

# LOCAL NON-PARTISAN VOTER GUIDE

## GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

## LIVONIA

POLLS ARE OPEN 7:00 am – 8:00 pm



### LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NORTHWEST WAYNE COUNTY

Website: [www.LWVnorthwestwayne.org](http://www.LWVnorthwestwayne.org) E-mail: [lwvmail@yahoo.com](mailto:lwvmail@yahoo.com) Ph: 734-421-4420

### *What's on the Ballot?*

#### ***Partisan Ballot:***

≈Governor (vote for 1)  
≈Secretary of State (vote for 1)  
≈Attorney General (vote for 1)  
≈U.S. Senator (vote for 1)  
≈U.S. Representative (vote for 1)  
\*State Senator, 7th District (vote for 1)  
\*State Representative, Dist 11 or 16th, (vote for 1)  
≈State Board of Education (vote for 2)  
≈U of M Regents (vote for 2)  
≈MSU Trustees (vote for 2)  
≈WSU Governor (vote for 2)  
\*County Executive (vote for 1)  
County Commissioner, Dist 8 (unopposed)  
\*County Commissioner, Dist 9 (vote for 1)

#### **\*Covered in this Voter Guide**

≈Covered in the LWVMI (newsprint) Voter Guide

All races, including the unopposed races, appear on [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org)

#### ***Nonpartisan Ballot***

##### JUDGES

≈Supreme Ct 8-yr. term (vote for 2)  
Court of Appeals 6-yr. term (unopposed)  
Court of Appeals, partial term (unopposed)  
Circuit Ct. 6-yr term, Incumbent (unopposed)  
\*Circuit Ct. 6-yr term, Non-Incumbent (vote for 3)  
Circuit Ct. Partial term, Incumbent, (unopposed)  
Probate Ct. 6-yr term, Incumbent (unopposed)  
Probate Ct 6-yr. term, Non-Incumbent (unopposed))  
16th District Court (unopposed)

##### SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Schoolcraft College (unopposed)  
\*Livonia School Board, 4-yr term (vote for 3)  
or Clarenceville School Board (unopposed)

***Ballot Proposals:*** \* Schoolcraft College Millage Restoration Authorization  
≈ 3 Statewide Proposals

The League of Women Voters of Northwest Wayne County is a nonpartisan organization established in 1960 in Livonia, MI. The League works to encourage citizen participation in government. It never supports or opposes any political party or candidate. The work of the League is financed by the dues of its volunteer members and by contributions from citizens in the community.

Publication of these statements from the candidates is solely in the interest of public service and in no way is to be construed as an endorsement by the League of Women Voters. Candidates' words are printed as submitted (including any misspellings). The League takes no responsibility for any views or facts stated by the candidates.

The on-line version of this Voter Guide can be accessed at [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org).

