



BULLETIN
lwva.com

March 2023

Calendar

March 7	Tuesday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting via Zoom teleconference. The meeting URL will be sent to attendees; email one of the Co-Presidents if you would like to attend.
March 23	Thursday 8 p.m.	Candidates' Night, co-sponsored with Envision Arlington, live in Town Hall. See page 3 for details.
	Saturday April 1	The LWVA's fiscal year begins. Please send in your dues during March, using the form on page 9.
April 23	Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Save the date for our annual Legislators' Brunch, in person at Kathy Fennelly's home, 97 Gray Street. Details will be in the April Bulletin.

See page 5 for a Town Election calendar. April 1 is also Election Day!

Co-President's Message

Envision Arlington and the League are once again co-sponsoring Candidates' Night, which will be held on March 23 in the Town Hall auditorium. All candidates have accepted the League's invitation to participate in Candidates' Night. This is not always the case as sometimes whether a candidate will participate is a "maybe". A "maybe" requires two scripts to be written, one with and one without the candidate. Sometimes the entire office must be eliminated from the forum because at least two people must be present for a contested election. The League has decided to have the questions for the candidates pre-screened and embedded in the script. No one wanted to handle multiple pieces of paper and multiple pens. Embedding the questions in the script will really cut down on the confusion. **Please submit questions for consideration through the link on page 3.**

Would someone have an hour on the afternoon of March 23 to help me set up Town Hall? I would like the help.

The "ARLINGTON VOTES" signs will be updated with the date for the local town election.

Please call me and leave a message at 781-646-9309 or e-mail me at carolynmparsons@msn.com if you would be willing to display a sign in front of your home or help with set up at Town Hall.

Don't forget to vote!

Carolyn Parsons

LWVA LEADERSHIP 2022–2023

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	339-223-3300
Joan Martin, Treasurer	617-966-4521
Anne Linn, Secretary	781-643-0356
Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Voter Service	781-648-9026
Jo Anne Preston, Voter Service	781-643-5431
Kim Haase, Bulletin Editor/Ads	781-643-3429
Margaret Reiners, Bulletin Mailing	781-646-9611
Janice Bakey, Email Coordinator	781-643-4345
Phyllis Maddox, Webmistress	774-266-3422
Samantha Dutra, Member at Large	857-266-9570

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 Help with Candidates' Night!

Envision Arlington and the League of Women Voters of Arlington will host Candidates Night on Thursday, March 23, 2023 in the Town Hall Auditorium, 730 Massachusetts Ave. Candidates for Town Meeting and current Town Meeting Members are invited to meet with constituents at 7:30 pm. The forum for town-wide candidates will begin at 8:00 pm. The event will be carried live on ACMi and will be shown on cable several times before the election.

Please contact Angela Olszewski at amolszewski@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering for the event. We are especially in need of timers.

Questions for the candidates are being solicited from the public in advance. **You can submit questions for consideration using this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QDKKNJ5>.** You can submit multiple questions for each office, but **once you have submitted your questions you won't be able to submit any more on the same device**, so plan your questions in advance.


The deadline for submitting questions is Wednesday, March 8th. Questions will be selected in advance by volunteers from the LWVA and Envision Arlington, and will be embedded in the moderator's script. **There will be no way to ask questions at the event.**

The town election will be held in person on Saturday, April 1st. Please see the town website or contact the Town Clerk's Office for information on vote by mail and early voting options.

We need volunteers for the following positions:

- **Timers:** We need at least four volunteers to keep time during the question-and-answer session, and to hold up time cards to keep all candidates within time limits so everyone gets a fair chance to speak.
- **Greeters:** We need at least two volunteers to greet people arriving at Candidates' Night and provide information about the League.
- **Set-up/Take-down:** Help us to put up precinct signs and get other items organized for the event or take down and pack up when the event is over.



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Town Election Calendar

Vote-by-mail postcards have been sent to all voters.

For more details about the election, visit

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/town-governance/elections-voting>.

March 7	Tuesday 5 p.m.	Last day to submit Town Meeting candidate statements.
March 22	Wednesday 5 p.m.	Last day to register to vote in the Town Election (10 days before the election)
March 27	Monday 5 p.m.	Last day to request a mailed ballot.
April 1	Saturday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Town Election.
April 24	Monday 8 p.m.	Annual Town Meeting begins.



**Salutes the
League of Women Voters
for its contribution to
our community**

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John D. Leone - Suzanne M. Leone

637 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington, MA 02476
781-648-2345

john@leonelaw.com, www.leonelaw.com

Initial consultation is free for LWVA members

Help the League Advocate for Women's Issues

From the State League

Jan Soma, LWVMA Legislative Specialist on Women's Issues, is gathering names of League members who will advocate for Women's Issues bills when the need arises.

