



Event features options

mmerlin@record-eagle.com

September 19, 2015

TRAVERSE CITY — Michigan's 14th congressional district looks like two opposite ends of a pinwheel.

The odd-shaped area stretches from parts of Detroit to Pontiac and is a testament to redistricting, said Donna Hornberger, the membership chair of the League of Women Voters Grand Traverse Area.

"It just turns corners and leaves out areas and includes areas," Hornberger said. "It's obvious that somebody is straining to put people together and leave people out."

Hornberger said the statewide League is focused on the issue of redistricting after the Supreme Court in June affirmed the constitutionality of an independent redistricting commission in Arizona. Hornberger will discuss the redistricting issue at an event on Sept. 23.

She said Michigan's current system in which legislators draw the districts is like the fox watching the hen house. She said when Democrats are in control the districts favor Democrats, and when Republicans are in control they favor Republicans.

"They're drawing their own lines for their own constituents, which is inherently biased," she said. "What we're trying to do is look at what's being done in Michigan and figure out a way that does not favor one party over another."

The event is co-sponsored by the Traverse City branch of the American Association of University Women and will take place Sept. 23 at the Traverse Area District Library's Woodmere branch at 5:30 p.m.