



## WFWP USA Logic of Love News

Angelika Selle  
April 2015

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

**Collaboration, synergizing, walking the walk, maternal heart, true partnership with men, "Forgive-Love-Unite," service opens doors, women's heart network** -- these are key words you will come across as you read this month's edition of the Logic of Love News. Why do I point them out?

As we continue to highlight and report on last month's Women's History Month and women as peacemakers, these were words that particularly struck me, because they describe some of the qualities, mindsets and actions needed for true peacemaking. To me they represent some of the crucial qualifications for being a true peace leader, especially when it comes to addressing the many social ills in our homes, communities, and nation. One of the most burning issues here in the United States, which has come again and again to our attention and needs to be resolved, is RACISM. Please don't miss the attached video footage of a recent co-sponsored WFWP USA Bridge of Peace event in Las Vegas entitled, "Resolving Racism," and ask yourself the question, "What does it really take to resolve this deep wound in our country?" There are many views on the issue -- and even more deeply rooted emotions on both sides -- that need reconciliation and healing.

One thing is certain, women who have the above-mentioned qualities within themselves are called at this time to be role models and peace leaders. Another thing that is certain is that we cannot do this by ourselves, as both our young writer Julia Granstrom mentions in her article on cyber-violence, and Las Vegas Chairwoman Kimiyo Anceny reminds us. We need to be in true partnership and synergy with men in order to move forward and find solutions to our social ills.

Professor Francis Sejersted, onetime chairman of the Nobel Prize Committee, said in 1991 on the occasion of a young woman democracy activist, Aung San Suu Kyi, receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, and who was still being held in detention by the military dictatorship in Burma, "We are dependent on persons who set examples, persons who can symbolize what we are seeking and mobilize the best in us. Yes, we need courageous peace-leader role models, who can be ordinary women and men like you and me, but who are courageous enough to model for the rest of us."

Have confidence to step forward like our dear chairwoman in Philadelphia, Mrs. Jizly Dohou, who challenged her limitations to speak in public and did wonderfully! (Read "Walking the Walk.")

Finally, on a lighter note, let's keep our minds fixed on that which is



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [FEATURE: Young Woman's Perspective](#)
- [Solving Racism: The Role of Women as Peacemakers](#)
- [Women's Empowerment Fair](#)
- [Synergy Through Collaboration Empowers](#)
- [INSPIRATION: Whispered Prayers](#)
- [When Women Collaborate, Miracles Happen](#)
- [A Great and Valuable Gift: WFWP Honored](#)
- [Service Opens Doors](#)
- [Walking the Walk: WFWP Activities Honored](#)
- [Women's History Month Honors the Philippines](#)
- [Celebrating Women](#)
- [Creating Peace Through Relationships](#)
- [Introducing the Hmong People](#)
- [Journey to Laos and Back](#)
- [Young Women's Initiative: What is Love Post](#)

beautiful and good, thus nurturing our souls every day. Let's clean our homes and be of good cheer to all those around us!

Happy April!  
Angelika

## FEATURE: Young Woman's Perspective Cyber-violence & Empowerment

Ms. Julia Granstrum



My first day in New York was spent running to presentations in a sea of simultaneous presentations about the problems women and girls face around the world as well as the solutions that have been developed for facing those problems. Though the conference was lively and energetic, the city full of people; as hard as I tried, I was not as lively as I wanted to be due to jet lag. Then

the speaker at the WFWP Luncheon, Patience Stephens, said, "Power and change must come from those on the platform reaching out to those who are not. We each have a responsibility, each and every one of us."

My ears perked up, my jet lag stifled for the moment. She was talking about the need for more experienced women to mentor other women, which is my kind of ball game.

