

Save the Date: Annual Meeting and Breakfast, Sat. June 1

**Print out the RSVP form**

RSVPs due May 25

# Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

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

## Quick Preview of Activities This Month:

**Sat, Apr 27**

**1:00 pm**

**LWV Macomb: 1919 Tea**

**Featuring Lois Sprengnether Keel**

**Robert A Verkuilen Building**

Entrance E

21885 Dunham Road

Clinton Township, MI 48036

[Register here](#)

**May 17-19**

**LWVMI State Convention**

**Embassy Suites by Hilton**

19525 Victor Parkway

Livonia, MI 48152

**RSVPs Due May 25:**

**Sat, June 1**

**8:30 am**

**Annual Meeting & Brunch**

**Speaker: Josh Elling**

**Country Club of Detroit**

220 Country Club Drive

GP Farms, 48236

[Print out the RSVP form here](#)

*Keep reading our Voter for additional details.*

*Hope to see you there!*

## Dues are due!

Membership dues for the 2019-2020 fiscal year are expected no later than July 1, 2019.

Please print the renewal form and send your completed form with your check payable to the LWVGrosse Pointe to:

LWVGP, 32 Lake Shore Dr, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

[Print out the renewal form here](#)

## Membership Matters

## May 2019

### From the Prez...

Convention time is here! A reminder that any member may attend even if they are not a voting delegate. Also, as has been previously reported, **Christina Schlitt** will be elected and inducted as the new President of LWVMI at the Sunday morning Plenary Session from **9:45 to 12 noon**. I have checked with the powers that be, and all who might like to attend just that session may do so at no cost. We have been asked that we provide a list of those attending for this session only. Accordingly, please let me know by **May 15** if you wish to attend. This might be fun to get a taste of the convention for those of you that haven't had the pleasure.

Another momentous event is also upon us. Both the Board of LWVGP and the Board of the LWV Education Fund have agreed that it would be in our mutual best interests to merge. The final piece of necessity will be a vote of our membership at the annual meeting on moving forward. The attached memorandum was presented to both Boards and received a unanimous vote to proceed. [Check it out here.](#)

I look forward to seeing those of you who choose to attend the convention, and those of you who choose to attend the Annual Meeting, where we will again have an excellent and engaging speaker, **Josh Elling of Jefferson East.**

Tom

C. Thompson Wells, Jr. President

The League of Women Voters of Grosse Pointe

## Jun 1: Annual Spring Meeting and Breakfast RSVPs Due May 25

### What's Happening Along East Jefferson?

Josh Elling, CEO of Jefferson East, Inc. is the featured speaker at the League's Annual Meeting June 1.

[Jefferson East Inc.](#) began in 1994 as the Jefferson East Business Association, a grass roots organization in the Jefferson-Chalmers neighborhood to bring modern retail to that area.

Please welcome new member, **Mary Ellen Brayton**. Our membership is now 105 members.

Members are encouraged to attend the **LWVMI Convention May 15-17, 2019 in Livonia**. Additional information and the registration form may be found at the [LWVMI website](#). Please let me know if you register to attend the state convention so you can be introduced to the other attendees.

The remaining [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion \(DEI\)](#) webinars are scheduled for:

[April 25](#)

[May 23](#)

**7 PM-8 PM**

(the 4th Thursday of the month).

Click on the blue dates above to find the appropriate registration form.

All league members are encouraged to participate. They will be recorded for viewing at a later date on the LWVUS website if you are unable to participate on either scheduled date.

Additional resources regarding DEI and understanding others perspectives may be found at the following Ted Talk website:

[Being Color Brave, Ted Talk by Mellody Hobson](#)

[How to Overcome Biases, Ted Talk by Verna Myers](#)

Local league members will have the opportunity to learn more about the DEI initiative during the LWVMI convention.

I hope to see you at the **Annual Meeting June 1**.

Wilhelmina Giblin, Co-Director, Membership.

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

## In Sympathy

We are sad to report that long time League member, **Barbara Finch** passed away on April 15 at the Sunrise Assisted Living Center in Grosse Pointe Woods. Her funeral service was Friday, April 19. Before joining the league in 2007, Barbara taught in the Detroit Public Schools and Grosse Pointe Academy. She is a graduate of Grosse Pointe South High School, Michigan State University and Wayne State University. Barbara is survived by a daughter, two sons, grandchildren and friends.

**Sat, April 27 LWV Macomb Tea**

In 2009 the organization expanded its focus and changed its name to encompass all five neighborhoods along Jefferson between Alter Road and downtown. It developed a comprehensive plan to transform East Jefferson into a pedestrian friendly streetscape.



Since then JEI has promoted safety improvements, streetscape enhancements and business development. Its development arm has launched more than \$100 million in mixed use, mixed income redevelopment projects. JEI also helps residents in the area apply for City of Detroit interest free loans for home repairs, and works to prevent home foreclosures.

Josh Elling has a background in commercial real estate and urban planning, and is a champion for making the East Jefferson corridor a great place to live, work, invest and play.

