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C.A. Weis Community School

March 17, 2018

Tryon Library

**1200 Langley Ave.
Coffee 10:15 Program 10:30 am**

Holly Magee, Principal of Weis Community School, will be the speaker on March 17 at Tryon Library at the monthly League meeting.

A community school is a publicly funded school, which not only educates children but also provides a center for community life. More importantly, it is a place where the community provides extra services to children and families to enhance the ability of the children to succeed.

Pensacola is fortunate to be the home of C.A. Weis Community School, which is only the second such school in the state. The community partners are many, including:

Children's Home Society and Lakeview Center, providing on-site mental health resources;

The Escambia Community Clinics, offering on-site medical services which are available to the children and their families as well as to others in the community. These services help to keep the child in the learning environment rather than having to leave to go to the doctor or to the emergency room. Teaching and learning remain the most important factors.

In addition to these enhancements of the community center model, others in the community have offered assistance. First Baptist Church provides back-pack food for children at risk of hunger on weekends when they do not have access to cafeteria food. Impact 100 has provided a grant for playground equipment. The list goes on with multiple community partners providing various aids and enhancements.

But the proof is in the results. Weis has gone from an "F" school to a "C" school. Hooray for innovation and support that actually help kids to succeed!



Hot Topic Meeting

Excessive Bail for Persons Accused of Crimes

**March 22, 2018 5:30 p.m.
Downtown Library, 239 N. Spring St.**

Benjamin Stevenson, ACLU Staff Attorney, will discuss how bail determinations are made in Florida. His presentation will include the unconstitutional use of monetary bail, the impacts of our community, and the need for reform. Stevenson is currently challenging pretrial detention through the imposition of unaffordable bail (Knight v. Florida).

The imposition of excessive bail for offenders has converted our jails into debtors' prisons, where people are sometimes kept for months without ever being convicted of a crime.

Join us at the Downtown Library on March 22 at 5:30 p.m. for the discussion. For more information call Paula Montgomery 438 8891

Our Local League in Action

- An anonymous League member has made a donation to the Friends of the Pensacola Library to say thanks for the use of meeting rooms at both the Library downtown and the Tryon Library.
- C.A. Weiss Elementary school is collecting Box Tops for Education. Save and bring them to a League meeting.
- Natural Resources committee members will be distributing League reusable shopping bags and informational flyers at Tiger Point Walmart on March 24.
- Penny Rice has written an educational skit to demonstrate to 5th graders at Beulah Elementary school how women got the right to vote. Would you like to be in the skit? Contact Penny at 702-683-6511.
- The March 10 Education Committee meeting at Paula Montgomery's house (641 Connell Street) will focus on making costumes for a skit on women's suffrage for 5th graders at Beulah Elementary School. Volunteers are needed to assist with the event, which is scheduled for March 24, from 8 until Noon.
- Members who make purchases at Office Depot can earn rewards for the local League. Simply give the clerk the League phone number, 850-937-7769, and your purchase can help defray our League expenses.
- Anita Schmitt, Ellen Roston and Paula Montgomery distributed information at the recent WSRE conference to raise teacher awareness of and skill in using the teaching programs available on PBS.
- Milton City Council passed a resolution in support of lifting the ban that disallows municipalities to ban plastic bags. Carolyn Kolb had 'testified' two times before the council on this issue.
- Sharon Gingaucas, director of Ocean Hour, showed their student award-winning public service announcement (PSA) to the Natural Resources Committee members.
- Enid Sisskin will unveil the new power point on Plastics in a presentation to the Lunch Bunch at Gulf Breeze Presbyterian Church.

Items Needed for League of Women Voters Silent Auction

Remember that present you never used and you are just waiting to re-gift? Problem solved. On May 12, 2018, at the Annual Meeting of the Pensacola Bay Area League of Women Voters, we are hosting a Silent Auction. We need items that can be auctioned alone such as a framed print or bundled into a set with other donations, such as a cookbook, bamboo spoons and an apron. If you can help secure a dinner out or weekend retreat that would be wonderful too.

If you have something to donate or wish to help, please call Gail Honea at 850-474-3581.

Funds raised will support the important local work of League committees educating the community to protect the environment, women's rights, and our youth in the juvenile justice system. In addition, 2018 is an election year and we will continue our important efforts to register new voters and help all voters make educated choices.