To give some background, this was my first time attending the UN Women's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at the UN Headquarters in New York. Quoting from their website, the CSW "promotes women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women." The CSW is made up of NGOs that focus on improving the lives of women around the world. Every year the CSW meets to talk about the gaps and the successes that have brought women closer or further away from the policies set in the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

[Continue reading...](#)

## NEVADA Solving Racism: The Role of Women as Peace Makers

By Mrs. Leslie Rigney

An event, "Solving Racism", which highlighted 'The Role of Women as Peace Makers' was held at the College of Southern Nevada, on the Cheyenne Campus, in North Las Vegas, Nevada, on March 26, 2015.

Dr. Sondra Cosgrove, a Caucasian history professor at CSN, was very interested in the topic. It was with her help that it became a co-sponsored event, and was held in the Horn Theater. Students could earn extra credit by attending. Many students were interested when we handed out flyers for the event during the "Women's Empowerment Fair" on campus. Both the Office of



The Panelists listening intently

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WFWP Nepal Relief Fund



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Community Relations, Diversity, and Multicultural Affairs and the CSN Women's Alliance co-sponsored the program with WFWP.



The panel being interviewed by Monica Lenoir

The event was moderated by Ms. Monica Lenoir, who is the CEO and Founder of Network Nevada, an online networking company. Monica is also involved with the Clark County School District, one of the nation's largest, where she does fundraising for projects to support students. She is the

Director of Public Relations for WFWP Las Vegas Chapter and the spokesperson for the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Nevada.

The stage was very attractive, with a comfortable chair and a large couch for the speakers. The program began with the moderator's request to two high school student volunteers, who are in the "Leaders in Training" program, to give a dictionary definition of the word "racism". Then she asked the general audience to give a definition of racism. Through this, Monica demonstrated that peoples' understanding of racism varies considerably. Environment, one's personal perspective, and one's personal experiences can change an individual's understanding of racism; therefore, it would be beneficial for us all to be open to each other's varying opinions and perceptions about racism, rather than thinking it is a static, stationary issue.

[To see a video encapsulating the event follow this link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0PIXOfblTE&feature=youtu.be>.

To read the article published in the CSN student newspaper, go to:  
<http://coyotestudentnews.com/2015/04/08/women-form-bond-crossing-over-the-bridge-of-peace/>

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## NEVADA Women's Empowerment Fair

By Mrs. Kimiyo Anceney

On March 4, the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) held a Women's Empowerment Fair on their campus in front of the Student Service Building. When the Las Vegas Chapter of WFWP was preparing for the March 26th "Solving Racism-The Role of Women as Peace Makers" panel discussion, we asked Dr. Sondra Cosgrove, History Professor at CSN, to be a panelist and she had accepted. She then suggested we participate in the fair in order to promote the event and get more student participation. We set up a booth on campus, and brought flyers and information about WFWP and the Solving Racism event to distribute.



Ms. Monica Lenoir talking with students

Through our participation in the fair, we met the main organizer of the CSN Women's History committee as well as the CSN Office of Community Relations, Diversity & Multicultural Affairs who decided to co-sponsor the "Solving Racism" program. As a result, the principles and work of WFWP became better known to them.

We were able to speak to hundreds of students during the four hours we were there at the fair. Ms. Monica Lenoir, the dynamic moderator for the "Solving Racism" panel discussion, spoke to many students as you can

see in the photo. All of the WFWP members who participated felt empowered through meeting so many interested young people. It is good to see that young people are seriously thinking about how to make the world they live in a better place for all people.

Share on our website...



The team on campus telling students about the Solving Racism event

## VIRGINIA - Richmond Synergy through Collaboration Empowers

By Richmond Chapter of WFWP

*"In the ideal of true love, a woman exists as a man's noble partner, as the recipient who can reciprocate his love. From the perspective of value, a man and a woman are equal."* Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon

As spring quietly and inevitably replaces the chill of winter, many opportunities to celebrate and empower one another through synergy arise. On the day before Easter Sunday, WFWP USA collaborated with the International Family Church in Richmond, Virginia, to host a Women's History Month event honoring women as peacemakers and peace leaders and celebrating a new era of synergy between women and men.

