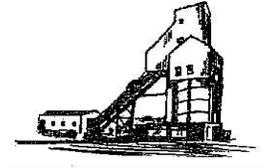


Copper Country Voter



Published by the
Copper Country League of Women Voters
Houghton County, Michigan



<http://www.lwvccmi.org/>
<http://www.facebook.com/coppercountrylwv>

LWVCC Calendar

September 3	Info for MTU students "Afternoon on Saturday, 11:00am the Town" table in front of Delta Phi Epsilon, Houghton	September 17	Constitution Day Sunday
September 5	Board Meeting Tuesday, 7:00pm Country Inn & Suites, Houghton	September 26	National Voter Registration Tuesday
September 13	<i>Free Speech on Campus</i> by Catherine Fisk Wed., 6:00pm East Reading Room of the Van Pelt and Opie Library at MTU, Houghton	October 3	Board Meeting Tuesday, 7:00pm Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
		October 18	Verna Grahek Mize inducted into MI Wed. Women's Hall of Fame, Kellogg Hotel & Conf. Center, East Lansing, MI

Constitution Day 2017 in the Copper Country

Catherine Fisk, Professor in the Boalt Hall Law School of the University of California-Berkeley, will be at Michigan Tech to make two presentations, both on Constitution Day, Wednesday, Sept. 13.

Professor Fisk's first presentation gives her take on collective organizing among the creative classes. Entitled "Programmers of the World: Unite!", this talk is from 4 to 5:30 p.m. in the East Reading Room of the Van Pelt and Opie Library at Michigan Tech. Metered parking is available nearby; meters are enforced until 4pm. Light refreshments will follow. The lecture is sponsored by the Michigan Tech School of Business & Economics and the Visiting Women and Minority Lecturer/Scholar Series (VWMLS), which is funded by a grant to Institutional Equity and Inclusion from the State of Michigan's King-Chavez-Parks Initiative.

Professor Fisk's second talk is on "Free Speech on Campus," scheduled for 6 p.m., also in the East Reading Room of the Library. Refreshments are available beginning at 5:30 p.m. All attendees will receive a free pocket Constitution.

In addition to Prof. Fisk's presentations, Michigan Tech is also celebrating Constitution day by sponsoring a student essay competition, open to undergraduate or graduate students. The contest solicits essays of 600 or fewer words to discuss the boundaries of free speech. Five prizes (1st through

5th) will be awarded: \$300/\$250/\$200/\$100/\$50 certificates to the University Bookstore/University Images. The deadline for submission is midnight September 10; submissions are to be emailed to library@mtu.edu. Complete details on the contest may be found in Tech Today, Aug 30, 2017 (<http://www.mtu.edu/ttoday/?issue=20170830#constitution-day-student-essay-contest>).

Constitution day is September 17 and commemorates the development and adoption of the U.S. Constitution, which was signed on the same day in 1787; it also recognizes and celebrates all who are citizens of the United States.

Verna Grahek Mize inducted into MI Women's Hall of Fame

Verna Grahek Mize (1913-2013) of Houghton campaigned to end the practice of dumping mining waste into Lake Superior, which led to government-set pollution standards. She persisted in a 13-year battle against a large mining company to save Lake Superior. The trial was one of the longest, most costly and bitter fought environmental cases in history, which because of Mize's tireless efforts, led to the end of the company's dumping of water materials into Lake Superior on March 16, 1980.

Building a Strong Democracy: 2016 League of Women Voters of Michigan Convention

Kellogg Conference Center – East Lansing, MI

Friday, May 19th – Sunday, May 21st, 2017

By Leah Bectel

The 2017 biannual League of Women Voters of Michigan Convention was held this year at the Kellogg Conference Center in East Lansing, MI. Board member Leah Bectel was sent to the convention as this year's Copper Country delegate. The following are her thoughts on the weekend:

This year's convention was a refreshing weekend filled with great conversation among League members. Among the highlights were members giving updates on what their local leagues were up to and the presentation of Belle Ringer Awards. The awards are given to outstanding members and the following Copper Country ladies won: Leah Bectel for Membership and Leadership Development, Barry Fink for Advocacy, and Kathy Flagstadt for Voter Service. Congratulations ladies on your dedication to the League!

Many topics were discussed at workshops, including the Nestle Permit Situation, Line 5 Pipeline, and how to engage current League members. Three speakers also gave talks throughout the weekend, including Zoe Clarke of Michigan Radio, Gilda Jacobs of Michigan League for Public Policy, and Chris Hackbarth of the Michigan Municipal League.

The weekend was filled with great conversation among League members, a silent auction (thank-you to those who helped with our U.P.-themed basket!), and fabulous speakers who inspired everyone in the room to continue taking action on issues that matter to us.

