



# *BULLETIN*

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts

*www.lwva.com*

## May 2015

### Calendar

|      |                              |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5/5  | Tuesday<br>7 p.m.            | LWVA Board Meeting at Ann FitzGerald's home, 162 Summer St., Unit 1. Directions on page 2.                                                                                                  |
|      | Friday/Saturday<br>5/15-5/16 | LWVMA State Convention 2015: Women Leading the Way in West Springfield. See below for details.                                                                                              |
| 6/11 | Thursday<br>6 p.m.           | LWVA Annual Meeting and Potluck Party at Meredith Zona's home, 1 Andrews Way. Details on page 3. The Annual Meeting Workbook will be sent to all members two weeks before. All are welcome! |

### State Convention In Springfield This Month

*From the State League*

The 2015 LWVMA Convention "**Women Leading the Way**" will be held May 15-16 at the Clarion Hotel in West Springfield, MA. League members throughout the state will convene to conduct the business of the League for the next biennium. In addition, the convention will feature speakers and workshops.

The keynote speakers will include Rosalee Keech, LWVUS Board member and LWVUS United Nations Observer, and Elizabeth Barajas-Román, Chief Executive Officer, Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts.

For more information about the Convention, including speaker, hotel, and registration details, visit <https://lwvma.org/please-join-us-for-lwvmas-2015-convention-in-west-springfield/>.

**Editor's Note:** *Arlington is entitled to send three voting delegates. The LWVA is sending Patti Muldoon, one of our Action Vice-Presidents.*

**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)

**Kim Haase:** Bulletin Editor [c.haase@comcast.net](mailto:c.haase@comcast.net)  
**Margaret Reiners:** Bulletin Mailing [mlreiners@gmail.com](mailto:mlreiners@gmail.com)

## Co-President's Message

Each year Town Meeting begins on the last Monday in April and continues every Monday and Wednesday evening until the business of the Town is concluded, usually sometime in late May or early June. This year the warrant is relatively short, so I am predicting that Town Meeting will end by the middle of May. The League board has made recommendations in support of a number of warrant articles. (Please refer to the article on pages 5 and 6. Did you notice the prominent placement of the article in the *Advocate* that listed the League's recommendations?) I thank Joan Martin and Pat Lieberon for compiling the list of warrant articles for the board to consider and hashing out the proper wordage.

The League co-sponsored an introduction to Town Meeting with the Governance Task Group of Vision 2020. Town Moderator John Leone presided over the event. Mr. Leone gave an overview of how the Meeting is conducted, beginning with the check-in procedure and the use of the remote clickers for voting. He advised each Town Meeting Member to vote in the best interest of the Town. Town Meeting, sometimes boring, informative, or even hilarious, provides a window into how the Town functions, and I find it fascinating. Congratulations to Kim Haase, the League's Bulletin editor, for being a newly elected TMM.


In what ways has the Town been spruced up? Are there plans to enliven the streetscape? Are there particular areas of the Town that will be targeted for some color? Adria Arch, member of the Arlington Commission on Arts and Culture, will answer these questions and certainly your questions at the League Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 11. Please come and enjoy the food and the conversation.

*Carolyn Parsons*

*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 2014–2015

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 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.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND LWV ARLINGTON'S  
ANNUAL MEETING & PARTY**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 2015**

**MEREDITH ZONA'S HOME**

**1 ANDREWS WAY**

**APPETIZERS AT 6:00 P.M., DINNER AT 6:30 P.M.**

**FOLLOWED BY A SPECIAL PROGRAM AND A BRIEF BUSINESS MEETING**

The guest speaker for our program is Adria Arch of Arlington's Commission on Arts and Culture. Adria, a professional artist, arts administrator and educator, will explain the background and accomplishments of the committee and the future plans it has for the Town of Arlington. We invite you to come and learn more about this exciting new town committee!

Please RSVP by June 7 to Meredith Zona at 781-648-2753 or [mzona@fstinc.com](mailto:mzona@fstinc.com). Beverages will be provided. Please let Meredith know if you can bring a dish to share. If anyone needs a ride or would like to carpool, please call Carolyn Parsons at 781-646-9309.


