

# EASTSIDE REPUBLICAN REVIEW

A PUBLICATION OF THE EASTSIDE REPUBLICAN CLUB

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January 2019

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## Laura Cox Seeks State GOP Post



Laura Cox, two-term state rep, former Wayne County commissioner and U.S. Customs special agent, all describe the Eastside Republican Club speaker for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 15, at the War Memorial.

Now, the logical question: "What's next?" These days, Cox is campaigning for leadership of the Michigan Republican

Party.

Also seeking the post is Pontiac native Gina Barr, a longtime GOP activist and former RNC staffer.

"Laura Cox is a woman with a long record as a fighter for sound government, and has raised a family that values our country's freedoms. Laura's daughter is a U.S. Marine who served in Fallujah, and one son is currently a Naval Academy midshipman," said ERC chairman Dr. Annette DeSantis Feldpausch in a statement.

"The Forum is open to the public at no charge, so we invite anyone interested the future of the GOP in Michigan to hear from Laura and ask questions," Feldpausch added.

Forum doors open at 7 p.m. for coffee and networking in advance of the meeting.

ERC members will 2019 elect officers and board members at the January 15 meeting.

As GOP activist, Cox served as district chair and state committee member. She also served as delegate to the 2012 Republican National Convention.

In 2014, Cox was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives representing her Livonia district. After winning election to her second term, she was named the first female House Appropriations chair in the history of Michigan, helping to oversee a \$56 billion budget.

Prior to serving in the legislature, Cox won election as the only Republican on the Wayne County Board of Commissioners, where her colleagues selected her as chair of the Ways and Means Committee. As commissioner, Cox championed transparency in government and was the first to make her office budget available online.

Cox began her public service as a U.S. Customs special agent where she worked undercover, conducted surveillance, and executed search warrants to stop drug traffickers. During 13 years as an agent, her work also included sophisticated financial investigations to halt smugglers and currency traffickers.

She earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University, and a master's degree in criminal justice research and planning.

Cox and her husband, former Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox, have four children and two grandchildren.

### ERC Board Elections Set for January Meeting

Eastside Republican Club members will elect 2019 officers and board members at their regular meeting, Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019, at the War Memorial. The meeting will be called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Only regular ERC members current in dues are allowed to vote. Members will make nominations from the floor.

As provided by the bylaws, "All seven members of the Eastside Republican Club executive board shall be elected at the Annual Meeting by plurality vote of the Regular Members present and voting. Voting by proxy shall not be allowed."

Offices are chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer. There is no term limitation on the four elected officers, and they may succeed themselves in office.

The board includes three at-large members. No board member may serve more than one term as an at-large executive board member during any two-year period.

Any member with a question about the responsibilities of a specific office or position is encouraged to contact chairman Annette Feldpausch or other officer.

## Haroutunian Appointed To Redford District Court Bench



Krista Haroutunian was recently appointed to the 17th Judicial District Court, Redford Township. Formal investiture ceremonies were held Dec. 3, 2018, in Redford.

Former Michigan Court of Appeals Judge and Michigan AG Bill Schuette addressed the investiture assembly.

Judge Robert Columbo of the Third Circuit Court, Wayne County, administered the oath of office.

Judge Haroutunian has been in private practice as a shareholder with the firm Haroutunian Licata Haroutunian, PC since 1998 where she focuses on probate, estate planning, family law, and real estate matters.

Since 2013, she has served as a special assistant Attorney General with the Michigan Department of Attorney General, handling contested guardianship and conservatorship petitions for the Audit Protective Services Division of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Judge Haroutunian is a member of the State Bar of Michigan, serving on the Board of Commissioners since 2015. She is also a member of the Detroit Bar Association, the Oakland County Bar Association, the Wayne County Probate Bar Association, the Wayne County Family Bar Association, and the Armenian American Bar Association.

She is on the board of the Armenian Relief Society and has been a member of the Michigan Women's Commission since being appointed in 2011.

Judge Haroutunian earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan in 1993 and a law degree from the Detroit College of Law at Michigan State University in 1998.

She fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Judge Charlotte Wirth. For a full term, she must seek election in November 2020.

