



Lapeer County Democratic Party Newsletter

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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

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Find us & follow us at:

www.lapeercountymichigandems.com (web page)

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

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:

October County Committee meeting is 10/8/26 at 6:30pm. The meeting is held at our office in Lyric Mall, Lapeer. Open to members.

October General meeting is 10/22/26. Meetings start with a potluck at 6pm, meeting at 6:30 pm in the Lincoln Room, Lapeer Center Building. Charity collection for July to September is ACLU.

Upcoming Social and Fundraising Events for Lapeer County Democratic Party

Social/Community Events (Mark your calendar):

Hayride and bonfire (see article below)

Fundraising Events

Outreach Events for Lapeer Dems: (Mark your calendar)

1. Lapeer Dems looking for volunteers to staff the office during September thru November. Meet and greet opportunities, hand out signs, etc. Watch for emails to sign up.
2. WE NEED YOUR HELP to find sign locations and contact the owner and get permission for us to install candidates campaign signs in every Township in Lapeer County and Thetford, Forest, Richfield and Genesee Townships in Genesee County. **Please find those locations with permission to install and e-mail me at lindasberker@aol.com or text me at 810-348-8664 with your locations by Sept. 14th.**



Vote For Ray Pooley for Congress, District 9



The Republican incumbent candidate, Lisa McClain should not run unopposed for Congress in District 9. Ray Pooley supports:

- Bringing manufacturing back to USA.
- Clean power for energy dependence.
- Pro-union
- Protecting the environment.
- Expanding child-care support.
- And more!

For more info go to: pooley4congress.com

Dems Annual Dinner Event a Big Success



The banquet was held Saturday, September 19, 2026 at the Elba Township Hall, Lapeer. There was over 100 people gathered to celebrate democracy. Featured speakers Eli Savit, running for Attorney General and Noah Hood, running for Supreme Court in Michigan were dynamic! We heard from all the candidates running in Lapeer County and this lifted our spirits as well.

The food prepared by the fundraising committee and others was delicious! The hall sparkled, the silent auction was busy and all wine was bought. It was a great night to meet fellow Democrats, share politics and feel a movement in the air. Thank you to the fundraising committee for your hard work!!



Dems Are Having a Hayride and Bonfire with Donuts – YEAH!

Everyone in the party wanted a hayride but your are also getting a bonfire! Bring your family, invite your friends, grandkids, and celebrate the season with us! Shop for your pumpkin, baked goods, explore the corn maze. The donuts are made daily. Don't forget to add it to your calendar on October 3rd.

The cost is \$5 and includes hayride, cider, doughnut and bonfire with s'mores. Location is Fick Farms at 3199 N. Lapeer Rd., Lapeer.

I need to know if you will be joining us, and how many in your party. Please text or call Heidi Waid if you plan to attend. 248-224-4142.

State of the Mail - Is it safe to mail your ballot in this year?

By Alex Dietrich

Short answer, YES, in Michigan you can vote by mail and expect your ballot to be counted. Long answer, yes, but why concerns over voting by mail will not be ending this year.

There were a number of headlines in 2026 about challenges to vote by mail. A quick topline summary of the challenges:

1. The Republican National Committee challenged the state of Mississippi's rule about counting ballots after election day.
2. Trump signed an executive order directing the post office to create new rules for processing ballots, which would have resulted in the disenfranchisement of thousands of votes.

For now, neither of these threats to mail-in voting have been allowed to go into effect. The Mississippi challenge, *Watson vs RNC*, determined that federal statute does not determine that votes have to be received by election day to count, allowing states to continue to count votes postmarked by election day. While many states, like Michigan, have the rule that ballots must be received by election day to count, changing the rules so close to an election in other states could result in mass numbers of ballots that couldn't be counted.

