

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MANITOWOC COUNTY  
MARCH 2016 NEWSLETTER**

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**Calendar of Events**

<b>03/07</b>	<b>Great Decisions: The United Nations</b>
<b>03/09</b>	<b>United to Amend Meeting</b>
<b>03/10</b>	<b>Treatment Options for Individuals with Both Mental Health &amp; Substance Abuse Diagnoses</b>
<b>03/14</b>	<b>Manitowoc Seniors/MCLWV Voting Information</b>
<b>03/14</b>	<b>Great Decisions: The Koreas</b>
<b>03/16</b>	<b>Two Rivers Forum: City Council Candidates</b>
<b>03/21</b>	<b>Great Decisions: Cuba and the U.S.</b>
<b>03/22</b>	<b>Manitowoc Forum: School Board Candidates</b>
<b>04/04</b>	<b>Board Meeting</b>

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Dear League Members,

As our President had stated, hold on to your hats, we have a lot more coming. As you can see there are a lot of things for all of us to attend. There will be two forums open to the public. Great Decisions is progressing with three final topics. We have a wonderful program on March 10<sup>th</sup> in regards to Treatment Options for people with both Mental Health and Substance Abuse Diagnoses that should be of interest to all.

A special thank you goes to Jennifer Balma for putting together such a wonderful educational program that brought 5 out of the 6 superintendents together to discuss their school system and educational challenges that they face. It was well attended and everyone had the opportunity to learn more about each district in our area.

We are working together with the Senior Center of Manitowoc to help with the new restrictions that face our senior voters.

We will be participating on Earth Day at the YMCA in April with our Chairwomen Jaci Collins and Patricia Dodge.

So, please take the time to place the dates of the events on your calendar and read the newsletter, visit our website, or go on Facebook to verify time and location of these programs.

We look forward to seeing you at these events.



## **TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH BOTH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE DIAGNOSES**

### **A PANEL DISCUSSION**

**MARCH 10, 2016 7:00 PM at Manitowoc City Hall**

*The League of Women Voters and NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) are sponsoring a panel discussion on the topic of treatment for individuals with both mental health and substance abuse issues. The event will take place on Thursday, March 10 at 7 pm at Manitowoc City Hall, 900 Quay Street, Manitowoc.*

*In 2013, The League completed a study on mental health in Manitowoc County and found that there was a gap in services for individuals dealing with both issues. The purpose of March 10th's discussion is to explore what is working in treatment and what needs continue to exist in our community.*

*Panel members include Deb Wentz from the Northshore Clinic in Sheboygan who is a therapist with 31 years of experience and focuses her practice on dual diagnosed clients by providing individual, family and group counseling. Ms Wentz also provides services at the Pathway for a Better Life in Kiel. She is joined by Deb Peterman who has provided services at Holy Family Memorial Behavioral Health since 2000. She facilitates the clinic's Primary Outpatient group as well as seeing clients individually for mental health and substance abuse issues. The third panel member is Carmen Persaud who has over 15 years experience in counseling and AODA treatment. She currently works as Clinical Supervisor for Pathways to a Better Life, LLC and as a Psychotherapist for Aurora Behavioral Health in Two Rivers. She treats individuals, couples, and families with both mental health and addiction concerns.*

*Prior to the panel discussion, Dr Maureen Crowley, professor of psychology at UW Manitowoc will provide a brief history of the League of Women Voter's Mental Health Study and the resulting consensus issues that have led to this panel discussion. Representative Paul Tittl, chair of the Assembly Committee on Mental Health Reform, has also been invited to give a brief update on what is happening at the state level regarding mental health initiatives and funding.*

*There will be time for questions from the audience and light refreshments will be provided by NAMI members. The program is free and open to the public.*

**UNITED TO AMEND**

**On March 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm a meeting will be held at the Manitowoc Library Board Room** to talk about registering voters who are against this Amendment. If you are interested, please contact Kathleen Bernhart for further information. Her e-mail address is: [kathleen\\_bernhart@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleen_bernhart@yahoo.com).

**FORUMS**

The Manitowoc County League of Women Voters will hold two candidate forums before the **April 5, 2016 elections**.

The forum for **Two Rivers City Council candidates will be held at 7:00 pm on Wed., Mar. 16 in the Council Chambers of Two Rivers City Hall**. There are six candidates running for three seats on the Council.

The forum for **Manitowoc School Board candidates will be held at 7:00 pm on Tues., Mar. 22** in the **Council Chambers of Manitowoc City Hall**. There are six candidates vying for three open seats on the Board. We will also invite the two City Council candidates from Manitowoc District 5 to attend.

We hope to see you all at one or both of the forums.

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**GREAT DECISIONS**

We have had such a great turn out for our Great Decisions series. It is amazing to see a hundred people or more get together to listen to different speakers on a variety of topics. We had one of our favorite presenters last night, Beth Dougherty. She brought her wit and experiences to the topic of the Future of Kurdistan. One member of the audience cornered me to let me know that the speakers for this series have been outstanding. For those of you who have never attended, you are in for a treat. There are three more times to see why everyone looks forward to this program every year!!

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**MANITOWOC SENIOR CENTER**

On March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am, Jennifer Hudon, City Clerk, will present information to the Senior Citizens on the new requirements to vote. She will be there to answer their questions and guide them through the process.

As League members, we would like to offer our services to them by driving the Senior Citizens to their voting site or register them to vote, or to direct them to their voting site. Anyone who would like to assist with driving them to their voting site can contact Cathy Cole at 553-8757 or e-mail at [cathyanddan@lakefield.net](mailto:cathyanddan@lakefield.net).

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## **POVERTY STUDY**

If you are wondering where Wisconsin stands with Poverty, google Poverty USA and take the poverty test. You can go to the Poverty Map and locate information on poverty in Wisconsin by clicking on the state. Also, you can see the Poverty rate by County.

## **EARTH DAY**

**Earth Day will be held at the YMCA on April 30, 2016.** It will begin at 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. If interested in helping out, please contact the Chairwomen Jaci Collins and Patricia Dodge. Their e-mail addresses are as follows: Jaci's is [collinsjkc@gmail.com](mailto:collinsjkc@gmail.com) and Patricia's is [pdodge1@hotmail.com](mailto:pdodge1@hotmail.com).

Respectfully Submitted by,

Catherine L. Cole, Chairman  
MCLWV Newsletter