

September 2012



Box 3832, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3832

Visit us at [www.lwvannarbor.org](http://www.lwvannarbor.org)

*LWV is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy*

## Reaching out to Voters at the Ann Arbor Art Fair



League members Miriam Borenstein, Nancy Schewe, and Zoe Behnke, along with Casey Kasper of the Girls Group work the crowds at the League booth.

Huge numbers of people now know that the League is alive and well in Washtenaw County and across the country. More than twenty volunteers registered voters, sold our [way cool Defender of Democracy tee shirts](#), and distributed thousands of [VOTE411.org](http://VOTE411.org) bookmarks.

Many, many people thanked us for the work the League has done over the years and were delighted to hear that we will now have an online voter guide. More than one person said that they wanted to return to the days when the League ran the presidential debates.

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## 2011/2012 Officers and Directors

President **Nancy Schewe**  
Vice Pres. **Susan Greenberg**  
Secretary **Cyrene Aksman**  
Treasurer **Judith G. Mich**  
EdFund Treasurer **Betty Bishop**  
Program Director **Zoe Behnke**  
Nat. Res. Director **Shirley Axon**  
Nat. Res. Director **Fran Lyman**  
At Large **Rosemary Austgen**

And those who didn't know us thanked us once they understood what VOTE411.org was: balanced, non-partisan voter information.

We had tons of fun, raised awareness of VOTE411.org and gained lots of visibility for the League of Women Voters. We'll have to do it again sometime.

Want one of our awesome tee shirts? Click [here](#) to learn how to get one for yourself, or one of your favorite Defenders of Democracy!

## Calendar of Activities

**Wednesday, September 19, 7pm -- [Fall Membership Meeting](#).** PROGRAM TOPIC: Countywide 5-year Transit Program. SPEAKER: Mrs. Terri Blackmore, Director of the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study  
SIGN UP FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN UPCOMING LWV PROJECTS: Voter Registration / Candidate Forums / VOTE411 / November reception for elected officials and more! Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Branch  
343 South Fifth St.  
(new parking structure next to library is now open)

**Thursday, September 20, 12:00-1:00pm-- [Flashmob in Lansing](#)** and rally in opposition to the anti-choice bill, HB5711.  
Capitol Building, Lansing.

**Tuesday, September 25, 7pm -- [Board Meeting](#).** Also today is National Voter Registration Day  
Bank of Ann Arbor, 801 W. Ellsworth, Ann Arbor, MI

**Thursday, September 27, 11-1:00pm -- [Rally in Lansing](#)** in support of Voter Registration and Voting Rights activities.  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, across from Capitol.

**Saturday, October 6, -- [LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE](#).** You can register to vote for federal, state, and local elections by mail; at your county, city, or township clerk's office; or by visiting any Secretary of State branch office.

In addition, the following State agencies offer voter registration services to their clients: Department of Human Services, the Department of Community Health and the Department of Career Development. Military recruitment centers also provide voter registration services.

You must re-register to vote whenever you move to a new city or township. For more information go to the Michigan Department of State website.

**Monday, October 8, 2012-Thursday, October 11, 7:00 - 10:00 pm -- [CANDIDATE FORUMS](#).**

October 8th 7:00-7:30 County Water Resources Commissioner; 8:00-8:30 County Treasurer; 9:00-9:30 County Clerk/Register of Deeds

October 9th 7:00-7:30 Washtenaw Community College Trustees Board; 8:00-8:30 Ann Arbor Public School Board; 9:00-9:45 Ann Arbor District Library Board

October 10 7:00-7:30 Ann Arbor Mayoral Race & 5th Ward; 8:00-8:30 County Sheriff; 9:00-9:45 Board Of County Commissioners Districts 7,8,9

October 11 7:00-7:45 State Rep. 53rd & 55th; 8:00-8:30 22nd Circuit Court non-incumbent race & incumbent race; 9:00-9:30 County Prosecuting Attorney  
The forums will be broadcast live and then will be available on demand at CTN Channel 19. Type LWV in the search bar to locate.

### Nominations Committee

Margaret Hiss  
Marina Brown  
Fran Lyman

### Off Board Members

Voter Service Jeanine DeLay  
Mailing Nancy Brucken  
Memb. Sec. Joan Overmire  
Newsletter Trina Borenstein  
Webmaster Susan Wooley



Go to VOTE411.org for your online voter guide. Type in your address and you will find information on candidates and proposals that will appear on your ballot in November. You will see candidate responses to questions posed by the League as well as pros and cons for state and local ballot proposals.

More than 1000 voters in Washtenaw County used VOTE411.org for voter information during the August Primary. Why don't give it a try for the November General Election?

Community Television Network Studio, 2805 S. Industrial Hwy., Suite 200, Ann Arbor, MI

**Tuesday, October 23, 4pm -- [Board Meeting](#)** at Bank of Ann Arbor, 801 W. Ellsworth Rd, Ann Arbor, MI

**Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 7pm -- [Public Forum. REPORTING THE ELECTION](#)** - Michigan Radio Elections Team  
SPEAKER: Rick Pluta, Michigan Public Radio managing editor and state Capitol bureau chief since 1996. Rick has covered the Michigan Capitol since 1987.

