



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY
VOTER

President: Jan Waide
1618 SW 28th St.
785-233-7008 (h)

Membership: Nancy Whiffen
215 N. Broadmoor
785-235-2104 (h)

Voter Editor: Pat Dick
3371 SW Osborn Rd.
785-272-8461 (o)

FEBRUARY 2007

- 6 Tuesday Topics - Lunch 11:30 am, TSCPL
Speaker will be Mike Hammond, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas. *Menu: Baked Potato Bar and Dessert*
- 13 LWVT/SC Board Meeting –All members welcome.
Noon, O’Dooley’s, 1930 Westport Dr. (north of Petsmart on Westport Dr.)

MARCH 2007

- 6 Tuesday Topics - Lunch 11:30 am, TSCPL
Speaker will be Glenn Yancey, Executive Director, Breakthrough House.
Menu: Taco Salad and Brownies.
- 13 LWVT/SC Board Meeting –All members welcome.
Noon, O’Dooley’s, 1930 Westport Dr. (north of Petsmart on Westport Dr.)

April 7 ANNUAL MEETING @ TSCL, 9:30 am. Speaker: NANCY BOYDA, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. *Menu: Rolls, Fruit and Coffee. Cost: \$5.00*

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



PreZ SeZ...

Grading the States (Services for Serious Mental Illness)

The January Tuesday Topics' speaker, Rick Cagan, Exec. Dir., NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Kansas, provided those in attendance with copies of the "Report on America's Health Care System for Serious Mental Illness". This report is the first comprehensive survey and grading of the public adult mental health care systems in more than 15 years. Public systems serve the most seriously mentally ill with the lowest incomes. I will attempt to give you a synopsis of this report here.

As a nation, the U.S. earned a "D" grade over-all. Kansas did even worse scoring an "F". Joining us in the "failing" ranks were (8): Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. Nineteen states scored "D"s while 17 received "C"s. No states received an "A" but 5 states were able to score a "B": Connecticut, Maine, Ohio, So. Carolina and Wisconsin. Colorado and New York did not respond to survey questionnaires.

One of the 3 landmark documents used to provide a measuring stick for the survey was provided by the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. Dr. Jane Adams, Exec. Dir., Keys for Networking, here in Kansas, was a member of that commission. Keys for Networking is an advocacy organization for consumers and their families that assists them in finding resources to meet their needs.

The national director of NAMI says mental illnesses cause more disability than any other class of medical illness in the nation. He says treatment works if you can get it. Accessibility is a key issue. Here in Kansas inconsistency across the state or even within a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) is commonplace. We are behind the curve on the de-

criminalization of mental illness. The availability, quality and timeliness of crisis services are woefully inconsistent. Acute inpatient treatment is insufficient to meet the need.

This report cites some innovations being tried in other states. In Illinois, they are using real estate transaction fees to finance low income housing. In Kentucky, DWI fines are being used for a telephone triage system for jails. A prescription feedback system in Missouri has reduced hospitalizations and unnecessary poly-pharmacy.

In order to bring our service delivery system for the mentally ill out of the dark ages, we must improve data collection, involve and listen to consumers and their families and eliminate the stigma and discrimination that the people involved endure.

Next month the Director of the Association of CMHC's in Kansas will be speaking at Tuesday Topics. He will share their report which will probably paint a little brighter picture. The national report card for Kansas did note that a number of our CMHC's rated a "B" grade. Their report will speak to consumers who are receiving or have received services in their CMHC's, whereas the NAMI report is also concerned about those who have fallen through the cracks.

Until February 6th, remember to stand up and speak out for good government!

Jan Waide

PAGE 2

OBSERVER REPORTS

FROM

County Commission by Jan Waide

December 7, 2006

The Commission voted to gift Judge Terry Bullock with two 13 year old chairs that had sat in his office through his term of office as a retirement gift.

The Department heads were directed to brief the Commissioners before they meet with the Shawnee County legislative delegation before the session begins.

December 21, 2006

Considered authorizing a Cereal Malt Beverage License for a Dillon's Store at 6829 SW 29th St. The question was raised since this area has been annexed by the city, why is the County to authorize this license? The County Clerk responded that there is a lawsuit regarding the annexation and therefore, the county continues to be the licensing authority until the law suit is settled.

Dir. Gillespie, Corrections, asked that the term of the agreement with Prison Health Services be extended for one year. Twenty to twenty-five percent of the jail population is on psychotropic drugs and the recidivism is much higher with that population.

