



League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



CAPITOL VOTER **JULY & AUGUST 2017**

AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

- **August 10** 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. **League Picnic** at DeWitt Riverside Park (Details below)
- **August 17** -- 7:00 to 8:30 pm. **Advocacy 101 Workshop** at Foster Community Center. (Details below)
- **September 11** - 11:30 am to 1:00 pm - Lunch event with featured speaker State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. Spartan Hall of Fame Café in East Lansing. (Details below)
- **September 19** - 6:00 to 8:30 pm. **Our Democracy at Risk**, Judy Karandjeff, LWVMI President. Location to be announced. Small plate appetizers and beverages will be served, with time for meeting other League members before the presentation.
- **October 18** - **A Sustainable Future: Exploring Solar Options** panel discussion. Time and location to be announced.

**CAPITOL VOTER
HIGHLIGHTS**

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**

NEW MEMBERS

**JACKSON UNIT
UPDATE**

**DRY-ERASE BOARD
NEEDED**

**2017-18 LWVLA
BOARD**

**MESSAGE FROM THE
CO-PRESIDENTS**

**REDISTRICTING
UPDATE**

LWVLA PICNIC

**ADVOCACY 101
WORKSHOP**

**SEPTEMBER 11
LUNCHEON**

**SUSTAINABLE
FUTURE PROGRAM**

BOOK GROUP NEWS

**VOTER SERVICE
REPORT**

**VOTER PROTECTION
PROJECT**

**VISIT OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE**



**BE SURE TO LIKE
US!**

*Message from the Co-
Presidents*

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
LWV OFFERS WAYS TO
TAKE ACTION**



In the League tradition, we have many members who want to do something to make a difference locally, state-wide, and nationally. As summer comes to a close, LWVLA members can look forward to opportunities to learn more about things the League supports and also find out about ways to take action. In this issue of the Capitol Voter, you'll find information about the Advocacy 101 workshop, designed to teach us techniques for advocating for causes we believe in. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.

Involvement can take many forms: joining a group focused on an issue; sending emails, letters, or making phone calls; simply becoming better informed so you can advocate for your beliefs during conversations. We hope you'll attend the events and programs listed in this newsletter - all ways to participate at some level.

One quick and easy way to take action is to respond to Action Alert emails from both LWVMI and LWVUS. Sign up for emails and news alerts from LWV - United States at database@lww.org. LWVMI also sends out Action Alerts about pending bills in the Michigan Legislature. These come to you as a member of LWV - Michigan. All you need to do is enter your address and you'll be ready to email your state legislator. Take advantage of both these opportunities to take action quickly.

We encourage you to take action as your time permits. LWVLA is here to help you. If you have questions or concerns, you can always email or call us.

Beth Moore & Camilla Davis

REDISTRICTING UPDATE AUGUST 5, 2017



Welcome new
members
**Lynne & Kenneth
Harned,
East Lansing**

The August 5 edition of *League Links*, the LWVMI email newsletter has an article about the current status of redistricting efforts in Michigan written by Judy Karandjeff, LWVMI president, and Sue Smith, LWVMI Director for Redistricting. It contains these major points.

- The League of Women Voters of Michigan and others, including Count MI Vote/Voters Not Politicians, have decided this is not the right time to form a coalition.
- The League of Women Voters of Michigan will review the proposal when we receive a final copy of the petition language being prepared by Voters Not Politicians.
- The League of Women Voters of Michigan will continue to educate voters on the need for redistricting reform.

JACKSON UNIT NEWS



LWVLA's Jackson Unit is taking steps to become an independent League. They have determined that their service area will be Jackson County and are in the process of organizing a board of directors. Work groups have been formed for the following topics: Redistricting, Education, Environment, Prison Reform, Program Planning and Becoming a League. The Unit has also become a co-sponsor of the Jackson

League Links is an on-line publication that's sent to all members with an email address. If you're not receiving it, please contact Camilla Davis at cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com.

LWVLA PICNIC IS THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

LWVLA PICNIC THURSDAY,
AUGUST 10



LWVLA members, family and friends are invited to a picnic on Thursday, August 10 at Riverside Park, located at 405 S. Bridge Street in the City of DeWitt. Bring a brown bag lunch. Water, ice tea, and lemonade will be provided, along with paper products and table service. We've reserved the park's pavilion (see photo). There are three playgrounds for children to enjoy, and walking trails along the Looking Glass. No reservations are required. Questions? Email Camilla at

Community Forum with the Jackson District Library. Unit leader Mary Lee Clark and other members have attended training on new election equipment.

cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com or call 668-6156.