## MIGOP Leadership Changes in February

MIGOP chair Ron Wieser convened his final MRP State Committee session of his two-year term in December 2018. Wieser's term officially ends after a new chair is elected at the MRP Convention in Lansing in February.



Though he would be the first to express disappointment with the November election, he reported that several building blocks are in place for

2020, and highlighted the importance of maintaining a legislative majority in Lansing.

The MRP staff Wieser assembled is considered one of the finest in the U.S based on efforts in social media, data development and candidate support.

In February, Congressional District delegates will convene in Lansing to select new leadership at both the District and State levels.

Presently, two candidates have announced their run for MRP Chair:

- Laura Cox (Livonia)
- Gina Barr (Pontiac)

Whomever is elected as State Party chair will have the opportunity to lead the Michigan GOP team and raise funds necessary to re-elect Pres. Donald J. Trump.

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## Annual Holiday Party A Big Hit at GP Yacht Club

The 14<sup>th</sup> District's annual Christmas/Hanukkah party saw nearly 120 gathered at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club to celebrate the holiday season and assist Detroit's VOA chapter in its work with homeless veterans.

Lisa Papas arranged for a vocal ensemble from Grosse Pointe South High, which performed seasonal favorites and led the party goers in the National Anthem.

VOA senior case manager Bruce Johnson told about the Volunteers for America program for homeless veterans in Detroit.

Coordinating the evening's donations to Detroit's VOA shelter were Oakland's Bob and Linda Stulberg and Terry Poplawski.

Max Wiener Jerry Kosmensky and Sue Burstein-Kahn generously sponsored a group of Young Republicans for the evening.



Max Wiener with wife, Dr. Michelle Wiener, of the Park at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.



## Activist Gina Barr To February ERC Forum



Gina Barr, candidate for Michigan Republican Party chair, will share her passion for conservative victory during the February 19 ERC Forum at the War Memorial.

Barr remembers becoming a Republican while attending Pontiac Central High School, a normally Democrat setting.

She says, "There is fertile ground in unexpected places, but we have to take the time to sow seeds."

An experienced campaigner, Barr has worked under three MIGOP chairs.

Most recently, during her time at the RNC as the head of urban and women's engagement, Barr has been a representative of the party on both national and grassroots levels. She has served with leaders from around the country, and worked in key campaigns such as the Florida governor and senate races.

Barr reflects, "No election can be won without the boots on the ground."

She expressed her belief that "the power of the grassroots—from the rise of the Tea Party or the sheer dedication of the Trump Train—is the key to victory."

Barr is a graduate of Yale's prestigious Women's Campaign School and has been honored by the Black Conservative Federation.

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## Mary Treder Lang Says 'Thanks'

Dear Friends,

I feel so honored to have represented the Michigan GOP in my race for Secretary of State.

While we didn't get the election results we had hoped, prayed, and worked so hard for, your incredible support this past year has been simply amazing! These last few weeks have moved by much slower than this past year, but it has provided me time to reflect and be thankful for my family, faith, and friends.

I want to send my deepest expression of appreciation to each and every one of you who devoted many hours towards a positive campaign that focused on the issues important to Michigan. I would also like to recognize my supportive team and my family. In particular, my husband Paul, who stood by me, encouraged me, and provided continuous strength throughout the campaign.

Thank you to all of you for your support and encouragement these past 14 months. I am extremely grateful for the many new friends I have made along the way and I look forward to the next chapter in life as we unite, embrace, and continue to drive Michigan forward.

God bless you all and keep in touch,

Mary Treder Lang, CPA



Mary Treder Lang greets Lou Sucher with Rosemary Pfahler and Dr. George Goodis in October.

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## Generous Hospitality Sponsors Make Valuable Contribution to ERC Meetings

By Marie Hackleman

A big ERC "thank you" to each one of our 2018 hospitality sponsors!

Hospitality sponsorships underwrite expenses for the cookies and coffee served during the 7 to 7:30 p.m. "welcome reception" before each ERC Forum. It is the generosity of our sponsors which continues to make possible this inviting welcome for our guests and members.

Sponsors for 2018 were Alice & Andy Baetz, Kathleen Koppin, Edee Kurze, George McMullen, Marti Miller, David Nicholson, Mike Nolan, Andy & Susan Richner, Mary Zeock, and a generous, anonymous retired Farms engineer.



