonpartisan grassroots organization dedicated to upholding American democracy; and TBD retired judge. See [www.lwvmeph.org](http://www.lwvmeph.org) for more information as it becomes available.

### **Minnetonka Ward 3 City Council Candidate Forum**

7:00 - 8:30PM, Tuesday, March 20, 2018 (doors open at 6:30PM)

Minnetonka City Council Chambers

14600 Minnetonka Blvd, Minnetonka, MN 55345

The League of Women Voters of Minnetonka, Eden Prairie, Hopkins will host a Candidate Forum to provide voters with candidate information for the April 10 special election to Ward 3 City Council. A vacancy was created with the election of Council Member Brad Wiersum to Mayor in the November 2017 Municipal Election. This forum is free and open to the public. More information is posted at [www.lwvmeph.org](http://www.lwvmeph.org).

We are looking for members to help with this event, for the duties of Greeter, Timekeeper, Usher and Question Sorter. Please contact Peggy Kvam to volunteer.

### **Attend Your Precinct Caucus on Feb. 6, with LWV MN Resolutions**

The 2018 precinct caucuses will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at 7:00 PM. Use the Caucus Finder posted at [www.MNVotes.org](http://www.MNVotes.org) to learn your own caucus location.

LWVMN holds positions on a variety of policy issues. Proposing a resolution at caucus provides an opportunity for members to express their voice on issues supported by LWVMN and influence what is accepted as part of a party platform. In addition, it exposes your neighbors and community to the issues that LWVMN influences. Each party designs its own process for drafting, proposing and approving resolutions. Often, a proposed resolution requires you to fill out a specific form. Contact your preferred party for information on the process and form.

LWVMN Caucus Resolutions are posted at [www.lwvmn.org/local-leagues/member-resources](http://www.lwvmn.org/local-leagues/member-resources) in the **2018 Caucus Toolkit** section. Topics include Campaign Finance, Early Voting, Voter Pre-Registration for High School Students, Automatic Voter Registration and Lawmaking Single Subject Rule.

### **LWV MEPH Nonpartisan Policy**

The LWV MEPH Board has approved our Nonpartisan policy, which was printed in the January Voter. The policy is posted at [www.lwvmeph.org](http://www.lwvmeph.org) at the very bottom of the home page.

### **LWV MN and LWV National Convention**

This year LWV MN is hosting Council, a one-day annual meeting and networking event, on Saturday, April 28 in St. Cloud. LWV MEPH President Peggy Kvam and Voter Service Co-Chair Nancy Gooch will attend as LWV MEPH's delegates. Any member is welcome as a non-voting attendee. For more information, see <https://lwvmn.org/news-events/lwv-minnesota-council-2018>. The registration fee is \$115.

The LWV National Convention will be in Chicago, June 28-July 1. (<http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/council-and-convention/convention-2018>) Registration and travel costs amount to well over \$1000, and LWV MEPH does not have the financial resources to fund any delegates. Thus we are offering our members a chance to help sponsor a delegate with a donation. It is tax-deductible. You can donate online at [www.lwvmeph.org](http://www.lwvmeph.org), or send a check of any amount to Barb Link, Treasurer, Apt. 303, 6505 Flying Cloud Dr, Eden Prairie, MN 55344. Thank you!



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
Minnetonka Eden Prairie Hopkins  
c/o Barb Link  
8505 Flying Cloud Dr. #303  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344