The end of the conference was a talk on the League's mission statement: Impact, Relevance, Visibility. Those are the goals of the League of Women Voters and the biannual convention was a great way to brainstorm ways to effectively carry out our mission.

If you'd like further information, please email me! lnbectel@mtu.edu.

National Voter Registration Day

LWVCC has been invited to be part of a voter registration drive on MTU campus on September 26, National Voter Registration Day. The Houghton city clerk will be registering voters and League will help with general information.

Gerrymandering

The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear a case in October, Gill v. Whitford, that could abolish partisan gerrymandering. A Bipartisan swath of lawmakers has filed Supreme Court briefs in the case against gerrymandering: The brief from the coalition of members of Congress goes into 30 pages of depth about individual districts and the effect of gerrymandering on election results.

“What our political system needs now — what the problem of extreme partisan gerrymandering needs now — are basic boundaries, so that our parties may begin to correct course and mend the broken parts of our political process,” the members write. “This Court should give the Nation that chance.”

LWVMI has prepared an educational program on gerrymandering in Michigan and the state League relationship to the ballot proposal being circulated by votersnotpoliticians.com – watch for further information about an educational program from LWVCC this fall.

LWVUS statement on DACA Reversal

League of Women Voters president Chris Carson issued the following statement:

"This administration's decision to rescind the 'Dreamers' program is shameful and does not serve national interest.

"As a country of immigrants, we are made stronger by our diversity. Yet time and time again, this administration has discriminated against immigrants and communities of color.

"Reversing the DACA policy will have a devastating impact on our economy. Ending this program will increase unemployment.

"Thousands of the Dreamers protected by DACA were brought to this country as babies and have no memories of their birth country. These individuals are paying taxes, contributing to Social Security and are Americans in everything but the name.

"The League of Women Voters is opposed to deportation of non-criminal undocumented immigrants and we urge congress to pass a clean Dreamers Act to protect, not turn away, the 800,000 young people who were brought to the United States as children."

Afternoon on the Town with Michigan Tech Students

On Sunday, September 3rd (rain date) from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM the annual Welcome Week event, An Afternoon on the Town, took place. Students from MTU took a stroll down College Ave and into the downtown Houghton area to visit tables and storefronts to see what our local business' and services have to offer. Our booth was in front of the fraternity, Delta Phi Epsilon sorority house. We answered voting questions such as where to register and how to do absentee voting. Over 600 paper fans with registration information were passed out to the students by Leah Bectel, Barry Fink, Tayrn Mack and Mary Marchaterre



New and Returning Members

Leah Bectel	Kelly Luck
Linda Belote	Mary Marchaterre & David Nitz
Kristine Bradof	Faith Morrison & Tom Co
Joan Schumaker Chadde	Pushpa Murthy
Donna & Tom Cole	Nanno Rose
Elizabeth Evensen	Martha Sloan
Barry & Bill Fink	Kristina Sundstrom
Kathryn Flagstadt	Katie Torrey
Nancy Herck	Barb Turuc
Carol Kreher	Rhianna Williams
Biruta Lowther	Amy & Mark Wisti

Alyce Thorpe has been identified as a life member.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER is a person who has been a member of the League for 50 years or more and is granted lifetime membership without dues obligation.

Friendly Dues Reminder

Our League membership year runs from April to March. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, now is the time. See form on Page 4

LWVCC Board for 2017 - 2018

President/Resource Management Rhianna Williams	296-9539
1st Vice President Barry Fink	483-4632
2nd Vice President/Natural Resources Kristine Bradof	482-0446
Treasurer Mary Marchaterre	483-2291
Secretary Tayrn Mack	231-1713
Electoral Process Faith Morrison	487-9703
Leah Bectel Mich Tech Student	
Voter Service Kathy Flagstadt	399-0721
 <u>Off Board</u>	
Children and Youth Carol Kreher	523-4048
Education Martha Sloan	369-4184
Voter Editor Linda Ott	487-2315
Website Editor Shellie Crisman	523-6299



League of Women Voters
of the Copper Country
PO Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Join or make a donation to the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country!

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Telephone _____ (home) _____ (work)

Check here if you would like to receive your LWVCC
Voter by e-mail.

Contributions to the annual finance drive and Kay LaRue Scholarship
are NOT tax deductible. Checks should be made out to: LWVCC.

Contributions to the Educational Fund are tax deductible.
Checks should be made out to: LWV Educational Fund

Membership

Individual Dues (\$55)

Household Dues (\$80)

Student Dues (\$30)

Suggested Donation of \$10

Finance Drive (\$____)

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$____)

Education Fund {\$____}