So plan on attending our Annual Meeting - the guest speaker is Andy Marlette. You will have a great time, help the League with its work and go home with something fun too!



Paula Montgomery was awarded the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.



League member, Lauren Anzaldo, was honored as the Social Worker of the Year at NAS. She is shown here with her husband, Christopher Satterwhite.

Welcome New Members

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Kurt Hagerbaumer | Emy Nutt |
| Elizabeth Schrey | Joan K. Simon |
| Ann Tidmore | Lucie Wade |
| Robert A. Williams | Noelle Wojciehowski |



Panelist: Mickaela Lunignan & Lisa Neillsen-Savage, PNJ with Rick Outzen, Independent News

Fake News Explored at February League Meeting

"Fake news did not begin with President Donald Trump" was the opening line from *Mickaela Lunignan*, of the Pensacola News Journal, at the February meeting of the League. Lunignan pointed out that as social media expanded with creation of news web sites, paid ads were necessary to pay for information. Major newspapers began to share space with advertisers, who created fake news and it is now out of control.

2016 was the peak for fake news when half of the political information on Facebook was not true. BuzzFeed was the first news source to spot fake news and as fast as sites were taken down others appeared because users were sharing the information which simply went viral.

How can one know if an email or Facebook entry is fake news? One criterion of fake news is that no real information appears in the headline. When these messages are read and often forwarded to others, these actions result in increased revenue for advertisers. Valid news stories will provide sources, data or information in the headline.

Users can help eliminate fake news by the following:

- sign out after using email because data are being captured and used by advertisers;
- verify the source of the information on Facebook on sites, i.e., snopes.com, mediafactcheck.com, and factcheck.com.
- URL link- a clue to valid source;
- Google the website for validity;
- Do not share messages.
- Do not add comments in things you share.

Following the election, many people began to identify any news with which they disagreed as fake. Recognize your individual biases and use common sense when deciding the validity of news items. USA Today and Political Fact are labeled as the least biased organizations and are more likely to print factual information

Rich Outzen, Editor of the Independent News, stated that news is manipulated to create discourse but often causes

mistrust and creates dissatisfaction on both sides of a discussion.

Keeping children safe is critically important and parents need to know with whom their children are engaged in social media.

Lisa Neillsen-Savage, Executive Editor of the Pensacola News-Journal, advised users to know which websites to use. Once information is shared, videos, pictures and voices can be altered through today's technology. As a journalist, it is imperative to be aware of 'red flags' as well as to verify all sources of information. ♦

CYBER SECURITY WORKSHOP

League members, who attended the cyber security workshop on February 24, gained much information from experts in the field. **Randy Ramos**, President and Founder of Global Business Solutions, explained the importance of

caring about cyber security by pointing out anyone who accesses the internet is at risk of viruses, worms, malware and ransomware. Users need to understand the technologies and practices to protect against these computer threats.

Legitimate business email comes from .com, .net etc but not gmail.com;

non-profits use .org, and education is .edu.



Ways to improve cyber security and protect yourself: *Harden passwords*

- long passwords (minimum of 8 characters)
- cryptic (case sensitive, mix characters)
- change passwords
- fingerprint security

Email

- Do not open emails from unknown senders.
- Be suspicious of links and attachments.
- Double check email sources (gmail etc).
- Be cautious as Attachments can be accessed from smartphones.

Social Media

- Don't share personal information on social media (ex. away from home)

Smart devices (phone & tablet)

- Don't use public WiFi for financial transactions.
- Don't leave WiFi and Bluetooth enabled.
- Disable location services.

Continued on page 4. **Fake News**

Continued from page 3... Fake News

Computers and Hardware

- Install and maintain security software.
- Perform routine backups, practice recovery.
- Clear cash, memory and cookies.
- Don't leave applications open when away.
- Back up materials using USB/Thumb Drive.

John Corliss, Senior Computer Scientist with the Department of Homeland Security, stated that 2016 was the year of ransomware. It was the first time the term cyber security was used in politics. . He identified recent cyber events, such as the incursion in the Olympics and the Equifax breach.

All smartphones are vulnerable and make great spy tools. Even our household appliances have passwords.