On September 14th, the US Supreme Court let an injunction on the new post office rule stay in place, meaning it won't take effect in 2026. It was a 7-2 decision, but the actual legality of the rule is still in question. The rule would have required election mail be specially marked and coded, and the voters matched to a federal registry. Concerningly, an official whistleblower inside the post office also had this to say about the development of the rule: "As presently designed, if even one bar code on one single ballot in a bulk-mailing of 10,000 ballots fails to properly scan during the verification process, the entire batch is rejected and sent back to the state — effectively stopping the ballots from being mailed to voters". Thankfully, the unsigned decision of the Supreme Court indicated that this rule was suspended due to likely being illegal, but it will need to be closely watched in 2026.

Lastly, things to keep in mind if you are voting by mail in 2026:

1. Visit [Michigan.gov/SOS/elections/voting/absentee-voting](https://michigan.gov/SOS/elections/voting/absentee-voting) to check all of the rules for mail-in ballots for Michigan.

2. You can turn in your ballot 5 ways: By mail received by election day, so send it in early!, at a marked drop box at your local clerk's office, to your local clerk, at early voting, and on election day. Voting is more important than ever! If you're voting absentee, don't forget to turn it in!

Support Kelly Nolan – Write-In for Lapeer School Board, Partial Term

Voters across the country have been pushing back on school board candidates who run on political wedge issues. School board elections are non-partisan to remove a conflict point from decisions about our local public schools - decisions about policy and budgets should not be infused with culture war issues. Voters in the Lapeer school district can join the movement by writing-in **Kelly Nolan for Lapeer School Board - Partial Term Ending 12/31/2028**.

Kelly Nolan (former LDL Trustee, Lapeer County appointee to the Valley Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and community activist) knows political hot-button issues must be kept out of school board decision making. Kelly believes "parental rights" means individual families have the right to make decisions for their own child, and would work to strengthen parent/community involvement in the schools, while always keeping our students first. If elected, Kelly is committed to collaboration and careful listening, and will work to ensure the Lapeer Community Schools always follows best practices. You can learn more about **Kelly Nolan for Lapeer School Board** on Facebook and Instagram. Kelly can be reached for questions or to offer support at KellyNolanForSchoolBoard@gmail.com.

A write-in vote for Kelly Nolan is as easy as 1-2-3!

1. On the back of your ballot, find the **Local Non-Partisan** races.
2. Locate the **Board Member (Lapeer Community Schools) Partial Term** race.
3. Write **Kelly Nolan** on the second space and remember to fill in the bubble!

PLEDGE ALLIGIENCE TO THE LYING DISGRACE OF AMERICA

Sagging Polls Lead to Latest Feeble Attempt to Rally GOP Base

By Rob Solomon

By most any measure, this is not going well. Our nation is nearly two-years into another disastrous Trump term that has even some of his staunchest supporters flee the MAGA movement. The Iran War or Conflict or Excursion has spiraled, driving fuel prices to the brink. Inflation and corporate greed have driven grocery prices to the point where even Mike Rogers had to pretend to notice. Much of the food on the shelves has been recalled for various forms of contamination, as DOGE cuts destroyed food safety standards. Farmers continue to suffer and struggle under the weight of ill-conceived tariffs that decimated markets that took decades to develop. Private prisons and data centers dot the rural landscape as corporate campaign contributions are rewarded in kind. All while the powerful men named in the Epstein files continue to evade any concept of justice.

The Republicans have tried a number of strategies to combat the negative news cycles. First, they bragged about kicking millions of Americans off of their healthcare plans. Next came the new "Red Scare" tactics, where any person opposed to the current agenda is a branded a "communist." Sadly, the Diaper Don himself undermined this talking point by offering voters a \$5K payment if Republicans retain the House of Representatives in November.

With his poll numbers in the toilet, Trump went back to the drawing board. Addressing a handful of his most ardent admirers at the GOP Convention in Dallas, Trump revealed his grand plan - just cheat.

