



Lapeer County Democratic Party Newsletter

Sept. 2025

Volume 5, Number 50

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- Information about LCDP and other news.

Interesting web pages

<https://www.secure.actblue.com>

You can make political contributions to LCDP

<https://www.michigandems.com>

Home to Michigan Democratic Party

Contact Us

Party Chair: Alexander Diedrich

Vice Chair: Rose Bogardus

Secretary: Susan Beal

Treasurer: Patty Bradshaw

Corresponding Secretary: Becky Fitts

Contact us at:

810-664-2006

lapeerdemocrats@gmail.com

P.O. Box 185

Lapeer, Michigan 48446

Find us & follow us at:

www.lapeercountymocrats.com (web page)

<http://www.facebook.com/lapeerdems>

Lapeer Dems meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 6pm (potluck then meeting) in the Lincoln Room at the Center Building, Lapeer.

Lapeer Democratic Party News:

Monthly Meetings:

September County Committee meeting is 09/11/25 at 6:30pm. The meeting is held at our office in Lyric Mall, Lapeer. Open to members.



The September General meeting is 9/25/25. Meetings are held at 6pm in the Lincoln Room, Lapeer Center Building. General meetings are open to all.

Upcoming Social and Fundraising Events for Lapeer County Democratic Party

Social Events (Mark your calendar):

Fundraising Events (Mark your calendar):

November 8, 2025 Annual Fundraising Dinner: to be held at the Columbiaville Community Center. (Details next page)

Date TBA - Pancake breakfast (Details to come)

LCDP Lapeer Days

Thank you to our awesome volunteers who rode and walked with the float and manned the booth. Thanks to your efforts this summer we have acquired dozens of new contacts already and are well underway to building a solid foundation. (Alex Diedrich, Party chair)

Also, thank you to everyone who helped with the Dem Picnic. Your time and talents were appreciated!!

Now is the Time to Apply for Home Heating Credit

The deadline for applying for the Home Heating Credit is September 30. This credit helps renters (with a contracted lease) and homeowners lower their heating costs before winter. You must meet the income requirements. Residents can connect with their local free tax preparation site by calling 211 or visiting MichiganFreeTaxHelp.org. To get free help you must have an income less than \$67,000, a disability or limited English-speaking ability.

LAPEER DEMS ANNUAL FUNDRAISER EVENT

Saturday, November 8, 2025 at the Columbiaville Center and Banquet Hall
4620 Water Street, Columbiaville

Doors open at 6 pm.

- Dine at our Sweet and Savory Hors d'oeuvres!
- Mingle with other Dems
- Buy that special item at the Silent Auction
- Purchase a surprise bottle of wine at the Blind Wine Draw
- Stock up at the Dems Store
- Listen to the Guest Speaker

For reservations: \$30 per person in advance, \$35 at the door

Make checks payable to Lapeer County Democratic Party
P.O. Box 185, Lapeer MI 48446
Deadline: October 31, 2025

Can you help with the following?

Can you help us with the following?

1. **Silent Auction** – we are looking for new items or gift cards or baskets.
2. **Blind Wine Draw** – Isn't it fun to select a bottle of wine, not knowing what it is?
It may be your new favorite! You can help us by donating a bottle (at least \$15 value) for this event.

Please call Laura or Jim Mikus at 810-664-5650 to arrange for dropping off your **wine bottle** or **silent auction** item. These items will be collected from October 1 – 25.

3. **Program Book** – Please consider buying an ad in the program book. It's a great way to advertise your business, to recognize important people in your life or people you greatly admire, or just say what's on your mind! Call Rose Bogardus at 810-358-2304 for information about placing an ad in the program book. All ads must be sent to Rose by October 6.

Use this form to reserve your party tickets.

Party RESERVATIONS are DUE by October 31

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Number of tickets at \$30.00 each _____

Ticket total \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Send your check, payable to "Lapeer County Democratic Party",
P.O. Box 185 Lapeer, MI 48446.

THANK YOU! And see you there.

