

**The GFWC Woman’s Club of Westminster, Inc.**

**Press Release**

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**April 12, 2016 Woman’s Club hosts guest speaker Carroll County State’s Attorney Brian DeLeonardo.**

The GFWC Woman’s Club of Westminster, Inc. held its monthly meeting on April 12, 2016, at the Carroll Nonprofit Center. Sandy Ferguson, Membership Co-Chair, presented four new club members, Pat Minnich, Kathleen Hartzel, Barbara Vrany, and Lorraine Stoner to their fellow clubwoman.

Dolly Snyder introduced guest speaker Brian DeLeonardo, Carroll County State’s Attorney. The primary topic of DeLeonardo’s speech was domestic violence. This topic was particularly appropriate for his audience because the international GFWC Signature Project is the Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Fund which as their website states is “fully supported by donations from GFWC members, partners, and friends.” Domestic Violence is also an issue in which DeLeonardo says his office has made changes to improve assistance to its victims. Examples of those changes are having a victim work with the same advocates throughout their case, assigning domestic violence cases to the same judge’s docket; partnering with a local security company to offer home alarm systems to victims; and collecting supplies such as toiletry items and diapers needed by victims who often have to leave their homes to escape the violence with no time to take personal items. DeLeonardo said he also is in favor of continuing to have a safe house for individuals or families fleeing from their homes with no place to go.

GFWC Woman’s Club of Westminster, Inc. is a proud member of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs, a nonprofit organization that brings together local women’s clubs in a collective effort to strengthen communities and enhance the lives of others through volunteer service.

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These pics will accompany the PR to the CCT.

 