**Friends, neighbors, spouses, etc., are most welcome!**

***Directions to Meredith's House:***

From the west end of Arlington, turn onto Overlook Rd. at the Summer St. traffic light across from the skating rink. Keep to the left at the fork and travel about 1/2 mile to Ridge St. Turn right onto Ridge St., then 1st left onto Cherokee Rd., 1st right onto Old Colony Rd., and 1st right onto Andrews Way. *Andrews Way is a short street that looks like a driveway. 1 Andrews Way is the tan-colored house directly ahead on the left. You may want to park on Old Colony Rd. Come in through the garage if you prefer not to climb the stairs to the front door.*

From Arlington Center, travel on Mystic St. towards Winchester and take a slight left on Old Mystic St. (about 3/4 mile north of Summer St.), then 2nd left onto Hutchinson Rd., 2nd left onto Morningside Dr., 1st right onto Windmill Lane, 1st left onto Old Colony Rd., and 1st left onto Andrews Way; see directions in italics above.

**LAKOTA BAKERY**




781 646-0121

Tuesday-Friday  
8:30 am - 8:00 pm

Monday & Saturday  
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

1375 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476

lakotabakery.com



**FITNESS FIRST**

**Arlington's Neighborhood Health Club  
Since 1982**

471 Mass. Ave. Arlington (781) 643-4300  
Club Hours: M-F 5:30 am to 10 pm, S-S 8 am to 6 pm

MEMBER AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY 

**Swanson**  
Jewelers Inc.

DAVID R. SWANSON  
CERTIFIED GEMOLOGIST  
APPRAISER  
WWW.SWANSONJEWELERS.COM

717 MASSACHUSETTS AVE.  
ARLINGTON, MASS. 02476  
PHONE (781) 643-4209  
FAX (781) 643-0977

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

**NANCY N. SOLOMON, GRI**  
REALTOR®, Notary Public

(781) 648-6500 OFFICE  
(617) 281-0029 CELL  
(781) 648-9222 FAX  
Nancy.Solomon@NEMoves.com

637 Mass. Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476

www.NewEnglandMoves.com  
Owned And Operated By NRT LLC.



**arlington children's center**

17 irving street \* arlington, ma \* 02476

781 646 9307 www.arlingtonchildrenscenter.org

**LEONE & LEONE**  
**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

A GENERAL PRACTICE LAW FIRM EXPERIENCED  
IN REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS  
AND PROBATE MATTERS

ALSO CONCENTRATING IN:  
CONDO CONVERSION - WILLS AND TRUSTS  
ESTATE PLANNING - GUARDIANSHIPS  
PROBATE MATTERS - BUSINESS LAW

**DAVID A. LEONE**  
**JOHN D. LEONE**  
**SUZANNE M. LEONE**

637 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476

(Tel) 781-648-2345 - (Fax) 781-648-2544  
www.LeoneLaw.com - John@LeoneLaw.com  
*Initial Free Consultation for League Members*



**Arlington Heights Nursery School**

*A creative and joyful learning environment  
for infants, toddlers and preschoolers*

10 Acton Street, Arlington, MA 02476  
(t) 781-646-8499 (f) 339-707-6013  
www.ahnschool.org

## **The League of Women Voters of Arlington Warrant Article Recommendations**

*By Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski*

The League of Women Voters of Arlington supports the approval of the following warrant articles to be considered at the 2015 Annual Town Meeting: 8, 11, 12, 16, 32, 34, 35, 45, and 46.

The League supports openness and efficiency in local town government. The League originally supported Article 6, Zoning Bylaw Amendment. Access to Zoning Reviews would allow the public to see and understand how zoning reviews are done. Based on the comments from the hearings on this article, the League has decided to take no position.

The League supports Article 8, Bylaw Amendment /Limiting Speaking Time for Announcements and Reports. Limiting the time of a speaker at Town Meeting will permit more members to have an opportunity to speak and may make the Meeting more efficient.

The League supports Article 11, Establishment of a Community Preservation Committee. The Town voted to accept the Community Preservation Act in November 2014. The CPC, which will make recommendations to Town Meeting as to how the funds are to be expended, needs to be established.

The League supports Article 12, Revision of Town Committee/Vision 2020 Standing Committee, so that the committee may operate more efficiently.