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b> <i>What are your top three state legislative priorities? Why did you select them?</i></p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b> <i>What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMY:</b> <i>What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?</i></p>
<p><b>Laura Cox (R)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.electlauracox.com">www.electlauracox.com</a>  <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="http://@electlauracox">http://@electlauracox</a>  <b>Occupation/Current Position:</b> State Representative, 19th House District  <b>Education:</b> Bachelor's, Criminal Justice, Michigan State University Master's, Criminal Justice Research and Planning, Michigan State University  <b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> -U.S. Customs Special Agent, 13 years -First female House Appropriations Chair, overseeing a \$56 billion budget -Past Chair of Ways and Means Committee on the Wayne County Commission - Served as the 11th Congressional District Chair -Served as the Treasurer to the Wayne 11th Congressional District Republican Committee</p>	<p>Increasing economic development by deregulation and limiting government and its spending - Strengthening public safety - I will continue to support measures that make our communities safer. I secured the appropriate funding to train 155 new Michigan State Police Troopers, putting our statewide trooper strength at its highest level in 18 years. -Maintaining a fiscally conservative budget that reduces spending and pays down debt</p>	<p>As House Appropriations Chair, I adopted \$14.8 billion into the K-12 school budget, the largest investment in Michigan history. I committed the resources needed to help quality schools get even better and help struggling ones improve. Spending in smarter ways creates more opportunities for students to learn/succeed in all aspects of life. Building a better future for Michigan requires smart, sensible investments in education to prepare our children for success. The state budget I helped craft emphasizes helping children learn how to read and write at an early age, along with efforts to help academically at risk students.</p>	<p>I believe in reducing burdensome government regulation in areas where it is simply not necessary. A fair and less burdensome tax structure creates an atmosphere for entrepreneurs to create businesses, resulting in more jobs. As a result, the economy gains more revenue, unemployment rates drop as new job opportunities rise. Being pro-business means being pro-Michigan, and what's good for one is good for the other. I continue to strive to make Michigan a better place to hold business.</p>
<p><b>Dayna Polehanki (D)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://daynaforsenate.com">daynaforsenate.com</a>  <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/DaynaForSenate/">http://www.facebook.com/DaynaForSenate/</a>  <b>Twitter:</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/DaynaForSenate">twitter.com/DaynaForSenate</a>  <b>Occupation/Current Position:</b> English teacher  <b>Education:</b> School Administrator Certification - MASSP; M.A.T. - Marygrove College; B.S. - Central Michigan University; Teacher Certification - Alma College  <b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> 2018 Teacher of the Year, New Haven Community Schools; former Building Representative for the New Haven Education Association (MEA Local 1); one of two recipients of the 2017 Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union Educator Advantage Scholarship; owner of Detroit Casting Company; Casting Society of America Member.</p>	<p>As state senator of Michigan's 7th District, which encompasses Livonia, Canton, Plymouth, Northville, and Wayne, my top 3 legislative priorities will be to (1) Support public education in Michigan by fully funding our K-12 schools, removing the profit motive in education, and making college affordable for working families; (2) Give our seniors the care and secure retirement they've rightly earned by reversing the pension tax and protecting Medicare and Medicaid; and (3) Ensure that all Michiganders have access to quality affordable health care by expanding coverage and lowering costs, starting with prescription drugs.</p>	<p>School finance determines the quality and quantity of instruction. We must heed the call of the bipartisan Michigan School Finance Research Collaborative's Adequacy Study that recommends an increase in per pupil base funding and getting rid of a "one-size-fits-all" funding formula in place of one that takes into consideration the unique needs of all students. I support universal preschool, removing the for-profit motive in education, restricting the use of School Aid Fund dollars for PK-12 only, making college affordable by adequately funding it, and promoting career tech/skilled trades in our schools and communities.</p>	<p>I support promoting Buy Local/Buy Michigan requirements to ensure that taxpayer dollars are used to create local jobs for local workers; I support ending corporate trade deals/tax breaks that reward wealthy corporations for sending Michigan jobs overseas; I support promoting quality post-secondary education by learning a skill through union apprenticeship programs, attending a community college, or attending a university; I support raising the minimum wage, which will raise living standards and grow the middle class; I support our right to organize and collectively bargain; and I support equal pay for equal work.</p>

**Michigan State Senate, District 7 (cont.)**

**6 Year Term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b> <i>What are your top three state legislative priorities? Why did you select them?</i></p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b> <i>What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMY:</b> <i>What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?</i></p>
<p><b>Joseph H LeBlanc (Lib)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b>  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LeBlancforMISenate7">https://www.facebook.com/LeBlancforMISenate7</a></p> <p><b>Facebook:</b>  <a href="http://www.facebook.com/LeBlancforMISenate7">http://www.facebook.com/LeBlancforMISenate7</a></p> <p><b>Occupation / Current Position:</b>                      Business Owner in Canton MI.</p> <p><b>Education:</b> Livonia Public Schools. Schoolcraft College. Life.</p> <p><b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> I have founded, and operate 2 local businesses that employ local people. One is a technology business and the other promotes local events to the entire country. I know how to run a business and treat customers. Being a taxpayer, I understand the burden that taxes place on our hardworking families, and businesses.</p>	<p>Reform Auto No-Fault. Lansing does not know what coverage is best for you and your family. Reform to allow YOU to pick what is best for YOU. Cut regulations and taxes. If you are a hard-working Michigan resident, let me work to get Lansing off your back and out of your pocketbook. Fix our roads. Stop for a moment and add up all you are paying in taxes on gas, license plate fees, sales taxes when you buy or lease your car, and then tell me, no, it is not enough, tax me more to do the same things we have been doing. While we are at, let us make Lansing a part time job. Not a full time career for politicians</p>	<p>First, parents have to engage and teach their children. Now, 2nd, we can discuss schools. MLIVE.COM in February 2017 says: "On average, Michigan school districts spent \$9,996 per student in 2015-16" Let us do some math, if we have 30 students in classroom, 30x\$9996=\$299,880. Are you honestly telling me we can not educate a room of grade school students for almost \$300,000? Let's follow the money and stop the problem, the problem is not the teacher in the classroom.</p>	<p>Lower taxes. Less regulations. If government gets out of the way and out of our pocketbooks, there is no limit to what Americans and especially Michiganders can accomplish! I support the Libertarian Promise. One of the planks of that promise is to eliminate the burden of unnecessary occupational licenses. Do you know that currently over 20% of workers need a government license to work?</p>

