



## League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



### *CAPITOL VOTER* **SEPTEMBER 2017**

#### FALL LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

- **September 19** - 6:00 to 8:30 pm. **Our Democracy at Risk**, Judy Karandjeff, LWVMI President. Small plate appetizers and beverages will be served, with time for meeting other League members before the presentation. Unitarian Universalist Church, 5509 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing. (See Fall Kickoff for details)
- **September 24** - 6:30 pm. **Jackson Mayoral Candidate Forum**. Michigan Theater, Jackson.
- **October 10** - 10:00 to 11:30 am. LWVLA Book Discussion Group, Grand Traverse Pie, corner of Hagadorn and Grand River, East Lansing (See Book Discussion Group news)
- **October 11** - 6:00 to 8:45. **Lansing City Council & Mayoral candidates forum**. 2500 S. Washington, Lansing. (See Voter Service item for details)
- **October 18** - 7:00 p.m. **A Sustainable Future: Exploring Solar Options** panel discussion. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn, East Lansing. (See Sustainable Future item below for

details)

- **November 7 - Election Day** in some communities.
- **November 11 through 18 - LWVLA Fundraiser Days** at Schuler's Books. Shop and earn money for LWVLA. Watch for details.
- **November** date, time, and location TBD. Gun Violence Prevention program.

## **CAPITOL VOTER HIGHLIGHTS**

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

### **WILLIAM HARTUNG POSTPONED**

### **NEW MEMBERS**

### **JACKSON UNIT NEWS**

### **CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

### **REDISTRICTING UPDATE**

### **FALL KICK OFF SEPT. 19**

### **SUSTAINABLE FUTURE PROGRAM**

### **BOOK GROUP NEWS**

### **VOTER SERVICE REPORT**

### **LEAGUE PROVIDES LANSING ELECTION INFO**

**VISIT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**BE SURE TO *LIKE***

## **CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE**

### **THE LEAGUE IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER**



Involvement in the League of Women Voters can represent different pathways for each of us, depending on what is happening in our lives at the current time. For some it's a way to promote the democratic election process by registering voters and providing voter information. For others, it's learning about and advocating for issues by following legislation and contacting elected officials to express opinions. Or it can be a combination of voter service and advocacy. For another group, it's supporting the League by maintaining membership, even though they don't have time to volunteer. For many, it is also being able to read about issues and actions that are important in our current society. No matter what the reasons for belonging to the League, all have the same focus on Making Democracy Work. Each is involved in the process in his or her own way, and each way is important. As we begin the 2017 - 2018 League year, the LWVLA Program Committee is expanding the theme of Making Democracy Work to focus on Democracy is Not a Spectator Sport. There will be opportunities to learn, to volunteer, and to take action. In this edition of the Capitol Voter, there are articles about fall activities that, we hope, you'll find interesting. League members know that protecting democracy requires action and involvement. Be a part of our continuing effort to share this message with others.

**US!**

Beth Moore &amp; Camilla Davis

**WILLIAM HARTUNG  
TALK POSTPONED**

The *How the Arms Lobby is Distorting Our Budget Priorities* program has been cancelled for Monday, September 18 and will be rescheduled.

**REDISTRICTING UPDATE**

Having carefully weighed many options, the League of Women Voters of Michigan has decided to not support, at this time, the petition drive sponsored by Voters not Politicians (VNP). After working for many months with a variety of other groups, including VNP, the effort to form a broad-based coalition was not successful. League members are welcome, as individuals, to work on the petition drive. [Click here](#) for a link to a letter written by LWVMI President Judy Karandjeff and LWVMI Director for Redistricting Sue Smith explaining the League decision.



**Welcome to new  
Jackson Unit  
member  
Sarah Welton**

**JACKSON UNIT  
NEWS****FALL KICK OFF EVENT  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

LWVLA's Fall Kick Off event *Making Democracy Work* is Tuesday, September 19 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. We'll be meeting in the social room of the Unitarian Universalist Church at 5509 South Pennsylvania, Lansing.

- It begins at 6 p.m. with a small plate buffet. Come and enjoy a social time with League members and guests.
- The program will begin at 6:45 p.m. with highlights of upcoming League programs and events, plus opportunities to get involved in a variety of activities.
- The main event of the evening will be LWVMI President Judy Karandjeff speaking on the LWVUS democracy agenda to engage more voters in the election process and strengthen the laws that govern voting rights, money in politics, and



The Jackson Unit held a membership meeting on Wednesday, September 13. On the agenda were the following items, all important steps toward becoming an independent League.

- Adoption of a non-partisan policy.
- Adoption of a budget
- Adoption of Bylaws
- Election of officers:
  - President* - Mary Lee Clark
  - Vice President for Program* - Rosemary Edgar
  - Secretary* - Bobbie Bryant
  - Treasurer* - Linda Furgason.

