



PERSPECTIVE

VOLUME XV

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THE FLINT CITY MAYORAL RECALL WHAT IS IT AND WHAT SHOULD WE DO

On February 24th, voters in the City of Flint will go to the polls to decide whether or not Mayor Don Williamson shall continue to be Mayor.
The outcome affects even those of us who do not live in the City of Flint

Our program this evening will answer questions such as:

Why this question is on the ballot?

Reasons for voting "Yes"

Reasons for voting "No"

What happens if the Mayor is recalled?

FEBRUARY 18, 2009

7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

MOTT REGIONAL TECH CENTER

Co-sponsor:

Flint Public Affairs Debates

FINANCE DRIVE

Please give a contribution to our League. Without your generosity, we are unable to continue providing information of community happenings as well as increase understanding of major policy issues.

Remember, contributions can be made: "In Honor of" Or "In remembrance of....."

AWARD TO ...

Congratulations to League Board Government Chair Edith Prunty-Spencer for the award given to her for her 30 years of service on the Salvation Army Board of Directors.

LWVUS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The position priorities set for the coming year are:

Global Climate Change
Health Care

Tier Two priorities are:

Election Reform
D.C. Voting Rights

All other positions of course are in place for action whenever an opportunity arises.

SYMPOSIUM FAIR AND IMPARTIAL COURTS

It's no secret that spiraling special interest spending in state judicial elections raises critical questions of due process and recusal. This was certainly evident in the 2008 Michigan Supreme Court election. In the words of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, "Judicial elections are becoming political prizefights where partisan and special interests seek to install judges who will answer to them instead of the law and the constitution."

The League and The Thomas Cooley Law Review are sponsoring a program on "**Michigan Supreme Court Election Campaigns: Threat to a Fair and Impartial Court.**"

March 18th, 5:30-8:30 Cooley Law School Temple Building, 6th floor Auditorium, 217 S. Capital Ave., Lansing.

Speakers:

Michael J. Petro, V.P., Committee for Economic Development

Rich Robinson, Executive Director, Michigan Campaign Finance Director

James Sample, Counsel, The Brennan Center for Justice, N.Y.U. School of Law

The Hon. James A. Wynn, N.C. Court Of Appeals

Moderator –

Janet K. Welch, Executive Director, State Bar of Michigan

(Chief Justice Taylor raised \$1,842,000. Judge Hathaway \$638,500. The greatest Share of money was off the books.)

FLINT CITY CHARTER ON RECALL OF MAYOR

Section 2-411. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the office of Mayor, the unexpired term shall be filled as follows:

- A. If one year or less remains in the unexpired term the Council shall within 30 days Appoint a person having the qualifications for such office to serve as Acting Mayor during the remainder of the unexpired term
 - 1. The Acting Mayor shall possess all the powers as provided in this Charter, except the power to remove Mayoral appointees. The power to remove appointees of the Mayor may not be exercised without the concurrence of the City Council
 - 2. The Acting Mayor shall receive the same compensation as provided for the office of Mayor.

- B. If more than one year remains in the unexpired term. The City Council shall either:
 - 1. Within 10 days call a special election to be held within 90 days to thereafter to fill such a vacancy. A general election shall be called not less than 49 nor more than 60 days after the date of the primary or:
 - 2. Call primary and general elections to be concurrent with the next State primary and general November election.

- C. Until such time as the Acting Mayor is appointed pursuant to paragraph A above, or until a Mayor is elected pursuant to paragraph B above, the City Administrator shall serve as temporary Mayor. The City Administrator shall possess all the powers of the Mayor as provided in this Charter, except the power to remove Mayoral appointees and the power of veto. Appointees of the Mayor may not be removed by the City Administrator serving in the capacity of Temporary Mayor without the concurrence of the City Council.

NUMBER 89!

This February 14th is our 89th Birthday. We celebrate with a strong commitment to build on the civic energy generated during the 2008 election season by continuing to foster meaningful citizen participation in our government processes and vigorous dialogue about public policy issues.



**League of Women Voters
Flint Area
P.O. Box 230
Flint, Michigan 48501-0230**

**EDUCATING AND
ADVOCATING FOR
RESPONSIBLE
GOVERNMENT**

LWV-FLINT AREA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Mail To: LWV-FA P.O. Box 230 Flint, MI 48501-0230

Dues are \$55.00 per member, \$80.00 for two in one household, \$30.00 for students. Scholarships are available. Contact Helen Hoyt for more information at (810) 233-6659.

LWV-FA President: Jeanette Hall (810) 659-9683

Board Members: Rhina Griffel, Larry MacDonald, RoseAnn MacDonald, Andrea Ananich, Ann Kraft, Marion Wright, Jan Nieuwenhuis, Edith Prunty-Spencer, Helen Hoyt, Ruth Brown, David Caswell, Toni Promenchenkel

www.lwvflintarea.org

MISSION STATEMENT

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