



# Carmella Sabaugh

Macomb County  
Clerk/Register of Deeds

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Deputy Register of Deeds

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## County Clerk hopes to register 650<sup>th</sup> high school grad this week

Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh plans to register the 650<sup>th</sup> high school grad this week as part of a voter registration drive aimed at high school students who will be at least 18 years-old on Election Day. She has registered 632 students so far and will be at Cousino High School on Friday and Warren Woods Tower High School a week from Tuesday. 17 year-olds may register now if they will be 18 on or before November 4, 2008.

As students register to vote, Sabaugh gives them a sticker with "1 More" printed on it. The advantage of registering with Sabaugh is that it counts as an in-person registration, meaning students may cast an absentee ballot while away at school. Students who register by mail must vote in person the first time they vote and may not vote absentee the first time.

"In order to vote, a person must be registered to vote at least 30 days before the election," said Sabaugh. "My hope is that some day soon Michigan will get real election reform, such as no-reason absentee voting, early voting, and make Election Day a holiday."

"It is a civic duty to encourage young people to vote and it's part of our educational duties," said Mark Mikel, Activities Director, Henry Ford II High School in Sterling Heights. "We hope students will vote the rest of their lives. Voting is a good habit to get into. We are pleased County Clerk Sabaugh visited our school."

You may register to vote up to 30 days before an election if you will be at least 18 years old on Election Day, have been a Michigan resident for at least 30 days and are a U.S. citizen. A person only needs to register to vote once. If you will be at least 18 on the August 5, 2008 Primary Election Day you must register to vote on or before July 7. If you will be at least 18 on the November 4 General Election Day, you must register to vote on or before October 6. Many people are surprised to know that a 17 year-old can register now if he or she will be 18 years old on Election Day.

Sabaugh has made it easy to register to vote. You may request a voter registration form in many different ways, including:

- Fax - toll-free 24-hour fax-on-demand service at 1-888-99-CLERK, document #6590.
- Internet - Visit Sabaugh's web site at [www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice](http://www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice).
- Phone - Call Sabaugh's office at 586-469-5209.
- In Person - Sabaugh's office is open until 7 pm Wednesdays.

**Clerk's Office**

40 N. Main St.

Mount Clemens, MI 48043

586-469-5120

Fax: 586-783-8184

<http://www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice>  
[clerksoffice@macombcountymi.gov](mailto:clerksoffice@macombcountymi.gov)

**Fax-on-Demand**

Michigan: 1-888-99-CLERK  
Out-of-State: 310-575-5035

**Register of Deeds**

10 N. Main St.

Mount Clemens, MI 48043

586-469-5175

Fax: 586-469-5130

<http://www.macombcountymi.gov/registerdeeds>  
[registerdeeds@macombcountymi.gov](mailto:registerdeeds@macombcountymi.gov)

A person may also register to vote at any Secretary of State's office, local clerks' offices, and certain other government agencies.

Sabaugh sent letters to every Macomb County high school offering to provide registration forms and personally visit to register students and answer questions. She has already been to Center Line High School, Chippewa Valley High School, Mohegan High School, East Detroit High School, New Haven High School, Romeo High School, Eisenhower High School, Henry Ford II High School, Utica High School and Enterprise High School. She will be visiting other high schools throughout the county in the coming weeks.

There have been several close elections in the history of Macomb County:

- In 2007, the Mount Clemens city commission election resulted in a tie and was settled by a coin toss.
- In 2002, Macomb County Probate Judge Kathryn George won by 213 votes out of 183,267.
- In 2002, Macomb County Commissioner Michael Walsh won by 41 votes out of 9,706 cast.
- In 2002, Michigan Attorney General Michael Cox won by 5,200 out of 3,067,446 cast, which represents a margin of about one vote per precinct.
- In 1992, State Rep. Dennis Olshove won by 6 votes out of 44,690 cast.

One vote:

- Made English the official language in America instead of German in 1776.
- Brought Texas into the union in 1845.
- Saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment in 1868.
- Gave Rutherford B. Hayes the Presidency of the United States in 1876.
- Gave Adolph Hitler leadership of the Nazi Party in 1933.
- Saved the Selective Service, just weeks before Pearl Harbor in 1941.
- In 1960, President Kennedy won by less than one vote per precinct nationally.

Macomb County has an estimated population of 843,389 and has 592,841 registered voters. In the 2006 General Election, 55% of county registered voters cast a ballot. In the 2004 general election, a presidential election, 71% of county registered voters cast a ballot.

“Senior citizens support my efforts to make absentee voting easier and the senior citizens I talk to want students to know that voting isn't just for old people,” said Sabaugh.

**PHOTO EDITOR'S NOTE:**

**Friday, May 16 from 10 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Carmella Sabaugh will be at Cousino High School, 30333 Hoover, Warren registering students to vote during their lunch hours.**

**Tuesday, May 27, 2008 from 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Sabaugh will at Warren Woods Tower High School, 27900 Bunert Road, Warren registering seniors during cap and gown fittings.**

In addition to the voter registration drive, Macomb County Clerk / Register of Deeds Carmella Sabaugh and her staff have done the following:

- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to offer evening hours, making it easier for working people to get their vital records and get personal service.
- Posts a “naughty list” online of candidates who violate campaign finance rules.
- Let students “learn and earn” by hiring more student election inspectors than has ever been hired in an official capacity in Macomb County.
- Placed Macomb County among the most accountable in Michigan by putting county and local candidates’ campaign finance reports on the Internet free of charge, improving compliance with campaign finance rules because reports are easily viewable by the public.
- Got approval for a one-day/one-trial jury system letting most Macomb County jurors serve jury duty for only one day, unless they actually get picked for a trial.
- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to offer jurors summoned for jury duty free bus rides to and from the courthouse, free library books they can request in advance to be waiting for them and wireless Internet service in the jury room.
- Started a “Mobile Branch Office” to bring clerk’s office services to people who are unable to drive to Mount Clemens during working hours.
- Offers fast processing of real estate documents at the register of deeds office, despite record numbers of filings, because the office posts documents on the Internet and accepts electronic filing of deeds, mortgages and other real estate records.
- Put Macomb County Circuit Court case names, numbers and judges on the Internet to make it easier to look up whether or not cases were filed against a particular person and to look up a case number.
- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to provide overnight delivery service for birth certificate requests and other vital records.
- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to launch a toll-free 24-hour fax-on-demand system to provide forms and information.
- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to provide assumed name business registrations and death records on the Internet.
- Was the first county clerk in Michigan to accept credit card payments for court filings and vital records making paying for services easier.
- Started a Personal Protection Order Assistance Center to help victims of abuse.