Following WFWP's founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's, guidance on cooperation and synergy; and, as part of Richmond's International Family Church's annual activity to raise awareness of women's issues to celebrate and empower women in leadership as true peacemakers; the International Family Church and the Richmond Chapter of WFWP invited WFWP USA President Angelika Selle and newly appointed Vice Presidents Katarina Connery to be featured at the luncheon.



Lively entertainment

The event brought together an international group of couples, partners in ministry, and inter-generational leadership. The purpose was to



Fr Bayo Adrien and Mrs. Ayano Ishii-

Adrien

investigate ways to create synergy  
centering on couples and to

discover how to partner in healthy working relationships on all levels.  
Mrs. Ayano Ishii-Adrien, Chairwoman of the Richmond Chapter of  
WFWP, took the lead in preparing, planning, and opening up this event  
with Father Bayo Adrein, her husband, partner, and pastor of the  
FFWPU (Family Federation for World Peace and Unification),  
Richmond's International Family Church IFC).

The highlight of the event was celebrating the newly appointed WFWP USA Vice President Katarina Connery together with her husband, Dr. Michael Connery, who had both served in the Richmond ministry up to that point. As young adult members of the Richmond International Family Church, they have actively sought to represent the heart of cooperative leadership that is required and essential for achieving the ideal world of peace and mutual prosperity.



Mrs. Katarina Connery

It was an honor to have WFWP USA President Rev. Angelika Selle and her husband Robert Selle, join the event. Through presenting their harmonized working relationship, based on mutual respect and support, the late Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's work as the ultimately synergized couple could be exemplified and introduced. As the founders of WFWP and numerous other organizations around the world, they have taught the Principles of Peace stating that, when men and women work together as couples, humanity can break through the age-old barriers of gender, race and cultural backgrounds to create a new culture of harmony and peace in the family, society, nation, and world.

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## INSPIRATION Whispered Prayers

By Mrs. Katherine Cromwell

I hear the whispers of my sisters in the wind  
Praying, speaking of the things held deep within their hearts.  
Not yet ready to speak them loud  
Preparing for the time when all will see  
Just what Mother God has spoken things to be.

Whispers, prayers, lofty aspirations  
Of a mother's painful heart;  
Mother stands by and watches, waits,  
Encourages, empowers, waits  
To see if her children finally choose  
To go a way that will fulfillment bring.

In the meantime, prays and cries herself to sleep,  
Watches as their choices bring forth ruin and destruction  
Of the purity and beauty lodged deep  
Within her children's souls  
Covered over now by selfishness and greed.  
Faithlessness that cannot bring them home  
To live safe within her heart of pure true love.

My children, where are you headed?  
What can you call your own?  
Why can't you see that deep within your soul  
Is an eternal child of mine

Strong and brave and true.

Come home my child and find relief  
All you really need is here  
And together we will build a world with truth  
Where true love will reign supreme  
And all will know the ways to give  
That bring love into the soul.

Finally on earth Creator  
Will find relief from fear  
That his children will seek  
To go the way of darkness and despair.  
When the light of truth can guide them home  
To be where they belong  
And where security abounds.

A mother whispers in the wind  
Prayers of life and light she breathes  
Calming wounded souls to find relief  
To try again to make their way in life  
Until peace is all there is.  
A mother's prayers reach Heaven's heart  
And move fortune to touch her children's lives  
The mother of the universe  
Cries thus for you and me.

## ILLINOIS

### When Women Collaborate, Miracles Happen

By Minister Fannie Smith

The Chicago Chapter of Women's Federation for World Peace (WFWP) and the Love Train Ministry joined the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC) in a historical collaboration on March 28, 2015 at the Greater Harvest MB Church. This phenomenal group of women merged to re-ignite the presence of Women In Ministry (WIM), which is a project of ACLC, for the Chicago and Midwest area.

In keeping with the program theme, "Women United in Heart for the Family," prominent clergy, civic leaders, and diverse communities were represented. This event was strategically orchestrated by Evangelist Greta Myers, Founder of Love Train, Sister Carried Tonkumoh, the Family Church, and Minister Fannie Smith, WFWP, in conjunction with a great team of volunteers. Sister Claudette Muhammad, Nation of Islam, served as hostess and greeter.



