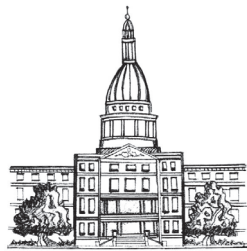




## League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



### *CAPITOL VOTER*

**SEPTEMBER 2016**

**LWVLA CALENDAR**

**Sept. 21** - Fall Welcome and Election Season Kick-off: *Making Democracy Work by Protecting Voting Rights*, 6:30 p.m.  
Plymouth Congregational Church, Lansing

**Sept. 28** - Candidate Forum, East Lansing School Board, 7 p.m.  
at Hannah Community Center, East Lansing.

**Oct. 6** - Candidate Forum, Ingham County: meet county commissioners at 6 p.m.; forum for prosecutor candidates at 6:30 and sheriff candidates at 7:30 p.m. Lansing's South Washington Office Complex, 2500 South Washington Avenue (former National Guard Armory)

**Oct. 11** - **LWV Book Group, 10 a.m. at Grand Traverse Pie Company, East Lansing**

**Oct. 12** - Candidate Forum, Delta Township Officials, 6:30 p.m.  
Delta Township Library

**Oct. 27** - *Shrinking Local Services: Where Will the Money Come From?* community forum and panel discussion, 7 p.m. at Plymouth Congregational Church in Lansing

**Nov. 8** - **ELECTION DAY** - Be sure to vote!! LWV observers will

be at selected polling places in Lansing and East Lansing  
**Nov. 10** - LWV lunch celebrating our voter service efforts-Hall of Fame Cafe

**Nov. 14** - LWVMI Government Finance consensus meeting- details later

**Nov. 15** - LWV Book Group, 10 a.m. at Grand Traverse Pie Company, East Lansing

### Clarifying the League's Policy

The League, as an organization, never supports political parties or candidates but we do take positions on issues, based on member study and consensus. League members, however, can be as active as they choose in supporting particular candidates or political parties. Only the League President (or co-presidents) or Voter Service Director cannot be involved with candidates or political parties.

#### **CAPITOL VOTER HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **JACKSON UNIT NEWS**

#### **BOOK GROUP NEWS**

#### **NEW MEMBERS!**

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS**

#### **SEPTEMBER 21 WELCOME MEETING**

#### **LEAGUE NEEDS YOUR HELP**

#### **3 CANDIDATE FORUMS**

#### **FORUM ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE**

#### **JACKSON UNIT ALSO PLANS CANDIDATE FORUMS**



Working in conjunction with the

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS**



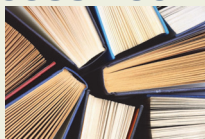
We are proud of the array of activities and events described in this issue of the *Capitol Voter*, truly representing the "two arms of the League"-program and voter service. We are deeply dedicated to providing as much voter education to the citizens of our four counties as possible prior to election-day. It is equally important for our members, and our community partners, to examine crucial policy issues such as voting rights and the provision of needed services by local units of government. We encourage your involvement in any of the volunteer activities highlighted in the *Voter* and we hope to see you at the program meetings this fall.

*Beth Moore & Camilla Davis*

#### **MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK BY PROTECTING VOTER RIGHTS**

Jackson Community Forum, League members are helping sponsor three community forums to better inform the public prior to the election. On September 15th, candidates for local offices (two contested county commission seats, Prosecuting Attorney and Treasurer) will discuss their views. On September 29th there will be a candidate forum for the 7th Congressional District and for the 64th and 65th House districts. On October 20th the group will sponsor a forum to educate voters about local government and about the voting process.

### **BOOK GROUP TO DISCUSS ECONOMY**



On October 11, members of the League book group will be discussing Robert Reich's *Beyond Outrage: What Has Gone Wrong with Our Economy and Our Democracy and How to Fix It.*

### **FALL WELCOME & ELECTION KICKOFF**

Plan to attend the special fall welcome and election kick-off on Wednesday, September 21 at 6:30 p.m. Merissa Kovach, American Civil Liberties Union, will discuss the status of voter rights in the state, including efforts to suppress and opportunities to expand. A social time and light refreshments prior to the discussion will highlight this League's current election efforts. Invite a friend or colleague to join you for this important program.

### **THE LEAGUE NEEDS YOUR HELP!**

This League is engaged in an extensive array of activities in this important election year and your help is needed! We encourage you to volunteer to help with any of the efforts marked with an \*\*.

#### **\*\*League Registers Area Voters**

New as well as long-time League members are answering the call from Marilyn Wilson, Voter Services Director, for volunteers to register voters up until the October 11th deadline. Here are some of the venues:

- All 3 LCC campuses-organized by the Lansing City Clerk but staffed by many League volunteers
- Working with MSU You Vote, to register and educate voters
- Peace Week events
- South Washington Park housing complex
- Rejuvenating South Lansing event
- Capital Area Career Center
- Charlotte High School

The League also participated in several

The group meets at 10 a.m. at the Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing.

