



League of Women Voters of the Kalamazoo Area

August 2014
President: Denise Hartsough

www.lwvka.org

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League Phone: 269-544-0303

State Ballot Proposal

By Paula Manley

There is one ballot proposal on the August 5 primary ballot. Proposal I reads: "Approval or disapproval of amendatory act to reduce state use tax and replace with a local community stabilization share to modernize the tax system to help small businesses grow and create jobs."

This proposal is a Referendum on Public Act 80 (PA80) of 2014 which allocates State Use Tax revenue to replace the Personal Property Tax (PPT) levied by local units of government. The Legislature repealed the PPT in 2012 to phase in over a multi-year period beginning in fiscal year 2016. Under PA80, a portion of the State Use Tax revenue will go to a newly created authority for distribution to local government units, replacing revenues lost as the PPT is phased out.

LWVMI supports this proposal. For background analysis, both pro and con, by the Citizens Research Council, Michigan House Fiscal Agency, and Michigan Senate Fiscal Agency, go to the [LWVMI website](#).

Women's Equality Day

The YWCA of Kalamazoo and LWVKA are co-sponsoring Women's Equality Day on Tuesday, August 26. The event celebrates the anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment which gave citizens the right to vote regardless of gender. Equality Day will be held at the YWCA, 353 E. Michigan Avenue from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The guest speaker, **Carla Campbell-Jackson**, will discuss the importance of engaging youth in voting, and the need to empower communities to become fully involved in the democratic process.

Watch for your invitation and plan to attend on August 26.

Calendar

- Aug. 2** **Voter Registration Mothers of Hope**
Sat.
12-6pm
Spring Valley Park
- Aug. 5** **Primary Election**
Please be sure to vote!
- Aug. 19** **LWVKA Board Meeting**
Tues.
5:30 pm
6:00 pm
The Park Club
219 W. South St, Kalamazoo
Food available for purchase
Meeting
Questions? Call 269-544-0303
or email president@lwvka.org
- Aug. 26** **Women's Equality Day**
Tues.
11:20 a.m.
YWCA
See article for more details
- Sept. 2** **Voter Registration**
Tues.
10 am-6 pm
KVCC Texas Township
Campus
- Sept. 2** **Voter Registration**
Tues.
11 am-2 pm
KVCC Arcadia Commons
Campus
- Sept. 5** **Voter Registration**
Fri.
3-6 pm
WMU Bronco Bash
- Sept. 18** **Voter Registration**
Thurs.
3:30-6:30 pm
Kalamazoo College KFest
- Sept. 27** **Training for Voter Access Project**
Sat.
10 am-1 pm
Parchment Community Library
401 S. Riverview Drive

Note: Board meets on 3rd Tuesdays. Members are welcome to attend all Board Meetings.

The Public Advocacy and Voter Protection Project 2014

LWVKA receives grant for voter protection.

By Paula Manley

LWVKA has been awarded a Public Advocacy and Voter Protection Project Grant (PAVP) from the LWVMI through the LWVUS. The goals are: 1.) to implement election observer programs in up to 10 communities in Michigan to help ensure all votes count and 2.) to develop a voter information campaign for use throughout the area, particularly in targeting underrepresented voters.

A regional workshop will be held on Saturday, September 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00

p.m. at the Parchment Community Library, 401 S. Riverview Drive. This workshop will train election observers and also train local Leagues in use of social media for election education campaigns.

The Public Advocacy Project ends after election day on November 4. Anyone who is interested in further information about assisting with this project may contact **Janet Jones** at janetmjones48@gmail.com or **Paula Manley** at pjmanley@hotmail.com.

Voter Registration Update

Many opportunities for voter registration.

By Karen Eddy

LWV is cooperating with upcoming community events by providing non-partisan voter registration and education. We hope to encourage voting in the both August 5 Primary and the November 4 general election. If you are at any of these functions, please look for our table and stop by to say "hi."

- August 2 Mothers of Hope, Spring Valley Park 12 noon - 6 p.m.
- September 2 KVCC Arcadia Commons Campus 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- September 2 KVCC Texas Township Campus 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- September 5 WMU Bronco Bash 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

- September 18 Kalamazoo College KFest 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- October 15 Project Connect at the Fair Grounds. Time TBA

If you would like to help with volunteer registration, please contact **Karen Eddy** at karen.eddy336@gmail.com or call 269-599-6399. We provide on-the-job training!

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Voter Guide Available for August Primary

Both electronic and print resources are available.

By Terry Hluchyj

While some are relaxing at the beach, the League voter service operation has been in full swing. In collaboration with the LWV Michigan, we published an online and printed *Guide*, covering contested August primary elections in Kalamazoo County.

This year Vote411 – the online *Voter Guide* sponsored by the national League of Women Voters – enabled us to publish in late June, just as absentee ballots arrived. Because candidates submit their responses to our questions directly into Vote411, we can publish the *Guide* online before the print version has been laid out, a reversal of our traditional process when the print version was the sole basis of the electronic *Guide*.

We did not abandon the traditional print *Guides*, however. *Guides* were distributed to

more 200 locations throughout Kalamazoo County, thanks to: **Amy Anderson, Aedin Clements, AmySue Manley, Betty Ongley, Carol Urban, Charlotte Russell, Cheryl Lyon-Jenness, Denise Hart-sough, Diane Worden, Fran Ecken-rod, Gail Walter, Karen Eddy, Jackie Wylie, Janet Jones, KC Miller, Ken Manley, Kristine Pioch, Mabel and Jochanan Stenesh, Michele McGowen, Norma Clack, Paula Manley, Ruth Caputo, Sara Wick, Sue Nelmes, Susan Atkinson, Tanya Potter and Yolanda Mitts.** Thanks also to **Tamara Carpenter.** Her design skills make our *Guide* readily recognized and easy to use.

While you may enjoy browsing the *Guide* in print, check out Vote411.org and tell your friends and family across the country to do the same!

REMEMBER—EVEN IF YOU HAVEN'T THE TIME FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION, YOUR MEMBERSHIP ALONE WILL STRENGTHEN OUR VOICE.

- Yes! I want to Take Back the System. Please sign me up!
- I'm enclosing a check for \$60 for individual membership.
- I'm enclosing a check for \$30 for student membership.
- I'm enclosing a check for \$90 for household membership.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PHONE HOME

PHONE OFFICE

NAME OF SECOND HOUSEHOLD MEMBER

- In addition to my membership, I'd like to make a contribution of \$_____

- Please send me more information on the League of Women Voters.

- I can't join right now, but I'm enclosing \$_____ to support League activities.

Because we lobby at the local, state and national levels, membership dues and other contributions to the League of Women Voters are not tax-deductible.



Make check payable and mail to:
The League of Women Voters
PO Box 2106
Kalamazoo, MI 49003

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Got Any News?

LWVKA Board Members and active committee members do their best to keep current on local government developments. Help is always appreciated. If you are aware of activities that may be of interest to other League members or if there are developments that you feel the League should be monitoring, let us know. Share that information with the League by calling 544-0303 or emailing president@lwvka.org.

**"The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work
to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.
Join us in making democracy work!"**