Edie Kurze sponsored coffee for the November Forum.

Thank you all!

We have enjoyed the coffee, tea and yummy cookies you provided!

If you would like to be a sponsor, too, please talk to me before or after one of our monthly forums. I will be happy to answer your questions and include you on the schedule.

## Congressional District Reflects Looks Forward to 2019 and 2020

By Janine Kateff, Chair  
Michigan 14th District Republican Committee



*Janine Kateff with Sen. Patrick Colbeck at GPYC party.*

The highlight of my recent service as your chair has been the Christmas/Hanukkah Party held at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club. It was a great celebration of why we are Republicans, and I am so proud to be part of this committee.

In addition to a record attendance, Republicans brought enough donations for homeless veterans to fill two vans!

The blankets, sheets, pillows and comforters were taken to the Volunteers of America, Detroit shelter and will be bundled into “housewarming” packages for vets transitioning to independent living. Plus, we raised some cash donations.

This was our first attempt to create an event to benefit a worthwhile community group. It worked beyond our imagination—not to mention that it was simply the right thing to do!

We chose as our community partner and, specifically, its Detroit homeless shelter for veterans.

Oakland’s Linda and Bob Stulberg helped us select the VOA, as they are regular volunteers at the Detroit veteran’s homeless shelter.

Further, Terry Poplawski led a large group who bought and donated several boxes of pillows via a Kohl’s sale. Thank you to Bob, Linda and Terry for your leadership and generosity.

Events of this quality don’t just happen! Thanks Carol Foster and her whole team!

Thanks also to Matt Seely who, on behalf of the 14th District Committee, presented me with a gift at the party. It was very much a surprise and much appreciated!

Moving to the New Year, coming on Thursday, Feb. 7 will be County GOP conventions throughout Michigan. [See Dan Grano’s article in this newsletter for Wayne County details.]

Next, will be the Michigan GOP State Convention in Lansing. There are two important components to this event held over Friday, Feb. 23, and Saturday, Feb. 24.

Part 1 - Friday Feb. 22. All 14th District delegates and guests are invited to attend a caucus at which State Convention delegates will elect a new 14th District chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, six State Committee members, and 15 Executive Committee members. Those 25 people will form the 14th District Executive Committee for a two-year term.

If you live in and are a registered voter in the 14th District, you are eligible to run to be chair of the District. If you’d like to discuss this further, please don’t hesitate to give me a call.

Whoever is elected to succeed me will have my full support in every way, to continue the 14th District’s successes!

Part 2- Saturday, Feb. 23. Delegates elected at County Conventions will be seated at the MRP Convention to vote for our next MIGOP chair and vice chairs. These officers will raise money and lead us into the 2020 elections.

Being chair of the 14th District has had its challenges, however, I can say it has been extremely rewarding because of the people I have met and worked with. The trust that delegates placed in me, as chair, has been the single largest honor a person could have!

As your chair, my single largest mission was and should always be to remain neutral and serve the interests of the Committee. You never saw me endorse any candidate without the Committee’s specific support. Together, we carefully chose candidates to support and then wrote checks to them as a committee. Our process was just awesome!

As we enter 2019, many important decisions are just days away. So my New Year’s Resolution wish for you and your family is a safe, healthy and prosperous New Year, and for you to help us win in 2020.

Stay strong in your support of our great Pres. Donald J. Trump, and don’t let the media sway you. He was elected to carry out the items he promised, so let’s continue to support him in his mission. The new year will be more of the same day-after-day battle with the media and the Washington swamp. He needs our support more now, than ever!



## Next: Wayne 14th District Transition and County Convention

By Daniel C. Grano, Chair  
Wayne 14th Republican Committee

Best wishes for a Happy New Year!

Next, our Wayne 14 County convention is right around the corner and by now elected precinct delegates should have received their official call to convention and agenda. Here are a few details.

You are invited if you are a precinct delegate elected at the Aug. 7, 2018, Primary Election. We'll meet at 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019, at Grosse Pointe Library Woods Branch Meeting Room (downstairs), 20680 Mack Ave.



