

# LWV<sup>®</sup> VOTER

League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg

September-October 2019

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## League can fill your calendar p. 7

### Sheriff Opens League Year at Lunch

Mecklenburg County Sheriff Garry L. McFadden will be the featured speaker for the first lunch of the League year Wednesday, Sept. 11, 11:30.

You can go to the [goleaguego.org](http://goleaguego.org) webpage [League Events](#) to get the details about placing a \$10 lunch order, if you want it, or to just let us know you will be attending.

Sheriff McFadden will be talking about changes he has made in the Sheriff's Department since his election in 2018 and plans for the future. More on p. [2](#).



## Watch for your League friends in the Sept. 2 LABOR DAY PARADE.

We'll be the ones carrying the [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org) banner to advertise where citizens can find online non-partisan voter information.

## GOING TO RALEIGH SEPT. 7 TO CELEBRATE WOMEN

Several Charlotte-Mecklenburg League members and others will be in attendance at the state-wide event in Raleigh "She Changed the World: NC Women Breaking Barriers," organized by the NC Dept of Natural and Cultural Resources at the statehouse, 10-3 pm.

Prominent among the presenters is the LWVNC performing a reenactment about the state League's founder, Gertrude Weil.

Contact Cate Stadelman ([cate.stadelman@gmail.com](mailto:cate.stadelman@gmail.com)) if you are interested in sharing rides to Raleigh on Saturday, Sept. 7. More details p. 6.

## Candidate Forum Oct. 3 for city and school board slots

In conjunction with other groups, the League will co-host a non-partisan Candidate Forum Thursday, Oct. 3, at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 5:30 pm.

All candidates on the November ballot have been invited to answer questions from the audience. More p. 3.

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Find updates for League action  
and activities at  
[goleaguego.org](http://goleaguego.org)

League Talk Oct 15 features Elections Dir. Dickerson p. 3

There is still time to sign up for Civics 101 which begins Sept. 23.

See details p. 2

## Coming Events

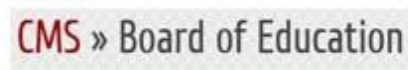
**September's lunch speaker Sheriff Garry McFadden** is arguably best known for ending Mecklenburg County's participation in the 287-G program of cooperating with Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which authorizes Homeland Security to deputize local officials to enforce federal immigration law.

**The LWVUS immigration position coincides with the Sheriff's stance: The League supports cities, towns, counties and states that make a decision not to cooperate with federal deportation and enforcement actions that include non-criminal undocumented immigrants. The LWVUS position also states: "While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity."**

Sheriff McFadden, with three barbers, was a founder of Cops & Barbers which was recognized by President Barack Obama as "one of the top ten initiatives increasing meaningful relationships in communities."

As a detective with CMPD, McFadden was featured on America's Most Wanted, The First 48, The Justice Files and was a contributor to *People* magazine as well as other national media outlets.

On June 14, 2016, Investigative Discovery channel presented "I Am Homicide" a docuseries highlighting a few of Sheriff McFadden's most complex homicide cases as a homicide detective with CMPD. The debut of this national and international television show allowed Sheriff McFadden to be the first African American Law Enforcement Officer to have his own television show. He has received many awards and recognitions.



**THE NORTH CAROLINA COURT SYSTEM**  
Mecklenburg County - District 26

**The Charlotte Observer**

### **CIVICS 101: 23 Years of Citizen Awareness and Education** **September 23, October 1, 8, 15, 22**

Much has changed in the last twenty plus years, but one requirement has remained constant – the importance of citizen engagement in local government. Whether newly arrived to Charlotte Mecklenburg or a life-long resident, we all have the right and the responsibility to be involved in our local government.

The League of Women Voters of Charlotte Mecklenburg invites you to register for our Civics 101 program. These five weekly, one-evening-per-week sessions are designed for you to learn about our local government: City, County Courts, CMS Board of Education and County. During these sessions, speakers including former Mayor Roberts with current and former experience describe the function and share their experiences. The fifth session is when media leaders at the Charlotte Observer including Taylor Batten bring us up-to-date on the newspaper's responsibility to inform citizens. This is particularly important in 2019.

The registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis for a maximum of 60 attendees. The price for the five sessions, including materials, snacks for the first four sessions and a catered dinner at the last one, is \$60, which is not refundable. The link to the Civics 101 registration is: <http://goleaguego.org/Civics.html>.

The sessions run from 6:15 to 8:30 P.M. The dates and locations are:

<b>Government Function</b>	<b>Date/Day</b>	<b>Location</b>
City Government	Sep. 23 - Monday	Government Center
County Courts	Oct. 1 - Tuesday	County Courthouse
CMS - Board of Education	Oct. 8 - Tuesday	Government Center
County Government	Oct. 15 - Tuesday	Government Center
Graduation and Meet the Press	Oct. 22 - Tuesday	Charlotte Observer

*Celebrity guests revealed on p. 5*

## Get Informed for Sept. 10 primary, Nov. 4 Election

### Candidate Forum Oct. 3

LWVCM is co-hosting a Candidate Forum for all Charlotte City Council seats, mayor and at-large School Board positions that will be on the Nov. 5 ballot on Oct. 3, 5:30 pm at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3400 Beatties Ford Rd. Other sponsors are Charlotte Chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, and the Social Justice Ministry of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

**Written questions will be taken from the audience for the candidates.**

The Nov. 5 election is the **only** opportunity to vote on School Board candidates since there is no primary.

The reception begins at 5:30 pm, and the forum discussion will start at 6:15 pm.

## VOTE 411.ORG—YOUR VOTING GUIDE FOR NON-PARTISAN CANDIDATE INFORMATION

### Primary Election Sept. 10

### Early voting is underway for Charlotte's Primary Election

In addition to the election of a representative for the ninth Congressional district Sept. 10, there are primary elections for candidates for Mayor, City Council at Large (you vote for four) and City Council Districts.

**In the districts where there are no opponents in the other party, the primary winner will be the elected representative.**

You can register and vote the SAME DAY during the early voting period. Early voting continues through Sept. 6, 10 am-7 pm, except for Sunday and Monday, Sept. 1 & 2. Saturday voting is 9 am-1 pm and Sunday voting is 1-4 pm.

Find Early Voting sites at [Meckboe.org](http://Meckboe.org).

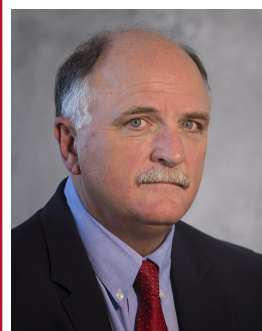
You do not need photo ID this year. First time voters, who did not provide ID information on their registration application will be required to provide ID information such as a photo ID or utility bill or government document that shows current address.

July 4th Voter Registration at the Charlotte History Museum. Fr. left Mary Monahan, June White, Linda Levy.



### Michael Dickerson To Review Voting Machine Issues, Election Security at League Talk Oct. 15

One of the League's most popular speakers will join members at the Oct. 15



League Talk at the League Education Center, 6:30 pm. Michael Dickerson is Mecklenburg County Elections Director.

He will talk about the State Elections Board decisions regarding certification of voting equipment for 2020 elections.

Activist groups, including the League of Women Voters, asked the board either to reject certification of touch-screen machines under consideration or to slow the process and ask more questions.

Plan to attend this program next month.

## Women's Issues - Women's Equality Day

An informal celebration of Women's Equality Day at Resident Culture Brewery drew dozens of new members and League friends Aug. 26.



**Melba Evans**, president of the Charlotte chapter of National Organization for Women, traced the roots of Women's Equality Day, and Women's Issues Action Team leader **Cate Stadelman** discussed the next steps for pursuing equal rights.



