

# BULLETIN

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts

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

## February 2016

### Calendar

2/1	Monday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Angela Olszewski's home, 1 Watermill Pl., Unit 428. All members welcome. Directions on page 6.
2/2	Tuesday 7 to 9:15 p.m.	Housing Production Plan Forum, Senior Center Main Meeting Room, 27 Maple St. See page 3 for details.
2/9	Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to noon	LWVMA Day on the Hill, Gardner Auditorium, State House, Boston. See page 7 for details.
2/10	Wednesday 8 p.m.	Deadline for registration or changing party enrollment for the Presidential Primary.
3/1	Tuesday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Presidential Primary. If you can give rides to the polls, please contact Phyllis Maddox. See last page for details.
3/1	Tuesday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Ann FitzGerald's home, 162 Summer Street, Unit 1. All members welcome. Directions on page 2.*

For a Town Election calendar, see page 5.

**\*Note:** The location of the March 1 Board meeting has changed as of February 12.

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

**Kim Haase:** Bulletin Editor **c.haase@comcast.net**  
**Margaret Reiners:** Bulletin Mailing **mlreiners@gmail.com**

## Co-President's Message

Tip O'Neill said, "All politics is local." I believe that this phrase highlights the importance of local government and the impact of broader policy decisions on our day-to-day lives.

Now that we have begun the new year, it is time to look toward our town elections. The League will once again sponsor Candidates' Night with Vision 2020. The event will be held at Town Hall on March 22. It is an opportunity to hear from candidates for office and discuss issues of importance to Arlington. We know that voter turnout can be low in local elections, but publicizing and encouraging attendance at or viewing of Candidates Night can make a difference.

In previous years, I have written stories about the residents who happen to see the sign and drop in or the young person who attends for the first time. Please make an effort to volunteer at the event and promote it to neighbors and friends. Please encourage them to vote.

*Angela Olszewski*

\*Note: The date of Candidates' Night has changed as of February 23 (it was 3/24).

### *Directions to Ann FitzGerald's home:*

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 2015–2016

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, Local Action VP	781-646-0752
Kathleen Colwell, Treasurer	781-646-4522
Anne Linn, Secretary	781-643-0356
Elizabeth Thompson, Voter Service	781-646-5942
Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Abigail Fair, Publicity	781-643-0666
Katharine Fennelly, Voters' Guide	781-648-1794
Kim Haase, Bulletin Editor	781-643-3429
Margaret Reiners, Bulletin Mailing	781-646-9611
Janice Bakey, Email Coordinator	781-643-4345
Phyllis Maddox, Webmistress	781-646-4362

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.

# Housing Production Plan PUBLIC FORUM



**Tuesday, February 2**  
**Senior Center, Main Meeting Room**  
**20 Academy Street/27 Maple Street in Arlington**  
**7:00pm – 9:15pm**

*Provide your input to help shape Arlington's future vision, housing goals, and policies!*

Join the Town of Arlington, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, and JM Goldson for a highly-interactive forum facilitated by planning consultant, Jennifer Goldson, to learn about and provide your input into the Arlington Housing Production Plan.


At the forum you will:

- *Learn about Arlington's housing needs, demand, opportunities and challenges*
- *Help to create a housing vision that will address market-rate and affordable housing production and development*

**Snow Date: February 9**

**For more information, please contact  
Laura Wiener at (781) 316-3091 or  
lwiener@town.arlington.ma.us**

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*Initial Free Consultation for League Members*

## Calling All Hands for March 22, 2016 Local Candidates' Night

*By Elizabeth Thompson*

Now that the holidays have wound down, and you settle down all cozy in your comfy slippers to enjoy a quiet winter's eve, you might think for a few minutes about how you would like to help the League of Women Voters of Arlington with the 2016 local Candidates' Night on Tuesday, March 22 beginning at 8 PM in Arlington's Town Hall Auditorium.

Please contact Elizabeth Thompson, Voters Service Chair, if you would like to add your name to help with any of the following tasks:

- Create Voter's Guide for Advocate (email Kathy Fennelly, Kathy@fennellys.com)
- Write a Press Release
- Help the League to mail the printed postcard invitations to all candidates for Town Meeting members
- Mail LWV's official Invitation Letters to candidates for Town Offices (email Kathy Fennelly)
- Help write or proofread Broadcast Script for Moderator
- Timers for Candidate Presentations (we need 2 pairs of 2 timers per pair)
- Create and/or review questions to ask Candidates
- Greet candidates and members of public on night of event
- Help set up before and/or pack up after the event

**Elizabeth Thompson, Voter Service Chair**  
**elizw.thompson@gmail.com**

## Town Election Calendar

2/11	Thursday 5 p.m.	Deadline for obtaining blank nomination papers from the Town Clerk's Office on the second floor of Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave.
2/8	Monday 5 p.m.	Deadline for Town Meeting Members who are candidates for re-election to give written notice thereof to the Town Clerk.
2/16	Tuesday 5 p.m.	Deadline for submitting all nomination papers to the Registrars of Voters for certification of signatures.
3/11	Friday 8 p.m.	Last day to register for the Town Election.
4/2	Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Town Election.

