

January 2017

League of Women Voters - Whitewater Area

## In This Issue

- Milwaukee 53206: A Community Serves Time
- Registration Update
- Volunteers Needed
- League Holiday Dinner
- Susan B. Anthony Celebration

## Calendar of Events

January 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm

**Milwaukee 53206: A Community Serves Time**

**City Council Chambers, Whitewater, WI**

February 11<sup>th</sup> 11:30am

**Susan B. Anthony**

**Domenico's Restaurant, Beloit, WI**

February 18<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

**League Policies & Program Studies Discussion**

**Fairhaven Fellowship Hall, Whitewater, WI**

February 21<sup>st</sup>

**Spring Primary Election**

March 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00am

**Common Council Candidate Forum**

**City Council Chambers, Whitewater, WI**

## Milwaukee 53206: A Community Serves Time



On **January 19<sup>th</sup>**, we have a rare opportunity to learn about our criminal justice system from some of the people whose lives are directly affected by incarceration. **MILWAUKEE 53206: A COMMUNITY SERVES TIME** is a documentary that had its World Premiere at the **Milwaukee Film Festival in October of 2016**.

According to the film, the **United States has the most prisoners of any nation in the world both in raw numbers and by percentage of the population**. These numbers are further compounded within Milwaukee's mostly African-American 53206 ZIP code, where 62% of adult men have spent time in prison, making it the most incarcerated ZIP code in the nation.

**Milwaukee 53206 tells the story of how a community, families and prisoners are affected by mass incarceration.** Among the goals of the film is the need to raise awareness of all those affected and to find effective ways to build a safety net of support for children and families of those incarcerated while promoting the de-stigmatization of those who have been incarcerated.

The film is an hour long and will be followed by a **panel discussion** to further help participants to absorb and understand the effect of mass incarceration on a community. There will also be time for a question and answer period after their remarks. The panel includes:

**March 16<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**

**Electoral College  
Assessed**

**City Council Chambers,  
Whitewater, WI**

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Spring Election**

**April 20<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**

**An Epidemic: Opioids**

**City Council Chambers,  
Whitewater, WI**

**May 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30am**

**Annual Membership  
Meeting**

**Fairhaven Fellowship  
Hall, Whitewater, WI**

**June 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>**

**State Annual Meeting**

**Green Bay, WI**

## Contact Us

[www.lwvwhitewater.com](http://www.lwvwhitewater.com)

## Board Members

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- **Antwanette Bounds, UW-W student**
- **Dr. Ozalle Toms, UW-W Asst. Professor, Dept. of Special Education**
- **Dr. Yeongmin Kim, UW-W Asst. Professor, Dept. of Social Work**
- **Lisa Otterbacher, Chief of Police, City of Whitewater**

**Don't miss this special opportunity for a thought provoking discussion on an important topic. Join us on Thursday, January 19th at 7 pm in the Whitewater City Council Chambers.**

The presentation of this documentary was made possible by the generous gifts of League members and donations from citizens in the community of Whitewater.

## Voter Registration Update

The **Wisconsin Elections Commission** just announced that the **State's Online Voter Registration (OVR) System** will go live on **Monday, January 9, 2017**. You might recall that an online voter registration system was required by 2015 Wisconsin Act 261 and eliminates the role of Special Registration Deputies (Wis Stat 6.30(5)).

As of January 9<sup>th</sup>, eligible voters who hold a valid Wisconsin Driver's License or Wisconsin ID Card that has their current name and address on file with the DMV can successfully register to vote online. If their information does not match the DMV database, or if they have not been issued either a Wisconsin Driver's License or ID, they can print, sign, and deliver their registration form to their Municipal Clerk or bring it with them to the poll on Election Day.



Because the new law eliminates the ability of Special Registration Deputies to verify proof of residence and submit voter registration forms on behalf of voters, the OVR system effectively ends the League's longstanding tradition of running voter registration drives in their purist form.

While we can still conduct "voter registration drives," we will be limited to only helping voters register online via MyVote.org or assisting them in filling out online or paper registration

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## FACEBOOK

*Visit Our LWV – Whitewater Area Website and “LIKE” Us On Facebook!*

**“LIKING” the League’s FACEBOOK will automatically send posts to your feed. Then, we recommend that you not only “Like” the post but “Share” as well. This will help us to get our message out to a much broader audience. Do your part and make it happen ... this is the time to be active!**

applications that the voter must then deliver to their municipal clerk along with a proof of residence document. Despite these changes, the Whitewater Area League is committed to moving forward with education-based registration drives designed to help voters register while working within the constraints of the new law.

Information on the OSV system is available on the Wisconsin Elections Commission website at [www.elections.wi.gov](http://www.elections.wi.gov) (click on “Clerks,” then “Recent Clerk Communications”) or goes directly to <http://elections.wi.gov/node/4868> for an OVR informational video.

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## Volunteers Needed - Get Active NOW

Pending final confirmation of the event, the League will sponsor a forum on **Saturday, March 11th, 10AM-11:30AM** in the City Hall Council Chambers, in advance of the April 4<sup>th</sup> Spring Election, for candidates running for **Whitewater Common Council**.



Running a forum requires a moderator, two question checkers, and two timers. If you are interested in learning what is involved and would like to volunteer, please contact **Ellen Penwell** at 262-203-6529 or [espenwell@gmail.com](mailto:espenwell@gmail.com).

This is a great opportunity for new and continuing league members to actively participate in league programming!

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## League Holiday Dinner



**Whitewater League’s Holiday Dinner** held on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, was a great evening for all.

Presentation of the **Making Democracy Work Award for 2016** was made to **Greg Stewart**, Whitewater High School teacher. **Congratulations!**

## GARAGE SALE COMING THIS SUMMER!!

The Whitewater Area League has run a successful garage sale fundraiser every odd-numbered year since at least 2011 and we're looking for a league member willing to host it this year. Usually scheduled on a Saturday in mid-to-late August, the sale raises anywhere from \$500 - \$700 dollars for our treasury. It is well worth the effort and, in 2015 we reduced that effort considerably by not pricing anything! Instead, we asked shoppers to pay what they thought items were worth.

The response was very positive, we helped more people in need, and moved many more items making cleanup less involved. If you are game and interested in hosting the sale (it comes with a committed group of experienced workers!), please contact Ellen Penwell at 262-203-6529 or [espenwell@gmail.com](mailto:espenwell@gmail.com). Having a garage is essential in case of rain, reasonable parking is a must, and a City of Whitewater location is preferred. In the meantime, we would like ALL league members to start packing away garage sale items!

We also had wonderful entertainment by the **Whitewater High School Jazz Ensemble** directed by **Abigail Pulvermacher**.

Special thanks to **Deb Gamble, Ginny Laurent and Julia Ross** for all their hard work in making this such a special event for all our members and guests!



## Susan B. Anthony Celebration

The **Beloit** and **Janesville Leagues** are pleased to once again partner on celebrating **Susan B. Anthony's Birthday** on **February 11<sup>th</sup>** at Domenico's Italian Restaurant located in Beloit, WI.

The program will be an **interactive drama** between **Victoria Woodhull, Margaret Chase Smith, and Shirley Chisholm**, who were all former presidential candidates, and media reporters of the time. **Sure to be enjoyable!**

**RSVP** with a check for \$25 to **League of Women Voters of Beloit**, Deb Fallon, 1232 Elm St., Beloit, WI 53511 or contact Deb by phone [608-676-4829](tel:608-676-4829) or email: [dfallon74@charter.net](mailto:dfallon74@charter.net).

