



League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County  
*Established in Livonia in 1960*

# VOTER

www.LWVNorthwestwayne.org

Serving: Canton, Garden City, Livonia, Northville,  
 Plymouth, Redford, Wayne and Westland

MAY, 2015

## *League Calendar*

Saturday, June 13  
 10:00—2:00  
 Westwick Square, Wayne

The League has been hired to handle another election at Westwick Square

*See details about the Voter Service events on June 13, 16 and 22-23 on page 5 of the Voter. Member help is needed!*

Tuesday, June 16  
 7:00-9:00  
 Livonia City Hall

Candidate forum for Livonia City Clerk, Treasurer and Mayor

Wednesday, June 17  
 6:00-8:00 pm  
 8603 New Haven Way,  
 Canton

Fundraiser for ENOUGH SAID: (**S**exual **A**ssault **I**n **D**etroit). Formed by the Michigan Women’s Foundation, the Wayne County Prosecutor’s Office and the Detroit Crime Commission in 2009 after 11,000 unopened rape kits in Detroit were discovered, the goal is to bring to prosecution this backlog of sexual assault crimes. The fundraiser is being held at LWV member’s Natalie and Bob Mosher’s home in Canton. Appetizers and desserts will be served. All are welcome.

Saturday, June 20  
 Claddagh’s Irish Pub

**Annual Meeting/Luncheon. See details on page 3.**

Mon, & Tues, June 22, 23

Video interviews for Livonia’s 16 City Council Candidates

Tuesday, August 4

Primary election day in the cities of Plymouth, Livonia, Westland, and Garden City. Proposals are also on the ballot in the City of Northville and in the Clarenceville School District

Saturday, August 22  
 11:30-2:30  
 St. Mary’s Cultural &  
 Banquet Center, Livonia

Women’s Equality Day Luncheon LWVMI is a one of the co-sponsors of this annual event organized by Michigan ERAmerica. Flyers will be available at the annual meeting.

October 17

LWV Auction at Greenmead. Details to follow.

LWV NWW Board of Directors  
2014-15:

**PRESIDENT**

Angela Ryan  
cruiserryan@ameritech.net

**1ST VP: DEVELOPMENT**

Lena Packer

**2ND VP: VOTER SERVICE**

Paula Bowman

**SECRETARY**

Mary Visos

**TREASURER**

Toni Shepherd

**VOTER EDITOR**

Paula Bowman

**DIRECTORS**

Laura Callow  
Lynda Franklin  
Sue Wabeke  
Diane Wittl  
Gail Sullivan

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Susan Rowe  
Rachel Rion

LWV of NW Wayne County

PO Box 51502

Livonia, MI 48151

(734) 421-4420

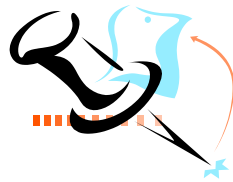
EM: lwwmail@yahoo.com

Web:

www.LWVNorthwestwayne.org

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 influence public policy through education and advocacy.

The work of the League is financed by the dues of members and by contributions from citizens in the community.



## *President's Message*

Members –

Last weekend, I attended the State League's Convention, and I learned many great things about accomplishments by other Leagues in the State and exciting things that are going on at the national level. Paula Bowman, as a State Board member, and Megan Chenoweth, Gail Sullivan, and Diane Wittl also attended the Convention. **SAVE THE DATE** of **June 20** for our Annual Meeting, where we will share information from the Convention with all of you.

We are officially participants in the LWVUS Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) Program. There are two primary goals of this program. One is to learn how better to recruit and retain members. The second is to establish a succession plan for the leadership of our League. Leagues that are already participating in this program are having a lot of success in both areas. I'm excited about the prospects for our League. Our MLD Committee is Susan Rowe, Rachel Rion, and Sue Wabeke. You'll hear more about MLD at the Annual Meeting and in the coming months.

On April 9, I spoke to a Civic Engagement class at Schoolcraft College. As always, I took the opportunity to register students to vote. Eight students signed up. I will be giving a similar presentation next month.

We have scheduled an auction this year as our big fundraising event. Here's another **SAVE THE DATE: October 17**. The Fundraising Committee has come up with some interesting new approaches to the auction, including a new venue. Stay tuned for further information about how you (and your friends, family, coworkers, and anyone else you know!) can participate.

We won't be resting on our laurels this summer. We already have scheduled a candidate forum in June for the primary election for the Livonia mayor, city clerk, and treasurer positions. There are 16 candidates for Livonia City Council, so we've decided to conduct individual 5-minute interviews in mid-June in preparation for the August primary. The same method was used in 2013 for the Detroit City Council candidates, and it was a very successful approach. The interviews will be posted on our website, and we are hoping to get them on the Livonia city government cable channel as well.