"I pledge to the greatest president in the history of the United States that loves us so much he can't even breathe, that I will go out with my family, my friends (and vote). I'll do it anyway-- I don't care if I'm registered or not. I'm going to try and cheat like hell, like they do." - he suggested. "You know what happens if you don't vote? You go to hell, you know that? Okay? You go to hell, and I don't want that to happen to you."

That Trump would ask his followers to break the law is hardly a surprise. His disdain for The Constitution is well-documented. His status as a religious authority is thoroughly undercut by his complete lack of morality.

Among those in attendance was MI District-09's very own Rep. Lisa McClain. While continuing to ignore her constituents' concerns and her opponent, Ray Pooley, Lisa continues to campaign for unqualified candidates across the country. Lisa recently demonstrated the depths of her toxic loyalty to the MAGA cult when she endorsed Rep. Max Miller of Ohio, accused of brutally physically abusing his ex-wife and child. While others have called for Miller to withdraw, Lisa affirmed "I support anybody with an 'R' behind their name. I hope when all of this comes out that it's not true."

Of course, blind loyalty can be profitable. Since arriving in Congress as a cheerleader for her party, Lisa's net worth has ballooned to a reported \$11 million dollars. But there is a greater potential cost.

JD Vance knows that voters have the GOP sleeping on the metaphorical couch. "Give us another chance - or give us another couple of years to continue to work on the amazing things that we've been doing," he pleaded. The reality is that this administration puts all in peril.

"What I'm trying to focus on is doing as much of God's work as possible right now, and if that leads to the end times, okay," Vance shared during a recent podcast interview. "If that leads to...building a better world that thrive and survives for a very long time after I'm gone, that's great, too."

Thankfully, Democratic candidates like Abdul El-Sayed, Jocelyn Benson, and Ray Pooley have a brighter vision of the future to share with Michigan voters this Fall.

How to be an informed voter

Being an informed voter means doing a little homework before Election Day. You can find out more about the candidates and proposals on your ballot so you can be confident in your vote.

Find your sample ballot at mi.gov/vote. Check local media for voter guides and candidate interviews. Nonpartisan websites with voter information are helpful. Vote411.org is run by the League of Women Voters and includes nonpartisan interviews with candidates. Other guides can be found at Guides.vote, Vote.org and [Ballot Ready](https://BallotReady.org). Other sites to help you learn what's truth and what's not are Factcheck.org, [Politifact](https://Politifact.org) and [Snopes](https://Snopes.com). (Produced by the Michigan Department of State)

Proposal 1 & 2 Are on the Ballot in Michigan – Are you Informed?

Proposal 2026-1

“A proposal to convene a Constitutional Convention for the purpose of drafting a general revision of the State Constitution. “ (This means ALL portions of the Constitution of Michigan would be up for discussion and revision.)

Proposal 2026-2

“A proposal initiated law to prohibit campaign contributions from certain regulated utilities and government contractors and apply campaign finance laws and regulations to additional types of political communications.”

(Read the ballot language and research how this proposal would affect residents of Michigan.)

This proposal is sponsored by Michiganders for Money Out of Politics (MMOP) is a grassroots nonpartisan campaign working to get big money out of our state elections. The MMOP coalition includes: Clean Water Action, Climate Cabinet, Detroit Action, Hip Hop Caucus Action Fund, Michigan League of Conservation Voters, Michigan United Action, MOSES Action, and Voters Not Politicians.

mopupmichigan.org/learn/michiganproposal2/

Michigan Proposal 2 (Proposal 26-2) is a citizen-led initiative on Michigan’s November 3, 2026 ballot. It would prohibit monopoly utilities, like DTE and Consumers Energy, and corporations holding more than \$250,000 a year in government contracts, like Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, from donating to the politicians who regulate them and award their contracts. It would also require political ads, including online ads, to disclose who paid for them.

Democratic Candidates in November 2026 Election

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson is running for Governor. She selected Michigan Senate Majority Leader Winnie Brinks for Lieutenant Governor.

