LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OAKLAND AREA

League of Women Voters Oakland Area, Michigan
November 2026 Newsletter

As always, lots going on...

Please check the LWVMI and LWVUS websites for more info on statewide and nationwide events.

Please join LWVOA for a special November event:

Presentation and Guided Tour of
FORGOTTEN HARVEST
Dedicated to relieving hunger in Metro Detroit and rescuing surplus, nutritious food.

Date/Time: Friday, November 20 at 1p
Facility Location: 15000 W. Eight Mile Rd, Oak Park, MI

Forgotten Harvest delivers 144,000 pounds of surplus food PER DAY to local charities five days a week, providing families in need with fresh and nutritious food free of charge.

Please join Forgotten Harvest CEO Adrian Lewis and Gleaners CEO Angela Moloney for this special presentation and a behind-the-scenes tour of this important Metro Detroit resource.

Please RSVP using the QR code on the flyer below.



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(1) Voting Information for November 2026 Elections:

- **Check your voter registration status at: Michigan Voter Information Center (mvic.sos.state.mi.us)**
- **October 24-November 1: Early Voting period - check "Elections. Oakland County MI" for the location nearest you.**

- **November 3: Election Day**

- **VOTE411.org** is the League's online voter guide. Enter your home address to view a personalized sample ballot with all the races, candidates, and ballot measures that will appear on your November 3rd ballot.

- You may still participate in elections as a poll worker, watcher, or challenger. See Michigan.gov for up-to-date election info.

Michigan Statewide Ballot Proposals for the November 3rd General Election: Michigan voters will consider two statewide ballot proposals on November 3, 2026. Here is a brief overview of what each proposal would do.

Proposal 2026-01: Constitutional Convention
Proposal 2026-01 asks voters whether to convene a constitutional convention to draft a general revision of the Michigan Constitution. The question appears on the ballot every 16 years under Article XII, Section 3 of the Michigan Constitution.

If approved, Michigan would elect delegates to a constitutional convention. Any proposed changes would then be submitted to voters for approval or rejection. If rejected, the question would next appear on the ballot in 2042, following the regular 16-year schedule.

Supporters say a convention could address broad issues in Michigan government and the Constitution. Opponents have expressed concerns about the cost and the possibility of significant or unexpected changes to constitutional rights and government policies.

LWVMI has taken a position in opposition to Proposal 2026-1.

Proposal 2026-02: Campaign Finance

Proposal 2026-02 is an initiated law that would change Michigan's campaign finance rules.

If approved, the proposal would:

- Prohibit certain regulated electric and gas utilities and government contractors receiving more than $250,000 annually in government contracts from making direct or indirect campaign contributions to certain candidates and officeholders.

- Expand campaign finance disclosure requirements to certain communications that mention candidates or ballot questions, even if they do not explicitly urge voters to support or oppose them.

- Require disclosure of who paid for certain political communications on the internet.

- The proposal would amend the Michigan Campaign Finance Act.

Supporters describe the measure as a way to increase transparency and limit potential conflicts of interest. Opponents have raised concerns about free-

speech implications, potential legal challenges, and the effect of additional campaign finance requirements.

LWVMI has taken a position in support of Proposal 2026-2.

An informed voter is an empowered voter!

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(2) LWVOA members are needed for ACTION:

Oakland County Board of Canvassers for post-election observation:

- Location: Oakland County Courthouse at **1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac**
- Please sign up for 2-4 hour periods during the 14-day review of voting records.
- Contact Jim Treharne at **LWVOA@gmail.com** for info.

LWVMI Youth Engagement Grant Opportunity:

- LWVUS approved a grant to LWVOA to recruit 16- to 25-year-olds to facilitate community engagement, including Candidate Forums, monthly in-person events, etc.
- Do you have contact with schools and other youth groups that may participate in this effort?
- Contact Maria Woloson at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for info.

LWVMI Text Banking Opportunity:

- LWVMI will provide text messaging mechanisms to contact new and established voters to encourage them to participate in elections.
- Contact Maria Woloson at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** OR visit **LWVMI.org** for more info.

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(3) Post-election analysis with Gus Mandelek, Artificial Intelligence specialist, will be held on Thursday, November 5th at 6p at the NEXT facility in Birmingham, Michigan.

The presentation will be informative and thought-provoking about the new world developing.

Contact Geri Rinschler at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

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(4) LWVOA MAR/COM (Marketing & Communication) work group: Monday, November 9th at 1p at the Bloomfield Township Public Library

The Mar/Com group continues to engage the public and our members with info about upcoming events. It also helps plan programs and recruit participants.

Follow the links below to view excerpts from media sources promoting LWVOA:

- **Oakland County Times**
- **West Bloomfield Beacon**
- **The Oakland County Press**
- **Downtown Newsmagazine**
- **Farmington Press**

Click **here** to follow our new Facebook page (League of Women Voters / Oakland Area).

Contact Leslie Fleming at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

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(5) LWVOA Community Engagement Committee (CEC): Thursday, November 12th at 4p via Zoom

This group plans and facilitates activities for members and the public. In-person programs are already planned through the end of the year. We welcome suggestions for 2027 presentations and activities.

Contact Geri Rinschler at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

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(7) LWVOA Board Meeting: Monday, November 23rd at 5p via Zoom

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** for more info.

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(8) LWVOA Observer Corps: Public School Board Focus

As school boards have become a point of controversy, LWVOA members observe and report on monthly meetings. All members are welcome to participate in this important activity.

Contact Linda Fiscus at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

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(9) LWVOA and New Citizen Voter Registration at the US Federal Courthouse in Detroit

New Citizen ceremonies and Voter Registration have resumed, however, in reduced numbers. Volunteers are needed to assist in this important effort.

Contact Maureen Christensen at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

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(10) LWV needs YOU!

- Become a member or renew your membership at the **LWVOA** member portal, or send a check made out to LWVOA for $20-$75 for the annual dues.

- A charitable contribution may be made to LWVEF (Educational Fund).

See the LWVUS website for further info.

SAVE the DATE for an upcoming in-person event:

- December 18th - Holiday season celebration of Hudson's Department Store's 150-year history.

October Highlights:

(1) Ballot Proposals for the November 2026 Election were presented by Eric Lupher, President of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan.

Members took the opportunity to learn about the issues involved. Eric Lupher, President of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan since 2014 and a member since 1987, shared his insights about the upcoming ballot proposals.

An informed voter is an empowered voter! Click **here** to view the video presentation.

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(2) NO KINGS Rally nationwide and throughout Oakland County

LWVOA members attended this peaceful and nonviolent day of protest at local events in Troy, Rochester Hills, Novi, Ferndale, Detroit, etc.
Families across the country struggle to afford groceries, gas, electric bills, and the everyday cost of living. Those in power make decisions that shape our lives, our communities, and our future. Voting is the next step in reclaiming our power after a year of mass mobilizations.

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(3) LWVOA Candidate Forums for October 2026

LWVOA held more than 20 candidate forums, providing an opportunity for the public to view and ask questions of those seeking office. With more than 50 LWVOA members volunteering under the guidance of Christine Allen, LWVOA made an extraordinary effort to inform the public of local race elections.

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(4) LWVOA mailed 3200 postcards to new voters in Oakland County

Liz Talioferro and Pat Kish organized and facilitated two sessions with more that 20 members preparing and addressing postcards to new voters in Oakland County. Encouraging participation in government and elections is a core mission of LWV.

"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

Maria Woloson
President, League of Women Voters, Oakland Area, Michigan

For more information, please visit our website at lwvoa.

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