Women working together for peace

WFWP and WIM sister chapters were represented from Michigan, New York, Oklahoma, Washington, D.C., and Indiana. Min. Reiko Jenkins and Rev. Marilyn Kotulek, WIM Chairpersons, are leading a four-state project (Illinois, California, New York, and Oklahoma) to inspire women to promote true families and the life motto "living for the sake of others," centering on a living relationship with God.

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Women united in heart for peace

## NEW JERSEY

### A Great and Valuable Gift: WFWP Honored

By Mrs. Denneze Nelson

New Jersey's chairwoman, Mrs. Denneze Nelson, is a talented speaker, and she gave a powerful speech at the United Nation's annual CSW (Commission on the Status of Women), event last month. Previously, Mrs. Nelson had been invited to speak at the Africa New Hope Association event on February 22. After an invigorating speech, she received a standing ovation and was then approached by Dr. Ada Okika from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to give a speech for the CSW 59. Without hesitation or knowing the full details, Mrs. Nelson said yes.

Later when Dr. Okika sent out the details for the event, Mrs. Nelson was surprised to learn that she had been invited to be a keynote speaker for the only event addressing the issue of Spiritual Evaluation of the Beijing Declaration at the CSW 59. Mrs.

Nelson felt honored that she had the opportunity to highlight WFWP's cofounders', Rev. Dr. Sun Myung Moon's and Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's views to the UN's environment. Mrs. Nelson read excerpts from Rev. Moon's speech; "Messages of Peace" as well as Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon's Peace Messages. Mrs. Nelson shared about the ideals of Women's



Mrs. Denneze Nelson



CSW New Jersey participants

Federation for World Peace from her speech. A significant quote that she shared follows: "The Women's Federation for World Peace strongly promotes realizing God's ideal world and a world which centers on the ideal of True Parents."

During her speech there were numerous instances of applause; and afterwards many participants requested copies of the speech. One guest at the event stated, "You could see the room get brighter as you spoke; this was so uplifting." Mrs. Nelson was accompanied to the event by other affiliated organizations: Africa New Hope Association (ANHA), Association of Christian Evangelicals; and Family Federation for World Peace (FFWP). Each person in the group who attended with her was from a different continent and so represented most of the world.

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## NEW JERSEY - Paterson Service Opens Doors

By Ms. Emily Cornier

For over two decades Mrs. Claire Haider has been an advocate of service and uplifting communities throughout the country. Claire started out in WFWP as the first vice Regional Director in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Ohio in 1992. In 2000 in New Jersey- where she and her family now reside-she was requested by a church leader to do some interfaith outreach in a low income neighborhood called Paterson, the third largest city in New Jersey. From that time she has never left.

Claire and her family have now been leading the WFWP Paterson New Jersey chapter and have done extensive service work there. "I can never leave Paterson alone. I have a lot of foundation with different groups there. Paterson is an inner city community and there are a lot of problems there. I love Paterson. I love the people and I understand that there are a lot of unfortunate situations there," Claire reflected. She and her daughter, Meadow Tallakson, have gained a reputation as women the community trusts and have become an invaluable support system for many organizations they have been working alongside.



Mrs. Claire Haider helping community leaders



Some of the donations

"I think of service work as networking," says Claire. "You have to be willing to reach out and work with different organizations, too." There are various organizations that WFWP has been collaborating with in Paterson, including Women Against Family Abuse, the Passaic County African American 100 Women Plus, and the American Muslim Union of New Jersey.

One of the simplest and most effective ways that Claire and her team have been able to serve and make a difference in Paterson is to buy and give out necessities that food stamps don't cover. Claire points out that there is a great need for small materials like shampoo or toilet paper, which the government doesn't provide. She and her team are always on the lookout for sales for commodities that she can give to the people of Paterson.

"Through serving them, by bringing coats and bringing supplies, my daughter and I and others in our chapter...