Melba Evans, left, with President Delores Hurt

Women's Issues Action Team is refocusing efforts since passage of ERA by the North Carolina Legislature looks futile this year. Bills introduced in the NC House and Senate were immediately assigned to a committee and have never emerged.



While the team will always be ready to take action when movement on ERA occurs, the group has decided to focus on other issues also crucial to women. Cate has outlined some possible areas of focus. As a practical matter, the action team will not focus on an issue that is already the focus of another LWV team (e.g., voting rights)

### **Economic Equality:**

Wage gap, Living wage, Glass ceiling leading to under-representation in positions of power, Affordable, competent child

care for working women

**Political Equality:** Under-representation in elected office, Voting rights

**Legal/Judicial Equality:** Equal Rights Amendment, CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women ), Under-representation in judgeships/court system, Treatment of women in prison



### **Health Care Equality:**

Reproductive rights, Under-funding for maternal/child health care, Research studies/drug development

**Gender Bias and Misogyny – in education, culture, society:** Stereotyping, Discrimination against mothers and pregnant women, Harassment, Misogyny – objectifying, degrading, belittling

**Gender-Based Violence:** Domestic violence, Human trafficking, Violence against LGBT persons

**Racism as a multiplier of inequality**



Cate Stadelman

# League Action Teams

## Voter Services Chair Reviews Busy Season

It has been an Exciting Time for Voter Services! Since March of 2019 we have registered approximately 3200 new U.S. citizens at the naturalization ceremonies which are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the new USCIS building. In addition, we have a generous grant from LWVUS that allows us to send out "remember to vote" postcards to our newest citizen voters.

We have had several community outreach programs this year and have many more planned. We have worked with the Greater Charlotte Apartment Association, West Blvd Community Events, and a candidate forum hosted by the United Indian Community Forum, just to name a few.

Moving forward we have more fun events planned. We are partnering with the Levine Museum of the New South to host voter registration tables at their monthly events. Back to school means High School voter registration



Voter registration table at West Blvd. Community Event

drives. An opportunity for the LWV to partner with the younger members of our community. September 24th is National Voter Registration Day and the LWVCM along with over 2000 other groups across the county are ready to go out and get folks registered! These are really fun and exciting opportunities to reach voters and we hope you will consider joining us.

I want to thank all of our generous volunteers whose gift of time help make all these events possible. Please consider volunteering for voter services if you have not already! Our naturalization ceremonies, which are co-

ordinated by **Leta Bosc**, need up to 8 volunteers a day! If you are unable to volunteer during the week we have community outreach events on evenings and weekends as well. Please go to [www.goleaguego.org](http://www.goleaguego.org) and click on voter services to volunteer. Without you-it just won't happen!

—Regan Aduddell



Regan Aduddell

## WELCOME To New Members

Ashley Guzman  
Harry Taylor  
Olivia W. Todd  
Caroline Mones  
Barbara Avard  
Gwendolyn Clift  
Nick Clift  
Emily Jenkins  
Suzanne E. Schweikert  
Jacki Mease

**Civics 101** "Celebrity Speaker" for our first session on City Government will be former mayor **Jennifer Roberts**, who will tell stories both strategic and more personal about her time as mayor. For our last session, *Charlotte Observer* will have **Peter St. Onge**, North Carolina Opinion Editor, **Taylor Batten**, Managing Editor, and **Jim Morrill**, Reporter/Politics to explain the significant changes in the news business.

**Education Action Team** We continue our work on the use of Opportunity Scholarships (vouchers) in the state's school systems. The group is moving its focus to partner with elected officials who consider the equitable distribution of tax funds to public schools the highest priority.