Highlights Of What Your Elected Officials Voted For in July/August:

By Alex Diedrich

Lisa McClain US House 9th Congressional District:

1. The Big Beautiful Bill Yea vote
2. Yes this vote was in July, but there are literally no votes for July, because house Republicans shut down the House of Representatives for 6 weeks off to escape voting on releasing the Epstein Case Files. Taxpayer money well spent, am I right?

The August Recess led to very few votes in the US Senate. There were five confirmation votes for administration appointees:

Elissa Slotkin US Senator

1. Marcus Molinaro, of New York, to be Federal Transit Administrator Yea vote
2. Adam Telle, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army Yea vote
3. Sean Cairncross, of Minnesota, to be National Cyber Director Nay vote
4. John Arrigo, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic Nay Vote
5. Catherine Hanson, of South Carolina, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency Nay Vote

Gary Peters US Senator

1. Marcus Molinaro, of New York, to be Federal Transit Administrator Yea vote
2. Adam Telle, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army Yea vote
3. Sean Cairncross, of Minnesota, to be National Cyber Director Yea vote
4. John Arrigo, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic Nay Vote

5. Catherine Hanson, of South Carolina, to be Chief Financial Officer, Environmental Protection Agency
Nay Vote

Kevin Daley State Senator District 26

1. SB435 Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. – Yea Vote
2. SB350: Education: examinations; funding for schools that opt out of the WorkKeys examination; allow. Yea vote
3. SB349: Education: examinations; opt-out option for the WorkKeys examination; provide for. Yea vote

Ruth Johnson State Senator District 24

1. SB435 Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. – Yea Vote
2. SB350: Education: examinations; funding for schools that opt out of the WorkKeys examination; allow. Yea vote
3. SB349: Education: examinations; opt-out option for the WorkKeys examination; provide for: yea vote.

Dan Lauwers State Senator District 25

1. SB435 Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. – Yea Vote
2. SB350: Education: examinations; funding for schools that opt out of the WorkKeys examination; allow. Yea vote
3. SB349: Education: examinations; opt-out option for the WorkKeys examination; provide for. Yea vote

Gregory Alexander State Representative District 98

1. HB4047: A bill to impose civil liability and prescribe criminal penalties for the nonconsensual creation or dissemination of deep fake sexual images; and to provide for remedies. Yea vote
2. Counties boards and commissions; requirement for competitive bidding by county road commissions on certain projects; modify. Yea vote
3. HB4543: Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. Yea Vote
4. Resolution: Legislature: other; enactment of appropriation bills by a certain date; require. Yea Vote

Phil Green State Representative District 67

1. HB4047: A bill to impose civil liability and prescribe criminal penalties for the nonconsensual creation or dissemination of deep fake sexual images; and to provide for remedies. Yea vote
2. HB4415: Counties boards and commissions; requirement for competitive bidding by county road commissions on certain projects; modify. Yea vote
3. HB4543: Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. Yea Vote
4. Resolution: Legislature: other; enactment of appropriation bills by a certain date; require. Yea Vote

Jaime Greene State Representative District 65

1. HB4047: A bill to impose civil liability and prescribe criminal penalties for the nonconsensual creation or dissemination of deep fake sexual images; and to provide for remedies. Yea vote
2. HB4415: Counties boards and commissions; requirement for competitive bidding by county road commissions on certain projects; modify. Yea vote
3. HB4543: Individual income tax: home heating credit; adjustments based on Detroit Consumer Price Index; change to United States Consumer Price Index. Yea Vote
4. Resolution: Legislature: other; enactment of appropriation bills by a certain date; require. Yea Vote

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin (D-MI) released the following statement after voting ‘no’ on President Donald Trump’s “One Big Beautiful Bill,” which passed by a vote of 51-50, with Vice President J.D. Vance breaking the tie.

“After more than 25 hours on the Senate floor, I voted no on the so-called ‘One Big Beautiful Bill.’ No matter which way you slice it – health care, energy, housing – the President just rammed through a bill that will make Michiganders pay in every part of their lives. All so the wealthiest among us can get a tax break.

“Today’s massive bill will go through only with a tie breaker. Senate Democrats importantly delayed the process enough to allow the world to see this bill and to lay bare the fighting and divisions on the other side. “History will not be kind to this bill.”

