

# BULLETIN

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts  
[www.lwva.com](http://www.lwva.com)

## April 2019

### Calendar

Friday April 1	This is the time to renew your membership in the LWVA. See page 9 for the renewal form. Thank you!
4/6 Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Town Election. If you can work a shift as a driver, contact Phyllis Maddox; see last page for details.
4/7 Sunday 11:30 a.m.	Annual LWVA Legislators' Brunch at Kathy Fennelly's home, 97 Gray Street. Save the date! Details on page 3.
4/9 Tuesday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Ann FitzGerald's home, 162 Summer Street, Unit 1. All members welcome. Directions on page 2.
4/18 Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Introduction to Town Meeting for new members, Town Hall Hearing Room, 730 Mass. Ave. Details on page 5.
4/22 Monday 8 p.m.	Town Meeting begins.
4/25 Thursday 7 p.m.	Forum on Gerrymandering and Redistricting, Robbins Library Community Room. The LWVA is a sponsor. Details on page 5.

**Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski:** Co-Presidents  
[CarolynMParsons@msn.com](mailto:CarolynMParsons@msn.com), [amolszewski@gmail.com](mailto:amolszewski@gmail.com)  
**Ann FitzGerald:** Membership [AnnFitz@rcn.com](mailto:AnnFitz@rcn.com)

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**Margaret Reiners:** Bulletin Mailing [mlreiners@gmail.com](mailto:mlreiners@gmail.com)

## Co-President's Message

Spring in Arlington means it is time for our local elections. The League's voter service activities are in full swing. We hosted Candidates' Night (photos on pages 8 and 10) and will be providing rides to the polls. We look forward to hosting the Legislators' Brunch and will be co-sponsoring an introductory session for new Town Meeting members.

Thank you to all of you who have helped with these programs. We had a great response as we prepared for these programs.

Please remember to vote on April 6<sup>th</sup> and encourage your friends and neighbors to do so, also. I also hope to see you on April 7<sup>th</sup> at the brunch, when we will enjoy great conversation and food!

*Angela Olszewski*

*Directions to Ann FitzGerald's home, 162 Summer St., Unit 1:*

162 Summer Street is on the south side of Summer Street, a few houses to the east of the intersection with Oak Hill Drive. Unit 1 is the first-floor unit.

Summer Street is very busy, so you should park on the south side of the street. If you are coming from the center, you can turn into Oak Hill Drive, turn around, and park on the south side.



### LWVA LEADERSHIP 2018–2019

Carolyn Parsons, Co-President	781-646-9309
Angela Olszewski, Co-President	781-648-8649
Meredith Zona, Organization VP	781-648-2753
Patricia Muldoon, Action VP	781-648-1019
Joan Martin, Treasurer	617-966-4521
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Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Katharine Fennelly, Voters' Guide	781-648-1794
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Nancy Gray, Board Member at Large	781-646-4590
Susan Born, Voters Service Cmte	617-448-4179
Wendy Forgie, Voters Service Cmte	617-669-2052
Mel Goldsipe, Voters Service Cmte	781-325-2778
Paulette Schwartz, Voters Service Cmte	781-646-1722

The BULLETIN is published monthly except during the summer and December by the League of Women Voters of Arlington, PO Box 461, Arlington, MA 02476.



**PLEASE COME TO  
LWV ARLINGTON'S  
ANNUAL LEGISLATORS'  
BRUNCH  
& BRING A SPOUSE, FRIEND OR  
NEIGHBOR!**

**Sunday, April 7, 2019, 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM**

**@ Kathy and Paul Fennelly's Home, 97 Gray St., Arlington**

Here's your chance to meet and hear what's happening with our current State Legislators – Senator Cindy Friedman and Representatives Sean Garballey and Dave Rogers.