January 4, 2007

The issue of the conditional use permit for the Sheriff's shooting range at 21st and Hodges Rd. was revisited. Two people spoke in opposition to that issue. They stated that the Sheriff's Dept. has been re-active rather than proactive. There is some thought that making the current site safe will be very expensive. Final vote was delayed until 3-1-07.

The Public Works Dept. asked approval of a contract with the City of Topeka for a Consolidated Project Information Management System which will give the public access to information on a public works project on the computer. This would simplify the point of access for the public. They would be able to learn of any city/county project in their neighborhood. They could also add projects considered in the future so that the public could know and could comment.

Following the meeting, presentations were made to Marice Kane upon her retirement from the Commission.

January 18, 2007

Exemptions from property tax for the year 2007 (for the retention/creation of jobs) were considered for the following businesses:

- Innovia
- Josten's
- HME, Inc. (2)
- Target, Inc.
- Mainline Printing, Inc.(2)
- Goodyear Addition III
- Goodyear Addition II

Alliant

Four of these requests were deferred to 1-25-07 for lack of documentation. Others were approved. HME, Inc. and Alliant created more jobs than required in their exemption.

They canceled the 1-29-07 Commission meeting.

We are set for the evening of Feb. 15 at O'Dooleys for the local voice meeting beginning at 5:30

Consent Agenda January 2007: Officers' and Committee Reports

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—Jan Waide

Met with Monica (new manager of Millenium Cafe) and Bonnie Cuevas, Scheduling Clerk, at the TSCPL to plan and confirm all events/menus through April.

Recruited chairs for the Annual Meeting Budget Committee and the Immigration Study Committee as well as members for those committees.

Recruited people to staff the sign-in table at T.T



VICE-PRESIDENT—Gwen Elliott

I received two reports on the City Council meeting from Joe Sargent yesterday, which I will soon process and submit to the Voter. The State League Study Committee is corresponding about the consensus process and preparing for our VOICE meetings to answer the consensus questions. I sent Rick Cagan a copy of the consensus questions at his request.

January Tuesday Topics' speaker, Rick Cagan, Exec. Dir., NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Kansas.

MEMBERSHIP—Nancy Whiffen

Due to the holidays, there hasn't been much membership activity. We still have approximately 117 members in the LWV Topeka-Shawnee County League. I have no report on new members but I have learned over the holiday period that fresh pomegranate seeds are really tasty in a green salad.



BOARD BRIEFS

Plans for upcoming meetings dominate January Board Session

By Edith Bronson, Secretary

Seven Board members and one League member were present for the January 9 Board of Directors meeting. Treasurer Sybil Weigman reported that the State PMP had been made; membership rolls totaled 103 at meeting date for Per Member Payment to LWVUS.

President Jan Waide appointed these committees:

Budget—Chair Charlotte Adair, Sybil Weigman, Anne Baker, Georgia Sandlin, exofficio Jan Waide. Meeting is at 9:30 am, January 20.

Immigration Study—Co-chairs Mary Kopp and Lois Scibetta, Gwen Elliott, Pat Stinson, Georgia Sandlin, Teresa Stambaugh. Work begins when LWVUS sends materials.

Upcoming Tuesday Topics:

Feb—Speaker Mike Hammond, Ex. Dir. Assn of Ks Community Mental Health Centers. Menu is baked potato bar.

Registrars: Nancy Whiffen, Jo Ann Myers

Mar—Speaker Glenn Yancy, Breakthrough House. Menu is taco salad, brownie

Registrars: Georgia Sandlin, Phyllis Kelly

Apr—Speaker Claudia Larkin, YWCA Executive Director, on R.A.C.E. Menu is quiche, salad, cookies

Registrars: Sybil Weigman, Lucy Demanचाux

Other upcoming meetings:

Bishops' Conference on Mental Health and Common Good, 3-8 PM, Sunday, February 11, First United Methodist

Local Mental Health VOICE meeting—5:30 PM, Thursday, February 15 at O'Dooley's. Judy Moler, study chair.

Annual Meeting—9:30 AM, Saturday, April 7 at the Library. Coffee, rolls, fruit at \$5.00

Congresswoman Nancy Boyda will speak.

New Committees Formed

Dr. Lois Scibetta and Mary Kopp will be chairing the national study committee on Immigration. Pat Stinson, Dottie Harder, Georgia Sandlin and Gwen Elliott will be serving on that committee.

