

THURS, SEPT 21, 7:00 pm at the GP War Memorial: Kickoff Meeting with former US Attorney
Barbara McQuade

Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

Serving the Communities of
Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores,
Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods

Activities This Month: *September 2017*

From the Prez...

***Kickoff Meeting w/former
US attorney Barbara
McQuade***

**Thurs, Sept 21
7:00 pm**
GP War Memorial
32 Lake Shore Dr
GP Farms, 48236

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CANDIDATE FORUMS

October 10 (tentative!)

7:00 pm
GP City:
Mayor & City Council Forum
Neighborhood Club (tentative!)
17150 Waterloo St
Grosse Pointe, 48230

October 11

7:00 pm
GP Farms Mayoral Forum
SOC
158 Ridge Rd
GP Farms, 48236

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MACOMB COUNTY VOTER SERVICE UNIT

***Presentation of the
LWVMI's redistricting
program:***

**Tues, Sept 19th
Sterling Heights Senior Center**
40200 Utica Rd
Sterling Heights, 48313
6:30pm

**Wed, Sept 27th,
Sterling Heights Library**
40255 Dodge Park Rd
Sterling Heights, 48313
7pm

With Summer on the wane, it is time for action!

As you know, we can only participate as individuals, not League representatives, in the "Voter, not Politicians" petition drive to change the redistricting process. Already, I know many of our troops that are gathering signatures. Feel free to join them.

As there are three contested elections locally, Voter Services Director, Judy Florian, and Sue Acton, are working on forums. October 11 at SOC for the Mayoral election in the Farms is set. The City venue is tentatively set for October 10 at the Neighborhood Club. (Refer to our website for the finalized plans.)

Voter Services is also working diligently to finish the Vote411 online Voter Guide in both GP/Harper Woods and Macomb.

Speaking of Macomb, they are working to become an MAL (member at large), which is the next step to becoming a full-fledged Local League. It has been inspiring to watch them grow and engage. We will miss them, but wish them the best of luck!

As our year moves forward, I will be working on strengthening the various committees by addressing the desires as provided in the surveys. It is important that we continue to work on making our mission more relevant and effective.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the "Kickoff" meeting on September 21st at the War Memorial. I can't wait to hear what Barbara McQuade can share with us. As Beth Newhart, our new Program Chairman, says: "She could read her shopping list and make it interesting!"

Tom

C. Thompson Wells, Jr. President
The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe

Kickoff Meeting with Barbara McQuade

Our September kickoff meeting will be held **Thursday, September 21 at the War Memorial starting at 7:00 p.m.** Joining us will be

**Mon, Oct 16th,
Clinton Township Senior
Center**

40730 Romeo Plank Rd, Charter
Twp of Clinton, 48038
2pm

*Keep reading below for
additional details. Hope to
see you there!*

Charlottesville Vigil

On August 18, LWVGP and ten other Grosse Pointe organizations co-hosted the Grosse Pointe/Charlottesville Solidarity Vigil at the War Memorial in response to the horrific events in Charlottesville, Virginia just days prior. The ecumenical service brought the community together through song, sermon and prayer to a standing-room-only audience in the War Memorial's auditorium. Some were turned away when the audience reached capacity, but the War Memorial provided a live broadcast for those unable to get a seat or attend.

Many statements were made on stage, but the biggest statement came from the packed audience, comprised of various, ages, faiths, genders and races. The displays of bigotry and hatred at the "Unite the Right" rally on August 11 and 12 will not be supported or condoned in this community. We stand together as welcoming and celebrating all.

Great turnout at the District 1 Candidate Forum

Many thanks to those who helped

Voter Services conducted a Candidate Forum for the Michigan House of Representatives, District 1. This forum was co-sponsored with the LWV-Detroit.

Barbara McQuade, former United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan and currently a professor at the University of Michigan Law School.

The first woman to serve as U.S. Attorney in the eastern district, Ms McQuade was appointed by President Obama in 2010 and served until March of this year. She oversaw the prosecution for the federal cases against former Detroit mayor Kwame Kilpatrick and the Underwear Bomber, along with cases involving corporate fraud, theft of trade secrets and civil rights. She also served as vice chair of the Attorney General's Advisory Committee and co-chaired its Terrorism and National Security Subcommittee.

As an assistant U.S. attorney in Detroit for 12 years as well as deputy chief of the National Security Unit, she handled cases ranging from terrorism financing, export violations and foreign agents. She began her career as a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Bernard A. Friedman in Detroit and practiced law at Butzel Long.

In her current role as a law professor, Ms McQuade has said that there has never been a more important time to help students develop a deep understanding of our laws, courts and legal system.

Please invite family and friends to join us as we welcome Ms McQuade to Grosse Pointe!

Thursday, September 21

7:00 pm

Grosse Pointe War Memorial

32 Lake Shore Drive

GP Farms, MI 48236

Beth Newhart
Vice President, Programs

Candidate Forums in October

Voter Services is working on forums for three locally contested races for the November 7 general election. These races include:

City of Grosse Pointe Mayor
City of Grosse Pointe Council
City of Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor

Forum for the City of Grosse Pointe Farms Mayor:

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2017

Location: Services for Older Citizens (SOC)

Great Room, 1st floor
158 Ridge Road, Grosse Pointe Farms
Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Candidates: *Joe Ricci, Louis Theros*

We will have a combined forum for the **City of Grosse Pointe Mayor and Council candidates**. We have a tentative date of October 10 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The location has not been finalized, but we will provide an update with publicity flyers as soon as the information is available and/or check back on our website.

