

BULLETIN

League of Women Voters
Arlington, Massachusetts

www.lwva.com

March 2011

Calendar

| | | |
|------|------------------------|--|
| 3/3 | Thursday 7 pm | Public forum on 2012 Town budget at Town Hall Auditorium, 730 Massachusetts Ave. See page 7 for details. |
| 3/5 | Saturday 9:30 am | LWVMA Forum on Women's Health in Framingham. See page 5 for details. |
| 3/6 | Sunday 11:30 am | Legislators' Brunch at Kathy Fennelly's home, 97 Gray Street. All are welcome. See page 3 for details. |
| 3/14 | Monday 7 pm | LWVA Board Meeting at Anne Linn's home, 7 Linden Street. All members welcome. See page 2 for directions. |
| 3/24 | Thursday 7:30 pm | Candidates' Night for the Town Election. Town Meeting candidates available from 7:30 to 8 pm; the candidates' forum starts at 8. Volunteers are needed for set-up and clean-up. Four timers are needed. Please call Carolyn Parsons at 781-646-9309 to offer your help. See last page for details. |
| 4/1 | Friday noon to 1 pm | League Lunch with Sally Naish of the Arlington Tree Committee at the ACMI Cable Studio, 85 Park Ave. See page 8 for details. |
| | Wednesday 4/13 | LWVMA Day on the Hill - save the date! |

Town Election Calendar

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|--|
| 3/14 | Monday 8 pm | Voter registration deadline for Town Election. |
| 4/2 | Saturday 8 am to 8 pm | Town Election. |
| | Monday 4/25 | Annual Town Meeting begins. |

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

Dear League Members and Friends,

In the January co-president's message, I asked you to resolve to become more involved with the League. Now is your chance!

March and April are the best months for civic engagement in Arlington. Our LWVA and town calendars are full:

Legislators' Brunch on Sunday, March 6th
 Candidates' Night on Thursday, March 24th
 Town Election on Saturday, April 2nd
 Town Meeting starts on Monday, April 25th

These programs and events offer opportunities for you to learn more about what is going on in town, make your voice heard, and participate in the community. The presentation of Candidates' Night is one of the League's most significant efforts of the year. Please consider volunteering to help. More information can be found in this bulletin.

Let's hope that we have seen our last major snowstorm and that spring comes in as we approach our local election! I hope you to see you at the Legislators' Brunch and Candidates' Night.

Angela Olszewski

Directions to Anne Linn's home:

7 Linden Street is just off Park Avenue in Arlington Heights. If you are coming from Massachusetts Avenue, it is a left turn, just after Florence Avenue and before Oakland Avenue. If you are coming from Route 2, of course, it is a right turn just after Oakland Avenue.

It is the first house on Linden Street, on the right.

LWVA LEADERSHIP 2010–2011

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 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 |
| Patricia Lieberon, Local Action VP | 781-646-1987 |
| Kathleen Colwell, Treasurer | 781-646-4522 |
| Anne Linn, Secretary | 781-643-0356 |
| Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director | 781-646-9711 |
| Clarice Gordon, Publicity | 781-648-0004 |
| Katharine Fennelly, VotersøGuide | 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.



LEGISLATORS' BRUNCH

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 2011

It's Time for LWVA's Annual Get-together
with State Senator Ken Donnelly
and State Representatives Will Brownsberger, Sean Garballey, and
Jay Kaufman

Come Hear and Discuss the Latest on Jobs, Budgets, Education,
Health Care
- And Enjoy a Great Brunch!

When & Where -
Sunday, March 6, 2011, 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Kathy & Paul Fennelly's House - 97 Gray St., Arlington

Please contact Meredith Zona, mzona@fstinc.com or tel. 781-648-2753,
if you can come and bring your favorite brunch food.

Directions: 97 Gray St. is at the intersection of Gray St. and Churchill Ave., which is the 4th 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 4th 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 ample street parking.



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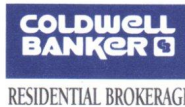


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Women's Health in the 21st Century: What We Need to Know



A Forum Sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts

Saturday, March 5, 2011

**McPherson Hall in the Medical Arts Building of MetroWest Medical Center
85 Lincoln Street, Framingham, MA
Snow Date: March 26, 2011**

9:30 Registration, Coffee and Tea

10:00 Impact of Media on Women's Health

Keynote speaker,
Judy Norsigian, Director, Our Bodies Ourselves

11:00 Disparities in Health Care:

Access Limited by Culture, Language Barriers, and Lack of Insurance

Cheryl Hamlin, M.D., Clinician, Mt. Auburn Hospital
(Member of the League of Women Voters of Arlington)

11:30 Mental Health Issues for Women

Georgia Sassen, Ph.D., Visiting Scholar
at Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Center

12:00 Noon to 1 pm Health Fair

**Free and open to the public. There will be a question and answer period after each speaker.
Free parking. For more information go to: lwmvma@lwmvma.org**

Directions to Framingham: By car from the east: Take Route 9. Turn right onto Main St. Continue about .02 of a mile to Union Street (a slight turn right). Go about 1.88 miles and turn left onto Lincoln Street. Turn left into a parking lot in front of Framingham Union Hospital or across the street from it. McPherson Hall is in the Medical Arts Bldg. at 85 Lincoln St.

By train: Take train to Framingham. Walk 2 blocks east to Union Street; turn left onto Union Street; walk 3 blocks (on the right). Turn right onto Henry St., walk one block. The Medical Arts Bldg at 85 Lincoln St. will be across the street.