**Please contact Meredith Zona, [Meredith.Zona@stantec.com](mailto:Meredith.Zona@stantec.com)  
or tel. 781-648-2753,**

**if you can come and bring your favorite brunch food.  
Meredith will also arrange for a ride to and from the brunch if  
you need that.**

Directions: 97 Gray St. is at the intersection of Gray St. and Churchill Ave., which is the 4<sup>th</sup> right after you turn onto Gray St. from Pleasant St. (Route 60). If you're traveling on Gray St. from Arlington Heights, Churchill Ave. is the 4<sup>th</sup> left after the lights at Highland Ave. The house is a large gray home on the right side if you're traveling up from Pleasant Street. There is plenty of street parking.

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*Initial consultation is free for LWVA members*

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## **Introduction to Town Meeting April 18**

On Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 7:30 p.m., the Town Moderator will conduct an introduction to Town Meeting and limited warrant review in the Hearing Room on the second floor of Town Hall. Whether you are a new Town Meeting Member or a grizzled veteran of Town Hall and Town Meeting, please join the Moderator for an introduction to Town Meeting practices and procedures, the Warrant, recommended votes, substitute motions, debate and voting.

This event is co-sponsored by the Governance Task Group of Vision 2020 and the League of Women Voters of Arlington.

## **Democracy After Dark: Gerrymandering and Redistricting in Massachusetts**

**Robbins Library Community Room  
Thursday, April 25, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

Aidan Kastigian, Program Manager for the Metric Geometry & Gerrymandering Group and the Science, Technology, and Society Program at Tufts University, will discuss the process through which the State of Massachusetts redraws its congressional districts, and what one local team of mathematicians is doing to combat gerrymandering in all its forms through geometry and computing.

This event is co-sponsored by the Library and the League of Women Voters of Arlington.



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for its contribution to  
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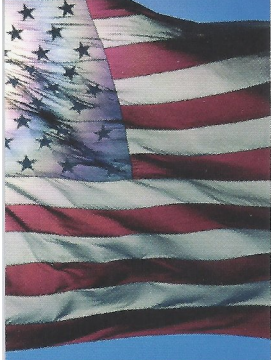
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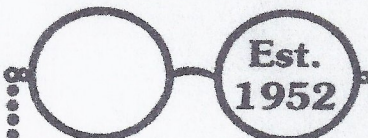


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## McKibben to Keynote LWVMA Convention in June

*From the State League*



The 2019 LWVMA Convention, “100 Years: Looking Back, Moving Forward,” will be held June 7 and 8, 2019 at the Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center in Westford, MA. Convention brings local League delegates together to hear distinguished speakers, approve the program for the next biennium, elect a new board of directors, approve the budget, and network with leaders from across the state. We encourage every local League to send their voting delegates, and other members are urged to come as observers.

Noted environmentalist Bill McKibben will be the keynote speaker at the Friday night banquet. McKibben is an author, environmentalist, and activist. He is a co-founder and senior advisor at 350.org, an international climate campaign that works in 188 countries around the world. He is the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and a former staff writer for the New Yorker who continues to write numerous magazine articles.

The schedule is still in progress, but it looks like this at present:

### **Friday, June 7 (11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.)**

- Luncheon Buffet and Welcome
- *Panel Discussion: Election Technology: Promise and Perils*
- Local League Showcase
- *Speaker: Virginia Kase, CEO LWVUS*
- Plenary I
- Cocktail Reception/Board Candidates Meet and Greet
- *Banquet with Keynote Speaker Bill McKibben*

### **Saturday, June 8 (7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.)**

- Breakfast
- Local League Showcase II
- LWVMA Year-end Update
- Panel Discussion: New Faces on Beacon Hill
- Lunch with Featured Speaker TBD
- Plenary II

*Editor's Note:* The Arlington League is allocated three voting delegates, and we are sending Nancy Gray, Colleen Kirby, and Patti Muldoon. Any more members who'd like to come are encouraged to register using the link at the bottom of the web page <https://lwvma.org/convention-june-7-and-8-2019-in-westford/>.



Stephen DeCoursey and Robert Tosi, Jr., candidates for Select Board, at Candidates' Night March 27.