The discussion on November 15 (note the date change) will focus on Naomi Klein's *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate*.

All books are available at both Schulers' Book Stores. Contact Beth Moore ([mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu)) if you'd like more information.

## WELCOME TO THE LEAGUE

We have two new members, bringing our total membership to 138.

**Sherri McConnell** lives in Okemos and as the Collection Development Specialist for the Capital Area District Library she selects the non-fiction books, movies and music for the system. She has lived in China, England and Mali.

**Billie Piazza** lives in Lansing and she is a retired registered dietician for

voter education efforts during the summer and more will be occurring in coming weeks. Please contact Marilyn Wilson ([wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com](mailto:wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com) or 517-927-7164) if you are interested in volunteering for voter education/voter registration activities.

### **\*\*Get Out the Vote!**

A new committee is forming to plan GET OUT THE VOTE efforts. Look for more details in the October voter and contact Beth Moore ([mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu) or 517-332-0096) if you are interested in helping.

### **\*\*Election Day Observers**

This League is once again participating in a national project, Public Advocacy Voter Protection (PAVP), to observe the election process. We will have observers at 15 locations in Lansing and East Lansing, working two hour shifts at selected times. Volunteers will be trained prior to election-day. Contact Camilla Davis ( [cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com) or 517-668-6156) or Beth Moore ([mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu) or 517-332-0096) if you'd like to volunteer for this important project.

### **\*\*Delivering Voter Guides**

A large number of League volunteers will be needed to help deliver printed voter guides (the LWVMI guide covering statewide offices and local voter guides for Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties). Voter guides should be available the first week of October. Sherlyn Hogenson ([s.hogenson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.hogenson@sbcglobal.net) or 517-882-8888) has mapped out an extensive list of sites for the guides and she is working with Beth Moore and Marilyn Wilson to coordinate plans. John Hanieski will develop a distribution plan for Eaton County.

Community Mental Health. Her long-time interest in the League was spurred on by conversations at the voter education table at the Allen Street Market.

**DONATE TO LWVLA OR  
PAY DUES ON-LINE!**

To donate to LWVLA or pay dues using a credit card or Pay Pal.

go to the [LWVLA](#) web site and click on either

**Donate** or **Join** in the list of options on the left side of the page.

Follow the directions for a quick and easy transaction.

**VISIT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE**

**FOR PICTURES OF THE  
ANNUAL MEETING AND  
THE LWVUS  
CONVENTION**



**BE SURE TO LIKE  
US!**

**QUICK LINKS**

[LWVLA WEB SITE](#)

**PLAN TO ATTEND A  
CANDIDATES'  
FORUM**



The Lansing Area League is sponsoring three important forums in the tri-county area, providing voters with an opportunity to hear the candidates discuss current issues relevant to the particular unit of government. Check the calendar (above) for more details about each forum.

**September 28** - The seven candidates vying for three positions on the East Lansing School Board will share their views at 7 p.m. at Hannah Community. Thanks to Kathy Esselman for helping organize this session and to Jenny Alvarez for serving as moderator.

**October 6** -Ingham County residents will have the opportunity to learn about the candidates for Prosecutor and for Sheriff. This election marks changes for both of these positions, with the replacement of long-time incumbents. All county commissioner candidates have been invited to meet their constituents in an informal session at 6 p.m. A candidate forum for prosecutor candidates will begin at 6:30 and the forum for sheriff will begin at 7:30. Jenny Alvarez and Marilyn Wilson have organized this forum and Camilla Davis will moderate.

**October 12** - Candidates for Delta Township Supervisor and for Trustee positions will answer audience questions at 6:30 p.m. at Delta Township Library. John and Deanna Hanieski have organized this session and Rita Klein will be the moderator.

Thanks to the many League members who are helping with these forums and

[LWVMI WEB SITE](#)

[LWVUS WEB SITE](#)

[LWVLMR\\*\\*](#)

**\*\*LWVLA is a member of the LWV - Lake Michigan Region. Click on LWVLMR for an update of the organization's initiatives.**

to Carol Swinehart for taking care of publicity.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!  
FORUM ON LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT FINANCE**



Many local units of government throughout Michigan are facing difficult financial conditions with few options for increasing their revenue sources. On October 27, the League will be sponsoring a community forum featuring Bob Kleine, an economist and former state treasurer who has written extensively about these issues. He will be joined by a small panel of local officials

**VOTE411.org**

**THE ON-LINE SOURCE FOR  
CANDIDATE INFORMATION**

**Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about VOTE411.org, the LWV on-line resource for non-partisan candidate information.**

**INPUT WELCOME!**

Comments and suggestions about the *Capitol Voter* are always welcome. Send your ideas to Camilla Davis at [cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com).