



League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



CAPITOL VOTER

MARCH 2016

LWVLA CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS SPRING 2016

March 28 - Lunch with the League Series --

11:30 am, Hall of Fame Café. A Personal Perspective on Advocacy, Judy Karandjeff, LWV-MI President

April 12 - LWV Book Group --10 am, Grand Traverse Pie Company, East Lansing, *The Fight to Vote* by Michael Waldman.

April 20 - Water Infrastructure: How do we know what is needed? -- 7 pm, Plymouth Congregational Church.

April 30 - Defending Democracy by Making Democracy Work, LWV-MI Workshop, Lansing.

May 10 - LWV Book Group --10am, Grand Traverse Pie Company, East Lansing, *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond.

May 17--LWV Annual Meeting -- 5:30 pm dinner,

Spartan Hall of Fame Café, David Hollister speaking on regional economic development.

CAPITOL VOTER HIGHLIGHTS

EQUAL PAY DAY 2016

DEFENDING DEMOCRACY WORK SHOP

NEW MEMBERS

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

LUNCH WITH THE LEAGUE

APRIL 20 WATER PROGRAM

BOOK GROUP NEWS

2016 VOTER SERVICE

DATA ON CHILDREN & YOUTH

HEALTH ISSUES REPORT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK



The nominating committee,

A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



WHY LEAGUE IS SO IMPORTANT IN THIS ELECTION YEAR

As you're all aware, the 2016 election cycle is proving to be of concern to those who believe in the democratic process. Many of us are feeling helpless as we watch the lack of civility and rancor that seem to be taking over national politics. However, we must remember how important the work of the League of Women Voters is in providing non-partisan services to voters. Throughout the United States, local Leagues continue to have an impact on what happens in their communities. In short, we do things that model a civil political process.

LWV- Lansing Area's work is an example of the importance of local Leagues. We hold forums with a structure that provides a civil and fair environment for candidates to state their ideas. We distribute non-partisan Voter Guides and provide on-line information through VOTE411.org so voters can thoughtfully consider candidates' positions on issues. We register voters, and provide both adult and youth voter education.

Our efforts are now more important than ever in Making Democracy Work. Now is a great time to get involved.

consisting of Beany Tomber, Cele Friestater, and Ellen Link, are beginning their work of preparing a slate of nominees for the 2016-17 LWVLA board.

All suggestions for prospective board members are most welcome.

Contact Beany at Beany@wkar.org.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD LOBBY DAY IS MARCH 23

Participate in a day filled with lobbying training, an overview of legislation affecting Planned Parenthood, meetings with legislators, and educational training on issues affecting Michigan. [Click here](#) for registration information.

Watch the *Capitol Voter* for opportunities, either long or short term, as we enter the 2016 election cycle.

Camilla Davis & Beth Moore

PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE ON ADVOCACY



Join other League members for lunch on Monday, March 28, at 11:30 am at Hall of Fame Café in East Lansing. Judy Karandjeff, LWV-Mi President, will be the speaker for the first program in the new series "Lunch with the League." Judy will draw on her many experiences in various organizational and governmental roles and talk about the League's advocacy efforts. This new series of lunches provides selected League members an opportunity to reflect on career and community experiences. Please RSVP to Camilla Davis at cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 20 PROGRAM ON WATER



As the drinking water crisis in Flint continues to dominate public attention, the League is planning a community forum on Wednesday, April 20 to focus on drinking water and its delivery infrastructure in the tri-county area. Plans are being finalized to

**EQUAL PAY
DAY IS APRIL
12**



This date symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year. At 9:00 am, the Michigan Equal Pay Day Coalition will hold an issues briefing, followed by a rally at 12:30 pm on the Capitol steps in Lansing. The issues briefing requires registration, due April 5, 2016, but the rally is open to the public. [Click here](#) for registration information.

**DEFENDING
DEMOCRACY BY
MAKING
DEMOCRACY
WORK**

This is the title for an April 30

include speakers from the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission and the Lansing Board of Water and Light. The program will be at

7 pm at the Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing. Watch the next Voter for more information.

BOOK GROUP NEWS

**BOOK GROUP FOCUSES
ON VOTING**



The League Book Group will be discussing *The Fight to Vote* by Michael Waldman on Tuesday, April 12, at 10 am at Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing. This is a comprehensive look at the struggle for voting rights written by the president of the Brennan Center for Justice. On May 10 the group will be discussing *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond. All book selections will be available at both Schuler's. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether or not you have read the book.

The group meets on the second Tuesday at 10 am at the Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing. For more information contact Beth Moore at mooreeee@msu.edu.

workshop sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Michigan at St. Paul Episcopal Church in Lansing, 9:30 am - 2:30. All League members are welcome to attend and you can find a registration form at lwvmi.org

. The program will focus on the League's advocacy work on voter rights, voter protection, money in politics and redistricting. Former Michigan Senator Gretchen Whitmer will be one of the speakers.

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBER**

**Ginger Ogilvie
of East Lansing
actively
supports local
schools,
strengthening
communities**

**LEAGUE PLANS 2016
VOTER EDUCATION**



Are you interested in helping the LWV-LA advocate for more active participation in Making Democracy Work? The 2016 elections present both opportunities and challenges for the local League to get more people to the polls and to provide the electorate with information about the candidates and the issues. Volunteers are needed for all of the efforts outlined below.

The Voter Service Committee is developing a series of initiatives designed to increase voter registration in high schools and across the greater Lansing community, including housing complexes and neighborhood centers. We expect to work with city/county/township clerks in our voter advocacy campaigns.

We have also organized into county groups (Ingham, Clinton, Eaton, and Jackson) to facilitate the collection of information for Vote411.org and to ensure a more systematic distribution of printed copies of Voter Guides. These groups will also make recommendations for candidate forums and assist in their organization.

The committee is actively engaged in increasing public awareness about the importance of voting and the issues emerging in these elections through more targeted and effective media coverage-and we're looking for ideas and help.

If you would like to help in any way -

**and promoting
local food
systems.**

limited or long-range - please contact Marilyn Wilson, Voter Services Director, at 517-927-7164 or by email at wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com.

**VISIT OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE TO
SEE PHOTOS OF
THE FEBRUARY
28 LUNCH**



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LIKE US!**

Quick Links

[LWVLA WEB SITE](#)

[LWVMI WEB SITE](#)

[LWVUS WEB
SITE](#)

DATA ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH



Mary Scoblic, LWV-LA Children and Youth chairperson, reports that the American Public Health Association publishes state ranking data. This year Michigan has an overall ranking of 35 among the fifty states, meaning that 70 percent of the other states are doing better than Michigan in overall categories. Learn more about these findings by [clicking here](#). This data ties-in with the Kids Count information shared at the February 29th meeting by Alicia Guevara Warren from the Michigan League for Public Policy.

INFORMATION ON HEALTH ISSUES

[Click here](#) for information from Kathy Esselman, LWV-LA Health Care chairperson, in her monthly report on current health issues. This includes the recent report from the Ingham County Infant Mortality Committee.