*Photo by Phyllis Maddox*

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## Arlington Legislators Sponsor LWVMA Priority Bills

By Colleen Kirby

The Legislative Action Committee is the group of volunteer specialists that follow and advocate for bills prioritized by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts. There are currently 14 specialists and 14 different advocacy areas.

We have already had success in passing the **Lift the Cap on Kids** bill this session in the House (H3594). This bill is currently in the Senate Ways and Means Committee, as is the Senate version of the bill to lift kids out of deep poverty (S37). You can see testimony in favor of this bill, which was presented at the March 3, 2019 hearing by Palma McLaughlin, at <https://lwvma.org/advocacy/league-supported-legislation/>.

I have been the Criminal Justice Reform specialist for the past 5 years. I am the most familiar with the bills in this area, but can also provide some information on other bills. As 10 of the bills I advocated for last year were passed as part of the omnibus criminal justice reforms, I am starting with a new slate of nine bills this session. These bills include reforms to encourage visitation with friends and family members for individuals in custody, several parole reform bills — the one area ignored in the omnibus bills last session — another bill dealing with opioid-addicted parolees, and more reforms for juveniles caught up in the criminal legal system.

Our legislators in Arlington have sponsored several of the bills the League is prioritizing this session, including:

**Treatment, Not Imprisonment** (S937/H1343) Sponsored by Sen. Cindy Friedman. The opioid overdose death rate is 120 times higher for people recently released from custody compared to the rest of the population. This bill allows judges to order that a person get treatment for an addiction but does not allow a person to be sent to jail just for having a relapse if they are currently in treatment. Few jails provide treatment for those in custody. Recovery is more likely for an individual who can be honest about missteps with their treatment provider, if they are no longer in danger of being incarcerated.

**Presumptive Parole** (H1541) Sponsored by Rep. Dave Rogers. The Parole Board is averse to being held accountable when there is a statistically small chance of a negative outcome and thus, they tend not to parole individuals with small risks to public safety. This bill would depoliticize Parole Board decisions by using a risk assessment tool based on the Massachusetts parole-eligible population. It has been shown that many individuals are less likely to recidivate if they are released to community supervision under parole rather than finishing their sentences and being released without supervision.

**Reduce Recidivism among Emerging Adults** (S940/H1486) Sponsored by Sen. Cindy Friedman. Young adults under age 25 or 26 (“emerging adults”) have distinct developmental needs and have the highest recidivism rate if incarcerated. This cohort is tried and sentenced as adults and the results are not good. This is why it is time to treat this age group in a developmentally appropriate way while holding them accountable and devise rehabilitation programs focused on their particular needs. This bill provides for enhanced proven programs targeting this age group within the adult justice system including: (1) individualized case planning; (2) family engagement; (3) access to education, including post-secondary education; (4) abolishing the use of solitary and restraints; (5) community-based

*Continued on next page*

## Our Legislators' Bills (continued)

pre-release; (6) access to physical, mental and dental health; (7) prohibitions against discrimination against LGBTQ individuals; and (8) prohibition of incarceration solely due to lack of placement by another state agency.

**Repowering Massachusetts with 100% Renewable Energy (H2836)** Sponsored by Rep. Sean Garballey. To transition the commonwealth to 100 per cent clean, renewable energy by 2045 in order to (1) protect the health and safety of all residents of the Commonwealth; (2) eliminate pollution that is contaminating our air, water and land, and changing our climate in dangerous ways; (3) improve quality of life and economic well-being for all, with an emphasis on environmental justice communities and other populations that have been disproportionately affected by pollution and energy costs; (4) increase energy security by reducing our reliance on imported fuels and maximizing renewable energy production in our region; and (5) stimulate investment and create local jobs by harnessing Massachusetts' skilled workforce, business leadership, and academic institutions to advance renewable energy technologies across the commonwealth.

**Unregulated Face Recognition and Emerging Biometric Surveillance Technologies (H1538)** Sponsored by Rep. Dave Rogers. Face recognition poses unique and significant civil rights and civil liberties threats to the residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It has a history of being far less accurate in identifying the faces of women, young people, and dark-skinned people, which can lead to harmful "false positive" identifications. There is also concern about the deployment of other biometric surveillance systems, including gait and voice recognition, which raise similar concerns as face recognition. Therefore there will be a moratorium on government use of biometric surveillance without future statutory authorization.