Serve Our Society Convention Recap

By Alexander Diedrich



Lapeer Democrats, with the support of the rural caucus, many partner organizations and other democrats around the state, absolutely succeeded at showing what democracy in action looks like. We are very grateful to all of our partners in trying a new model with us.

From my perspective, Serve Our Society was the most positive and hopeful I have been able to feel since last November. For the first time in a long time, I could envision a new era past the specter of this current administration. It was wonderful to see so many democratic-aligned causes together under one roof, it was the perfect visual of the big barn

party (big tent is overused).

Our town hall portion of the event with the candidates featured some great questions, particularly for senate candidates Mallory McMorrow and Abdul El-Sayed. All of our candidates and question participants engraved the kitchen table, which will stand as a physical memory of the event, and move on to the next SOS event if our others are inspired to create their own.



The best part is, we were building a movement, and we were having actual fun. There were many serious discussions and questions for the candidates and from our guest speakers. Despite the seriousness, we were able to take joy in being together with like-minded people and organizing for a better future. The performances from Barbara Petyon and Greg Nagy were fantastic. If you missed it, you also missed Sheriff Swanson on the drums! Check out our social feeds to get a recap of the performances.

It was a great time. We scored a small victory for democracy. We have a long way to go before the 2026 elections, but we have started the ripples that will become a blue wave. Let’s keep it going.



Member Spotlight

Heidi Waid

By Becky Fitts

Heidi Waid is a self-employed Associate Broker with Cold Well Banker Professionals, out of Lapeer. She has been a real estate agent and home matchmaker for 20 years. She enjoys remodeling and landscaping her home, hiking and traveling with her husband and best friend of 33 years, Jim. Another favorite past time is camping in their little trailer that has been named “Li'l Gretch” after our beloved Governor. Their bucket list is to visit all 50 states; they have four to go, Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Utah.

Heidi's role in the Democratic Party is to assist and come up with ideas for the fundraising committee and execute them, she also handles the Dem's store. With the creation of the Social Committee, she was elected chair, The Social Committee's main responsibility is to help plan our monthly potluck and general meeting, the holiday party and annual picnic. Her dream is to see the Lapeer Dems have events that create community and joy by planning things like a cruise, camping, or group travel trips where we could get to know each other as friends not just as concerned citizens.

Heidi says being a Democrat is an important part of who she is as they are the political party that most aligns with her values. Though they are not perfect but are more accepting of others both inside and outside the party and see the beauty in the differences we all have. She sees the Democrats as an empathetic party wanting to include all perspectives. She says, one of her biggest challenges is trying to carry on conversations with loved ones who follow MAGA. So, one of her favorite things about being an active member is getting to be around like-minded people who are also concerned about the direction our country is going in. “Living in such a conservative county it is nice to know that you're not alone.”

Lapeer County Commissioner Steps In It

They're Killing the Dogs...They're Killing the Cats...in Lapeer!?!

By Robert Solomon, “Advocates Against “

When Trump stood on the debate stage during the 2024 campaign to declare that Haitian immigrants were eating the pets of the people of Springfield, he was rightfully ridiculed. The claims were so easily debunked; they seemed potentially part of a pattern of mental decline. In reality, his cynical campaign had stumbled on a universal truth to exploit - nothing makes people angrier than the thought of someone harming an innocent animal.

From cartoon socialites stalking Dalmatians, to foolish gangsters provoking John Wick, Hollywood always makes it easy to spot the villain. In reality, even our biggest enemies are not usually so callously cruel. Democrats and Republicans can thankfully still agree that our animal companions should be treasured and protected. With this in mind, Lapeer County Commissioner Scott McMahan's recent idea that local Animal Shelter be converted to a 30-day kill facility, was a head-scratching suggestion.

Michigan is currently a "no kill" State, long a leader in the ethical treatment of animals. Euthanizing animals for budgetary reasons has largely been unnecessary and immensely unpopular. Converting to a kill shelter is completely out-of-step with the values of the community. And, in a scene straight out of a studio script, the community responded pushed back at the July 24 Board of Commissioners meeting. Public comment periods

featured overflow crowds, where citizen after citizen voiced opposition to the plan, many in utter disbelief at the very notion.