The April 6 League presentation on the May 5 ballot proposal received great coverage from the Livonia Observer, with articles both before and after the presentation. We had a good turnout, including many people who learned about the presentation from the Observer.

I hope you will be able to attend the Annual Meeting. If you can't make it, I'll be sure to let you know what transpired at that meeting.

*- Angela Ryan*

# ANNUAL MEETING

All members are encouraged to attend the League's annual meeting on Saturday, June 20th at Claddagh's Irish Pub on Haggerty Road between 6 and 7 Mile Roads, beginning at 11:30. No reservation or pre-payment is necessary. Guests are also welcome. Please join us as we enjoy each other's company, but also conduct the business of the League: we will elect new officers, pass a budget and choose our program for next year. Like last year, there will be a raffle for a special prize!

In advance of the annual meeting, this issue of the Voter contains notice for members on the votes you'll be taking at the meeting concerning the budget, the nominating slate and the proposed program. This is also the time to vote on bylaw changes, but none were submitted this year.

The nominating committee—Susan Rowe and Rachel Rion—present this list of nominees:

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| President:            | Angela Ryan                               |
| First VP/Development: | Lena Packer                               |
| Treasurer:            | Toni Shepherd                             |
| Voter Editor:         | Paula Bowman                              |
| Directors:            | Laura Callow<br>Linda Curry<br>Sue Wabeke |

The following officers are continuing their terms:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Second VP/Voter Service: | Paula Bowman                                   |
| Secretary:               | Mary Visos                                     |
| Directors:               | Lynda Franklin<br>Gail Sullivan<br>Diane Wittl |

The Issues for Emphasis, or "Program" recommended by the Board of Directors are:

Voting Rights  
Money in Politics  
Regional Transportation

Remember that members can suggest their own Program ideas during the Directions to the Board portion of the annual meeting.

Please see the budget on Page 4.

**NOTE:** Membership dues of \$60/member are due in July. We will happily accept your dues payment at the annual meeting, so please bring your checkbook. Thanks!

## DECEASED LEAGUE MEMBERS HONORED

On May 16th, a memorial service was held in Jackson for longtime League member, Phyllis Murch, who passed away earlier this year. Present were three former League of Women Voters of Livonia presidents. From the left: Flora McRae (1984, and 1987-91), Roberta Young (1985-87) and Margaret Thomas (1970-71 and 1981-82).



Another longtime member, Marge Gade, died in 2014. We received a donation from her daughter, Lisa Asquini, and a lovely note: *"This donation is in memory of my dear mother, Marge Gade, on what would have been her 85th birthday. She was a proud member of the League and loved all of you so much. I know those of you who knew her miss her as well."*

Indeed we do.

**LWV Northwest Wayne County Proposed Budget**

**July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016**

|   |   | <b>EXISTING BUDGET</b>   | <b>PROPOSED BUDGET</b>   |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|   |   | <b>7-1-14 to 6-30-15</b> | <b>7-1-15 to 6-30-16</b> |
| <b><u>EXPENSE ITEMS</u></b>   |   |                          |                          |
| <b>1. Board &amp; Administration</b>  |   |                          |                          |
| <b>A. Officers</b>  | Expenses/office supplies                            | \$75.00                  | \$25.00                  |
| <b>B. Committees, Meeting Supplies</b>  |   | \$25.00                  | \$25.00                  |
| <b>C. Meetings</b>  | Room Rentals  | \$150.00                 | \$150.00                 |
|   | Annual Report                                       | \$40.00                  | \$40.00                  |
| <b>2. LWV Conventions</b>   | State   | \$600.00                 | \$0.00                   |
|   | National  | \$0.00                   | \$1,500.00               |
|   | State Meetings                                      | \$25.00                  | \$25.00                  |
| <b>3. Voter</b>   | Print & Paper                                       | \$75.00                  | \$25.00                  |
|   | Postage & Labels                                    | \$75.00                  | \$25.00                  |
| <b>4. PMP</b>   | State (45 @ \$23)                                   | \$1,035.00               | \$1,035.00               |
|   | National (45 @ \$31)                                | \$1,395.00               | \$1,395.00               |
| <b>5. Educational</b>   | Program, Action, Video Recording                    | \$500.00                 | \$300.00                 |
|   | Voter Service (Includes Postage & Labels)           | \$50.00                  | \$100.00                 |
|   | Voter Guides  | \$400.00                 | \$400.00                 |
|   | They Represent You                                  | \$200.00                 | \$200.00                 |
|   | LWVNWW Web Page/Domain Name                         | \$230.00                 | \$230.00                 |
| <b>6. Operations</b>  | Insurance   | \$40.00                  | \$40.00                  |
|   | Postal Box  | \$60.00                  | \$60.00                  |
|   | Telephone   | \$100.00                 | \$120.00                 |
| <b>7. Fund Raising</b>  |   | \$50.00                  | \$150.00                 |
| <b>8. Miscellaneous</b>   |   | \$100.00                 | \$100.00                 |
| <b>9. Rainy Day Fund</b>  |   | \$0.00                   | \$0.00                   |
| <b>10. Scholarship</b>  |   | \$0.00                   | \$0.00                   |
| <b>Totals</b>   |   | <b>\$5,225.00</b>        | <b>\$5,945.00</b>        |
|   |   | <b>EXISTING BUDGET</b>   | <b>PROPOSED BUDGET</b>   |
| <b><u>INCOME</u></b>  |   | <b>7-1-14 to 6-30-15</b> | <b>7-1-15 to 6-30-16</b> |
| <b>1. Dues</b>  | <b>45 @ \$60</b>                                    | \$2,700.00               | \$2,700.00               |
| <b>2. Contributions</b>   | Member - cash                                       | \$750.00                 | \$750.00                 |
|   | Member in kind                                      | \$150.00                 | \$90.00                  |
| <b>3. Fund Raising</b>  |   |                          |                          |
| <b>Auction</b>  |   | \$0.00                   | \$1,500.00               |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>  | (Westwick Square-election oversight / AP reporting) | \$800.00                 | \$300.00                 |
| <b>4. Dividends</b>   |   | \$10.00                  | \$5.00                   |
| <b>5. Ed Fund Reimbursement</b>   |   | \$650.00                 | \$600.00                 |
| <b>6. Transfer from Reserves</b>  |   | \$165.00                 | \$0.00                   |
| <b>Total</b>  |   | <b>\$5,225.00</b>        | <b>\$5,945.00</b>        |
| <i>Budget Committee: Angela Ryan, Paula Bowman, Nancy White, Gail Sullivan, Toni Shepherd</i> |   |                          |                          |