LWVUS reports that the scope of the study is to include the underlying values and principles regarding immigration, reasons for immigration, current federal immigration policy, and the impact of immigration. It should be very interesting for the next two years.

Annual Budget Committee

Charlotte Adair is Chairing this committee with Ann Baker, Georgia Sandlin and Sybil Weigman serving. The 2007-2008 budget and budget narrative will be published in the next Voter.

Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas

Who Are We

The 28 licensed Community Health Centers (CMHCs) have a combined staff of over 4,500 providing mental health services in every county of the state in over 120 locations. Together they form an integral part of the total mental health system in Kansas

Mission

To promote a system of efficient, effective, and accountable behavioral healthcare accessible to all Kansans through licensed and locally governed Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs).

The primary goal of CMHCs is to provide quality care, treatment and rehabilitation to individuals with mental health problems in the least restrictive environment. The CMHCs provide services to all those needing it, regardless of economic level, age or type of illness. The CMHCs strongly endorse treatment at the community level, in order to allow individuals to keep functioning in their own homes and communities, at a considerably reduced cost to them, third-party payers, and/or the taxpayer

Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Kansas

Kansas CMHCs provide care to over 100,000 citizens per year. Patient loads have doubled over the past ten years largely as a result of deinstitutionalization. During the period from 1970 to 1997, the State Hospital average daily census declined by more than eighty percent. Many of these former hospital patients now rely on CMHCs for mental health services to maintain their ability to live in their own community.



Mr. Mike Hammond, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas.

Tuesday Topics are held in room JCM 101B, across from the Millennium Cafe at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, unless otherwise indicated.. Meals are available to the first twenty-five arriving, @ \$8.25/ea. Checks payable to the Millennium Cafe. If you need a ride to any League event, contact [Betsy Rohleder](#).

LWVUS NEWS

Bishops' Conference on Mental Health and the Common Good

Sunday, February 11, 2007 . 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

First United Methodist Church.

6th & Topeka Boulevard, Topeka

An opportunity for religious people to meet, discuss and learn how we as individuals and how our churches can work with the issue of mental illness.

Workshops

The History of Mental Health in Kansas Since 1948 . Roy Menninger, former president, The Menninger Foundation.

Advocacy and Mental Health in the 2007 Legislative Session: What new laws and services are being considered for those with mental illness?

Rick Cagan (or designee)

Children, Mental Health and the Law: What services are available for families with children with mental illness? Scott Wasserman, an attorney specializing in youth and the law. the law .

Crisis Intervention and the Church: How does the church respond to mental illness situations? Edith Funk, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, retired from Menninger and a retired United Methodist pastor.

Housing for Persons with Mental Illness: Successful programs in Topeka. Glen Yancy, Breakthrough House, Topeka.

Employment for Persons with Mental Illness: What are the job opportunities for gainful employment? Tom Bridges, Breakthrough House, Topeka.

Schedule for the Conference

3:00 p.m, Registration

3:30 p.m. Opening worship service

3:45 p.m. First workshop session

4:45 p.m. Second workshop session

6:00 p.m. Supper

6:30 p.m. Bishops' panel discussion

7:40 p.m. Closing worship service

8:00 p.m. Adjournment

A light supper will be provided for a free-will offering. While there is no registration required. we do need a count for the meal.

> Please send the number attending from your church to Robert Harder at rharder6@cox.net or call 785-272-8726.

First United Methodist is located on the southeast corner of 6th Street and Topeka Boulevard near downtown Topeka,

Please enter through the west door nearest Topeka Boulevard.

News & Tuesday Topics.....5-7
 Board Briefs.....4
 Observer Reports.....3
 Prez Sez.....2
 Calendar.....1

VOTER, February, 2007

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Topoka, KS 66614
 3371 SW Osborn Rd.
 Patty Dick, Editor



YES!

I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters. I enclose:

- ___\$53 for 1-year Individual Membership ___\$75 for a 1-year Household Membership
- ___\$85 for a 1-year Sustaining Membership ___\$25 for a 1-year Student (ages 18- Membership
- ___I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$_____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone (hm) _____ (wk) _____
 E-Mail (for Action Alerts) _____

Please send to:
 Sybil Wiegman, Treasurer
 2805 SW Tall Grass Dr.
 TOPEKA, KS 66614-6026
 785-478-1679

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Topeka-Shawnee County



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF TOPEKA/SHAWNEE COUNTY
VOTER

President: Jan Waide
1618 SW 28th St.
785-233-7008 (h)

Membership: Nancy Whiffen
215 N. Broadmoor
785-235-2104 (h)

Voter Editor: Pat Dick
3371 SW Osborn Rd.
785-272-8461 (o)

FEBRUARY 2007

- 6 Tuesday Topics - Lunch 11:30 am, TSCPL
Speaker will be Mike Hammond, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas. *Menu: Baked Potato Bar and Dessert*
- 13 LWVT/SC Board Meeting –All members welcome.
Noon, O’Dooley’s, 1930 Westport Dr. (north of Petsmart on Westport Dr.)