The Jackson Unit is presenting a City of Jackson Mayoral Candidate Forum on Thursday, September 24 at 6:30 p.m at the Michigan Theater in Jackson.

other issues.

Guests are welcome! Please RSVP to Camilla Davis at [cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com) to help us plan for the small plate buffet.



### LWVLA FORUM ON A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: EXPLORING SOLAR OPTIONS OCTOBER 18

Interested in finding out how you can be a part of the movement to become more energy efficient? The LWV-LA environment work group will present a forum entitled "A Sustainable Future: Exploring Solar Options" at 7 p.m. on October 18 at Edgewood United Church on Hagadorn Rd. in East Lansing. Given the crucial environmental need to move toward becoming a sustainable society, which will itself be addressed, the discussion will focus on renewable energy options for individuals as well as institutions and business, and address both the challenges and opportunities. The panel of speakers will include representatives from Lansing Board of Water and Light and Consumers Energy, John Sarver of Greater Lansing Renewable Energy Association, and Jim Detjen of Michigan Interfaith Power and Light.

Their presentation will be followed by a question-and-answer period and possibly further discussion with fellow attendees.

*Ellen Link, Environment Work Group Leader*

### LWVLA BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP NEWS

The book group meets on the 2nd



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## QUICK LINKS

[LWVLA WEB SITE](#)

[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.**

## 2017-18 LWVLA BOARD

### Co-Presidents

Camilla Davis  
Beth Moore

### VP Program

Ann Marston

### Secreatry/ Membership

Deanna Hanieski

### Treasurer

John Hanieski

Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m.  
at the Grand Traverse Pie  
Company in East Lansing.



**October 10** - *The Fight is Our Fight* by Elizabeth Warren

**November 14** - *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah

**December 12** - *Climate of Hope* by Michael Bloomberg and Carl Pope.

All books are available on the book group table at both Schuler's. Everyone is welcome to attend, whether they've read the book, or not.

## VOTER SERVICE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FROM NOW TO NOVEMBER

Voter Service needs volunteers to help with three major projects happening this fall as part of our voter advocacy work. Registering people to vote doesn't guarantee that they will do so. Much of our work over the next two months will be to inform people about voting, to convince them to actually vote in the November election, and to help facilitate the voting.

You can help support the work of the League by volunteering in any of the following activities. Participating in any of these does not require a long-term commitment beyond the event(s) you volunteer for.

- **City of Lansing Candidate Forum** on October 11. All the Lansing candidates for City Clerk, City Council, and Mayor will be participating in a League-sponsored forum on Wednesday, October 11th, from 6:00-8:45, to be held at 2500 S. Washington, Lansing (the former armory). We will need volunteers to serve as greeters and to collect audience questions to deliver to the screeners during the forum.

- **Voter Guide Distribution** We need

**Director  
At- Large**  
Sherlyn Hogenson

volunteers to help distribute printed voter guides in early October to select places in Lansing-libraries, community centers, etc.

**Education**  
Jenny Alvarez

**Environment**  
Ellen Link

**Finance/Fund  
Raising**  
Debby Starnes

**Jackson Unit**  
Mary Lee Clark

- **Voter Advocacy Project.** LWVLA has a small grant from the state to participate in a program to encourage greater voter participation among underrepresented groups. We are excited to be working with Peckham Industries to provide information about voting to their clients, many of whom have disabilities that make voting complicated. The plan includes informational meetings about voting, providing absentee ballot applications for Peckham clients, assisting with voter registration or absentee ballot applications, and helping them negotiate voting at the polls.

**Membership/Web  
Master**  
Judy Culham

If you would like to volunteer in any of these activities, please call (517-927-7164) or email ([wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com](mailto:wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com)) Marilyn Wilson.

*Marilyn Wilson, Voter Service Director*

**New Member  
Liaison**  
Barbara Bidigare

**Parliamentarian/  
Government**  
Cele Friestater

**Publicity**  
Carol Swinehart

## LEAGUE PROVIDES INFORMATION TO VOTE

Tri-county, and Jackson, voters can access information on the League's **VOTE411** website and in Lansing *Voter Guides* about candidates and issues on the ballot for the November 7 election. For VOTE411, voters simply enter a zip code and can see what they will be voting on. In communities where there are city elections, candidates have been sent a questionnaire asking them to provide information about their priorities as an elected official. Thanks to Judy Karandjeff for stepping in to make certain that VOTE411 was available this year and to new member Bill Colville for assisting with this effort. A printed Voter Guide covering the candidates for Lansing mayor, city council and city clerk will be available about September 30. Thanks to

Dorothy Engelman for her help in formatting this publication. Please contact [Marilyn Wilson](#) if you can help distribute the voter guide.