Abdul El-Sayed who is running for the US Senate

Ray Pooley, 9th Congressional District

Candidates Endorsed at Michigan Democratic 2026 Convention

Watch for these names on your ballot in November.

Attorney General:

Eli Savit

Secretary of State:

Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist

State Supreme Court:

Megan Cavanagh

Noah Hood

UM Board of Regents:

Paul Brown

Amir Makled

State Board of Education:

Judith Pritchett

Tiffaney Hilley

MSU Board of Trustees

Brianna Scott

Kelly Tebay Zemke

WSU Board of Governors

Shereef Akeel

Richard Mack

State Senate and House Candidates Running for Office in Districts Including Lapeer County.

Senate District 26 (Northeast Genesee County, Lapeer County, Eastern Saginaw County and Western Tuscola County)



Brendan J. Johnson - Michigan State Senate in District 26

Brendan Johnson grew up on his family's former dairy farm in Fostoria and now lives in Bridgeport Township with his wife Shelby. He isn't a career politician, just a 29-year-old determined to do what's right. Since announcing, he's attended 28+ local government meetings across all four counties in the district, including Lapeer, to hear directly from the people here before asking for their vote. The grassroots campaign is fully self-managed with no corporate cash and no paid staff. Learn more, volunteer, and contribute at JohnsonForSenate.us

Senate District 23 (Includes several townships in Oakland County)



Greg Hill- Michigan State Senate District 23 GregHillforMI.com

When I started exploring a run for State Senate, I didn't begin with a platform. I began with people. After dozens of conversations and a growing response to my Community Listening Survey, clear themes emerged — Affordability, education, power to the people and lifting the middle class.

House District 67 (Includes western Lapeer County, four Townships in Genesee County and Watertown Township in Tuscola County)



Leslie Getz- MI State House District 67

There are so many issues of concern these days. Among Leslie's priorities are public education, our environment, affordable housing and mental health services. Leslie Getz is committed to listening to your concerns, researching the issues and working with others to provide solutions that work for the people in our community. Leslie Getz welcomes your input and your support in any way that you are able. Information is available on Facebook: [LeslieGetz4MIRep](https://www.facebook.com/LeslieGetz4MIRep). You can contact Leslie at Leslie4MIRep@gmail.com, P.O. Box 101, Lapeer, MI 48446 or 810-667-3353.

House District 65 (Includes portions of Lapeer County, Macomb County and St. Clair County.)



James O'Brien- MI State House District 65

“ A vote for me is a vote for Truth, Morals, Values, Choice, Independence and Service!” I was born and raised in Michigan. After graduating from Utica High School, I went on to serve in the United States Marine Corps. Later in life I obtained an Associates degree in Computer Networking and finished a Bachelors in Networking Security from Baker College of Michigan. I want a good life for myself and my family. Allow me to be your “eyes and ears” for agriculture, health care overreach, inflation, energy and utility rates and supporting all amendment rights.

House District 98 (Sebewaing in Tuscola County to Bad Axe in Huron County west to Mayville in Tuscola County and east to Marlette and Sandusky in Sanilac County)



Keith Brusseau- MI State House District 98

Tell us a little bit about yourself:

I'm 50 years old, and I've been a Lexington resident for 20 years. I have a twin brother.

What motivates you to get involved?

I don't like what's happening, but it does no good to complain if you're not willing to get involved, so here I am!

Where do you feel you could have the most impact, if elected?

I want to make our government work for the citizens, and not businesses. If a business exists solely to make a profit off taxpayers, maybe it should be government run. and we can skip the profit part.

Candidates Running for Non-Partisan Offices



District Court in Lapeer (look them up – do your homework)

Magistrate Maureen Salako

David Richardson

Circuit Court in Lapeer (look them up – do your homework)

Mike Hodge (Incumbent)

Marie Hobeke (write in candidate)

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: Anita Harrand at aharr76@hotmail.com or Alex Diedrich at apdiedrich@gmail.com