

AT WHOSE COST? OUR CHILDREN

The League of Women Voters of the Lake Forest/Lake Bluff Area and Mothers Trust Foundation are co-sponsoring a panel discussion explaining how Illinois fiscal problems are affecting our children and our future. On Sunday, April 10, 2:00pm at the Gorton Community Center, 400 Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, the public is invited to hear three noted speakers address the ongoing tax issues Illinois faces with many of the resulting short- and long-term consequences.

The three speakers are Ralph Martire, Kathy Ryg, and Kristi Long. Ralph Martire, Executive Director of the bipartisan Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, will open the discussion. Mr. Martire is a regular columnist for the State Journal-Register and The Herald News on public policy and good government. Besides being a frequent lecturer on fiscal policy, Martire also teaches at Illinois State University and Benedictine University.

Kathy Ryg is well known to the Lake Forest area. From 2003 to 2009, she was the State Representative for the 59th Representative District, which includes parts of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. Ms. Ryg currently is President of Voices for Illinois Children. Ms. Ryg has worked tirelessly to improve early learning opportunities for young children, bolster after-school programs and services for youths in need, and increase schools' quality and accountability.

Our third speaker is Kristi Long, who is the President of United Way of Lake County. Ms. Long knows our area well and can demonstrate how the issues affect us locally. The United Way currently is working with over 50 agencies and has four key programs to prepare children for a changing world.

Please join us for this very frank and illuminating discussion. There will be time for questions after the presentations.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please see website www.lwv-lflb.org.

The Mothers Trust Foundation is a non-profit organization supporting social service providers by offering assistance to children in need in Lake County, Illinois. Please see website www.motherstrustfoundation.org.