**Michigan House of Representatives, District 11**

**2-Year Term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

*(District 11 covers only a small portion of Livonia: voters living between Joy and Plymouth Roads, between Merriman and Middlebelt)*

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b> <i>What are your top three state legislative priorities? Why did you select them?</i></p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b> <i>What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMY:</b> <i>What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?</i></p>
<p><b>James Townsend (R)</b></p> <p><b>Education:</b> Bachelor of Science, Business Management; Spring Arbor University</p> <p><b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> Precinct/State Delegate, 18 years</p>	<p>1 Education &amp; Workforce Readiness – By supporting parental choice and charter schools to expand and enhance quality educational opportunities for all Michigan students. Help students to reach their full potential by adhering to a challenging curriculum, for higher academic standards 2 Protect Employer Rights in the Workplace – I would support the right of employers of all sizes to manage their workplaces free of undue interference 3 Maintain a Sound Legal Climate - i would oppose efforts to expand the types of claims that can be filed against Michigan job providers protecting and strengthening Michigan's laws.</p>	<p>By supporting parental choice and charter schools to expand and enhance high quality educational opportunities for all Michigan students and assisting students in reaching their full potential by insisting that all schools adhere to a challenging curriculum based on high academic standards. I would urge the State Board of Education to do a better job holding all public schools, traditional and charter, to high standards for student achievement.</p>	<p>We need to create a business friendly environment in Michigan, and focus on increased education attainment, crafting policies that attract young talent to vibrant cities.</p>

**Michigan House of Representatives, District 11 (Cont) 2-Year Term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

*(District 11 covers only a small portion of Livonia: voters living between Joy and Plymouth Roads, between Merriman and Middlebelt)*

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>(Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b> <i>What are your top three state legislative priorities? Why did you select them?</i></p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b> <i>What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMY:</b> <i>What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?</i></p>
<p><b>Jewell Jones (D)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b> www.jonesforstaterep.com/ <b>Facebook:</b> http://www.facebook.com/unitedforjewelljones/ <b>Twitter:</b> twitter.com/onlyjjones <b>Occupation / Current Position:</b> Michigan State Representative <b>Education:</b> University of Michigan - Dearborn B.A. Political Science <b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> Former Inkster City Councilman (2015) Current State Representative (2017-Present) Michigan Army National Guard (Present)</p>	<p>1) Accelerate Growth in Michigan's economy by providing incentives for development in emerging industries (e.g., high-tech, advanced manufacturing, cyber security, urban logistics, alternative energy) and tourism. Expand support programs that stimulate small business development. 2) Restore leadership in K-12 and Post-Secondary/Career-Technical education by investing more dollars. Community College tuition should be free to students who maintain acceptable GPAs. 3) Michigan can improve the quality of life by increasing investments in health care, the environment and policies that ensure the well-being of our citizens</p>	<p>We should ensure that more equitable funding is available at all levels. Early childhood and K-12 education is underfunded with the current approach to providing students a quality education. We need policies that close the estimated \$1,959 gap (according to Michigan School Finance Research Collaborative) in per student funding. We should explore allowing school districts more flexibility in raising millages and look into alternative approaches for financing education. College tuition is too high and limits affordability for many students. We need to lower college costs and make community college attendance free.</p>	<p>We need to invest in road/bridge reconstruction and infrastructure improvement projects that create jobs and business opportunities across the state. The minimum wage should be raised to \$15.00 per hour and union members should benefit exclusively from collective bargaining and contract negotiations. Prevailing Wage provisions should be restored as a requirement for government contracts to ensure that there are fair and equitable pay levels and benefits provided to workers. Unions and equitable wages created the middle class and resulted in higher standards of living for all workers.</p>

Candidates were asked several questions by the League of Women Voters. The answers are printed as submitted and have not been edited, except for necessary cutting when replies exceeded the stated word limitations.

Responses to additional questions posed to candidates for state representative and state senator concerning elections, justice and the environment/energy can be found by logging on to [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org).



**Michigan House of Representatives, District 19 2-Year Term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

*(District 19 covers most of Livonia except for voters living between Joy and Plymouth Roads, between Merriman and Middlebelt)*