MARCH 2007

- 6 Tuesday Topics - Lunch 11:30 am, TSCPL
Speaker will be Glenn Yancey, Executive Director, Breakthrough House.
Menu: Taco Salad and Brownies.
- 13 LWVT/SC Board Meeting –All members welcome.
Noon, O’Dooley’s, 1930 Westport Dr. (north of Petsmart on Westport Dr.)

April 7 ANNUAL MEETING @ TSCL, 9:30 am. Speaker: NANCY BOYDA, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. *Menu: Rolls, Fruit and Coffee. Cost: \$5.00*

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



PreZ SeZ...

Grading the States (Services for Serious Mental Illness)

The January Tuesday Topics' speaker, Rick Cagan, Exec. Dir., NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Kansas, provided those in attendance with copies of the "Report on America's Health Care System for Serious Mental Illness". This report is the first comprehensive survey and grading of the public adult mental health care systems in more than 15 years. Public systems serve the most seriously mentally ill with the lowest incomes. I will attempt to give you a synopsis of this report here.

As a nation, the U.S. earned a "D" grade over-all. Kansas did even worse scoring an "F". Joining us in the "failing" ranks were (8): Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota. Nineteen states scored "D"s while 17 received "C"s. No states received an "A" but 5 states were able to score a "B": Connecticut, Maine, Ohio, So. Carolina and Wisconsin. Colorado and New York did not respond to survey questionnaires.

One of the 3 landmark documents used to provide a measuring stick for the survey was provided by the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health. Dr. Jane Adams, Exec. Dir., Keys for Networking, here in Kansas, was a member of that commission. Keys for Networking is an advocacy organization for consumers and their families that assists them in finding resources to meet their needs.

The national director of NAMI says mental illnesses cause more disability than any other class of medical illness in the nation. He says treatment works if you can get it. Accessibility is a key issue. Here in Kansas inconsistency across the state or even within a Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) is commonplace. We are behind the curve on the de-

criminalization of mental illness. The availability, quality and timeliness of crisis services are woefully inconsistent. Acute inpatient treatment is insufficient to meet the need.

This report cites some innovations being tried in other states. In Illinois, they are using real estate transaction fees to finance low income housing. In Kentucky, DWI fines are being used for a telephone triage system for jails. A prescription feedback system in Missouri has reduced hospitalizations and unnecessary poly-pharmacy.

In order to bring our service delivery system for the mentally ill out of the dark ages, we must improve data collection, involve and listen to consumers and their families and eliminate the stigma and discrimination that the people involved endure.

Next month the Director of the Association of CMHC's in Kansas will be speaking at Tuesday Topics. He will share their report which will probably paint a little brighter picture. The national report card for Kansas did note that a number of our CMHC's rated a "B" grade. Their report will speak to consumers who are receiving or have received services in their CMHC's, whereas the NAMI report is also concerned about those who have fallen through the cracks.

Until February 6th, remember to stand up and speak out for good government!

Jan Waide

PAGE 2

OBSERVER REPORTS

FROM

County Commission by Jan Waide

December 7, 2006

The Commission voted to gift Judge Terry Bullock with two 13 year old chairs that had sat in his office through his term of office as a retirement gift.

The Department heads were directed to brief the Commissioners before they meet with the Shawnee County legislative delegation before the session begins.

December 21, 2006

Considered authorizing a Cereal Malt Beverage License for a Dillon's Store at 6829 SW 29th St. The question was raised since this area has been annexed by the city, why is the County to authorize this license? The County Clerk responded that there is a lawsuit regarding the annexation and therefore, the county continues to be the licensing authority until the law suit is settled.

Dir. Gillespie, Corrections, asked that the term of the agreement with Prison Health Services be extended for one year. Twenty to twenty-five percent of the jail population is on psychotropic drugs and the recidivism is much higher with that population.