We are seeking member help with three Voter Service projects in June.

1. We have been hired by Westwick Square the Wayne cooperative housing complex, to conduct the vote at their Annual Meeting on **June 13th**. They are voting on a major by-laws change and need 164 votes to hold the vote. The board is making a huge effort to bring people out to vote, including prize giveaways and a barbecue—it will be a happy time! We need at least 3 members to help between 10:00am and 2:00pm. If you can assist in what will be an interesting project, please contact Angela Ryan.
2. The League is holding 3 candidate forums on Tuesday, **June 16th** for the Livonia clerk (7:00-7:30), treasurer (7:35-8:05) and mayor (8:10-9:00) at the Livonia City Hall. Questions screeners, ushers and timers are needed. Can you help? If so, contact Paula Bowman
3. With 16 (!!!) candidates running for Livonia City Council, a traditional forum is out of the question. Instead, each candidate has been invited to participate in a 5-minute interview that we will videotape and have available on our website. These interviews will take place on two evenings from 7:00-8:45 at the Livonia Civic Center Library: **Monday and Tuesday, June 22 and 23**. In addition to Paula and Angela, we need 2 other members on each night (one timer and one usher). If you can help, please contact Paula Bowman.

Thank You!  
😊

- ♣ To LWVMI Voter Service Director, Eva Packard, who explained the very confusing May 5th ballot proposal to 75 attendees at the Livonia Library on April 6th. With Power Point in hand, she delivered a dizzying amount of factual information that helped all of us understand this complicated proposal better than we had before her talk.
- ♣ To all the League members who attended the May 2nd membership meeting at Denny's and took armfuls of our updated *They Represent You* brochures to deliver to area public libraries. We appreciate your help!
- ♣ To the 11 League members who conducted Legislative Interviews these past few months (several people conducted multiple interviews). Thank you to Rachel Rion, Lena Packer, Rosemary Doyle, Lynda Franklin, Pat Tavidian, Paula Bowman, Sue Wabeke, Anne Marie Graham-Hudak, Gail Sullivan, Angela Ryan, and Diane Wittl. We conducted 8 interviews that will assist LWVMI with their advocacy efforts in the next two years.

**CONVENTION GOERS:** These five members represented your League at the recent LWVMI convention in Kalamazoo. Join us at the annual meeting and learn about what **they** learned during plenary sessions, workshops and conversations with other Michigan League members.

*Pictured left to right: Paula Bowman, Diane Wittl, Megan Chenoweth, Gail Sullivan and Angela Ryan.*



Annual Meeting: June 20th.

League of Women Voters  
PO Box 51502  
Livonia, MI 48151



Become a Partner for Change with  
the League of Women Voters.

Yes, I wish to join the League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Open to any citizen over the age of 18.  
My check of \$60 is enclosed.  
Make check payable to LWV of Northwest Wayne County  
PO Box 51502, Livonia, MI 48151