<p><b>CANDIDATES</b></p> <p><i>Visit <a href="http://VOTE411.org">VOTE411.org</a> for responses to additional questions)</i></p>	<p><b>PRIORITIES:</b> <i>What are your top three state legislative priorities? Why did you select them?</i></p>	<p><b>EDUCATION:</b> <i>What measures do you support/propose to achieve improved educational outcomes and accessibility for Michigan students from early childhood through post-secondary education?</i></p>	<p><b>ECONOMY:</b> <i>What policies do you support to increase jobs and help Michigan residents improve their economic positions?</i></p>
<p><b>Brian Meakin (R)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://brianmeakin.com">brianmeakin.com</a>  <b>Occupation / Current Position:</b> President of Meakin and Associates, Inc.  <b>Education:</b> Bachelor of Science Degree from Lawrence Technological University  <b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> Small business owner with thirteen years on the Livonia City Council</p>	<p>Roads - We need to fix our crumbling roads. We need to repeal outdated laws that have forced Livonia to be a donor district, and work with state and county officials to secure funding like I have done on City Council.  Economy – As a small business owner, I understand that government cannot create jobs, but we can create an environment that will promote job growth. We can promote job growth by removing wasteful regulations. Seniors – I will work to protect our most vulnerable; our seniors and children. I work to ensure that our seniors are receiving best care and that our neighborhoods are safe and predator free.</p>	<p>We need to work to ensure that the all schools are properly funded, and our children have the latest tools to receive a quality education and are safe while doing it. We can accomplish this by spending money in ways that creates more opportunities for students to learn/succeed in all aspects of life. Whether a student is college bound or wishes to enter the skill trade industry, our education system needs to be prepared to help them achieve their goals.</p>	<p>As a small business owner, I understand firsthand the importance of a favorable economic environment which promotes job growth and removes governmental red tape and regulations. We also need to need a less onerous tax structure that creates an environment for entrepreneurs to start new businesses and create more jobs. Additionally, we need roll back the Granholm income tax increase on Michigan residents.</p>
<p><b>Laurie Pohutsky (D)</b></p> <p><b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.lauriepohutskyformichigan.com/">http://www.lauriepohutskyformichigan.com/</a>  <b>Facebook:</b> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/lauriepohutskyhd19/">http://www.facebook.com/lauriepohutskyhd19/</a>  <b>Twitter:</b> <a href="https://twitter.com/lpohutsky19">twitter.com/lpohutsky19</a>  <b>Occupation / Current Position:</b> I am a research associate at a biotechnology startup specializing in healthcare diagnostics.  <b>Education:</b> I graduated from Michigan State University in 2010 with my Bachelor of Science in microbiology.  <b>Qualifications / Experience:</b> As a scientist, I am committed to evidence-based policy and protecting the environment. If we are going to create legislation based in science, we need to have a scientist in the room. Furthermore, my experience in toxicology laboratories has given me insight into the complexities of the opioid epidemic we are facing in our state.</p>	<p>My top priorities are healthcare, public education and the environment. I'm a proponent of a state-funded Medicare for All program funded by implementing a progressive, graduated income tax that requires the top 1% in Michigan to pay their fair share without overburdening the working class. Eliminating profit-driven inefficiencies will also reduce healthcare costs. Since teachers best understand the consequences of school policy, I support forming a non-partisan committee of educators to work with the legislature on policy. I also support creating incentives for green energy improvements to protect our environment.</p>	<p>Access to pre-K programs have been shown to greatly improve educational outcomes. These programs must be made available to all children, regardless of their families' incomes. Additionally, we cannot allow charter schools to steal resources from our public schools in the form of tax dollars. Michigan universities must also make college affordable for our own students rather than leaving them to pay the cost of additions used to lure those from out of state. We must also stress the availability of trade schools and apprenticeships to high school students so that they don't feel that college is their only option.</p>	<p>It is important to provide no or low-cost training in new industries, such as green energy, to Michigan workers. Unfortunately, we have seen many industries leave our state with no sign of returning, and it is important to provide resources to help Michiganders gain new skill sets. Raising awareness about the skilled trades in high schools will also help Michigan residents obtain employment. The skilled trades offer lucrative and stable positions that often go unfilled because their importance is not stressed to students. Protecting organized labor is also pivotal to improving Michigan's economic positions.</p>

**Wayne County Executive**

**4-Year Term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

<b>CANDIDATES</b>	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<b>Dennis Curan (R)</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	
<b>Warren C. Evans (D)</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	

**Wayne County Commissioner, 9th District**

**2-Year term**

**VOTE FOR 1**

*(District 9 covers most of Livonia except for those voters in the SE corner of Livonia who are south of 5 Mile and east of Middlebelt)*