Candidates: *Mayor: Christopher Boettcher, Dale Scrace*

Candidates Council: *David Fries, Sheila Tomkowiak, Chris Walsh, Daniel Williams*

Sue Acton will contact members to volunteer for both forums. We will need

The Forum was held on July 10, 2017 at the Wayne County Community College-Mary Ellen Stempfle University Center, Harper Woods, 7:00-9:00 p.m. A total of 14 candidates were invited. The following 7 individuals participated: Sandra Bucciero, John William Donahue, Burgess Dwight Foster, Kirkland Garey, Justin Johnson, Pamela Sossi and Tenisha Yancey.

We had a great turnout, with 83 people attending. Those in attendance posed excellent questions to the candidates on issues ranging from their top legislative priorities, education funding, plans for infrastructure improvements, health care, part-time legislature proposal, working collaboratively between parties, and the influence of money in politics.

A very special thanks to the following League members who helped make the Forum a success:

Sue Acton (scheduler, flyer developer, question gatherer/greeter), question gatherers: Laurie Coplin, Belinda Krencicki, Sarah Coats and Peggy Hickey; question sorters: Judy Morlan and Carol Todd; timekeeper: Steve Trowbridge, moderator: Rhonda Craig (Detroit League), Vicki Granger for promoting the event and Tom Wells as our President.

I also thank the many other League members who attended to support Voter Services and the Forum. It is greatly appreciated!

Judy Florian
VP for Voter Services

Membership Matters

The League appreciates your continuing support, whether you participate on various league activities or provide financial support. If you have

question gatherers, question sorters, greeters, a timekeeper and moderators. We hope members will be available to assist with both events.

We have also contacted local candidates to provide their information for Vote411.org. The deadline for them to submit their responses is September 15, 2017.

Judy Florian
VP for Voter Services

News from Macomb County Voter Services

Our membership continues to grow and we are nearly thirty strong! We are taking steps to move toward "Member at Large" status. This includes the election of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer sometime this fall, establishing a relationship with a financial institution and choosing a mailing address. Our goal is to achieve MAL status by June, 2018.

MCC Welcome Back Students - On **August 21st & 22nd**, MCVS members greeted students at Macomb Community College during a baseball-themed welcome back event. Maria was at the South Campus, while Terri, Nancy and Nance covered the Center Campus. While promoting the LWV, they registered 19 new voters!

We thank Katherine for organizing our participation in this event. Katherine created and assembled materials and made sure things were ready to go for our volunteers.

Richmond Good Old Days Parade - MCVS will proudly display our new LWV-Macomb banner while marching in the Richmond Parade on **Sunday, September 10th**. Some MCVS members will dress in vintage attire, highlighting women's suffrage, while others will dress in more modern attire. Some will wear sashes bearing the colors of purple, gold and white, representing loyalty, quality and purity. Some members will carry signs highlighting the work of the LWV. Family and friends are encouraged to join us, as well as all LWVGP members!

The parade begins at 1:30pm. Marchers need to meet at the corner of Park and Parker streets in Richmond, MI, by 12:30pm. We thank Nancy for her work in designing and ordering the banner, Katherine for making the sashes and Maria for making the signs.

Letters to Legislators - On **Sept 11th**, MCVS members will participate at Macomb Community College's "Letters to Legislators" Campaign. The event prepares students to interact in the democratic process by encouraging civic engagement, voter registration and correspondence with elected officials. Katherine will be at the South Campus, while Terri and Kathy will greet students at the Center Campus.

LWVMI Redistricting - Maria and Kathy will present the LWVMI redistricting program at three scheduled events:

Tues, Sept 19th
Sterling Heights Senior Center
40200 Utica Rd
Sterling Heights, 48313

recently joined the league, consider offering your time or skills to an upcoming event or committee. This experience will give you first-hand knowledge about how the league functions. You may contact me or another board member if you are interested.

Please note that about 16% of league members have not paid their dues for the new fiscal year that began July 1, 2017. According to the revised Bylaws passed at the annual meeting in May, to remain on the membership roster, we need your dues no later than 90 days from the due date (by September 30, 2017 for those who joined prior to June 1, 2016).

Membership dues envelopes were mailed June 1, 2017 to all members whose dues were expected on July 1, 2017. Perhaps your busy schedule, travel, or an unexpected event caused you to forget to send us a check to renew your membership. If you need another dues envelope, please contact me and I will send one to you.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Wilhelmina Giblin,
Co-Membership Director

Do you know a family member or friend who is thinking about joining? [Hand them one of our membership forms to mail in!](#)

Learn all about the League. [Check out the LWV's New Member Handbook here.](#)



["Like" the LWVGP on Facebook! And check out our activities here!](#)

[Join the League! Print out our](#)

6:30pm

Wed, Sept 27th
Sterling Heights Library
40255 Dodge Park Rd
Sterling Heights, 48313
7pm

Mon, Oct 16th
Clinton Township Senior Center
40730 Romeo Plank Rd
Charter Twp of Clinton, 48038
2pm

Kathy

Check us out at our [webpage](#) and our [Facebook page](#)

In Sympathy

It's always been with great fondness that many Grosse Pointe League members remember Alex Suczek, who sadly died June 24. He and his wife, Marybelle, LWVGP Past President, brought renewed energy to our leadership, working as a team to enhance planning and program. We all missed the music and laughter they brought to the group when they moved to Connecticut, and we send our sympathy to Marybelle and her family.

League Links

Want to contact one of your government officials?
[Click here!](#)

Want to check LWVGP's calendar for the latest updates?
[Click here!](#)

[LWV Grosse Pointe](#)
[LWV Michigan](#)
[LWV United States](#)

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League is strictly nonpartisan, neither endorsing candidates nor supporting political parties. The LWVGP, in both its values and its practices, reaffirms its commitment to diversity. Membership is open to men and women of all ages.