Purpose of the meeting will be to elect the Wayne 14th executive board (chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer), as well as our delegates and alternates to the Feb. 23 State Republican Convention at the Lansing Center.

In that regard, I have served as chair of the Wayne 14th since 2013, and am happy to announce that we have someone eager to take over the Wayne 14 helm from me—Monica Palmer of the Woods!

All organizations are better when leadership rotates among its ranks, so I will be running for vice-chair to assist her with the transition and new responsibilities.

The State convention later in February is important because it will elect a MIGOP state chair and additional state officers: a co-chair and six vice-chairs: coalitions, outreach, grassroots, ethnic, administrative, and youth.

Only precinct delegates elected at the Aug. 7 Primary Election, the most recent Republican nominees for Wayne County and State Legislative offices, and Michigan Republican Party Officers (if he or she resides in Wayne County) will be eligible to vote at the Wayne 14 convention.

If you are unable to attend on Feb. 7, but intend to run for election as delegate to the Feb. 23 State Convention, you must notify me in writing prior to the Wayne 14 meeting.

Leading the Wayne 14th has been a tremendous honor and great experience these past five years. This group of Republicans was easy to lead, as you are all self-starters and go-getters. I look forward to serving many more years on the ground with you all, just in a new role.

Together we can turn Michigan red in 2020!

## ERC Forum Focused On Affordable Energy

Jason Hayes, environmental policy director for the Mackinac Center for Public Policy, talked to the ERC on Nov. 20 about both electricity deregulation and the value of affordable, reliable energy to human well-being.



He carefully explained the factors driving costs, including external forces such as the environmental movement, and Michigan's rate-setting process for its fully-integrated electric monopolies.

Hayes made clear that when considering costs, one must consider the cost of taxpayer subsidies.

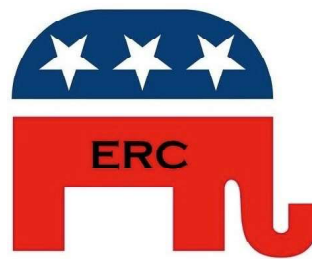
He explained that Michigan electricity prices are higher than either U.S. or the Great Lakes states and are surging. In addition to the higher cost, he pointed out that Michigan's electricity supply is the least reliable.

Hayes talked about the "intermittency" of wind and solar vs. the reliability of today's "dispatchable baseload technologies."

Hayes graciously answered audience questions and remained afterward to engage in one-on-one dialogue.

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### Is Your ERC Membership Current?



Did a return envelope hit the floor when you opened this Eastside Republican Review?

It's our way of reminding you that now's the time to bring or send you 2019 ERC dues. If you're already up-to-date, we

thank you!

If not, please become a faithful member for just \$25 (per family) annually. We don't charge you or anyone for attending our events, but do ask that you modestly support us in this way.

Just use the enclosed envelope, bring your dues to our next ERC Forum, or send a check to the ERC at P.O. Box 361025, Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan 48236.

~ CALENDAR OF EVENTS ~

**Tuesday, Jan. 15**

ERC Forum with Laura Cox, election of officers,  
7:30 p.m., War Memorial

**Tuesday, Jan. 22**

14th Congressional District meeting  
6 p.m. - Kerby's Coney Island  
25050 Northwestern Hwy, Southfield, with  
MIGOP candidate Gina Barr

**Thursday, Feb. 7**

Wayne 14 County Convention to elect officers  
and delegates to the MIGOP State Convention

**Tuesday, Feb. 19**

ERC Forum with candidate for MIGOP chair  
Gina Barr, 7:30 p.m., War Memorial

**Fri/Sat Feb, 22-23**

MIGOP State Convention (Lansing) to elect a  
new 25-member 14th District Republican  
Committee, State Committee member and  
District Officers

**Tuesday, March 19**

ERC Forum speaker TBA, 7:30 p.m., War  
Memorial

**Tuesday, April 16**

ERC Forum speaker TBA, 7:30 p.m., War  
Memorial

**Tuesday, May 21**

ERC Forum speaker TBA, 7:30 p.m., War  
Memorial

*Opinions expressed in the Eastside Republican Review are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Eastside Republican Club.*

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