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## PENNSYLVANIA Walking the Walk: WFWP Activities Honored

By Mrs. Jizly Dohou

I had the most unforgettable experience on the evening of March 31 at the Yeadon community meeting that was attended by city councilors, business leaders, and event coordinators. It was the launch of an annual community program to commemorate women who are active in



With Yeadon Mayor Rohan Hepkins

the community and to honor women who demonstrate service for others. Because WFWP initiates many activities here in Pennsylvania, it was chosen as one of the top five organizations that demonstrate the inner meaning of living for the sake of others through the Love IQ abstinence program that uplifts and pursues moral values for youth. I was chosen to be one of five women in the spotlight here in Pennsylvania, and

was asked to be a speaker at this event.

Ahead of me were several great speakers. One was Ms. Sandra Wilks who is a Human Resources specialist and also a member of WFWP. I didn't know at the time I met her just how influential a person she is in Pennsylvania. As I listened to her speak, I felt a channel of love and inspiration flow to me.

As for me, even though I am used to speaking before people, I felt so insecure before they called me up to speak. This time, with over 70 community leaders and council members, I was so anxious and had no confidence. But, as I was giving my speech I felt strong energy coming to me. I felt the founding spirit of WFWP cheering me on. I felt proud that I could represent the great and valuable gift that is within WFWP. With that strength I introduced WFWP to those assembled.



Smiling together after the speech

[Continue reading on our website](#)

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## ARIZONA Women's History Month Honors the Philippines: Women's Heart Network

By Ms. Rhia Nkulu

WFWP Arizona Chapter celebrated International Women's Month, and we were honored to have Mrs. Merly Barette-Barlaan visiting Arizona from the Philippines. She was our guest speaker and she inspired our guests with her projects and the vision of WFWP in the Philippines, the "Women's Heart Network."



Mrs. Merly Barlaan

Some Japanese women joined us and prepared delicious sushi, while some Filipina women contributed a wonderful dessert. The American women were in charge of registration, drinks, and the photo booth. Everyone helped as the welcoming committee and in the physical arrangement of the venue. It was a team effort and all our Arizona ladies and their friends came together to make this event a success.

Additionally, WFWP Arizona honored some outstanding women in the community, especially an 84-year-old lady who has been volunteering at the Veterans Administration Hospital for 15 years. She and her daughter and granddaughter were so grateful to be recognized, that her daughter donated \$200 to both WFWP Philippines and WFWP Arizona. After the

event, we received a thank you card from her, as she was so happy for her plaque. She and her daughter said that the WFWP ladies are the best group of women they had known and wanted to be a part of the next event!

The event was so heart-warming and exemplified the spirit of living by the logic of love that we are looking forward to doing this again next year. We would like to do this annually so that we can find women who have done exemplary things and recognize their service and honor them in the spirit of the founders of WFWP.

[Read on our website and share!](#)



Women honored for exemplary service and heart

## MARYLAND Celebrating Women

By Mrs. Vicki Phelps

The Maryland Chapter of WFWP hosted an event honoring International Women's Month on March 28 in Silver Spring, Maryland. A total of 23 people attended, including 13 guests. Recognizing the many crises facing our communities and the world, the theme of "Women as Peacemakers" was highly relevant.

After opening remarks by Maryland Chairwoman Mrs. Kim Dadachanji and a video describing the international activities of WFWP, a panel of three women addressed the theme.

Mrs. Katarina Connery, recently appointed Vice President of WFWP USA introduced the mission and vision of WFWP and current activities across the United States.

Mrs. Angelika Selle, President of WFWP USA, spoke about a new type of leadership that needs to be cultivated, creating leaders with the ability to make peace a reality. (Read her speech next.) There were many nods of agreement from the audience as she spoke of a need for leaders with high morals, values, compassion, and love who will combat the social ills of today. Next, Madam Rebecca Holland, a longtime supporter of WFWP and an Ambassador for Peace, spoke eloquently on the noble principles of WFWP and its work globally and locally based on a mother's heart, which is needed everywhere. She gave a heartfelt testimony of her own mother, and the heart of sacrifice and devotion she



Mrs. Kim Dadachanji introduces WFWP

demonstrated toward her children.



