



Oakland Voter

League of Women Voters Oakland Area
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Co-Presidents: Judy Bateman, Fran Fisher e-mail: Pres@lwvoa.org

2009-2010 Issue 3

November 2009

Health Care Reform – Let’s Get Real!

Date: Saturday, November 7, 2009
Time: 10-11:30 A.M.

Place: Southfield Public Library
26300 Evergreen Road
Southfield, MI 48076
South of I-696 (11 Mile Rd) in Southfield Civic Center

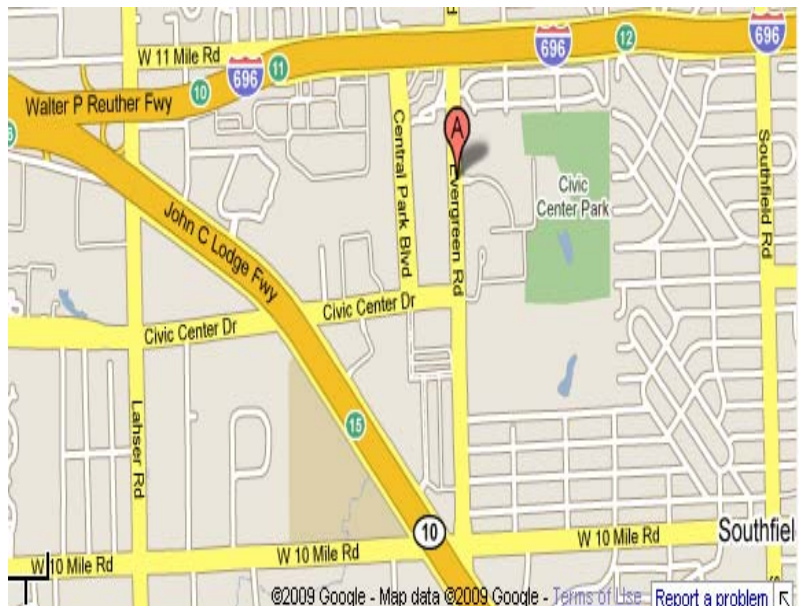
Program:

- **Outcomes research* and its benefits for health care reform**
 - **Vic Velanovich, M.D.**, Professor of Surgery at Wayne State University and Division of General Surgery at Henry Ford
- **Ethics as applied to health care reform**
 - **Leonard Fleck, Ph.D.**, Professor of Philosophy and Medical Ethics, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences, Michigan State University
- **Patient-doctor shared responsibility in health care decision making**
 - To be illustrated by clinical vignettes to be discussed by the two speakers
- **Question and answer period**

*Outcomes research studies the effects of particular health care practices and interventions on patients’ health and quality of life. Comparative effectiveness research compares two or more such practices or interventions. The aim is to provide information that will allow evidence-based medical decisions and thus improve quality of care as at leading medical facilities.

The meeting is open to the public so invite your friends, family or neighbors to get a better understanding of health care reforms. Coffee and nibbles will be provided.

If you have any questions, call our office at 248-594-6602 and leave a message.



The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

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2009-2010

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THE OAKLAND VOTER is the official publication of the League of Women Voters. It is published seven times a year by the LWVOA. Articles and Letters to the Editor, with writer's name, address and phone number may be sent to the LWVOA office.

Editor: Eva Packard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Did you see the PBS Special on the National Parks?

The theme was that the National Parks are "America's best idea" but that to keep them for the benefit of all Americans is a perpetual struggle.

As LWV members **we think of voting as "America's best idea"** and we are engaged in a perpetual struggle of our own. With a limited (and aging) membership, we struggle to bring before the voters their candidates and the issues of the day with a calm and rational approach in the era of the scream and rant.

Even in our small corner of the pond, Oakland County, we face our share of disruptions at our forums, nasty phone calls before and more rarely after candidate forums and we often wonder whether it is we alone who cherish "America's best idea."

But if we view this properly, that it is our perpetual struggle, then we can easily shrug off the inevitable glitches, goofs and foolishness to push on through, and be able to hand off America's best idea to a future generation of Americans (like my grandtwins - pictures available whether you request them or not). Our version of the "best idea" is the right to vote, the right to hope that the electorate will put the good of all before their short term personal interests and that those who seek office do it for us all and not just for themselves.

We have regretfully accepted the resignation of Fran Fisher as Co-President for health reasons. Our greatest wish is that she come back to the League as good as ever. We extend our sympathies to Jerry Burden, our Voter Service Director, on the untimely passing of his wife Karen.

Judy Bateman, President

LWV:

Where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

The League of Women Voters will be 90 years old on February 14, 2010!

