

**MANITOWOC COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
MARCH 2013 NEWSLETTER**

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Calendar of Events

- 3/09 Deferred Action Assistance**
 - 3/11 Great Decisions: Iran**
 - 3/12 Board Meeting @ 4:30 pm**
 - 3/14 Mental Health Task Force Manitowoc County**
 - 3/18 Threat Assessment**
 - 3/21 Mayoral Candidates Forum**
 - 4/02 Board Meeting @ 5:00 pm**
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Dear League Members,

CONGRATULATIONS to **Darlene Wellner** for receiving the ATHENA Leadership Award. The goddess of Greek mythology who was known for her strength, courage, wisdom, and enlightenment inspired this Award. The ATHENA Leadership Award is presented to a woman, or man, who is honored for professional excellence, community service and for actively assisting women in their attainment of professional excellence and leadership skills.

Darlene has spent many years energetically advocating for solutions to many social issues. She initiated the Juvenile Restitution Program, the Victim/Offender Program, the After School Tutoring Program, and the Court Appointed Child Advocacy Program. She was persistent in establishing a school lunch program for the Manitowoc Public Schools and worked to launch the first Day Care Center in Manitowoc County. She has been recipient of many awards including the Meg McClane Award for Advocacy from the League of Women Voters of Wisconsin.

Thank you Darlene for the many contributions that you have made to our Community and our League.

DEFERRED ACTION ASSISTANCE

On Saturday, March 9th between 10 am and 1 pm at the Lakeshore – “Camino de Fe” United Methodist Church located at 9th and Hamilton in Manitowoc, people can receive in-person assistance with trained volunteers to help with the application. No appointment is necessary. Deferred Action application packets are available for pick up at these

locations: Salvation Army, Lakeshore-Camino de Fe United Methodist Church, St. Vincent De Paul (Manitowoc), Peter's Pantry, Two Rivers Ecumenical Pantry (TREP), Manitowoc Public Library, LTC Manitowoc (located in the Job Center), Hispanic American Information Center (Sheboygan), St. Thomas the Apostle, Lincoln High School, Ramirez Auto Repair, El Alamo Supermercado, Progreso, Mexicano Tienda Mexicana, Lakeshore Cap Inc., Manitowoc County Health Department, Two Rivers High School, North and South High Schools (Sheboygan) and Newton Meats. If you have any questions, please telephone: (920) 769-0021 or e-mail mihernandez0618@yahoo.com

This is supported by Lakeshore Technical College, Lakeshore – Camino de FE United Methodist Church, Manitowoc County UW Extension, UW-Manitowoc, St. Thomas the Apostle, RUTH, Lakeshore Unitarian Universalist, Lakeshore Pax Christi, Silver Lake College, Manitowoc Public Schools, Two Rivers Public Schools, Sheboygan Area School District, and the League of Women Voters of Manitowoc County.

GREAT DECISIONS

There are only two more Great Decision Programs left in this year's series.

03/11 Great Decisions: Iran: Dr. Joseph Elder, Professor of Sociology, Languages of Arts & Integrated Liberal Studies, UW – Madison.

3/18 Great Decisions: Threat Assessment: Dr. Barrett McCormick, Professor of Political Science, Marquette University.

We have been averaging a crowd of over 100 people in attendance. Great Decisions is held in the Manitowoc Public Library's Balkansky Community Room at 6 pm on Monday evenings. Light refreshments are served. Come and See why this has been one of the most successful programs for League.

MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE COMMUNITY MEETING

The League of Women Voters will be presenting their Mental Health Study Report to the community at the First Presbyterian Church, 502 North 8th Street, Manitowoc. The study, which took place over two years, includes strengths, gaps, and some possible next steps. This presentation will have an open discussion for those attending to ask questions and weigh in on the findings.

In addition to the League report, we will also have Task Force Committee reports, and an opportunity for information regarding their programs and events.

We need all of you for this to be a successful event and help us as we move forward to provide the best services in Manitowoc County through advocacy, additional services and governmental reform.

MAYORAL FORUM

The forum for Manitowoc Mayor will be held on Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 pm at the Manitowoc City Hall Council Chambers. The candidates for the mayoral election are Tony Bugarino and Justin Nickels. The mayoral election will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd. The Manitowoc School Board Candidates will also have the opportunity to introduce themselves at this Forum. As always, the audience will have the opportunity to ask the candidates questions on various topics. Light refreshments will be served.

MEMBERSHIP

We want to welcome two new members to our league: Jean Biegun and Maureen Crowley. Also, we welcome Erik and Mary Wade Loy, Johanna Worley, and Sherrie Richards for renewing their membership. We hope to see you at the many upcoming events.

LWWWI POSITIONS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

A preliminary review of our National Resources Positions has identified some significant differences between overly detailed and complicated to overly simplified and missing information. The existing positions revealed several areas relating to the Great Lakes, mining, transportation and other areas that were missing from the Natural Resources positions. The LWWWI also identified areas that were very well researched and sound when they were created, are now outdated and should be simplified to avoid confusion.

What I am suggesting to ALL League Members is that you go to the website <http://www.lwv.org/content/public-policy-positions> and Read the information on that website. Then, I would appreciate whether or not you believe that the following state positions should be retained, updated, or dropped.

Position	Retain	Update	Drop
Standards & Enforcement			
Energy – Global warming			
Energy –Electric energy			
Air			

Position	Retain	Update	Drop
Land			
Solid waste management			
Water			
Pesticides			

For any positions noted above to be updated, what should we do about it? Please feel free to make additional suggestions. Choices are:

- . Clarify the position without a full study
- . Conduct a full League study
- . Other/comments?

I would like this information by March 25th. This will give me time to gather the information, present it to the board, and send the results to the state. The results of this survey will then be discussed at the State's Annual League meeting that will be taking place in June of this year.

SAVE THE DATE -- OCTOBER 16-17, 2013

Lake Michigan League of Women Voters will join with Lake Michigan: State of the Lake 2013 and Great Lakes Beach Association in Sheboygan, Wisconsin at the Blue Harbor Resort for their annual meeting.

This conference draws together more than 350 managers, scientists, elected officials, planners, students, and interested citizens, all working to improve and protect Great Lakes beaches and Lake Michigan. Planned activities include field trips, workshops, and a beach bonfire. The Sheboygan area and newly renovated Blue Harbor Resort offer many amenities and activities for companions and families to enjoy. Play in the indoor water park, kayak the Sheboygan River or surf the best wave in the Great Lakes. Sounds like fun!! Do save the dates and more information will be coming your way.