The League supports Article 16, Acceptance of Legislation/Complete Streets Program, under the principle of overall planning for the Town.

The League supports Article 32, Public Art East Arlington Massachusetts Avenue Corridor, so that the Town may select and place appropriate art for the benefit of all residents.

The League supports Article 34, Water Bodies Fund, which will provide an appropriation for maintenance, treatment, and oversight.

The League supports Article 35, Harry Barber Community Service Program, which will provide a stipend of \$750 each for ten seniors who are able to work for the Town.

The League supports Article 45, Resolution/Town Meeting Member Removal Process, to promote efficiency and accountability in town government.

The League supports Article 46, Resolution/Master Plan Endorsement, which sets forth recommendations for future growth, development and preservation.

When board members of the League of Women Voters of Arlington decide which articles of the warrant we support or oppose, we utilize principles that the League at the United States,

*(Continued on next page)*

**Warrant Article Positions (Continued)**

Massachusetts, or Town level have already endorsed after careful study. These principles are **Representative Government, International Relations, Natural Resources and Social Policy**. At the local level the League has positions on conservation and recreation, education, human resources, the library system, town government, town planning, and cable television and related media.

We gather information to establish the intent and probable outcome of an article and determine whether it promotes better governance and public policy as expressed in existing League principles. Most articles fall outside the scope of our existing principles, so we do not comment on them.

We hope you will appreciate that these recommendations do not come from a quick vote of a small group, but come out of a careful process of investigation, discussion and consensus. In turn, we expect you to look into these issues for yourselves and to vote in the best interest of the Town.



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

---

**Arlington Community Media, Inc.  
Your Connection to Arlington Television**

---

85 Park Ave, Arlington, MA  
781-777-1115  
<http://acmi.tv>

**WANAMAKER  
Hardware Inc.**

1298 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(781) 643-1900

*Family owned and operated. Serving the community  
for over 85 years.*

- Sharpening Service
- Locks Re-keyed
- Lamps Repaired
- Aluminum Windows and Screens Repaired
- Glass Cutting
- Window Shades Cut
- Computerized Paint Mixing
- Gift Certificates
- Copier Available

Specials and Coupons Online  
[www.wanamakerhardware.com](http://www.wanamakerhardware.com)

*True Value*®

## Legislators Discuss Issues with League Members at Brunch

*By Kim Haase*

At the home of Kathy and Paul Fennelly on a warm and sunny April 12, League members heard from State Senator Kenneth Donnelly and State Representative Sean Garballey about current issues on Beacon Hill and in Arlington: criminal justice, the MBTA, the Mugar property, the Olympics, budgets, and more. (Representative Dave Rogers was unable to make it, although he sent a summary of his committee assignments and bills he is working on.)

Sen. Donnelly commented first on his excellent working relationship both with his House colleagues and with Sen. Will Brownsberger, who used to represent parts of Arlington. Under the new leadership of Senate President Stanley Rosenberg, Sen. Donnelly is now Assistant Majority Whip, Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Election Laws, and a member of three Joint Committees and three Senate Committees, including the Joint Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Mental health is one of his top issue priorities; he wants to ensure full funding for community mental health services such as the Arlington Youth Counseling Center. He is also pleased to see more diversion programs, such as the employment of a social worker to accompany the police on calls that may involve a mental health situation. Another major focus is bail reform; currently nonviolent arrestees who can't make bail, many of whom are mentally ill, are sent to jail, wasting expensive resources. He wishes to make pretrial release dependent entirely on risk analysis, not on how much money the offender can muster.

Rep. Garballey commented on his long acquaintance with Kathy Fennelly since their brief service together on the Arlington School Committee. He is now Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Higher Education and a member of two other Joint Committees and two House Committees. As a member of both the Joint and House Committees on Ways and Means, he and other legislators have been holding budget hearings across the state. Mental health and other human services issues are a major focus. He has also been serving as chair of the MBTA caucus for several years and is working hard to transfer the T's debt to the State so as to free up more funding for service and equipment improvements. Another major interest is restorative justice for first-time and low-level offenders, an initiative that is already working in Arlington. He is also co-sponsoring a bill to institute a college savings account for every child born in the state, an idea borrowed from Maine.