The scripts/email letters are written for you. You would be asked to use these templates to contact your legislators or the governor. Bills need as many legislators as possible on board to help secure their success. Over 6,000 bills get filed every session so it is necessary to have solid support from many legislators to get them voted out of committees and on to a vote in the two chambers.

Reproductive healthcare, wage equity and other policies important to women are on the docket!

If you would like to help advocate for Women's Issues bills, contact Jan Soma directly at somanjanis@comcast.net to be added to the list of League advocates.



Cantilena Seeks Speakers for May Concert

Gina Sonder of Cantilena asks us to spread the word about this call for volunteers. For more information or to volunteer, please contact her at the email address below.

Cantilena - a women's chorus
presents

Fired UP!

A Call for Equality & Activism

Elinor Armsby - Artistic Director

4:00 pm

Sunday May 7, 2023

First Parish of Arlington
630 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington MA 02476



As part of our May concert, **Cantilena invites members of the community to perform with us**, taking on the dramatic roles of suffragettes and women activists from **Sojourner Truth** to **Stacey Abrams** in Joan Szymko's piece, "Lifting As We Climb."

Commissioned for the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment, "Lifting As We Climb" both celebrates White Women's access to the ballot and recognizes that it took years of activism before Women of Color would be granted the right to vote. She asks us to "**Organize, Agitate, Educate!**"

Readers will be sent their speaking parts (libretto) in advance and rehearse with our Artistic Director Elinor (Ellie) Armsby in the latter half of April before joining the chorus in the two rehearsals leading up to the May 7th performance of "Fired UP!"

Interested on joining us? Want to learn more about the project? Contact Gina at info@cantilena.org

<https://www.cantilena.org/>

Massachusetts Civic Learning Week March 6-10 Includes League Session

*From Karen Mazza,
LWVMA Representative to the MCLC*

Be a part of the experience! Register now for Massachusetts Civic Learning Week events. Whether you're a student, educator, parent, administrator, policymaker, or a member of the general public, we have events for you. All events are free and virtual. You can take part in youth-led panel discussions, Q&A sessions with civic leaders, book readings, democratic simulations, curriculum and pedagogy workshops, and more.

Organized by the Massachusetts Civic Learning Coalition (MCLC) in conjunction with National Civic Learning Week, the virtual workshops and events are free and open to the public throughout the week of March 6-10, 2023. Check out the offerings at <https://civiclearningweek2023.sched.com/>, where you can also register for events.

Karen Price and Cathy Dowd of the Needham League will speak on Monday, March 6 at 3:45 p.m., on "Teaching Civics through Advocacy for Bills Before the Massachusetts Legislature." This session will present materials and strategies for high school teachers to use to enable students to select an issue, research bills before the legislature, and develop and execute an advocacy plan. These materials include a Student Advocacy Guide and a set of short videos. The speakers will also present a structure for a civics showcase where students can make their pitch to state legislators, town officials, and the general public. They will also discuss the successful school / community collaboration with the League of Women Voters for this project.

The MCLC is organizing Civic Learning Week because civic education is needed more than ever to provide each and every person across this country with the necessary tools to engage as members of our self-governing society. The week's events will highlight the importance of civic education in sustaining and strengthening constitutional democracy in the United States through the voices of youths, teachers, administrators and policymakers. Civic Learning Week builds on the success of efforts that provided civic learning opportunities through programming that prompted participation by 20,000 students, teachers, and others in 2022.

Please share information about the week and the many free offerings with your colleagues and friends.

**Our fiscal year begins April 1, so now is the time to send your dues!
Thank you!**

**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

- Action: phone calls _____ letters _____
- Bulletin: mailing _____ soliciting ads _____
- Membership
- Nominating Committee
- Publicity
- Voter Service: Rides to the polls _____
- Candidates Night
- Voters' Guide
- Host a meeting in my home

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

- Congress/Presidency/Election Process
- Discrimination/Equal Employment/Civil Rights
- Education
- Environment/Climate Change
- Health Care
- Justice/Courts/Prisons
- Housing/Zoning/Community Development
- Taxation/Budgets/Deficits
- Transportation/Urban Policy
- Voting Rights
- Basic Human Needs
- Women's Issues/Gender Issues
- Housing/Zoning/Community Development
- Other

**OBSERVE AT
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS***

- Select Board (Mondays)
- Redevelopment Board (Mondays)
- School Committee (2nd & 4th Thursdays)
- Conservation Commission
- Housing Authority

SKILLS LEAGUE COULD DRAW ON

- Writing articles
- Computer spreadsheet
- Desktop publishing
- Website management
- Moderating meetings
- Membership development

*Some of these can be seen on cable TV

Please add my name, street address, phone number, and email address to the LWVA mailing list: ____ Yes ____ No

(Note: This information will not be sent to anyone outside the LWVA)

March 2023

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

