

Voter

September/October 2024

Serving the people of Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Northville City and Township, Plymouth City and Township, Redford Township, Sumpter Township, Belleville, Van Buren Township, Wayne, and Westland, Michigan

Northwest Wayne Calendar At A Glance:

September 17th @ 7:00 pm Board Meeting - Geneva Presbyterian Church
5835 Sheldon Road in Canton

September 23rd @ 7:00 pm Candidate Forum for Canton Township Supervisor - Township Hall 1150 Canton Center Road in Canton

September 28th @ 10:00 am General Membership Meeting - Wayne County Community College Ted Scott Campus 9555 Haggerty Road in Belleville - Room B204

October 1st - Time TBD **National President of the LWWUS** visits Michigan - Livonia Public Library 32777 Five Mile Road in Livonia

November 12th @ 7:00 pm Board Meeting - Geneva Presbyterian Church
5835 North Sheldon Road in Canton

November 5th - Election Day - polls open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

November 16th @ 10:00 am General Membership Meeting - Redford Township District Library 25320 Six Mile Road in Redford

November 17th - National Voter Registration Day

January 25th @ 10:00 am General Membership Meeting - in-person meeting and small holiday celebration - location TBD

April 26th @ 10:00 am General Membership Meeting - in-person meeting - location TBD

June 14th @ Noon Annual Meeting and Luncheon - Rocky's of Northville

Check out the [League's Calendar Page](#) for up-to-date information on events.



**General Membership Meeting:
September 28th @ 10:00 am.**

We are holding an in-person general membership meeting at Wayne County Community College, Ted Scott Campus at 9555 Haggerty Road in Belleville. This meeting will be dedicated to getting to know each other and see where we can be of use in the fall elections.

We will also be discussing the Do's and Don'ts of election disinformation. Feel free to invite friends to this meeting. All are welcome

President's Perspective:

By Carrie Moon-Dupree

We are rapidly approaching the November 5th election day. If you haven't gone crazy with all the political ads out there, you are at least like me - hitting the mute button when they come on. My neighbor told me he just chucks all the candidate literature he gets without even looking at it. Everyone has an opinion and unfortunately, most opinions are not backed up by facts. It never ceases to amaze me that voters will back up their choice by stating a false or misleading fact that they heard somewhere. Here is where being a member of the League of Women Voters comes in. Our mission is to educate voters - not tell them what to do, but give them the information in which to make an informed choice.

Here's how we do that:

- Print Voter Guides for every library in our geographical region.
- Vote 411 - our on-line voter guide
- Candidate forums, both live and via zoom, that can be watched on line at our website or YouTube channel
- Board of Canvassers - League members watch ballots being counted and certified across the State of Michigan. We are the non-partisan observers. We can attest that our elections have integrity, because we are there.
- Election workers - many of our members are poll workers in our communities. You don't have to work in your community. You can sign up for another city or town. Consider doing that.
- Election challengers - some League members have taken the training and are election challengers.

- Election observers - Training is available to become an observer.
- We are passing out the “ Do’s and Don’ts of Dis- and Mis-information at all our appearances, be it forums, voter registration drives, or presentations.
- We are holding numerous voting registration drives at colleges, farmers markets, and libraries.
- Clerk engagements - We are helping our local clerks be prepared for the election.
- “Defending Democracy” - participating with the State Attorney General, Dana Nessel, and Assistant Secretary of State, Aghogho Edevbie, at Town Hall meetings concerning voting rights, and election integrity.

The League has been there for 104 years educating voters. This year more than ever our effort makes a difference. Thank you for all you do to defend our Democracy.

Carrie Moon-Dupree, President
moondupree@comcast.net or 734-748-5564

Michigan’s Women’s Equality Day Celebration

Equity Day Luncheon

By: Carrie Moon-Dupree

The 2024 Equity Day luncheon was held on Saturday, August 24th. This event was sponsored by the American Association of University Women of Michigan (AAUWMI) and other women’s rights and advocacy organizations including the League of Women Voters of Michigan (LWVMI). Saint Mary’s Cultural center was full of women who have made a difference and continue to work for women’s rights.

Representing the Northwest Wayne County League were Laura Callow, Colleen Mills, Ann Abdo, Catherine Starks, Carrie Moon- Dupree, Majorie Lynn, Paula Bowman, Gayle Conte, and Meredith Conte.



The first part of the program honored Laura Carter Callow. There was a presentation her many years of fighting for women's rights, especially the ERA. We were treated to a montage of photos of Laura's work through out the years narrated by Mickey Edell of AAUWMI. Laura received a standing ovation. It is no wonder that Laura is in the Michigan's Women's Hall of Fame. After the tribute, Laura spoke on the importance of the work and that we must continue to advocate for getting the ERA amendment enacted. Laura is a lifetime member of our League.



The second part of the program included a guest panel made up of three women from Wayne State University who have achieved the highest level of responsibility for the university. Kimberly Andrews Espy, PhD, is the first female president of Wayne State University. Laurie Lauzon Clabo, PhD, RN, FAAN, is the Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Bethany Wicksall Gielczyk, is Senior VP of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer. Their discussion concerned what it took to get to the high positions they now hold and the challenges they encountered. They offered insight on how they overcame those struggles and were able to achieve their goals. Heads nodded as they spoke of the glass ceiling and the need to break it. Many in the room had faced similar challenges. The struggle is real but progress has been made.