<b>CANDIDATES</b>	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<p><b>Terri A. Marecki (R)</b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 16519 Ronnie Lane Livonia, MI 48154  <b>Occupation/Current Profession:</b> Wayne County Commissioner, District 9  Retired Registered Dietitian  <b>Campaign Phone:</b> (734) 377-2824  <b>Campaign Website:</b> Wayne County Commissioner Terry Marecki (FB)  <b>Education:</b> BS, General Dietetics, Madonna University</p>	<p>My parents moved to Livonia when I was 6 months old. My husband and I raised our 4 children in Livonia and now two of our grandchildren are here. All of us attended Livonia Public Schools. I am a retired Registered Dietitian and worked at the University of Cincinnati Hospitals and the University of Michigan Medical Center. While my children were attending LPS I was elected to the Livonia Board of Education, was then appointed/elected to the Livonia City Council and then appointed/elected as Livonia City Clerk. I was sworn in as a Wayne County Commissioner in 2015 and I am running for my third term. I am honored not only to serve Livonia, but the Northville Township and City areas. I am running for this office again to keep the positive momentum that has occurred in the County since 2015. After going into near bankruptcy, the County is now passing budgets with surpluses!</p>	<p>As the only republican on the Ways and Means Comm., my priority is to keep pushing in a positive financial direction, after eliminating a 52 million dollar structural and 82 million dollar accumulated deficit. We will pass out 4th budget in Sept. with multi-million dollar surpluses. We can not go down the slippery slope of overspending like what happened before 2015. We need to continue to pay down the retirement debt plaguing the county. Roads are a huge priority. The State funding mechanism used to fund roads the last 50 years, is not working. As a Commissioner I was instrumental in continuing the "Neighborhood Road Initiative" for townships. The County Commission also worked to guarantee cities and townships will be assured of a 15% return on the Parks Millage now and in the future. I will continue to be a watch dog of your tax dollars. This is your government and your money.</p>
<b>E. Jason Blankenship (D)</b>	DID NOT RESPOND	

***ALERT: NO STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET VOTING IN NOVEMBER***

Unlike past elections, the November 6, 2018 ballot will not allow a voter to check one party's box to vote in all the partisan races. Voters must choose a candidate in each individual partisan race. Non-partisan elections, such as judges and school boards, will, as in the past, also require a voter to choose individual candidates (or multiple candidates if the race requires.)

CANDIDATES	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<p><b>John C. Cahalan</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b> I currently serve as a trial attorney with the law firm of Plunkett Cooney  <b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://www.cahalanforjude.com">http://www.cahalanforjude.com</a>  <b>Campaign email :</b>  <a href="mailto:john@cahalanforjudge.com">john@cahalanforjudge.com</a>  <b>Campaign phone:</b> (313) 402-6556  <b>Education:</b> University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, J.D., Marquette University, B.A., University of Detroit Jesuit High School</p>	<p>I was born in Detroit, went to University of Detroit High School, Marquette University, and University of Detroit Law School. I've worked at the Wayne County Prosecutor's office, I've worked for a general practice law firm, I've worked for a worked for a plaintiff's personal injury law firm, and I currently work as a trial lawyer at the law firm of Plunkett Cooney. I have wanted to be a judge for as long as I can remember. I want to spend my life on the bench dedicated to having an impact on our community and the lives I touch. I believe I have been called to the bench as I have the unique temperament, disposition, and personality it takes.</p>	<p>I believe the community needs to better understand the court system and their rights within the court system. I would like to see more programs involving judges working in the community educating the public. I believe mental health, sobriety, and drug courts should continue to grow and be utilized. I would like to serve in some capacity assisting the growth of these programs within the 3rd Circuit Court.</p>
<p><b>Tracy E. Green</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b> Solo Practitioner, Green Law, PLLC  <b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://www.gogreenforjustice.org">http://www.gogreenforjustice.org</a>  <b>Campaign email :</b> <a href="mailto:info@gogreenforjustice.org">info@gogreenforjustice.org</a>  <b>Campaign phone:</b> (313) 623-3102  <b>Education:</b> Cass Technical HS, diploma; Wayne State University, Bachelor's of Social Work; Wayne State University, Juris Doctorate</p>	<p>I have practiced law for 21 years, primarily in the Third Circuit Court. There, I have zealously protected the rights of indigent defendants in felony cases, promoted the best interests of children in custody cases, and fought to preserve families in child welfare cases. I am an award-winning attorney, published author and trainer in child welfare. The daughter of two UAW retirees, I am also a life-long Detroiter, wife, mother, and grandmother. The chief objective of my candidacy is to help transform the public's perception of the court so that people will respect and accept in its decisions.</p>	<p>Our governmental institutions, including the courts, are in a crisis of public confidence. I believe that respect for the judiciary and its orders is especially critical today — when so many are disillusioned with the governmental institutions that were created to serve us as citizens. To address this issue, as a judge, I would ensure that every person who comes before the court leaves with his or her dignity intact. If people believe that they have been respected and treated fairly, they will more likely abide by the court's rulings, even if they disagree with them.</p>
<p><b>Bridget Mary Hathaway</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b>  Bodman PLC  <b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://www.hathawayforjudge.com">http://www.hathawayforjudge.com</a>  <b>Campaign email :</b>  <a href="mailto:bridgethathawayforjudge@gmail.com">bridgethathawayforjudge@gmail.com</a>  <b>Campaign phone:</b> (313) 580-9253  <b>Education:</b> J.D., Wayne State University Law School; B.A., University of Michigan, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy</p>	<p>I have spent my career litigating a wide range of cases in Wayne County Circuit Court and courts throughout the country. As a litigator for some of the region's most successful companies and individuals, I have litigated complex, multi-million dollar business disputes. As a city prosecutor, I prosecuted criminal misdemeanors. As a criminal defense attorney, I defended the accused in felony and misdemeanor cases. I understand that when people enter the courtroom, it is under difficult circumstances. They have a right to be treated fairly and respectfully, and to have their case decided without any undue delay or expense.</p>	<p>The 3rd Circuit Court has one of the highest caseloads of any Circuit Court in the State of Michigan. It is critical, therefore, to focus on developing innovative practices to maximize efficiency. If fortunate enough to be elected by the citizens of Wayne County, I will be a strong voice for efficiency, fairness, and service.</p>