Though McMahan was quick to retreat from the urgency of his proposal, he did not rule out revisiting the concept down the road. The Commissioner's choice to stubbornly cling to his inhumane idea becomes easier to understand in the context of the broader campaign of cruelty the GOP has unleashed. Those who see fit to lock immigrants in kennels and children in cages might more effortlessly see animals as expendable.

If connections to Commission-endorsed ICE activities seem a far-fetched, recall that United States Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem proudly revealed that she shot her puppy, Cricket, in the face for "having the time of his life," instead of hunting. She shared this sad tale in her autobiography, accurately believing that it would win fans and raise her stature within the Grand Old Party.

It is possible that Mr. McMahan hopes to make a name for himself through his outlandish statements as well. By the reaction of his constituents on July 24, he might have thought it was "Mud." It is obvious that the vast majority of community members want Lapeer to be a leader in the humane treatment of animals. We must also insist that the United States continue to set global standards on issues of human rights, rather than prey on the most vulnerable.

Place your ad in the program book!

This is a great way to honor your loved ones, a special person in your life, or some public figure that you greatly admire!

Or to speak what's on your mind!

ALL ADS ARE DUE by October 6!

Program Book ads available for purchase:

Full Size ad is 5 ½" x 8 ½" Please select your size choice

Inside front cover	\$125.00	_____	5 ½" x 8 ½"
Inside Back Cover	\$125.00	_____	5 ½" x 8 ½"
Outside Back Cover	\$125.00	_____	5 ½" x 8 ½"
Full Page	\$100.00	_____	5 ½" x 8 ½"
Half Page	\$75.00	_____	5 ½" x 4 ¼"
Quarter Page	\$50.00	_____	5 ½" x 2 1/8" or 2 ¾" x 4 ¼"
Business Card Size	\$35.00	_____	

- Please Email your artwork to RoseBogardus@charter.net no later than October 6, 2025
 - For payment, please send a check payable to "Lapeer County Democratic Party"
- Mail it to P.O. Box 185 Lapeer, MI 48446.
- For questions about the ads, call Rose Bogardus at 810-358-2304

Thank you!



Get Tickets

Lapeer County Democrats
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Party Reservations are DUE by October 31st
Save \$5 by paying in advance!
Tickets will be \$35 at the door.

Online Pay
Scan QR Code to our ActBlue
If you reserve your tickets at this website, you will get an "e-ticket" emailed to you.
You do NOT NEED to print this out.
We will have a record of your purchase!
Thank you and see you there!



News about the newsletter

This newsletter is published monthly and is available by email to all members. **All members are encouraged to submit articles and information to the newsletter.** Submissions for the newsletter should be 800 words or less and need to be sent by email to the editors by the 18th of each month.

Send submission to the editors:

Anita Harrand at aharr76@hotmail.com

Alex Diedrich at apdiedrich@gmail.com

Lapeer County Democratic Party needs your financial support.

Annual dues renewal is December for the year 2025. If you want to mail your membership please send to:
Lapeer County Democratic Party, PO Box 185, Lapeer MI 48446.

Here are other ways to pay your LCDP dues:

1. Pay at Act Blue: <http://www.secure.actblue.com>
2. You can visit our Facebook page: <http://www.Facebook.com/LapeerDems>
3. You can visit our website: [Lapeer County Democratic Party](#) Locate the “Get Involved” button.
4. You can fill out the attached form and mail with a check to the LCDP office:

Name _____

Home Address _____

Street City State Zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Home Phone &/or Mobile Phone _____

Renewal membership____ New membership ____

Membership types: ____ Student (\$10)

____ Grassroots Supporter (\$20) ____ Lapeer Activist (\$50) ____ Lapeer Leader (\$100)

____ Additional Contribution

____ Total Amount of Your Check

____ Check here if you wish to become a member by way of an “in-kind” contribution. We will contact you.

Thank you for joining us to ensure everyone has an opportunity to achieve the American dream, be paid a living wage, have basic health care, get a quality education without going into massive debt, and live in a clean/safe/justice-oriented world.