NOTE: to find The Pittsfield library branch, go west on Scio Church Rd., past Maple and over I-94. Then turn left at the Oak Valley stoplight. The library will be on your left just past the Ice Cube skating center.  
Ann Arbor District Library PITTSFIELD BRANCH  
2359 Oak Valley Drive  
Ann Arbor

**Tuesday, November 6, 2012 7am-8pm -- [General Election](#)**  
Your polling place



**Thursday, November 15, 2012, 5:30-7pm -- [Reception for Elected Officials.](#)**  
PROGRAM: Meet and Greet Elected Officials  
SPEAKERS: Susan Smith, President LWVMichigan  
Will Hathaway, Executive Director, LWVMichigan  
Hathaway's Hideaway  
310 S. Ashley  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

**Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 6pm -- [December Potluck.](#)**  
Speaker: Lynn Rivers, past member of the U.S. House of Representatives  
Residence of Shirley Axon  
2016 Seneca Ave  
Ann Arbor 48104

## October Forums

Please click [HERE](#) for a full listing of these forums and information!

If you are interested in working at the October Forums, please e-mail me at bliz468@yahoo.com or call me at 663-1664.

I will need greeters, timers, and moderators. The dates are October 8th through October 11. Please see the schedule in this bulletin for the time and races.

Thanks,

Zoe Behnke

## Our Community Votes in November, 2012

**Who is in League with you?**

Martha Agnew  
Cyrene Aksman  
Sally Allen  
Rosemary Austge  
Shirley Axon  
Virginia Bachmar  
Janelle Baranowski  
Susan Baskett  
Zoe Behnke  
Elizabeth Bishop  
Miriam Borenstein  
Trina Borenstein  
Jane Bridges  
Marina Brown  
Nancy Brucken  
Trudy Bulkeley  
Alice Burks  
Mary Burney  
Jean Campbell  
Jill Carey  
Barbara Carr  
Margaret Carter  
Barbara Clark  
Jean Crump  
Ellie Davidson  
Jeanine DeLay  
Lola Dodge  
Diane Drayson  
Rohn Federbush  
Margaret Fellows  
Vernita Gilkey  
Susan Greenberg  
Susan Gutow  
Olive Hansen  
Craig Harvey  
Mary Hathway  
Janes Hayes  
Margaret Hiss  
Judy Judd  
Martha Kershaw  
Dana and Paul Kissel  
Jean Kluge  
Mariana Kopacz

Given that the major purpose of the LWV is to encourage voting, we must educate ourselves about who the candidates will be and what measures are we being asked to approve.

Within the City of Ann Arbor there are only two competitive races, that of mayor and to elect a council member in the 5th Ward. The mayoral race is between John Hieftje and Albert Howard. Mr. Howard is listed as having no party affiliation. In the 5th Ward the candidates are Chuck Warpehoski, Democrat, and Stuart Berry, Republican. Likewise in the City of Ypsilanti there are no contests in each of the three wards. The unopposed candidates are Lois Richardson, Ward 1, Susan Moeller, Ward 2, and Peter J Murdock, Ward 3.

There is a contested election for the Ann Arbor Public Schools Board Member. The two candidates are Dale Leslie and Deb Mexicotte. In addition there are five candidates for four Ann Arbor District Library Board Members. The candidates are: Margaret Leary, Rebecca Head, Prudence Rosenthal, Nancy Kaplan and Lynn Powrie Davidge.

Ann Arbor voters are being asked to approve two proposals by the City of Ann Arbor.

Proposal A is a City Charter Amendment authorizing tax for Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements. The actual language asks to amend the Charter to authorize a tax up to 1.10 mills for park maintenance and capital improvements for 2013 through 2018 to replace the previously authorized tax for the same purposes. It is thought that in the first year of the levy will yield the estimated total revenue of \$5,052,000.

The City is also requesting a charter amendment to provide a tax for art in public places. The language proposed would authorize a new tax of up to one-tenth of a mill for 2013 through 2016 to fund art in public places and expect they would levy approximately \$459,273 in the first year.

In addition to the city's millage proposals, The Ann Arbor District Library is requesting that residents vote upon a request to issue general obligation unlimited tax bonds, not to exceed sixty-five million dollars (\$65,000,000) over 30 years, for the purpose of paying all or part of the costs of constructing, furnishing and equipping a new main library building to be located at the current side of the downtown library building.

If the new library is approved by the citizens, the estimated millage to be levied in 2013 to pay the debt service on such bonds would cost about 56 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value. State law permits a portion of this revenue collected to be used by the City of Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority and the Scio Township Downtown Development Authority.