January 4, 2007

The issue of the conditional use permit for the Sheriff's shooting range at 21st and Hodges Rd. was revisited. Two people spoke in opposition to that issue. They stated that the Sheriff's Dept. has been re-active rather than proactive. There is some thought that making the current site safe will be very expensive. Final vote was delayed until 3-1-07.

The Public Works Dept. asked approval of a contract with the City of Topeka for a Consolidated Project Information Management System which will give the public access to information on a public works project on the computer. This would simplify the point of access for the public. They would be able to learn of any city/county project in their neighborhood. They could also add projects considered in the future so that the public could know and could comment.

Following the meeting, presentations were made to Marice Kane upon her retirement from the Commission.

January 18, 2007

Exemptions from property tax for the year 2007 (for the retention/creation of jobs) were considered for the following businesses:

- Innovia
- Josten's
- HME, Inc. (2)
- Target, Inc.
- Mainline Printing, Inc.(2)
- Goodyear Addition III
- Goodyear Addition II

Alliant

Four of these requests were deferred to 1-25-07 for lack of documentation. Others were approved. HME, Inc. and Alliant created more jobs than required in their exemption.

They canceled the 1-29-07 Commission meeting.

We are set for the evening of Feb. 15 at O'Dooleys for the local voice meeting beginning at 5:30

Consent Agenda January 2007: Officers' and Committee Reports

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—Jan Waide

Met with Monica (new manager of Millenium Cafe) and Bonnie Cuevas, Scheduling Clerk, at the TSCPL to plan and confirm all events/menus through April.

Recruited chairs for the Annual Meeting Budget Committee and the Immigration Study Committee as well as members for those committees.

Recruited people to staff the sign-in table at T.T

VICE-PRESIDENT—Gwen Elliott

I received two reports on the City Council meeting from Joe Sargent yesterday, which I will soon process and submit to the Voter. The State League Study Committee is corresponding about the consensus process and preparing for our VOICE meetings to answer the consensus questions. I sent Rick Cagan a copy of the consensus questions at his request.



January Tuesday Topics' speaker, Rick Cagan, Exec. Dir., NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Kansas.

MEMBERSHIP—Nancy Whiffen

Due to the holidays, there hasn't been much membership activity. We still have approximately 117 members in the LWV Topeka-Shawnee County League. I have no report on new members but I have learned over the holiday period that fresh pomegranate seeds are really tasty in a green salad.



BOARD BRIEFS

Plans for upcoming meetings dominate January Board Session

By Edith Bronson, Secretary

Seven Board members and one League member were present for the January 9 Board of Directors meeting. Treasurer Sybil Weigman reported that the State PMP had been made; membership rolls totaled 103 at meeting date for Per Member Payment to LWVUS.

President Jan Waide appointed these committees:

Budget—Chair Charlotte Adair, Sybil Weigman, Anne Baker, Georgia Sandlin, exofficio Jan Waide. Meeting is at 9:30 am, January 20.

Immigration Study—Co-chairs Mary Kopp and Lois Scibetta, Gwen Elliott, Pat Stinson, Georgia Sandlin, Teresa Stambaugh. Work begins when LWVUS sends materials.

Upcoming Tuesday Topics:

Feb—Speaker Mike Hammond, Ex. Dir. Assn of Ks Community Mental Health Centers. Menu is baked potato bar.

Registrars: Nancy Whiffen, Jo Ann Myers

Mar—Speaker Glenn Yancy, Breakthrough House. Menu is taco salad, brownie

Registrars: Georgia Sandlin, Phyllis Kelly

Apr—Speaker Claudia Larkin, YWCA Executive Director, on R.A.C.E. Menu is quiche, salad, cookies

Registrars: Sybil Weigman, Lucy Demanचाux

Other upcoming meetings:

Bishops' Conference on Mental Health and Common Good, 3-8 PM, Sunday, February 11, First United Methodist

Local Mental Health VOICE meeting—5:30 PM, Thursday, February 15 at O'Dooley's. Judy Moler, study chair.

Annual Meeting—9:30 AM, Saturday, April 7 at the Library. Coffee, rolls, fruit at \$5.00

Congresswoman Nancy Boyda will speak.

New Committees Formed

Dr. Lois Scibetta and Mary Kopp will be chairing the national study committee on Immigration. Pat Stinson, Dottie Harder, Georgia Sandlin and Gwen Elliott will be serving on that committee.

LWVUS reports that the scope of the study is to include the underlying values and principles regarding immigration, reasons for immigration, current federal immigration policy, and the impact of immigration. It should be very interesting for the next two years.