<b>CANDIDATES</b>	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<p><b>Delicia Coleman Morson</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b> Sr. Trial Lawyer that represents clients, in Criminal Defense, Family, Civil &amp; Real Estate matters.</p> <p><b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://Votedeliciacolemanmorson.com">http://Votedeliciacolemanmorson.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign email :</b>  <a href="mailto:votedeliciacolemanmordon@gmail.com">votedeliciacolemanmordon@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign phone:</b> 313-622-6824</p> <p><b>Education:</b> H.S. Diploma -John F. Kennedy H.S. BA - University of Wash JD - University of Detroit Mercy</p>	<p>I have managed an active trial practice for over 22 years in all areas: Criminal, Family, Real Estate, Civil, Probate, and Juvenile Law. I was previously an Assistant City Attorney for the City of Ecorse. I want to administer true Justice for my community with equality, integrity, and experience. I work in 3rd Circuit Court and recognize the failures that we need to address and will STAND-UP against injustice.</p>	<p>I would make sure individual and constitutional rights are upheld equally for all who come before the bench. I will address that by making sure individuals are fully represented and receive appropriate sentences for their convictions along with rehabilitation and treatment as needed so that the whole community can benefit. I would also ensure that all who come before the bench are treated with respect and integrity, and I would address that by being on time and making sure everyone has their "day in Court".</p>
<p><b>Suzette Samuels</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b> Lead Attorney-Wayne County Prosecutor's Office</p> <p><b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://Vostesamuels.com">http://Vostesamuels.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign email :</b>  <a href="mailto:ssamuels51@yahoo.com">ssamuels51@yahoo.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign phone:</b> (313) 505-0011</p> <p><b>Education:</b> BA; JD.</p>	<p>I was born and raised in southwest Detroit. I am a graduate of Detroit Public Schools. I have been an attorney for 24 years, with over 20 years dedicated to public service. I have been a Wayne County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for nearly 20 years. I am running for Judge to continue to serve the public with the same dedication for which I've served for 20 years. I am in court on nearly a daily basis and I have firsthand knowledge of the the need for FAIR and EXPERIENCED judges in our legal system. I'm running because I truly want to do the job and because the citizenry deserves the very best in public service.</p>	<p>1. Judges who are connected to the communities for which they serve. 2. Judges who put public service before politics . 3. Sentencing alternatives to incarceration 4. Judicial efficiency. 5. Judges who follow the law. 6. Judges who cultivate an atmosphere which enables litigants to litigate their cases without belittlement, and impatience. I am the most experienced and qualified of judicial candidates, and I will be the gate keeper of the people's court room. As such, I pledge that all of the areas I have listed will be fulfilled in the best interest of the citizenry of Wayne County.</p>
<p><b>Regina Thomas</b></p> <p><b>Occupation/current position:</b> Director-Lakeshore Legal Aid's Counsel and Advocacy Law Line</p> <p><b>Campaign website:</b>  <a href="http://www.reginathomasforjudge.com">http://www.reginathomasforjudge.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign email :</b>  <a href="mailto:reginathomasforjudge@gmail.com">reginathomasforjudge@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Campaign phone:</b> 313-409-8290</p> <p><b>Education:</b> Cass Technical High School Tennessee State University, B.S. cum laude Vanderbilt University School of Law, J.D.</p>	<p>I have spent 22 years providing critical legal services to families as well as protecting the rights of crime victims. I see becoming a judge as an opportunity to be of greater service to my community. I currently serve as director of a civil legal services hotline which provides free legal assistance. My prior legal experience includes serving as deputy chief counsel-Legal Aid and Defender Association, an adjunct professor at WMU-Coolley Law School, an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office, and an assistant attorney general for the State of Michigan. I live in Grosse Pointe Woods with my husband and two sons.</p>	<p>Access to the courts is an issue. While there is a constitutional right to counsel in criminal matters no such mandate exists as it relates to civil legal matters. There are a limited number of attorneys who are available to assist under resourced people in civil legal matters. As a result a large number of people are forced to navigate the judicial system without an attorney. In many cases these civil legal matters can be the difference between crisis and stability for under resourced families. If elected I will seek to ensure all litigants are able to participate in their legal matter in a meaningful way and are treated with respect.</p>