ADVOCACY 101 WORKSHOP THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

- Are you interested in advocating for policy changes but don't know where to start?
- Do you have questions about how a bill becomes a law?
- Are you concerned about how to contact a state lawmaker?
- Or are you a more experienced advocate just looking for ways to fine-tune your work with legislators?

DRY-ERASE BOARD AND EASEL NEEDED

Do you have a dry-erase board and/or an easel that's just taking up space? LWVLA needs a quick and easy way to post directions at meeting sites and these two items would make the task simple. If you'd like to donate either of these, please contact Camilla Davis at cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com or 517-668-6156.

Rachel Richards, Legislative Coordinator for the Michigan League for Public Policy will lead participants through all of these things and more at Advocacy 101 on Thursday, August 17 at 7 pm at the Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Avenue, Lansing.

Space is limited, so contact Camilla Davis by Monday, August 14 to reserve your spot.

Email Camilla at cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com or call 517-668-6156.

STATE SENATOR HERTEL TO SPEAK AT SEPTEMBER 11 LUNCHEON

State Senator Curtis Hertel, Jr. will share his experiences serving in the Michigan legislature at a LWVLA luncheon on Monday, September 11, from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Spartan Hall of Fame Café on Lake Lansing Road.

Guests are welcome.

Reservations are not required, but appreciated so we will have enough seats and servers.

Contact Camilla Davis at

cdavis.lwvmi@gmail.com or call 668-6156.

2017-18 LWVLA BOARD

Co-Presidents

Camilla Davis
Beth Moore

VP Program

Ann Marston

Secretary/ Membership



Deanna Hanieski

**ENVIRONMENTAL WORK GROUP PRESENTS
A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:
EXPLORING SOLAR OPTIONS
OCTOBER 18**

Treasurer

John Hanieski

Director

At- Large

Sherlyn Hogenson

Education

Jenny Alvarez

Environment

Ellen Link

**Finance/Fund
Raising**

Debby Starnes

Jackson Unit

Mary Lee Clark

**Membership/Web
Master**

Judy Culham

**New Member
Liaison**

Barbara Bidigare

**Parliamentarian/
Government**

Cele Friestater

Publicity

Carol Swinehart

Interested in finding out how you can become more energy efficient? The environment work group will present a forum entitled "A Sustainable Future: Exploring Solar Options" on October 18 at 7 p.m. (The location has not yet been determined.) Given the crucial 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, Consumers Energy, John Sarver of Greater Lansing Renewable Energy Association, and one other speaker. Their presentation will be followed by a question-and-answer period- and possibly further discussion with fellow attendees.

Further details will be forthcoming, but put the date on your calendar now.

**LWV-LA BOOK
DISCUSSION GROUP
BOOK SCHEDULE**



The book group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Grand Traverse Pie Company in East Lansing.

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

August 8 - *Give Us the Ballot; The Modern Struggle for Voting* by Ari Berman

September 12 - *I'm Right and You're an Idiot: The Toxic State of Public Discourse and How to Clean it Up* by James Hoggan and Grania Litwin

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.

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.**

VOTER SERVICE REPORT ON TWO CANDIDATE FORUMS

The LWV-LA, along with co-sponsor Represent.Us, held two successful forums, Lansing At-Large City Council candidates on June 29 and Lansing Mayoral candidates on July 6, with several volunteers from the League and Represent.Us serving as greeters/ runners (Carol Scyoc, Elaine Fischhoff, Camilla Davis, Sherlyn Hogenson, and Dorothy Tappenden). We owe special thanks to Jenny Alvarez and Ann Marston for their excellent work as moderators; to Darla Jackson and Steve Harry, Kathleen Johnston-Calati and Dominic Del Ponte for serving so ably as screeners, and to Bob Miller and Joanne Winkelman for their usual expertise as timers. CADL Downtown Library served as the venue for both events. Over 50 people attended the council forum and sixty-five attended the Mayoral forum. Working with Hugh McNichol IV, Represent.Us, as our co-sponsor was helpful, both for the planning and executing of the forums as well as for publicity and attendance. We are planning similar forums in Lansing before the November election.

Marilyn Wilson, Voter Service Director

VOTER PROTECTION PROJECT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



LWVLA has a grant to work with "underserved" populations to help them learn about voting rights, voter suppression, etc. If you are interested in working on this project, please notify Beth

Moore (mooreeee@msu.edu) or Marilyn Wilson (wilsonmlwvla@gmail.com) as soon as possible.