Japanese Women's Peace Choir

These inspiring messages from Mrs. Selle and Madam Holland were followed by the Japanese Women's Peace Choir that sang two beautiful songs and uplifted the audience. The event concluded with small group discussions of how each woman can be an effective peacemaker in her own life, in her family, and in the community. In one stimulating discussion, several women expressed their deep concern for the issue of racism in the United States and of their desire to improve this situation. One woman, who came from a multi-ethnic background, even declared that she will not work with any organization unless it is addressing the racial issue.

People left inspired by WFWP's vision, and were looking forward to engaging in the future activities of the local Maryland chapter.



Emiko Butler and Rebecca Holland

[Read on our website](#)

## Women as Peace Makers and Peace Leaders Presentation in Silver Spring, MD March 28, 2015

Mrs. Angelika Selle



Pres. Angelika Selle presenting in Maryland

Good afternoon, dear ladies, mothers, leaders, Happy Women's History Month! Thank you to the organizers of this important event, to Rebecca Holland, to the Maryland Chairwoman Kim Dadachanji, to Emiko Butler and all the Japanese women and mothers for preparing such a beautiful atmosphere here.

As we heard in our introduction, WFWP is committed to World Peace - with women playing a central role in the peace making. And "Women as Peacemakers" is the topic for today's event which is a rather huge subject to cover.

So as I was thinking and meditating on what to share with you today, I want to talk about:

- 1) The need for a new type of leadership for peace
- 2) Why women are best suited for being those "new" type of leaders
- 3) What are the characteristics of leadership for peace?
- 4) How to nurture and strengthen those qualities not only within ourselves, but in our sons and daughters and in the next generation.

### I . New paradigm for leadership

Let me also begin with quote from our founder, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon, who said in her inaugural speech...

[Continue reading on our website](#)

By Mrs. Zena Ruf

Have you ever had difficulty in your relationships with family, friends, co-workers, bosses, or acquaintances? Of course, you have. In fact, we all have.

On Saturday, March 28, Mrs. Maria Rodriguez introduced the vision,



Discussing peaceful relationships

mission, and history of Women's Federation for World Peace in a short PowerPoint presentation. She then shared from her heart with the twelve participants who came to the presentation, about "Creating Peace through Relationships." She explained that the first step in any relationship is to become self-aware. When a

difference arises, try to become aware of your own thoughts, feelings, needs, and ego.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What is it I really want at this moment?
- Is what I want coming from my heart or my ego?
- Will getting what I want help our relationship or hurt it?
- Will getting what I want strengthen our relationship or weaken it?
- If I keep insisting, what will that do to the peace of our relationship?

Maria continued by giving participants some guidelines for building better relationships; such as, listening with your ears and your heart, not criticizing your partner or friend in public, building trust into your relationship, cultivating an attitude of gratitude and being ready to forgive.

The participants interacted with Maria and with each other through lively questions and discussion. The meeting ended with a light lunch, relaxed sharing, and each person received of a "goodie bag," to take home to remember the day.

[Read on our website and share](#)

## MINNESOTA Introducing the Hmong People

By Ms. Denise To

On February 7th, several members from the Minneapolis WFWP chapter attended a workshop given by the Hmong Nationalities Organization (HNO). For those of you who may not be familiar with the Hmong people, they are a distinct ethnic group with ancient roots in China. They



Contemporary Hmong in America

are generally from the hilly mountainous areas just south of modern China and currently consider Laos their country.

During destructive wars in Laos, many Hmong people migrated all over the world. There are about 200,000 Hmong people in the United States, with heavy concentrations in Minnesota, California, and areas of Wisconsin.

From 1975, Hmong refugees have come and made the Twin Cities metro area of Minnesota their home. They now number around 66,000. The largest populations of Hmong people live in China, an estimated two to three million.