***Need an absentee ballot?***

Contact your City Clerk for an application

CANDIDATES	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<p><b>Colleen Burton</b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 18483 Gill Rd. Livonia, MI 48152  <b>Occupation/Current Profession:</b> Sales Assistant  <b>Campaign Phone:</b> (248) 476-4720  <b>Campaign Email:</b> cburton@twmi.rr.com  <b>Campaign Website:</b> www.re-electcolleenandmark.com  <b>Education:</b> Bachelor of Science, Harding University</p>	<p>My husband and I are graduates of Bentley High School. Our children are graduates of Stevenson. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Harding University, taught high school before having children, and currently work in sales. In my nine years on the School Board I have a proven record of transparent leadership. I have led the review of every district policy, hired and overseen the superintendent, and worked diligently in the passage and successful implementation of the bond to provide enhanced security, technology, and facilities to benefit our students, staff, and community. I am a certified Board Member, earning the Michigan Association of School Board's Awards of Merit, Distinction, and Master Board Member. As an active volunteer in the district for over 20 years, I am running to continue to use this experience to provide excellence in education in Livonia Public Schools.</p>	<p>The highest priority is the academic success of every student. I will continue to target our financial and human resources for maximum effectiveness, and support staff in reaching all students, including those needing additional assistance. The largest projects to manage are the recently approved bond and enhancement millage. I will see that funds for technology, security, and building upgrades are spent in accordance with the long term facility plan, enhancing student education and increasing property values in our community. The biggest challenge is maintaining high quality public education with decreasing enrollment and fewer classroom dollars. I will continue to work with legislators to secure fair and adequate funding for students and appropriate return of taxpayer dollars to our community. It is expensive to educate every child, but it is more expensive not to educate them.</p>
<p><b>Anne Demeter</b>  <i>Formerly Anne Margaret Pichini</i></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 31220 Seven Mile Livonia, MI 48152  <b>Occupation/Current Profession:</b> Instructional designer and project manager at TorranceLearning specializing in eLearning creation.  <b>Campaign Phone:</b> (313) 505-5474  <b>Campaign Email:</b> ademeterLPS@gmail.com  <b>Campaign Website:</b> https://www.facebook.com/Anne-Demeter-279924549400607  <b>Education:</b> Masters Degree in Educational Technology Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education</p>	<p>My passion is learning which is why I dedicated my career to education. I studied elementary education at Eastern Michigan and obtained my teaching certificate. After a few years of teaching which including classroom teaching middle school, fourth grade, subbing, and tutoring, I began studying for my master's degree in educational technology at University of Michigan-Dearborn. I was able to transition into corporate training and become a learning consultant. After a year, I was promoted to leading the IT training team. Currently, I'm an instructional designer that creates eLearning for various companies. Ever since I left teaching, I have been looking for a way to get involved in the public education system again. I experienced many problems with the education system which is why I want to bring my learning and development knowledge to make a positive impact on the LPS school board.</p>	<p>Education and reforming schools to accommodate the needs of the modern learner are priority. The focus of our schools is on standardized tests which do not show students why education matters. We should be investing time giving students educational experiences where they can collaboratively problem solve and experiment to identify solutions. My vision is to shift the focus from tests to educating the whole child. Which includes showing students how academics and learning can lead them down a path to success and become contributing members of society. When given a variety of ways to practice and apply what they've learned, students have will become independent creative problem solvers that can compete in a global society. As a board member, I would be able to collaborate with current board members and influence decisions made by the superintendent that support LPS students and teachers.</p>

**Do you appreciate this Voter Guide?**

*It is printed with funds donated by people like you. Many in our community do not have access to computers and [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org). They request printed copies but we need your help to keep this work funded. We are an all-volunteer group and rely on donations to pay for unique projects like this. Send your tax-deductible gift, payable to:*

