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***League of Women Voters Oakland Area, Michigan  
May 2025 Newsletter***

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***The League of Women Voters Oakland Area  
2025 ANNUAL MEETING***

**THE HEATHERS CLUB OF BLOOMFIELD  
900 UPPER SCOTSBOROUGH WAY  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304**

**THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025**

10:30 AM: In-person Business Meeting

11:30 AM: Luncheon and Speaker, Judge Gerald E. Rosen

COST: \$50.00. Lunch choices are Spinach Quiche or Heather's Signature Salad with chicken.

**Please RSVP by May 5th** via email to LWVOA at [LWVOAMI@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMI@gmail.com) or by phone at 248-594-6602 with your attendance and lunch choice.

***Payment can be made by:***

1. Check payable to LWVOA with lunch choice and mailed to LWVOAMI, PO Box 930038, Wixom, MI 48393; or
2. To pay by PayPal or Credit Card, visit the LWVOA website at [LWVOA.org](http://LWVOA.org). Press the "Donate" button at the top of the home page. On the donation/contribution form, please specify in the comments section that the amount is for the annual luncheon.

***Our Featured Speaker is  
Judge Gerald E. Rosen***

***Judge Rosen will discuss The Detroit Grand Bargain - a Tale of Rebirth Following Turbulent Times***

As the chief mediator in the largest municipal bankruptcy in American history and architect of the "Grand Bargain"



that saved the Detroit Institute of Art's priceless collection —Judge Rosen will discuss the dramatic inside story of how Detroit was rescued from the brink of oblivion. Judge Rosen is also able to share perspectives on the current state of the judicial system. The presentation is open to the public and will include questions and answers.

Judge Rosen is the author of the new book, *Grand Bargain*. He served as a federal judge on the Eastern District of Michigan court for almost 27 years, including seven as its chief judge. He served as an adjunct law professor and coauthored two widely read law books. He is a frequent lecturer – both domestically and internationally – on a variety of topics. He currently works with JAMS, the largest mediation, arbitration, and other alternative dispute resolution services provider.

Books will be available for sale at the annual meeting.

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**(1) LWVOA: Community Engagement Committee (CEC) work group: Thursday, May 8th at 4p via Zoom**

CEC plans activities and functions for all members and the community to participate in. CEC is always open to ideas and welcomes all members to help plan and facilitate programs.



Contact Geri Rinschler at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.



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**(2) LWVOA Candidate Forums Planning group: Friday, May 9th at 1p at the home of Christine Allen**

Organizing and planning for the 2025 primaries and elections has begun.

All members are asked to help with the League's core mission to encourage informed and active participation in government and increase understanding of public policy issues. Group leaders Christine Allen, Judy Bateman, and Terry Benjamin will facilitate this informational session.

Contact them at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.

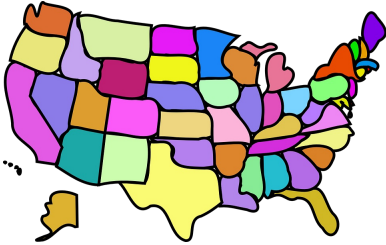


### **(3) LWVMI 2025 Convention May 16-18, 2025 in Grand Rapids**

ALL members are welcome! See LWVMI website for details and registration. A Pre-Convention meeting for attendees will be held on Tuesday, May 13th at 7p via Zoom.

Contact Maria Woloson at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.

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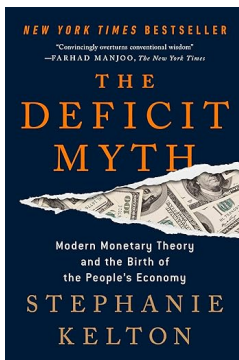
### **(4) LWVUS Eliminate the Electoral College work group: Friday, May 16th at 1p via Zoom**

Monthly presentations provide information about the necessity of abolishing the Electoral College by US Constitutional Amendment, which is now one of the League's top priorities. Speakers have provided in-depth analysis of current issues with the Electoral College and the history of facilitating change.

This month's presenter will be Professor Wilfred U. Codrington III, the Walter Floersheimer Professor of Constitutional Law and co-director of the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, and Fellow of the Brennan Center for Justice. He co-authored, with John F. Kowal, Vice President for programs at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, *The People's Constitution: 200 Years, 27 Amendments, and the Promise of a More Perfect Union*, The New Press, 2021. The 233-year story of how the American people have taken an imperfect constitution - the product of compromises and an artifact of its time - and made it more democratic. <https://thenewpress.com/books/peoples-constitution>

Contact Maria Woloson at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.

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### **(5) LWVOA Book Club: Tuesday, May 27th at 7p at the Bloomfield Township Public Library (Zoom link available upon request)**

This month's book, *The Deficit Myth: Modern Monetary Theory and the Birth of the People's Economy* by Stephanie Kelton, provides a brilliant exploration of the modern monetary system.

Contact Tera Moon at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.

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### **(6) LWVOA Board Meeting: Monday, June 2nd at 5p via Zoom (delayed one week due to Memorial Day Holiday)**

LWVOA's board manages and facilitates the business and activities of our local league.

All members are welcome to attend.

Contact Maria Woloson at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.



### **(7) MEMBERSHIP ALERT**

As mentioned in earlier newsletters, membership renewals will now be made through LWVUS. Many of you will receive renewal requests soon. We will have specific instructions on the renewal procedure available at the Annual Meeting and on our website at [lwvoa.org](http://lwvoa.org).

Contact us at [LWVOAMi@gmail.com](mailto:LWVOAMi@gmail.com) for more info.

### **Save the Date: Wednesday, June 4th at 1p at Bloomfield Township Public Library**

Oakland Schools Legislative Director Lisa Hansknecht will return to LWVOA for an informational session on how to influence legislative and public policy issues.



### ***April 2025 Highlights:***

*The Future of Public Education with Superintendent Ken Gutman and Legislative Director Lisa Hansknecht from Oakland Schools*

This was an informative discussion about the future of public education in Michigan and the United States. For those unable to attend, you may view a video recording on our website or by clicking [here](#).

*The Impacts of the SAVE Act with Deputy Secretary of State Aghogho Edevbie.*

To view Deputy SoS Edevbie's important discussion, please visit the LWVOA website or click [here](#).

***"Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to***

***change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has.”***

***-Margaret Mead***

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***Maria Woloson***

***President, League of Women Voters, Oakland Area, Michigan***

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***Visit us at [lwvoa.org](http://lwvoa.org)***



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