At the workshop, Dr. Xoua Thao, MD who is the current president of HNO spoke about human rights issues, affirming that all humans have the right to live, the right to be treated as equals, and the right to freedom of religion. Then Mrs. See Thao, an attorney, talked about human trafficking. Finally, Mai Ker Vang gave a synopsis of her recent trip to Laos. She also introduced WFWP with a lot of heart and highlighted how WFWP works to solve human rights issues including human trafficking.

After the workshop, many people were very interested in learning more about WFWP and wanted to see how they can get more information and help with WFWP's cause. The WFWP chapter distributed flyers inviting people to an event on March 21st.



Traditional Hmong Men's clothing

Currently and coincidentally, there is an exhibit at the Minnesota Historical Society called "Hmong in Minnesota". To find out more about the Hmong People, you can visit the Minnesota History Center website: <http://www.mnhs.org/exhibits/we-are-hmong-minnesota>

[Read this article on our website](#)



Can Cau market, Flower Hmong (Arian Zwegers)

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## MINNESOTA Journey to Laos and Back

By Ms. Denise To

On March 21st, WFWP Minnesota Chapter invited Ms. Mai Ker Vang to be a guest speaker and talk about her recent trip to Laos, a small country in Southeast Asia which many Hmong people call home.

Mai Ker Vang works as a social worker and presently volunteers her



Ms. Vang speaking about Hmong people

time as a community advocate for the Hmong Nationalities Organization (HNO). She is also a host for a local Hmong radio program that airs once a week. Ms. Mai Ker Vang is also a fulltime wife and mother of four children. She is a driving force in the Hmong community, an

inspiring leader, and a role model to the Hmong community and to many others.

Her work as an Ambassador for Peace volunteer has changed her life and strengthened her faith. In her presentation, she opened by asserting, "The Principles of Peace have changed my life." She continued to talk about her concern for human rights issues which has become the main motivator for her work.

Then, as she spoke about her trip to Laos, she discussed her life there before coming to America. She spoke of how the Hmong People in Laos continue to live in poverty and she outlined the history of suffering of the Hmong people. Some of her experiences on her trip to Laos included meeting young high school girls that were already prostitutes, boys that walked on dirt roads to school, and of being scared of the communist Lao government. Mai Ker also provided an extensive slide show of stunning pictures that stunningly portrayed an image of what Laos looks like and a feel for the people living there. Her story and presentation inspired many of the participants.



Hmong traditional dress

Then, for lunch, everyone enjoyed a Hmong-inspired cuisine that consisted of white rice, papaya salad, fried noodles, and chicken. Through this day, attendees experienced a taste of the Hmong people's life both in Minnesota and in Laos. We look forward to working with the Hmong community in Minnesota both now and in the future.



Embracing the Hmong people

[Share this article from our website](#)

## NEW YORK - Westchester Young Women's Initiative: What is Love Post

By Ms. Kristi Mas

As St. Valentine's Day came and went, one of WFWP Westchester's women's groups carried the love-themed saint's day through to the end



Working on Love Posts

of the month. At this month's meeting we held the first "Love Post" event. "Love Post" is a new concept and activity created specifically for WFWP meetings. It is the act of hand-making and sending postcards anonymously to people in our local community.

Love Post postcards read: "Love Post was created to encourage the expression of creativity and provide loving support through the delivery of handmade cards/postcards"

The front of the postcards were decorated by everyone who attended. We used watercolor, stamp art, magazine collage, mixing mediums and creating unique imagery to inspire the recipient.

Here are photographs from our February 28th event. Thank you to everyone who helped in providing and preparing food and refreshments. Love Post was such a success that we will be having the second Love Post event in April. All are welcome, but space is limited.



Young ladies creating



[Read this article on our website and share](#)

## Editor's Note:

As Spring is in the air and the chill of winter is fading into the distance, there's lots going on in the world. We look forward to more opportunities to serve and empower the mother's heart in all women of the world.

Send in your articles and photos to empower us all! Let's pray for Nepal and [donate through the WFWP website](#).

KFC