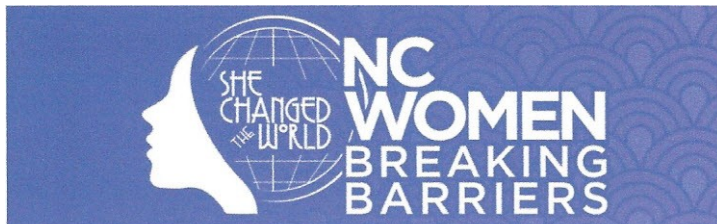
Several committee members are pursuing being nominated for the School Board's **Community Equity Committee**.

Next meeting: Sept. 4, 11 am.

**Fair Election Districts** As a result of the US Supreme Court decision regarding North Carolina's gerrymandered districts, LWVUS is launching a 50-state campaign called **People Powered Fair Maps Campaign**. All members are invited to tune into a town hall on Wed., Sept. 4 at 6pm ET.

LWVNC has a monthly webinar on the fourth Wednesdays, 5:30 pm to discuss NC strategy. Click [here](#) for more information.

# Raleigh Celebration of Women



The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR), along with the League of Women Voters of North Carolina and other groups, is hosting a non-partisan kick-off event titled **She Changed the World: NC Women Breaking Barriers**. The day-long event will be held on the grounds of the State Capitol Sept. 7, 10 am-3pm. There will be vendors, partner

organizations, exhibitors, food trucks, performances, and a voter registration drive all planned for learning about the women of the past and present who broke barriers in North Carolina and still inspire women today. This event is free and open to all.

The year 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment allowing women the right to vote. As part of a national campaign to commemorate this date, DNCR is coordinating a campaign with statewide programming running from March 2019 through November 2020.

In addition to DNCR and the League sponsors include NC Council for Women & Youth Involvement, African American Heritage Commission, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, American Indian Women of Proud Nations, and National Council of Negro Women.

**On stage at 10 am, will be Chief Justice of the NC Supreme Court Cheri Beasley, First Lady of North Carolina Kristin Cooper, The Honorable Beverly Perdue and representatives from each of the sponsors.**

Presentations and performances will be on stage 11 am-2 pm.

At 1:30, League of Women Voters will be represented by **Dianna Wynn**, President, LWVWake County, and LWVNC President **Jo Nicholas** will do a reenactment of state League founder Gertrude Weil.

Dozens of exhibitors and vendors will be on the State Capitol grounds throughout the day.

## CALENDAR

Sept. 2 (Mon)	League in Charlotte's Labor Day Parade 11 am
Sept. 3 (Tues)	League Board of Directors, 6:15 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Sept. 4 (Wed)	Education Action Team, 11 am
Sept. 7 (Sat)	"She Changed the World—Women Breaking Barriers" 10 am-3 pm, State Capitol grounds, Raleigh
Sept. 10 (Tues)	ELECTION DAY 6:30 am-7:30 pm
Sept. 11 (Wed)	Lunch with the League, 11:30 am League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Sept. 23 (Mon)	Women's Issues Action Team, 6:30 pm
Sept. 27 (Fri)	Environment Action Team, 11 am .
Oct. 1 (Tues)	League Board of Directors, 6:15 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave
Oct. 2 (Wed)	Education Action Team, 11 am
Oct. 3 (Thurs)	Candidates' Forum, 5:30 pm, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3400 Beatties Ford Rd.
Oct. 15 (Tues)	League Talk, 6:30 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Oct. 25 (Fri)	Environment Action Team, 11 am
Oct. 28 (Mon)	Women's Issues Action Team, 6:30 pm
Nov. 5 (Tues)	League Board of Directors, 6:15 pm, League Education Center, 1817 Central Ave.
Nov. 5 (Tues)	ELECTION DAY 6:30 am-7:30 pm
Feb. 29 (Sat)	<b>100th Anniversary Celebration of the League and Women's Vote</b>

Check our [online calendar](https://www.goleaguego.org) for up-to-date LWVC-M events and meetings at [goleaguego.org](https://www.goleaguego.org)

**All events are at the LWVCM Center, 1817 Central Ave., Room 210, Charlotte 28205 unless otherwise noted. Click [here](#) for driving and parking directions.**