*Directions to Angela Olszewski's home, 1 Watermill Place, Apt. 428 (Phone: 781-648-8649)*

Watermill Place is a condo building located next to the Old Schwamb Mill on Lowell Street in Arlington Heights.

From Arlington Center:

Follow Mass. Ave into the Heights. At the former Nicola Pizza, bear right onto Lowell Street and pass a few houses. Watermill Place will be on your right. Continue to the end of the building to the large Watermill Place sign. Turn right into the parking lot and drive past the green awning. There will be marked visitor spaces in front of you. If none are available, you can park on Lowell Street, on the side where the building is.

From Park Avenue:

Follow Park Avenue down the hill to Mass. Ave. Continue straight and cross over Mass. Ave. (Digumm's Ice Cream and the UPS Store on two of the corners). Go over a bridge (Gold's Gym on the right). Take the first (sharp) right onto Lowell Street (Peter Pan Superette on the corner). Go over another bridge. There are about six houses very close together on the left. Watermill Place is on the left after the houses. Take a left into the driveway and drive past the green awning (entrance) to marked visitor spaces. If none are available, you can park on Lowell Street, on the side where the building is.

Enter the building at the green awning. The name list is alphabetical by last name. Press A to get to the middle of the alphabet, then press Z repeatedly to arrow down to my last name, Olszewski. When my last name is highlighted, press the CALL button.



**Salutes the  
League of Women Voters  
for its contribution to  
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## **Day on the Hill 2016: “Why This? Why Now? What Finally Moves Legislation”**

*From the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts*



Day on the Hill, LWVMA's annual lobbying day, will be held on **Tuesday, February 9**, (snow day February 23) in Gardner Auditorium at the State House. Registration begins at **9:30 a.m.** and the program runs from 10 a.m. to noon. Please come to learn how the legislative process really works from experienced legislators and other experts. Then put this knowledge to use, visit your own representatives and senators, and show that democracy is not a spectator sport.

Our theme this year is “Why This? Why Now? What Finally Moves Legislation.” A panel will explore why bills that are introduced session after session finally gain traction and a chance to become law.

Our panelists will be **Sen. William Brownsberger** on criminal justice legislation; **Rep. Shawn Dooley** on election reform; and **Pamela Wilmot**, executive director, Common Cause of Massachusetts, on public records access. They will discuss how those bills finally moved forward and then more generally discuss the legislative process and how advocacy groups like the League can spur action. After the panel presentation, LWVMA legislative specialists will outline specific bills we are following.

To register to attend Day on the Hill, go to <https://lwmvma.org/day-on-the-hill-2016-why-this-why-now-what-finally-moves-legislation/> and click the registration link. We encourage you to meet with your own Senators and Representatives to advocate for the bills our specialists will be presenting during the program. If you register before February 4, the LWVMA office will let your Senators and Representatives know that their League constituents will be stopping by after the program. Or you can make your own arrangements with your legislators.

A packet with information on Day on the Hill and the legislation we support will be emailed to all members as well as to all legislators about two weeks before Day on the Hill. Please watch for it in your inbox.

Plan now to attend and make the League's voice heard in the State House!

## Updates on Justice Legislation

*By Colleen Kirby, LWVMA Administration of Justice Specialist*

At Day on the Hill (see page 7), as the Courts and Criminal Justice Reform legislative specialist, I'll be giving a 3-minute presentation of Rep. Sean Garballey's Restorative Justice bill H.1313, to establish an Office of Restorative Justice so more communities can implement this alternative way of repairing harm in a community after a crime has occurred. There are 7 other criminal justice reform bills we will be lobbying for, among many other good bills that we want to see come out of committee.

An Act relative to motor vehicle license suspension, which was introduced by Sen. Chandler and Rep. Malia, uncouples drug crimes from **mandatory** driver's license suspension, which is a holdover from the War on Drugs in the 1980s. 34 states have already done this, and Massachusetts needs to do the same to help cut back on recidivism and make societal re-entry more viable. This bill has made it out of committee and has been unanimously approved by both the Senate and the House; however, the House added an amendment that weakens the bill. On Thursday, January 14th, the Senate passed this bill again (S.2094) without the House amendment, and hopefully the House will pass this version.

All other criminal justice reform bills are awaiting further action; most are stuck in the Judiciary Committee. Your attendance at Day on the Hill will be important to show that we care about getting legislation out of the committees.

LWVA members attended the Money in Politics consensus meeting in Winchester January 10. Front row: Colleen Kirby, Anne Linn, Kathy Fennelly, Phyllis Maddox. Back row: Ann FitzGerald, Mary Cummings, Pat Lieberson, Joan Martin, Carolyn Parsons, Kim Haase.

*Photo by a Winchester League member*





The League welcomes new members at all times. 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

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

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 Primary Election!**

For the Presidential Primary on March 1,  
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 at 781-646-4362 or  
email her at  
[phyllismaddox@rcn.com](mailto:phyllismaddox@rcn.com).

**February 2016**

League of Women Voters of Arlington  
Post Office Box 461  
Arlington, MA 02476