Awareness of cyber activity in the 21st Century is essential. Corliss reminded the audience of ways to be secure when using current technology. An overwhelmingly high percentage of successful attacks originate in an email. Be aware of this and defend yourself. Keep your computer programs updated and keep your backups offline, Think before you click!

David Stafford, Escambia County Supervisor of Elections, discussed the Russian activities in the 2016 election. According to Stafford, the Department of Homeland Security assessed the types of systems the Russian actors targeted or compromised and concluded that vote tallying was not involved.

In Escambia County, IT training is provided, along with conferences on cyber security, self-assessments and outside testing. The office continues to update its plans to protect voting with the use of paper ballots, not having voting machines connected to the internet, post election audits, certification of voting equipment and budgeted funds for enhanced cyber security.

Want to Register Voters?

Charlyl Parrish, 932-0854

One of the many activities of the League is voter registration. In Florida, you **MUST** be certified through the Florida League to represent the League in registering voters..

Each person must re-certify every 2 years by reading the educational material and taking a short quiz. We **NEED** your help in these events so please consider getting certified soon. We have events in each month until the election.

Don't forget you must be registered by July 30, 2018 in order to vote in the Primary Election on August 28. To vote in the November General election, you must be registered by October 9, 2018.

For additional information, go to LWVF the [website](#)..

Leaguer Receives the George Washington Honor Medal

On February 27, Paula Montgomery, a League member, was awarded the George Washington Honor Medal by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The banquet was held at the Pensacola Yacht Club.

The award was given in recognition of Paula's work to break the Pipeline to Prison for our children. In her acceptance remarks Paula pointed out the need for all of our institutions including the Juvenile Justice Department to uphold our dedication to America's ideals of freedom, opportunity and education. Her work has called public attention to problems the Justice system has had in living up to those ideals. She also thanked other members of her committee, including Ray Hudkins, Dr. Shirley Lewis-Brown, Keyontay Humphries, Lisa Nellesen-Savage and Dr. James Scaminaci. She also acknowledged the widespread support she has received from the community.

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge is a non-profit volunteer-driven education organization with the goal of helping students, teachers and citizens gain a greater awareness and appreciation of the principles of a free and democratic society. It was founded in 1949 and was headed by former President Dwight Eisenhower prior his death in 1969.



Charlyle Parrish and Haley Richards present the award for winning project "Conflict and Compromise of the Women Air Force Service Pilots in the Military: by Avery Banstetter & Amanda Picou.

History Fair

Paula Montgomery
438-8891

In February, the Escambia and Santa Rosa School Districts sponsor *History Fair*. This is an activity that engages the child in learning on many levels. Students conduct research on a topic and then assemble the material into a

display or skit or complete a research paper or video. Judges ask the students specific questions about the projects.

Not only are students learning how to conduct research, they are developing skills in presentation and poise in responding to the questioners. There have been some remarkable projects. On March 17, two or threes of the winners from Escambia County Schools will present their projects at the monthly League meeting. You will be amazed at what these children have created.

For the last two years, the League has presented awards based on the quality of the projects and their alignment with League values. These awards have included financial prizes to help defray the cost of the projects. We have currently depleted the funds set aside for these prizes. If you would like to donate to help with next years awards, please see Paula Montgomery or Art Parrish, League treasurer.

LWV Florida Webinar: Your Voice. Your Power. Your Vote

You are invited to a training webinar on our newest LWVFL PowerPoint, "Your Voice. Your Power. Your Vote."

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

"In 1776, only 10% of Americans had the right to vote. Learn about how voting rights were expanded and the important benefits for citizens who turn out and vote. This presentation also walks you through the ways you can register and vote, including how to register online, Vote-By-Mail, Early Voting and more."

As with our previous training webinars, your participation will prepare you to make presentations of the PowerPoint. We will go through the slides and slide notes and answer your questions so that you will be prepared to confidently answer questions from your audiences. Join us!

Presenters:

- Christene Campbell Gabor, Chair, Civics Education Committee, LWV of Palm Beach County
- Ethelene Jones, M.D., Chair, Florida LWV Speakers Bureau

[Please register for the event.](#) You will be provided with log-in and call-in instructions to participate.

