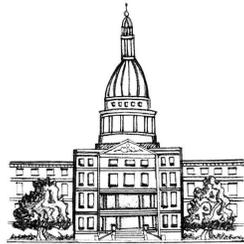




League of Women Voters Lansing Area



CAPITOL VOTER

MARCH 2015

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FOUNDING MOTHERS IS APRIL BOOK CHOICE



The LWV-LA book group will meet on Tuesday, March 10, at 10 am at the Grand

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

BUILDING ON THE PAST & MOVING FORWARD

During the past month, celebrations of the 95th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters have figured prominently in local League newsletters. Two recent events have reminded us of that important heritage and of the potential for a long future for the organization.

Although we plan to mark that important date formally at the May 19 annual meeting, the initial meeting of the Jackson unit on February 20 (see story elsewhere) seems like an especially fitting anniversary commemoration. There was wonderful energy and dedication in this group of Jackson residents, bringing together former members and people who were interested in joining because they knew of the League's reputation

Traverse Pie Company to discuss *Crusader for Justice*, the story of Judge Damon

Keith. Beany Tomber will lead the discussion, primarily focused on the cases decided by the federal courts.

Founding Mothers by Cokie Roberts is the selection for the April 14 meeting of the group and the book will be available at both Schulers. Please contact Beth Moore mooreeee@msu.edu if you'd like to be on the list for emails and don't hesitate to join us even if you haven't read the book.

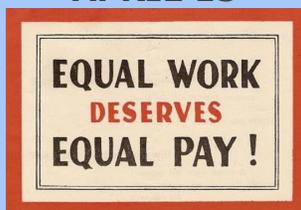
Quick Links

[LWVLA Website](#)

[LWVMI Website](#)

[LWVUS Website](#)

EQUAL PAY DAY APRIL 15



Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into 2015 women must work to earn what men earned in 2014. This

for working to increase active and informed citizen participation and promote knowledge of major policy issues.

The League's long-standing reputation for providing citizen education was also evident as LWV-LA joined with other local organizations to promote voter registration and an informed citizenry prior to the statewide special election, as well as in future elections. It was particularly gratifying to hear the praise for the League's voter education efforts in high schools, reinforcing a new effort underway by the Voter Service committee.

LWVLA HOSTS FORUMS ON BALLOT PROPOSAL

Mid-Michigan voters can learn about the statewide ballot proposal on road funding at three community forums sponsored by the LWVLA. Plan to attend one of these sessions and encourage your friends and colleagues to join you. All programs begin at 7 pm and will feature a presentation and questions from the audience. Here's the schedule:

- Tuesday, March 31 - Delta Township Library. Bob Schneider, Director of State Affairs for Citizens Research Council of Michigan
- Wednesday, April 1 - Capital Area District Library's downtown branch. Judy Karandjeff, Vice President, LWV-MI. Co-sponsored with the Lansing City Clerk's office.
- Thursday, April 2 - East Lansing Hannah Community Center. Craig Thiel, Senior Research Associate, Citizens Research Council of Michigan. The two proposed East Lansing charter amendments will be discussed briefly at the end of the program.

year, the event will be held on Wednesday, April 15 with a rally in Capitol Rotunda at 1 pm. There will be an optional Issues Briefing from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. [Click here](#) for a link to the Issues Briefing registration form.

For the past 15 years, League members Judy Karandjeff and Mary Pollock (representing AAUW) have coordinated this event.

READY TO RUN MICHIGAN 2015

Ready to Run Michigan is a nonpartisan campaign training program designed to empower women to participate more fully in government and specifically to encourage women to run for elected and appointed office. Interested? For more information, go to [**Grand Valley State University's**](#) web site.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- **Tuesday, Mar. 31 - May 5 Ballot Proposal Forum** at Delta District

Looking for information on the May 5th ballot proposal? Go to <http://lansing.mi.lwvnet.org/> for a one-page hand-out and a copy of the PowerPoint presentation.



NEW LEAGUE UNIT FORMS IN JACKSON

On an especially cold day in February a group gathered at the Jackson Library, marking the formation of a new unit of the Lansing area League. Called together by Mary Lee Clark, LWV Member-at Large, the group now has ten members and they have plans to work on voter service and conducting educational forums. A couple years ago, Mary Lee attended a community forum where Sue Smith, LWV-MI President, was talking about re-districting and she decided that Jackson once again needed to have a League. The new members are officially part of LWV-LA and they are encouraged to attend events in Lansing. But the group will also be working toward becoming an independent League group in Jackson.

IT'S NO JOKE! ARE YOU READY TO VOTE ON MAY 5?



It's no joke! Are you ready to vote on May 5? That's the slogan for a March 9 press conference announcing a campaign for voter registration and community forums, ending on April Fools' Day. The Lansing City Clerk has organized a coalition of local clerks, school administrators, elected officials and interested community groups, including LWV-LA, to engage the public in the Lansing area to register to vote, be informed, and vote in the May 5 special election and every election.

- Library. 7 pm
- **Wed. April 1 May 5 Ballot Proposal Forum** at Capital Area District Library. 7 pm
 - **Thurs. April 2 May 5 Ballot Proposal Forum** at E. Lansing Hannah Community Center 7 pm
 - **Monday, Apr. 6 LWVLA board meeting**, LWVMI office 6 pm
 - **May 15 - 17 LWVMI Convention** in Kalamazoo. Registration information will be sent Mar. 15.
 - **Tuesday, May 19 LWVLA Annual Meeting.** More information in the April Capitol Voter

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Lola Dodge (Jackson Unit)

Susan Firth (Jackson Unit)

Marie & John Fisher (Jackson Unit)

Marie Hamilton (Jackson Unit)

Nell Kuhnmuench

Janet Olszewski

Evelyn Quiroga

MARCH FOR BABIES

LWVLA has helped sponsor The March of Dimes Walk for Babies for the past two years and is again adding its support. The walk is on Friday, April 24. It begins and ends at the Old Town Fish Ladder. To register to participate, go to [March for Babies](#).