

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE – August 13, 2023

P.O. Box 306, Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 Chair@lwvdoorcounty.org LWV DC Facebook page LWV DC website

## Don't forget these two important August dates!

Thursday August 24, 2023, 5:00 -7:00 PM Sevastopol Town Hall, 4528 Hwy 57, Institute

Important Team Meeting to Provide an Observer Corp Tutorial All are welcome!

Peninsula Pulse Editor Debra Fitzgerald will share her experience and expertise regarding:

What is community journalism? How to observe local government and what to listen for How to be a good beat observer

Observer Corp strategies shared will include: What League issues/positions to watch for How to complete the online observer form

The League is excited to expand our observer activities to monitor our local government more effectively. Members have been working with Peninsula Pulse Editor Deb Fitzgerald for months to develop this collaborative effort. We will be using data collected from your observations to create a monthly column for the newspaper. We need your help to make this venture a success.

"My vision is a collaborative relationship that creates a new community journalism model." Deb Fitzgerald

### Saturday, August 26, 2023, 12 Noon Corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jefferson, Sturgeon Bay

#### **Equality Day Car Parade!**

August 26 is Women's Equality Day and the 103rd anniversary of the enactment of the 19th Amendment recognizing women's right to vote.

*Lipstick Optional* will be performing at our Martin Park program. This group includes Molly Rhode, Lachrisa Grandberry, Karen Mal on vocals, and Alyssa Rhode on keyboards. They are headlining the late summer season on the Northern Sky stage in Peninsula Park and said they are thrilled to be performing for Women's Equality Day: "We all believe deeply in the work that the League is doing."

This is a super fun and meaningful event, so join the fun! And as they chanted more than a hundred years ago: "Votes for Women!"

#### From your Voter Service Coordinators Kathi Braswell and Dan Powers

#### **Wisconsin Voter Deactivation**

If you hear or are asked about the 108,378 voters being deactivated by the Wisconsin Elections Commission, the August 4, 2023 WEC media release attachment provides explanation. This action is due to the Four-Year Maintenance process required by law. It includes a chart with interesting details.

"WEC Administrator Meagan Wolfe said the individuals who were deactivated by the WEC have not voted in the past four years and do not have a record of responding to a mailing from the agency regarding their registration status...voters who have moved from their previous registration address can simply re-register with their current address."



# Wisconsin Elections Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 4, 2023 FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Riley Vetterkind, <u>riley.vetterkind@wi.gov</u>

## WEC Deactivates 108,378 Voter Records

MADISON, WI – The Wisconsin Elections Commission announced it has deactivated 108,378 voter records through the Four-Year Maintenance process required by law.

WEC Administrator Meagan Wolfe said the individuals who were deactivated by the WEC have not voted in the past four years and do not have a record of responding to a mailing from the agency regarding their registration status.

"The Four-Year Maintenance process helps keep our voter registration database as clean and updated as possible," Wolfe said. "The deactivations are a combination of voters who have moved to a new address without re-registering, voters who have died, others who have asked to have their registrations deactivated, and those who simply have not voted."

Wolfe said voters who have moved from their previous registration address can simply re-register with their new address.

Wolfe said the WEC works closely with local election officials as part of this biennial update of the statewide registration list, which is required by law.

"The Wisconsin Elections Commission and its staff take voter list maintenance very seriously," Wolfe said. "Along with the Four-Year Maintenance effort, the WEC works continually with local election officials to help keep the registration lists current."

#### 2023 Four-Year Voter Record Maintenance

Wolfe said the Commission is required by law every two years to conduct voter record maintenance to identify individuals who have not voted in the previous four years and to deactivate them unless they wish to remain registered. She said the required review helps ensure the integrity of the statewide voter database. Individuals whose voter record is deactivated can no longer vote using that voter record and must re-register to vote at their current address.

In June, the Commission identified 116,051 registered voters with no record of voting since the November 2018 general election. The Commission mailed "Notice of Suspension" postcards to these voters, asking them whether they wanted to remain active on the state's voter list. To remain active, voters had 30 days to mail a return postcard to their municipal clerk. Voters with no record of responding or whose postcard was returned as undeliverable by the Post Office were deactivated. A small number of individuals who did respond were deactivated by clerks for other reasons.

Here's how the numbers from the 2023 Four-Year Voter Record Maintenance mailing break down:

Wisconsin Elections Commissioners Don M. Millis, chair | Marge Bostelmann | Joseph Czarnezki | Ann S. Jacobs | Robert Spindell | Mark L. Thomsen

Voter List Maintenance Summary Statistics	Total
Total number of notices mailed	116,051
Number of notices that were returned requesting continuation of registration	7,469
Number of notices that were returned as undeliverable	30,856
Number of voters mailed a notice who requested cancellation of registration	11
Number of voters mailed a notice who clerks determined to be deceased	387
Number of voters mailed a notice who clerks deactivated for reasons other than being deceased or at the voter's request	296
Number of duplicate voter records identified and merged together	235
Number of voters who did not respond to the notice	77,726
Total number of voters mailed a notice whose status changed from eligible (active) to ineligible (inactive)	108,378

Information about past Four-Year Voter Record Maintenance projects is available on the WEC's website: <u>https://elections.wi.gov/publications/reports</u>.