By: Maureen Hughes

Membership is in bloom! Welcome to the 18 new members who joined our League so far in fiscal year 2024-2025.

Our newest members are as follows:

Leslie Carpente 5/24

Julie Jamison 7/24

Christine Ossenmacher 5/11

Kathleen Chaney White 7/26

Tamika Johnson Smith 8/21

Beline Visos 8/31

Joy Cichewicz 3/6

Richard Cichewicz 4/22

Rina Cooper 4/22

Rita Hesse 5/6

Fred Klein 8/14

Laurie MacKaill 5/31

Deborah Miller 6/20

Angela Nolan 5/6

Anne Reilly 8/14

Christina Starks 3/15

Christine Taylor 6/3

Marie Visos 8/31

Whether you choose to participate through your annual dues payment or actively participate in our chapter's many programs, your membership is valuable.

For any members who have friends and family interested in joining our chapter, dues remain at \$60 for primary members, \$30 for second in household and \$5 for students.



Voter Services

by Toni S. Jones - VP of Voter Services

LWV NWW County is hosting the following candidate forums in September 2024.

- **Thursday, September 12, 2024** - 7pm - Northville Board of Education - Old Village School 405 W Main St. Northville **(Already completed)**
- **Wednesday, September 18, 2024** - 7pm - Livonia School Board - Zoom (Only LWV NWW County members and the candidates will be present)
- **Monday, September 23, 2024** - 7pm - Canton Township Supervisor - 1150 S. Canton Center Rd, Canton MI (Open to the public)
- **Monday, September 23, 2024** - 7pm - Plymouth Township Clerk - Zoom (Only LWV NWW County members and the candidates will be present)

All forums will be recorded and available on the LWV NWW County website a few days after each forum. [Click here to view recordings.](#)

The League's main mission is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government. One of the ways we do that is by having forums.

We welcome more volunteers to help with the forums. We need producers, greeters, reviewers of questions, and publicity support. To volunteer, email Toni Jones at letjones@gmail.com or call (248) 982-4566.

In addition to the online voter guide, we will have a printed voter guide for this fall's general election. We will have a "proofing party" where we will get together and review the layout and check for errors. Our "proofing party" will be in late September or early October. If you would like to join us, let Valerie Nelson know at vnelson@prodigy.net or 734-512-0344.

Observer Corps

by Lena Packer

Do you have a few hours a month to help our league? Would you like to join our Observer Corps? Our group members volunteer to attend meetings, in-person or virtually, to watch local government in action and learn more about the issues concerning residents in their community.

We are always looking for new observers. You do not have to live in the same community as the group you are observing. Right now, we need observers for Northville, Northville Township, Redford, Garden City, Plymouth, Wayne, and Livonia. If you are interested in becoming an observer or would like more information about our group, please contact Lena Packer at lena.packer@yahoo.com .

**You can watch Michigan House and Senate proceedings. Go to <https://www.house.mi.gov> and <https://www.senate.michigan.gov>

Observation and the Observer Corps work!

Voter Registration Committee Update

by Ann Andrews

We have been busy scheduling voter registration drives for the month of September. We have the following dates on the calendar:

- 9/15: Plymouth District Library (1-4 pm)
- 9/16: Schoolcraft College School Daze (10 am - 2 pm)
- 9/17: Schoolcraft College School Daze (10 am - 2 pm)
- 9/26: Northville Farmers Market (8 am - 2 pm)
- 9/30: Belleville Farmers Market (4 pm - 7:30 pm)

Our chapter received a \$500 grant through a brand partner of the LWV Educational Fund: SHOWTIME/MTV Entertainment Studios. The grant will support our community college voter engagement efforts at Schoolcraft College for National Voter Registration Day.

From the Editor:

As I send out my first edition of The Voter as the new editor, I would like to thank Marjorie Lynn for all the time and effort she put in as editor. Thank you Marjorie for a job well done! You left some big shoes to fill!

An extra thank you goes out to Carrie Moon-Dupree and Anne Reilly for proof reading and editing. Many thanks!

Fondly,
Lois

ADVOCACY INFORMATION

LWVMI

To identify state proposed legislation that is supported by the LWVMI, please go to the [Advocacy 2024](#) page on the [LWVMI website](#). Check "[Take Action](#)" for current action alerts.

Two resources are recommended for looking up Michigan legislation:

[Michigan Legislature](#)

[LegiScan](#)

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League of Women Voters of
NW Wayne County
PO Box 51502, Livonia, MI 48151

[Visit our website](#)

[Email us](#)

Membership in the League is open to anyone age 16 & older. Dues: Student \$5,

Individual \$60, Household \$90. Join through our website or call 734-748-5564.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Membership Information

League of Women Voters of Michigan website

League of Women Voters of US website



League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County | PO Box 51502 | Livonia, MI 48151 US

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