The citizens of Ypsilanti will have to decide on several proposals as well. There are two city proposals: one asking whether the city should adopt the Ypsilanti Home Rule Proposal, and the other asking to make the use/consumption of marijuana the

Ann Larimore  
Jeanne Learman  
Joanne Leonard  
Fran Lyman  
Margaret Lynch  
Carolyn Madden  
Yvonne Mavroleo  
Edith Maynard  
Virginia McCaig  
Lineve McKie  
Judith Mich  
Olga Moir  
Susan Morse  
Ann Monro  
Glenn Nelson  
Gwen Nystuen  
Joan Overmire  
Aviva Panush  
Barbara Peacock  
Patricia Pooley  
Dorothy Rehad  
Barbara Robinsor  
Elizabeth Rogers  
Ulla Roth  
June Rusten  
Patricia Rutowski  
Norma Sarns  
Nancy Schewe  
Dorothy Schmidt  
Mary Alice Shulm:  
Susan Smith  
Priscilla Spencer  
Mary Stadel  
Ann Staiger  
Gloria Stapp  
Gail Steih  
Margie Teall  
Ellen Teller  
Bette Thompson  
Katharine Uhle  
Mary Lou Unterbur :  
Suzanne VanAppled n  
Virginia Vandencro :  
Pauline Walters  
Mona Walz  
Rebekah Warren

lowest priority of law enforcement personnel. The Ypsilanti Public Schools have two proposals on the ballot: one proposing to consolidate the Ypsilanti Public Schools with the Willow Run Community Schools, and the other asking to increase the operating millage by 18 mills. All of those proposals will require serious consideration by the voters.

The League of Women Voters is planning a series of discussions on the state and local proposals that will appear on the ballots in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. These discussions will be taped by Community Television Network and available on demand by mid October at:  
[http://www.a2gov.org/GOVERNMENT/CITY\\_ADMINISTRATION/COMMUNICATIONSOFFICE/CTN/Pages/VideoOnDemand.aspx](http://www.a2gov.org/GOVERNMENT/CITY_ADMINISTRATION/COMMUNICATIONSOFFICE/CTN/Pages/VideoOnDemand.aspx)

For exact wording of the proposals, visit  
[http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/clerk\\_register/elections](http://www.ewashtenaw.org/government/clerk_register/elections)

## League of Women Voters of Michigan in a Flashmob??!!

Join us in Lansing...

On September 20, there will be a "Flashmob" and rally from noon to 1 pm in opposition to the anti-choice bill, HB5711. Dance instructions and further information coming soon.

On September 27, from 11am to 1 pm, National League President, Elisabeth MacNamara will join League members and others at a rally in support of Voter Registration and Voting Rights activities. We will gather at St. Paul's Episcopal Church across from the Capitol at 11 am and then parade over to the Capitol lawn. A band and some Suffragettes are expected to join us. More information will be coming soon.

Go to [www.lwvmi.org](http://www.lwvmi.org) for more information on both of these events. For carpool information contact: [nschewe@comcast.net](mailto:nschewe@comcast.net)

## PROUD TO BE LWV

It's a wonderful and exciting time to be a League member. The big, BIG election is less than two months away and in so very many ways the League is working to enlighten, encourage and educate voters on the local, state and national levels. Please stay a part of us. Although memberships follow the calendar year, we will begin collecting 2013 dues in October. The dues remain at \$60 for an individual; \$90 for two or more members at the same address and are payable at any time. Send your check and just maybe a small local or Ed Fund (separate check and tax-deductible) contribution to:

LWV - AAA  
P. O. Box 3832  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Phyllis Werbel  
Virginia Wernet  
W. Scott Westerm  
Mary White  
Robert Whitman  
Charles & Angela Wil ms  
Russell Woinowsl  
Susan Wooley  
Jacquelyn Wright  
Shirley Zempel

## Follow-up Links

  
ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED  
[Be Our New Editor!](#)  
[Help with Voter Registration!](#)



Those who paid or joined-thank you and welcome-over the summer are already recorded for membership 2013.

Support from each and all of you enables us to keep busy being League!

Thank you.

Judith Mich, Treasurer, [judithgmich@hotmail.com](mailto:judithgmich@hotmail.com)

Go to [www.lwvannarbor.org](http://www.lwvannarbor.org) to download a membership form.

## Registering Voters

LWV and AAUW have combined their resources to register voters this fall. Last weekend volunteers spent over 18 hours at the AAUW Book Sale registering voters, passing out absentee ballot request forms, and answering many questions about deadlines and regulations around voting. It was a very productive three days.

We have a day scheduled at the Women's Center of South East Michigan that is fully staffed and helped to organize a registration day at the Cedars of Dexter.

Several more events are in the works as of this writing. We will inform you of the need for volunteers via our email system.

## Do you need an absentee ballot application?

Click on the link below, complete the application, and then deliver it to your local city or township clerk. [Click here for Absentee Information!](#)

## Your League needs YOU



[To be our next Newsletter editor](#)

Contact:Nancy Schewe [nschewe@comcast.net](mailto:nschewe@comcast.net)  
663-2027

[To help with voter registration](#)

Contact:Mona Walz  
[mlwalz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlwalz@sbcglobal.net) 663-1976

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