Travel with the League

LWVFL is offering 2 great travel opportunities this spring exclusive to League members and their guests

Natural Florida- "Paradise Found" Blackwater Forest, FL (Pensacola area) April 14-20, 2018

Civil Rights Immersion Tour Montgomery, Birmingham, and Selma, AL May 14-19, 2018

[Explore Trip Details](#)

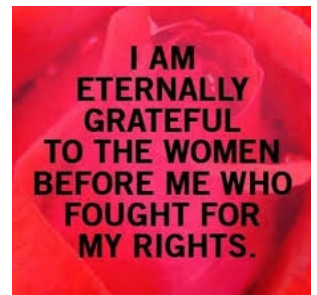
New York Times article of interest: Bans on Plastic Straws in Restaurants Expand to More Cities - and more.

By DANIEL VICTOR MARCH 3, 2018 .

[Read Here.](#)

Calendar

Women's History Month



March

- 1 **Thursday**, 12:30 pm, Voter Service, Downtown Library
- 5 **Monday**, 10:00 am, **Natural Resources Committee**, Gulf Breeze Library, 1060 Shoreline Dr. Contact Carolyn Kolb, 240-8653.
- 6 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm , **Board Meeting**, Downtown Library 239 N. Spring St., Members always welcome!
- 10 Saturday, 2:30 pm, **Education Committee**, Paula Montgomery's house (641 Connell Street) will focus on making costumes for a skit on women's suffrage for 5th graders at Beulah Elementary School. Volunteers are needed to assist with the event scheduled for March 23.
- 15 **Thursday**, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., **Race & Reconciliation**, J. Earle Bowden Building, 120 Church Street, Pensacola. A broad coalition of civil rights groups committed to placing plaques and commemorative material at the lynching sites in Escambia County to bring truth and healing to our community. Information: Julie Patton, 850-380-5878
- 17 **Saturday**, 10:15 am, **General League Meeting**, *Weiss Community School*, Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave,
- 20 **Tuesday**, 10:00 am, **International Relations**, *Great Decisions* discussion at Azalea Trace. Leader, Don Freeman; topic: *Turkey*. For information: 607-7114
- 23 **Friday**, 8:00 - 12:00 pm, Beulah Elementary school Heritage Day. Skit for 5th graders. Want to be involved? Contact: Penny Rice, 702-683-6511
- 27 **Tuesday**, 6:00 pm, **Women's Issues Committee**, Downtown Library, Contact Mary Collins, 346-5520.

April

- 2 **Monday**, 10:00 am, **Natural Resources Committee**, Gulf Breeze Library, 1060 Shoreline Dr. Contact Carolyn Kolb, 240-8653.
- 3 **Tuesday**, 5:30 pm , **Board Meeting**, Downtown Library 239 N. Spring St., Members always welcome!
- 21 **Saturday**, 10:15 am, **General League Meeting**, *State of the Counties*, Tryon Branch Library, 1200 Langley Ave,

May

- 12 **Saturday**, Mark your calendar for the **Annual Meeting** at - the Pensacola Yacht Club, Details in April Voter.

In 1949 the League of Women Voters Pensacola Bay Area was formed as a non-partisan political organization of men and women who encourage informed and active participation in government. The League conducts studies and following consensus, takes positions on major public policy issues. Through education and advocacy, the League works to inform the electorate and impact legislation.

The League neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for office. However, individual members are urged to be as active in the political process.

Join the League of Women Voters Today!

It's easy! Just send your check to:

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ♦ P.O. Box 2023, Pensacola, FL 32513 or PayPal [here](#).

Name _____ Birth date _____ New Mbr? Yes/No

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone (____) _____ Other (____) _____ E-mail _____

Add Family Member(s): _____

DUES: \$55.00 _____ Additional Mbrs @ \$27.50 _____ Contribution _____ TOTAL _____

Dues are \$27.50 for a student enrolled in a certificate or degree program.

I'm renewing my membership.

I am interested in the following areas (Circle all interests)

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Education | Natural Resources | Juvenile Justice | Speaker's Bureau |
| Voter Service | Growth Management | Website | Observer Corps |
| Membership | Legislative Action | Hospitality | Naturalization |
| Newsletter | Voter Registration | Publicity | Social Media |
| Women's Issues | | | |

Membership dues and gifts to the League of Women Voters are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes. (Tax deductible contributions require a separate check written to the LWV Florida Education Fund and should be sent to our local treasurer.)



League of Women Voters
of the Pensacola Bay Area
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