



# The Collier County **VOTER**



Volume 29, Issue 5

January 2004

## MORNING SESSION

***Kids who don't fit the system:  
how they achieve success?***

**Speaker - Loren Hoffman, Ph.D.**

Children and youth with learning and emotional disabilities are kids who don't fit the public school system.

So how well does the public school system do at addressing their special needs and making a fit for them, at equipping them to achieve success? Join us for a challenging exploration of this under examined topic.

Loren Hoffman holds a Ph.D. in school psychology. He taught in the Collier County Public Schools in 1979 and 1980 and then spent over ten years in private clinical practice. Five years ago he opened the Hoffman Learning Center; five months ago he opened Journeys, a private school for LD and ED students.

Editorial: Naples Council elections Debates belong on TV/ by **Naples Daily News**  
**December 20**, League of Women Voters of Collier County is the friend of voters who want to be informed. Its mission is voter education. To that end, the League has sponsored candidates debates in county and city of Naples elections for several decades. Televising those forums live and on tape is a natural. Until now. A majority of City Council members are balking at extending the tradition for the upcoming election season "when four of the seven mayoral-council seats are scheduled for voter review. Council cites legal advice that says if the city approves televising this special event on its cable channel, it may have to accommodate others less reputable than the League. What a negative, cynical response to a positive, traditional endeavor. After all these years, why the big fear now? It is reminiscent of when the Celebration Community Church asked council's per-

*Deficite -  
ultentur*

*Obserance doesn't work -  
lots are punished & not helped.*

## AFTERNOON SESSION

***Pre-K Dilemma in Florida***

**Speaker - Cornelius (Pat) Concho**

Prior to returning to Naples a dozen years ago, our speaker Cornelius Cocho had a varied and interesting career.

Born in Belize Central America, Pat went to Britain for his university education and received both his bachelor and master degrees from the London School of Economics. He returned to Belize for a time serving as Economic Secretary. Then he went to the University of the West Indies at Trinidad and Tobago as a lecturer in International Economics and International Relations.

Pat joined the World Bank in 1969, and was with it twenty years in various capacities, and in a number of different countries, mainly in Africa.

His retirement in Naples has been an active one since almost immediately he became involved in assisting disadvantaged students in Immokalee as a tutor and mentor.

He has been a concerned citizen in the educational area and is going to talk with us about the Pre-K dilemma in Florida. Pat's wife of over 50 years, Laura, has also been active in the community, serving on the board of the Funtime Nursery for a number of years.

**WHEN:** **January 19th**  
**10:30 a.m. Morning Session**  
**12:00 p.m. Luncheon**  
**12:30 p.m. Afternoon Session**  
**WHERE:** Our normal meeting place  
**Professional Development Center**  
**615 Third Avenue South**

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

Nicole Ryan, Chair

At the December General Meeting's Morning Session, Linda Young, Southeast Regional Director of the Clean Water Network, spoke about our water crisis.



While I believe that we all understand the critical importance of clean water for people and the environment, most of us do not have a good understanding of what is really happening in our state.

During her presentation, Linda related many facts and figures that, at least for me, sent chills down the spine. I thought that some of her information is important enough to repeat. So, if you attended the meeting, this will be a repeat. If you missed the meeting, hang on – you will have a hard time believing what you are about to read.....

**Florida's population**

- 1950 – Less than 3 million
- Today – 16 million – using 7 billion gallons of water per day
- 2020 – 22 million plus people – expected to use 9.3 billion gallons of water per day

**Where does our water go?**

- Agriculture (there are over 2 million acres of crops in Florida) - Uses 3.2 billion gallons per day, or 45%
- Homes and businesses – 2.4 billion gallons per day, or 35%
- Industry, power plants and recreation (including golf) – 1.6 billion gallons per day, or 22%

**Rainfall**

- Statewide, Florida annually received about 53 inches of rainfall
- This equates to 150 billion gallons per day statewide

**Where does this rainfall go?**

- 38 inches per year, or 110 billion gallons per day, evaporates
- Plants drink up quite a bit of water
- 8 inches per year runs off into surface waters
- 7 inches per year percolates into our aquifers (very important because on a daily basis right now, we are pumping about 90% of our water out of the ground)

**Water Use**

- On average, Americans use between 147 and 180 gallons of water per day
- Floridians use 176 gallons per day per household
- Germans use 72 gallons per day
- Egyptians use 35 gallons per day
- Indians use 18 gallons per day
- Ugandans use 2 gallons per day
- On any give day, Disney World uses more water than the entire nation of Somalia with 7.2 million people – that is almost 15 million gallons per day at Disney

Every year another 75,000 acres of new lawns are created

in Florida. Half of all water from public utilities is used on lawns.