(Rep. Rogers is Vice Chair of the House Committee on Technology and Intergovernmental Affairs and a member of three Joint Committees.)

Both legislators then welcomed questions from League members and guests on various topics.

**Bail reform:** Sen. Donnelly noted that relatively few communities have implemented bail reform yet, because there are up-front costs for mental health services and drug rehabilitation, and because many district attorneys, focusing on public safety, prefer incarceration to treatment in the community. States like Texas and Georgia are far ahead of us, mainly because of the high cost of incarceration.

**Restorative justice:** Rep. Garballey described this initiative, which 75 towns engage in: it allows the victim and the accused to meet so that the offender can understand the victim's experience and some form of restitution or community service can be arranged. Our DA and many police chiefs are strong supporters. It needs to be put in a statute as a local option. Repeal of mandatory minimum sentences is also important.

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Legislators' Brunch (Continued)

**Mugar property:** Sen. Donnelly stated his view that because the property is in a flood-plain/wetland area, it is not an appropriate location for housing, though he strongly supports affordable housing. He, Rep. Garballey, and others have tried to arrange a meeting with David Mugar, but have not been successful to date. Rep. Garballey added that the flooding problems that would result from building on the property would create a major quality of life issue for Arlington; it is essential to keep wetlands as flood storage areas. Sen. Donnelly also supports a safety study for the area, since traffic in that area is very heavy already with the increasing density of development. He cautioned that it is very hard to stop a 40B development for environmental reasons, citing the loss of the Silver Maple Forest to development after many years of trying to preserve it.



Sen. Kenneth Donnelly and Rep. Sean Garballey at the LWVA Legislators' Brunch.

*(Photo by Phyllis Maddox)*

**Trial court administration:** A League member pointed out that the courts have so little staff that they could not run without volunteer mediators. Sen. Donnelly commented that the courts have lost 1000 staff since 2007, the worst cuts in the state even compared with cuts in social services. Rep. Garballey commented that if the Governor's budget passed, some courts would have to close. Sen. Donnelly noted that the cutbacks meant a greater backlog of prisoners awaiting trial, which ultimately costs much more. Sen. Brownsberger, Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary, is focusing on this issue and will have our legislators' support.

**2024 Olympics:** Sen. Donnelly reported that the Boston 2024 committee would like to do a presentation in Arlington, and recommended that their case should be heard; we have about a two-year window before the decision is made. He thought that an opportunity to create more affordable housing and fix the transit system should be explored. Rep. Garballey noted his concern that some public money would have to be used and that we need an honest conversation on this. He also noted that the Legislature had defeated previous attempts to raise more money for transit. Sen. Donnelly agreed, noting that they had allocated only half of the billion dollars needed, even though the economic viability of the entire state depends on the workability of the Boston area as a location for development. The gridlock on Route 128 is a deterrent, and Rep. Garballey agreed that we have to support highways as well as the MBTA. Sen. Donnelly noted that younger workers prefer to live in the city and commute outward if need be; tech companies now run shuttles from Alewife to companies on Route 128.

**Senate-House conflict:** Sen. Donnelly explained that because joint committees have twice as many House members as Senators, the House Speaker effectively controls all legislation: currently, only bills voted out of joint committees can be passed by the legislature. The new Senate President has empowered the chairs of Senate committees, and the plan is to fix things so that bills that originate in the Senate can go back there for a vote. This would allow the Senate to pass its own bills, not just those allowed by the House Speaker. Rep. Garballey noted that since January no bills had been heard, and he would welcome this change to break the logjam.



**Dues are due! Our fiscal year began on April 1.  
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 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
- 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

## **Local NAACP Chapter Welcomes New Members**

*By Janice Bakey*

At the Freedom Fund Annual Breakfast of the Mystic Valley Area Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on April 18, local leaders encouraged us to reach out to potential new members. Their membership count means a great deal when they are speaking for change for justice and equality in the schools, justice and employment issues.

The NAACP and the LWV stand side by side on many issues. I hope LWVA members will consider joining this local chapter.

For more information, see <http://mva-naacp.org/>.

From <http://mva-naacp.org/join>, you can download a membership form.

**May 2015**

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