**Saturday, June 1.**  
**Country Club of Detroit**  
**220 Country Club Drive**  
**GP Farms, MI 48236**

Registration and coffee: 8:30 a.m.  
Breakfast: 9:00  
Speaker and Annual Meeting: 10:00

Cost: \$25  
*Make check to LWVGP and send to  
LWVGP, 32 Lake Shore, GP Farms, MI 48236*

[Print out the RSVP form here.](#)

JEI represents 5 distinct neighborhoods along the east Jefferson corridor and provides programming within a boundary area of 18.4 square miles



*JEI represents 5 distinct neighborhoods along the east Jefferson corridor.*

## Voter Services

*A Salute to our Future Voters!*

## Commemorating the 19th Amendment

LWV Macomb is having an informal hour of light refreshments and entertainment to commemorate the year Congress passed the 19th Amendment. Michigan was one of the first states to ratify the amendment, in 1919.

Featuring Storyteller **Lois Sprengnether Keel**

**Sat, Apr 27, 1:00 pm**  
**Robert A Verkuilen Building,**  
**Entrance E**  
**21885 Dunham Road**  
**Clinton Township, MI 48036**

Tickets are \$15. Register at [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) or email them at [LWVMacomb@gmail.com](mailto:LWVMacomb@gmail.com) for more options.

Refreshments include: tea, coffee, lemonade, fruit, cheese, crackers, and pastries

[For additional information, check out their flyer here](#)

## May 17-19: LWVMI Convention Last Call!

Any member of LWVGP is welcomed to attend the LWVMI convention **May 17-19 in Livonia** at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

**ALL convention registrations MUST be made by Saturday, April 27.**

It is possible to attend ONLY the Saturday sessions, which includes the morning business session, lunch, and two afternoon workshops for \$50.

More details are on the convention form at [lwvmi.org](http://lwvmi.org)  
Hotel reservations are also due by April 29.

Our former League president, **Christina Schlitt**, has been nominated to be the new president of LWVMI, and **Vicki Granger** has been nominated to be on the Board. We are so proud of them both!

Also, Christina will be elected and inducted as the new President at the Sunday morning Plenary Session from 9:45 to 12 noon. Anyone who might like to attend ONLY that session may do so at no cost. Please do let Tom know if you are interested because LWVMI needs a list.

If interested, please go to the convention registration link <https://fs16.formsite.com/lwvmi/convention19/index.html>

This link is an overview of the ENTIRE schedule for the weekend.  
<https://lwvmi.org/documents/ConvenOverview2019.pdf>

If you plan to attend, please contact Vicki Granger at [grangergpw@aol.com](mailto:grangergpw@aol.com) or 313.460.5250 who is organizing our group's information for this event.

Voter Services conducted our fourth annual Student Voter Registration Campaign for high school seniors at the following locations:

**GP North - April 16**  
**61 registered**

**GP South - April 22**  
**75 registered**

**We'll be registering students at Harper Woods on May 7.**



Any student who was 18 years or age or would be 18 by Election Day (either August 6 or November 5) were eligible to register. We had a great turnout of enthusiastic seniors who were excited to register! We provided each student with a copy of the Your Elected Officials brochure and the Vote bookmark, which contains information about Vote411, plus an "I Registered to Vote" sticker.

A very special thanks to **Maria Mitzel**, Student Activities Coordinator, Grosse Pointe South and **Peggy Bonbrisco**, Student Activities Director, Grosse Pointe North for their assistance in promoting our campaign to the students, as well as handling logistics at the schools. We are working with **Chaka Johnson**, Harper Woods, to finalize the May 7 event.

We also extend our thanks to the following clerks/assistant clerks, who attended or deputized me to accept and certify the voter registration application forms: **Donna Costa**, Grosse Pointe Park, **Julie Arthurs**, Grosse Pointe City (deputized), **Paul Antolin**, Grosse Pointe Woods and **Derrick Kozicki**, Grosse Pointe Farms.

### *Grosse Pointe South College Night*

We will have a voter registration table at the **April 30, 2019** College Night at Grosse Pointe South High School. The event is from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Even though this event focuses on high school juniors, we decided it will provide excellent exposure for the League and serve as a reminder to the Junior students to register next year.

A very special thanks to **Sue Acton** for coordinating volunteers for each of these events and to the following members who worked (or will work) to assist students with the registration process: **Sue Acton, Laurie Coplin, Diana Domin, Deb Frantz, Mary Garlough, Peggy Hickey, Val Kindle, George McMullen, Mary Morshead, Ann Nicholson and Tom Wells.**

Judy Florian  
VP for Voter Services

## GPPSS Blue Ribbon Reconfiguration Committee

GPPSS is considering a reconfiguration of the school district.

*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.*



All committee documents are posted on the district website, [GPSchools.org/BlueRibbonFacilitiesCommittee](https://GPSchools.org/BlueRibbonFacilitiesCommittee).

The [Frequently Asked Questions document](#) is updated regularly.

### **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](#)



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

[Join the League! Print out our membership form to mail in](#)

[New Member Handbook](#)

[The 2019 Membership Directory](#)



League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe | 32 Lake Shore Drive | Grosse Pointe Farms | MI | 48236