As of six months ago, there were about 1,300 golf courses in Florida, all of which need to be watered. The number has surely increased since then, as Florida adds new golf courses every day.

**The bottom line**

- Our water supply is diminishing and there is not enough clean groundwater to meet the state's needs.
- Our water quality is decreasing.
- Rapid population growth and unbridled development are at the root of Florida's water woes.
- Water costs are going to continue to increase.

**What can you do?**

- Pay attention to Legislative issues, get involved and be informed
- Learn more about the Clean Water Network at [www.cwn-se.org](http://www.cwn-se.org)
- Get involved with the Florida Water Coalition, of which the League is a partner, at <http://www.flawildlife.org/pubs/watercoa/>

All above information generously provided by Linda Young, Southeast Regional Director of the Clean Water Network.

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

Alda Rowe Pierce, Chair

There will not be an International Relations meeting on February 6, but notice of the March meeting will be in the February newsletter.

**League of Women Voters  
Of Collier County Florida  
239-263-4656  
Lwvcc@naples.net**

**Officers and Directors**

President	Claire MacMillan
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Janet Smith	Katherine Todd

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**EDUCATION: FCAT STUDY COMMITTEE**

If you are interested in the issues surrounding the FCAT in Florida, please contact Kathy Ryan. The group will be meeting periodically to discuss it's value. Copies of the FCAT are available and there are many questions about the difficulty of these tests. Allocation of State Resources for the FCAT will be discussed as well as the outline to Counties for research. You may contact Kathy at 593-7818.

**GOVERNMENT:** No January report.

**JUSTICE:** No January report.

**MEMBERSHIP:** No January report.

**SOCIAL POLICY:** No January report.

**CONCURRENCE**

It's now time for League member agreement phase of our update of the update of our 30+ year-old position on the Selection of the President.

The concurrence response form and background information is in the January-February issue of the *National Voter*.

We, as a League, will go over this at the January General Meeting. Please make every effort to at-

DATE	TIME	EVENT	PLACE
Jan 14	8:00 a.m.	Social Policy	Crissy's Wild Side Cafe
19	10:30 a.m.	General/Public Meeting	Professional Development Center
23	7:00 p.m.	Naples Election Candidates Forum	Collier Commissioners' Chambers
26		<i>VOTER</i> article <u>deadline</u> for February	
Feb 2		Board Meeting	
5		VOTER mailing	LWVCC office
6	9:30 a.m.	<i>NO</i> International Relations Committee	Watch for our March meeting!
11	8:30 a.m.	Social Policy Committee	Crissy's Wild Side Cafe
16	10:30 a.m.	General/Public meeting	Professional Development Center
23		VOTER article <u>deadline</u> for March	
Mar 5	9:30 a.m.	International Relations	Alda Rowe Pierce's home

Reservations for Lunch are \$12, including the Program. Please call the League office, 263-4656, by 1116 with your reservation. Program only, is \$3. Members are responsible for their reservation unless it is cancelled by 1116.



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*League of Women Voters of Collier County*

**Yes, I am interested in the League X**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
 ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$60/year Adult \* (new membership)  
 \$30/year Second adult \*  
 \$30/year Student \*      \* Includes National & State VOTERS

*Please mail this form with your check to:  
 League of Women Voters of Collier County  
 660 Ninth Street North Suite 35-A  
 Naples, FL 34102*

Your Interests:  Website work     Government     Justice  
 International Relations     Natural Resources     Social Policy  
 Voter Service     Hospitality     Membership  
 Office Staff     VOTER Editor     Education

*The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, political organization working to  
 promote political responsibility through informed and active  
 participation of all citizens in their government.*



**Democratic Primary on  
March 9, 2004**

If you want to vote in  
this Primary,  
you must register to vote as a  
Democrat before February 8,  
2004

