



## League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



# *CAPITOL VOTER*

**MAY 2015**

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### **LWVLA ANNUAL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, MAY 19**

**6:00 pm**

**Plymouth Congregational Church  
2001 E. Grand River, Lansing**

### **Featured Speaker**

**Kathleen Straus, Michigan Board of  
Education**

### **Can We Save Public Education?**

Kathleen Straus, member of the Michigan Board of Education, will explore this topic during the Lansing Area League's 74th Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 19th, at 6pm. Kathleen, who is also a long-time League member from the

**LEGISLATORS**  
**MONEY IN POLITICS**  
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**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

**Tuesday, May 19**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**6:00 pm**

See article at right for details.

**Monday, June 1**  
**6:00 pm**

LWVLA Board Meeting

**Wednesday, June 10**  
**Equal Means Equal**  
**6 pm**

See article at right for details

**BOOK GROUP  
SELECTS  
FUTURE TITLES**



Detroit area, will discuss current policy issues such as school reorganization, privatization and funding that challenge Michigan's system of public education

The annual meeting will be held at Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 East Grand River in Lansing. A light supper provided by board members will be followed by a brief business meeting and then Kathleen's presentation. Don't miss this special evening and consider bringing friends or family members who are interested in education. Contact Beth Moore([mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu)) or Camilla Davis ([cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com)) with any questions

**Message from the Co-Presidents:  
Endings and Beginning**

May is a month of transitions within the League organization. Six local board members will be attending the state convention in Kalamazoo this weekend to adopt the program agenda for the next two years, elect new officers, and make other organizational decisions. We will proudly watch as Judy Karandjeff, LWV-LA, becomes the next president and Patience Drake-Rosenbaum joins the board in an at-large position.

The May 19 annual meeting in Lansing marks a transition point in the League's year, providing a time to recognize accomplishments, honor departing board members, and welcome new board members. We will be expressing collective gratitude to Judy Karandjeff and Kathy Lovell for several years of dedicated board service. We will also be welcoming new board members Sherlynn Hogeson, Carol Swinehart and Debbie Starnes. Annual Meeting is also the time to take care of the organization's business-adopting a budget for the next year, amending bylaws and reaffirming local program positions.

The LWV-LA Book Group is meeting on Tuesday, May 12, at 10 am at the Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing to discuss *Founding Mothers* by Cokie Roberts. Kathy Esselman will be leading the discussion. The group will also select book titles for discussions during the summer. Contact Beth Moore ([mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu))

if you want to be added to the book group mailing list.

### **NEWS FROM OUR JACKSON UNIT**



The Jackson Unit now has twelve members.

The Unit held its first forum, a program on the May 5 ballot proposal, on Wednesday, April 29. LWVMI VP Judy Karandjeff was the presenter.

We hope to see you on May 19!

### **LWV-LA Interviews Local Legislators**



Every two years LWV-Mi asks local Leagues to interview their local legislators concerning a few key policy issues that are covered by state League positions. One of the questions this year asks whether the legislator supports or opposes various proposals for making voting more convenient. Another question asks about proposed educational policy changes. Legislators are asked whether they support or oppose renewable energy standards beyond the current ten percent. They are also asked to identify other issues of concern. The collected information helps the LWV-Mi Advocacy Vice-President determine strategy for League action.

LWV-LA board members conducted the interviews: Camilla Davis and Deanna Hanieski talked with Senator Rick Jones; Kathy Esselman and Marilyn Wilson talked with Senator Curtis Hertel and Representative Andy Schor; Mary Scoblic and Deanna Hanieski talked with Representative Tom Barrett. Beth Moore and Jenny Alvarez will be talking with Representative Sam Singh and Camilla Davis hopes to meet with Representative Tom Leonard.

### **League Studies "Money in Politics"**



Would you be interested in joining with other League members to form a small study group this summer to examine the issue of money in politics? LWV-US is conducting a two-year national study of this topic, with consensus

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

JEAN BRISBO

CECILY SAVICK  
(Jackson Unit)

## GET THE LEAGUE UPDATE FROM LWVUS



Members are encouraged to join the League's online community to get the latest updates electronically. LWVUS will send e-communications that highlight legislative priorities, efforts to improve elections and educate voters, and news from Leagues around the country. Sign up at: <http://lwg.org/get-involved>.

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questions being sent to local Leagues in September. A local study group could gather information on the issue and help make the presentation of consensus questions more meaningful. The national committee has added two titles to the suggested mailing list: *Corruption in America: From Benjamin Franklin's Snuff Box to Citizens United* by Zephyr Teachout and *Buying the Vote* by Robert Mutch. Contact Beth Moore at [mooreeee@msu.edu](mailto:mooreeee@msu.edu)

### Author to Discuss *Equal Means Equal*

Jessica Neuwirth, author of *Equal Means Equal: Why the Time for an Equal Rights Amendment is Now*, will be speaking at 6 pm on June 10 at the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. LWV-LA is a community co-sponsor of this fund-raising event sponsored by the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame. Ms. Neuwirth will be talking about topics such as pay equity, pregnancy discrimination, and violence against women. Reservations are \$25 for Hall of Fame members, and \$40 for non-members (includes one-year membership). For more information, go to [michiganwomenshalloffame.org](http://michiganwomenshalloffame.org).

### Following Up on April Events

Here is some additional information on League activities that were mentioned in the April edition of the *Capitol Voter*.

- Marilyn Wilson and Camilla Davis registered 49 new voters at East Lansing High School after presenting information on voting and elections to the students in five government classes. They had registered 38 students at Waverly High School a few weeks earlier.
- Judy Karandjeff explained the statewide

## FACEBOOK



## Quick Links

**[LWVLA WEBSITE](#)**

**[LWVMI WEBSITE](#)**

**[LWVUS WEBSITE](#)**

ballot proposal on road funding to members of the Jackson Unit of the Lansing Area League.

- Beth Moore made a presentation on the road funding proposal to a group of 28 residents at Burcham Hills.
- New and veteran League members gathered for lunch in April to discuss the history of the League and how it functions. A new brochure, League Membership 101, was shared with members.