Annual Budget Committee

Charlotte Adair is Chairing this committee with Ann Baker, Georgia Sandlin and Sybil Weigman serving. The 2007-2008 budget and budget narrative will be published in the next Voter.

Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas

Who Are We

The 28 licensed Community Health Centers (CMHCs) have a combined staff of over 4,500 providing mental health services in every county of the state in over 120 locations. Together they form an integral part of the total mental health system in Kansas

Mission

To promote a system of efficient, effective, and accountable behavioral healthcare accessible to all Kansans through licensed and locally governed Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs).

The primary goal of CMHCs is to provide quality care, treatment and rehabilitation to individuals with mental health problems in the least restrictive environment. The CMHCs provide services to all those needing it, regardless of economic level, age or type of illness. The CMHCs strongly endorse treatment at the community level, in order to allow individuals to keep functioning in their own homes and communities, at a considerably reduced cost to them, third-party payers, and/or the taxpayer

Meeting the Mental Health Needs of Kansas

Kansas CMHCs provide care to over 100,000 citizens per year. Patient loads have doubled over the past ten years largely as a result of deinstitutionalization. During the period from 1970 to 1997, the State Hospital average daily census declined by more than eighty percent. Many of these former hospital patients now rely on CMHCs for mental health services to maintain their ability to live in their own community.



Mr. Mike Hammond, Executive Director, Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas.

Tuesday Topics are held in room JCM 101B, across from the Millennium Cafe at the Topeka-Shawnee County Public Library, unless otherwise indicated.. Meals are available to the first twenty-five arriving, @ \$8.25/ea. Checks payable to the Millennium Cafe. If you need a ride to any League event, contact [Betsy Rohleder](#).

LWVUS NEWS

Bishops' Conference on Mental Health and the Common Good

Sunday, February 11, 2007 . 3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

First United Methodist Church.

6th & Topeka Boulevard, Topeka

An opportunity for religious people to meet, discuss and learn how we as individuals and how our churches can work with the issue of mental illness.

Workshops

The History of Mental Health in Kansas Since 1948 . Roy Menninger, former president, The Menninger Foundation.

Advocacy and Mental Health in the 2007 Legislative Session: What new laws and services are being considered for those with mental illness?

Rick Cagan (or designee)

Children, Mental Health and the Law: What services are available for families with children with mental illness? Scott Wasserman, an attorney specializing in youth and the law. the law .

Crisis Intervention and the Church: How does the church respond to mental illness situations? Edith Funk, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, retired from Menninger and a retired United Methodist pastor.

Housing for Persons with Mental Illness: Successful programs in Topeka. Glen Yancy, Breakthrough House, Topeka.

Employment for Persons with Mental Illness: What are the job opportunities for gainful employment? Tom Bridges, Breakthrough House, Topeka.

Schedule for the Conference

3:00 p.m, Registration

3:30 p.m. Opening worship service

3:45 p.m. First workshop session

4:45 p.m. Second workshop session

6:00 p.m. Supper

6:30 p.m. Bishops' panel discussion

7:40 p.m. Closing worship service

8:00 p.m. Adjournment

A light supper will be provided for a free-will offering. While there is no registration required. we do need a count for the meal.

> Please send the number attending from your church to Robert Harder at rharder6@cox.net or call 785-272-8726.

First United Methodist is located on the southeast corner of 6th Street and Topeka Boulevard near downtown Topeka,

Please enter through the west door nearest Topeka Boulevard.

News & Tuesday Topics.....5-7
 Board Briefs.....4
 Observer Reports.....3
 Prez Sez.....2
 Calendar.....1

VOTER, February, 2007

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Topoka, KS 66614
 3371 SW Osborn Rd.
 Patty Dick, Editor



YES!

I want to add my voice to yours by joining the League of Women Voters. I enclose:

- ___\$53 for 1-year Individual Membership ___\$75 for a 1-year Household Membership
- ___\$85 for a 1-year Sustaining Membership ___\$25 for a 1-year Student (ages 18- Membership
- ___I am unable to join the League at this time, but enclose a contribution of \$_____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone (hm) _____ (wk) _____
 E-Mail (for Action Alerts) _____

Please send to:
 Sybil Wiegman, Treasurer
 2805 SW Tall Grass Dr.
 TOPEKA, KS 66614-6026
 785-478-1679

Make checks payable to League of Women Voters of Topeka-Shawnee County