In Memoriam: Judith Borit

Judith Borit, a member of the League of Women Voters of Arlington from 1989 until she moved out of town recently, died in New York City January 3. After surviving World War II as a child in Hungary and coming to the United States after the failed 1956 Hungarian revolution, she became a psychiatrist and practiced in Cambridge. For a very informative obituary, see http://www.boston.com/bostonglobe/obituaries/articles/2011/02/16/judith_borit_74_psychiatrist_survived_nazis_and_revolution/.



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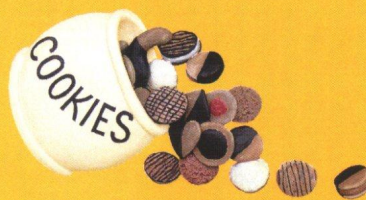
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Public Forum on 2012 Town Budget March 3

By Janice Bakey

The Arlington Board of Selectmen will be holding a public forum at which Town Manager Brian Sullivan will present an overview of the Town's finances, the FY2012 Town budget, and its relative impacts on Town services. A question and answer session will follow. The public is invited to attend this forum to be held at Town Hall Auditorium, Thursday, March 3, at 7 p.m.

The Town Manager's FY2012 Financial Plan is now online at arlingtonma.gov/budgets.

The Arlington League's position on local sources of revenue sources is stated on our website as follows:

SOURCES OF REVENUE

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports:

1. A tax system that is equitable, flexible, progressive and adequate to pay for services; subject to periodic review and examination and efficient to administer. The tax system should reflect community goals and be responsive to economic conditions. (1991)

2. Increased opportunities for citizen participation in all phases of the budget process; provisions for adequate citizen education as to the sources of revenue, county expenditures and fiscal alternatives. (1975 and 1991)

3. Equitable real estate assessments, levying service charges on tax-exempt property, and exploring alternative revenue sources. (1991)

Here is a useful link to the LWV Massachusetts position on fiscal policy that includes comments on state aid to local municipalities, etc: <http://www.lwvma.org/newfiscalpolicy.shtml>

ACTION ALERT: Presidential Public Financing in Danger

From the LWVUS

The presidential public financing system has served America well since 1976 by allowing candidates to raise the funds needed to wage competitive campaigns. Recently, the House of Representatives voted to eliminate the system which has substantially reduced corruption and the appearance of corruption in the executive branch since its inception.

Take action now to tell your Senators to oppose the elimination of the presidential public financing.

Repair legislation is expected soon that takes into account the changes that have occurred in presidential campaigns in recent years. It is this legislation that Congress should be focusing on.

April Lunch to Focus on Arlington Trees

At noon on April 1, the Friday Lunch Series at the studio of Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMI) will feature Sally Naish, chair of the Arlington Tree Committee. The event is open to the public and is sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Arlington.

Ms. Naish will talk about what the Tree Committee is and what it is doing, and will provide information on the benefits of trees and what is happening with Arlington trees. This is a timely topic, since National Arbor Day is April 30.

Anyone may attend the Friday Lunch Series. Bring your own brown bag lunch and beverage to the ACMI studio at 85 Park Avenue and join the group for an informal lunch with the speaker at noon. A formal half-hour taping of the speakers' remarks and answers to questions will follow. The taped presentation will be available on cable later as part of *Our Town*, the League's Friday Lunch Series — see below for more information.

Our Town, the cable program that broadcasts the Friday Lunch Series, will feature last month's lunch on the Public Access Channel (Comcast 8, RCN 3, and Verizon 31, and LIVE streaming at www.acmi.tv), at the following times:

Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m.
Friday and Monday, 11:30 a.m.

ACTION ALERT: Protect America's Health Care

From the LWVUS

The Affordable Care Act, passed in the last Congress and signed into law by President Obama, was a major step forward in health care for all. It has already made a difference by improving health care access and coverage for millions of Americans. The House of Representatives took a step in the wrong direction by repealing the law that has already brought positive changes in the lives of Americans:

- Children are no longer denied coverage for pre-existing conditions.
- Insurers can no longer impose lifetime limits on coverage.
- Adult children can stay on their parents' health plans up until age 26.
- Medicare recipients can have a number of preventive and well-care services without being charged a deductible, co-pay, or coinsurance.

Tell your Senators to oppose repeal of the Affordable Care Act.

As provisions of the Affordable Care Act continue to be implemented, more and more Americans will have health care coverage while health care costs are reduced for individuals, businesses and communities.

**April 1 is the time to pay your annual dues!
Thank you in advance 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 í í í í í í í .í .í í \$50

____ 2nd member in household í í í í í í í í . \$23

____ Student (full-time) í í í í í í í í í í í .. \$20

____ Contribution to help the LWV in Arlington, add \$_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$_____

If \$50 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: Kathy Colwell, 60 Claremont Ave., Arlington, MA 02476

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 Tuesdays)
- 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

Please Bring Your Friends and Neighbors to

Candidates' Night

Co-sponsored by the LWVA and Vision 2020

Thursday, March 24

Town Hall Auditorium
730 Massachusetts Avenue

Meet with Town Meeting candidates and Town-wide candidates
from 7:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Forum for candidates for Town-wide offices at 8:00 p.m.

*Volunteers are needed for set-up and clean-up. Four timers are needed. If you
can help, please contact Carolyn Parsons, 781-646-9309.*

March 2011

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