*League of Women Voters Education Fund  
 PO Box 51502  
 Livonia, MI 48151*

<b>CANDIDATES</b>	<i>Please provide biographical information and experience, and explain why you are running for this office.</i>	<i>What are the priority issues facing this office and what actions would you take to address them if elected?</i>
<p><b>Liz Jarvis</b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 19765 Merriman Road Livonia, MI 48152 <b>Occupation/Current Profession:</b> School Board Trustee - Livonia Public Schools <b>Campaign Phone:</b> (248) 231-6794 <b>Campaign Email:</b> elect.Liz.Jarvis@gmail.com <b>Campaign Website:</b> <a href="https://sites.google.com/site/electlizjarvis/">https://sites.google.com/site/electlizjarvis/</a> <b>Education:</b> BA - Studio Art: Graphic Design Honors College, Michigan State University</p>	<p>I am an incumbent Trustee, having served four years on the LPS Board of Education. I have achieved MASB Certification, and have been recognized with an Award of Merit. I am married to Blake (26 years) and have three adult children, who are all graduates of Livonia Public Schools. I am running for re-election to continue the work I've begun. I take the time to talk to LPS families, and listen to their concerns. My vision for LPS is to create a destination district, with strong educational programming, meeting the needs of every family. As a destination district, we would see an increase in enrollment. I'd like to see LPS plan for growth, and develop a curriculum which will attract families and enable our students to succeed after graduation, whether it is at a career, college, or vocational school. I will strive to make this goal a reality.</p>	<p>It is clear that funding is still the major issue facing public schools in Michigan. While it's true that current legislators have spent more money on education than ever before, very little of it actually reaches public school classrooms. School boards across Michigan are faced with pinching pennies and stretching dollars. Another crisis we are facing is the state-wide shortage of teachers. Seasoned teachers are facing retirement, and fewer young people are going into education as a career. Teachers must be given the respect they deserve, and we need to say it with dollars. We must pressure Lansing to stop funding non-public tuition-based schools, and to spend K-12 public dollars on K-12 public schools. Then we can pay our staff what they are worth, attract talented professionals, and improve public education across this state. This is the future of Michigan. Nothing is more important.</p>
<p><b>Mark Johnson</b></p> <p><b>Address:</b> 15799 BLUE SKIES DR LIVONIA, Michigan 48154 <b>Occupation/Current Profession:</b> Attorney <b>Campaign Phone:</b> (734) 591-9408 <b>Campaign Email:</b> mjohnson@nemierlaw.com <b>Education:</b> Graduate of Livonia Bentley High School, University of Toledo-BBA Finance 1975, Detroit College of Law-JD 1985.</p>	<p>I have been a Livonia resident for the majority of my life, having moved here in 1966. I am a product of the Livonia Public School system, having graduated from Bentley High School. I obtained a degree in Finance from the University of Toledo and received my Juris Doctor degree, cum laude, from the Detroit College of Law. I have been a trial attorney for the last 33+ years. I am married to a wonderful woman, Roselyn, and we have twins, Melissa, a grad student at Butler University studying music, and Eric, a special needs son. I have been a part of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City for 30 years, the last 14 as its chair. I have spent the last 8+ years on the Livonia School Board, having served as Secretary, Vice President and President. While the present board has accomplished much, I am running so that I can continue to be a contributor and leader in this community.</p>	<p>As a school district we face financial challenges every day. Reduced state funding is a large part of those challenges. Not only are the schools not adequately funded by the state, we are limited, by law, in our ability to raise funds on a local level. The system must be changed, and while the recent Adequacy Study pointed out the depth of that under funding, we need to keep pressure on our legislators to reconfigure the system to guarantee adequate funding for all districts. We also need to urge our legislators to stop raiding the School Aid Fund to pay for higher education. We must push back on unfunded mandates. The state demands growth and achievement, yet they do so without providing the resources necessary to reach those goals. We are here to prepare our students for the next level and must provide our educators with the tools they need to allow our students reach those goals.</p>

**SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE PROPOSAL: Millage Restoration Authorization With 10 Year Expiration**

Shall the Schoolcraft College District, County of Wayne, Michigan (consisting of the following public school districts: Clarenceville, Garden City, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth-Canton), be permitted to restore for a ten year period, beginning in 2019, the 1986 voter-approved millage rate of 2.27, by assessing an additional 0.5038mills (\$0.5038 per \$1,000) on each dollar of taxable value of all property in the District, which rate shall be assessed through 2028 without further reduction by Section 31 of Article IX, State Constitution of 1963. If approved and levied in its entirety, the additional 0.5038 mills would raise approximately \$7,136,000 in 2019?

Vote YES or NO