**Reduce Traffic Fatalities (H3118)** Sponsored by Dave Rogers. Hearing scheduled for March 28. Various remedies to make it safer for vehicles and bicyclists or other users to share motorways.

And there may be more as the session progresses.

Moderator Margaret Coppe of the League of Women Voters of Lexington with School Committee candidates (both incumbents) Leonard Kardon and Kirsi Allison-Ampe, at Candidates' Night March 27.

*Photo by Phyllis Maddox*



**Our fiscal year begins April 1, so now is the time to renew!**  
**Thank you for your support.**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON**  
**Membership Application/Renewal Form**

*\*\*Fiscal Year runs from April 1 to March 31\*\**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please indicate if you do NOT want your contact information sent to Arlington League members

\_\_\_\_\_ Basic Membership Dues..... \$60  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2nd member in household ..... \$23  
\_\_\_\_\_ Student (full-time) ..... \$20  
\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to help the LWV in Arlington, add \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*If \$60 is a hardship, please pay what you can and let us know that this is your dues payment.*

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: League of Women Voters of Arlington  
MAIL TO: Ann FitzGerald, 162 Summer St., Unit 1, Arlington, MA 02474

\*\*\*\*\*

Please check areas of interest and activity even if you can't be actively involved THIS year.

**SPECIAL LEAGUE ACTIVITIES**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Join the Board. Position: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Action: phone calls \_\_\_\_\_ letters \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bulletin: mailing \_\_\_\_\_ soliciting ads \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Membership
- \_\_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee
- \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity Writer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voter Service: Rides to the polls \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Candidates Night
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voters' Guide
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend State League's Phonathon
- \_\_\_\_\_ Be a discussion leader at local meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Offer meeting refreshments
- \_\_\_\_\_ Post fliers and deliver brochures
- \_\_\_\_\_ Host a meeting in my home
- \_\_\_\_\_ Monitor elections for nonprofit organizations

**FOLLOW ISSUES, KEEP LEAGUE AND COMMUNITY INFORMED**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Congress/Presidency/Election Process
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discrimination/Equal Employment/Civil Rights
- \_\_\_\_\_ Education/Child Care
- \_\_\_\_\_ Environment/Recycling
- \_\_\_\_\_ Health Care
- \_\_\_\_\_ Justice/Courts/Prisons
- \_\_\_\_\_ Land Use
- \_\_\_\_\_ Taxation/Budgets/Deficits
- \_\_\_\_\_ Transportation/Urban Policy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Voting Rights
- \_\_\_\_\_ Warrant Articles Review
- \_\_\_\_\_ Welfare Policies/Basic Human Needs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Women's Issues
- \_\_\_\_\_ Zoning/Community Development/Land Use

**OBSERVE AT**

**TOWN BOARD MEETINGS\***

- \_\_\_\_\_ Selectmen (Mondays)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Redevelopment Board (Mondays)
- \_\_\_\_\_ School Committee (2nd & 4th Thursdays)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation Commission (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Housing Authority

**SKILLS LEAGUE COULD DRAW ON**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Computer database
- \_\_\_\_\_ Graphic design
- \_\_\_\_\_ Desktop publishing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Web site maintenance
- \_\_\_\_\_ Membership development
- \_\_\_\_\_ Moderating meetings
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising
- \_\_\_\_\_ Writing articles
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

**BEST TIME TO CALL YOU:**

(for phone tree reminders) Call before \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock

\*Some of these can be seen on cable TV

## **Drivers Needed for Town Election!**

For the Town Election on **April 6**,  
the LWVA will provide rides to the polls  
from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

If you can work a shift as a driver,  
please call Phyllis Maddox  
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**April 2019**

League of Women Voters of Arlington  
Post Office Box 461  
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