Coming up in addition to Nov. 7 Health Care event on Page 1:

Tuesday, November 3rd: ALL cities, 17 school districts and 2 townships in Oakland County have elections on the ballot. **VOTER GUIDES** for them have been **posted on our website www.LWVOA.org**. Cable rerun times for many of the **Candidate Forums** held are being posted in our website's CANDIDATE FORUMS calendar when known.

Friday, Dec. 11 at 7 pm: See Page 3 for our Holiday social & fundraising event.

Saturday, Jan. 23 at 10 am: National Program Planning Brunch at Vicki Lange's.

Saturday, Feb. 27 at 10 am: Background for Prison Study

Wednesday, Mar. 24 at 7 pm: Consensus on Prison Study

Saturday, May 22 at 10 am: LWVOA Annual Meeting, luncheon and speaker at Shenandoah Country Club. Speaker: Phil Power, Center for Michigan

Also being planned are an **April** meeting on **Term Limits** and **Redistricting** and a **Public Service Announcement (PSA) Contest** for high school students with an **Award Reception** in **late February**.

LWVOA DECEMBER SOCIAL

"IRON JAWED ANGELS"
Friday, December 11, 7 to 9:30 p.m.
at **Bernadette Najor's home**
4783 Walnut Creek Circle
West Bloomfield, MI 48322

JOIN US to see this movie about the women's suffrage movement. Hillary Swank stars as Alice Paul, one of the defiant young activists who took the women's suffrage movement by storm and who put their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote. Angelica Huston plays Carrie Chapman Catt for which she received a Golden Globe TV Award as Best Supporting Actress.

Bernadette had invited us to her beautiful home to enjoy the movie on a large-screen TV in her large basement which can comfortably accommodate 40 people. We will also share tasty hors d'oeuvres (including cheese and crackers, veggies, fruit, dessert, etc.) and wine. The party is also a fundraiser for the League. Charge for refreshments is \$30 for one person or \$50 a couple. Members' guests are welcome.

This movie will help you appreciate how – as Judy Bateman wrote in her President's Message – America's best idea, the right to vote, was extended to women.

RESERVATION FORM for Friday, DECEMBER 11 SOCIAL **\$30 for 1, \$50 for Couple** Please **RSVP by Wednesday, Dec. 8**

Make CHECK PAYABLE to LWVOA.

Mail to: LWVOA, 725 S. Adams Road, Suite 292, Birmingham, MI 48009

NAME(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone _____ No. of People attending _____ \$ _____ **Enclosed**

NEWS from STATE and NATIONAL

LWVMI Michigan Voter Power (MVP) Campaign: The first issue of the MVP eLetter can be linked to from the www.LWVMI.org website. It provides an update on legislation and other efforts to make voting easier and elections more transparent. Examples: No-Reason Absentee Voting, Voter Registration, Supreme Court Recusal Standards.

Take Action on the US website www.lwv.org provides background on priority issues such as health care and climate change and how you can contact your legislators to advocate as a member on legislation.

League "Geeks" are available to help members who encounter technical problems using the LWVUS website. If you have a question about using www.lwv.org, contact these League member volunteers at Geeks@lwv.org.

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Time Dated Material Enclosed

Calendar of Events

- Tues. Nov. 3 7am-8pm** **General Election for ALL 30 Oakland County cities, 17 school districts**
 (Avondale, Berkley, Birmingham, Brandon, Farmington, Huron Valley, Madison, Northville, Novi, Oxford, Pontiac, Rochester, Royal Oak, South Lyon, Southfield, Troy, West Bloomfield) and **2 townships with proposals** (Oxford, Royal Oak). Voter Guides on www.LWVOA.ORG.
- Sat., Nov. 7 10 am** **Health Care Reform – Let’s Get Real** See Page 1.
 Southfield Library, 26300 Evergreen Rd., Southfield, MI 48076
- Mon. Nov. 16 7 pm** LWVOA Board meeting at 725 S. Adams Rd, Birmingham 48009
- Fri. Dec. 11 7 pm** **“Iron Jawed Angels” Holiday Social with hors d’oeuvres, wine**
 Bernadette Najor, 4783 Walnut Creek Circle, West Bloomfield 48322
 Reservation form on Page 3. \$30 for 1, \$50 for Couple.
- Sat. Jan. 23 10 am** **National Program Planning Brunch** at Vicki Lange’s home
- Mon. Feb. 8 7 pm** LWVOA Board meeting at 725 S. Adams Rd, Birmingham 48009
- Sat. Feb. 27 10 am** **General Meeting – Prison Study Background**
- Wed. Mar. 24 7 pm** **General Meeting – Prison Study Consensus**
- Mon. Apr. 19 7 pm** LWVOA Board meeting at 725 S. Adams Rd, Birmingham 48009
- Sat. May 22 10 am** **LWVOA Annual Meeting at Shenandoah Country Club**

“As a League of Women Voters member, you are a part of an organization where citizens like you are actively engaged in effecting change on the local, state and national level.”