



# *BULLETIN*

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts

*www.lwva.com*

## May 2016

### Calendar

4/30	Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	LWVMA Council, Clark University, Worcester. All League members are invited. Visit <a href="https://lwvma.org/">https://lwvma.org/</a> to register.
5/3	Tuesday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Nancy Gray's home, 30 Mill St., Apt. 304. All members welcome. Directions on page 2.
5/10	Tuesday 7 p.m.	Arlington Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group co-presents Stories of Stigma, Robbins Library Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave. Details on page 10.
5/18	Wednesday 7 p.m.	Arlington Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group co-presents Fannie Barrier Williams, Robbins Library Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave. Details on page 10.
5/25	Wednesday 7 p.m.	Arlington Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group co-presents Being an Active Bystander workshop, Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St. Details on page 10.
6/16	Thursday 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 by June 2. All are welcome!

**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

Contested races for the candidates on the stage are what usually draw a large audience to Candidates Night. This year, it was the elections for offices along the sides of the auditorium, the Town Meeting member races, that were the draw. It is likely that the issues of school enrollment growth and funding activated people to run for Town Meeting seats. The candidates took the election seriously and turned out to meet each other and constituents. Both groups remained to watch the forum.

The good news was that the school issue brought out candidates, resulting in the election of forty new Town Meeting members. The discouraging news is that it takes a high profile issue to get people to run. In addition, voter turnout remains low for local elections. A continuing challenge is get people to recognize the importance of town government and resident participation, either by running as a candidate or by voting to elect those who will represent them. The LWVA plays an important role in meeting this challenge through its voter service activities. Thank you to those who volunteer throughout the year. New ideas and more volunteers are welcome as we continue to work on this challenge. It would be wonderful to see lively races and increasing voter turnout each year.

I hope to see everyone at our upcoming Annual Meeting. Please come and bring a guest.

*Angela Olszewski*

*Directions to Nancy Gray's home (May 3 meeting):*

30 Mill St. Apt 304 is in the Brigham Square Apartments, to the left if you are coming from Mass. Ave., or to the right if you are coming from Summer Street.

The best parking is in the lot near the high school, down Millbrook Drive. The building entrance is on the right off the circular drive.



### 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.

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

**THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016**

**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 Clarissa Rowe, former member of the Arlington Board of Selectmen and current Chair of the Community Preservation Committee. Clarissa, a landscape architect, will discuss the impacts of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in Arlington, and how it relates to the proposed Mugar property development. We invite you to come and learn more about the many CPA achievements in our community.

Please RSVP by June 13 to Meredith Zona at 781-648-2753 or Meredith.Zona@stantec.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.

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*Initial Free Consultation for League Members*

## The League of Women Voters of Arlington



### Warrant Article Recommendations

The League supports article 7, a reduction of the parking requirements by special permit, which promotes the use of public transportation.

The League supports article 18, expanding equal protection to transgender and gender non-conforming persons, which promotes equal rights and equal opportunity for all.

The League supports article 22, tree protection and preservation, which promotes preserving the aesthetic appearance of the Town.

The League supports article 23, electronic distribution of notices and materials, which promotes the conservation of natural resources.

The League supports article 28, authorizing Community Choice Aggregation, which provides a path for Arlington's power supply to be derived from more sustainable, cleaner energy sources.

The League supports article 38, an appropriation — Mugar property application reviews, which supports efforts to minimize the impact of the proposed Mugar development.

The League supports article 47, maintenance of Water Bodies, which will provide an appropriation to the Water Bodies Fund for maintenance.

The League supports article 48, which will provide a sum of \$7500 for senior citizens to provide service in various Town departments.

The League supports article 57, appropriations — Community Preservation Fund, which enables the Town to acquire and preserve open space, create and restore land for recreational uses, preserve and rehabilitate historic buildings and sites, and create and support affordable housing.

The League supports article 59, a resolution — handicap parking spaces, which supports equal access to disabled members of the community.

The League supports article 5 of the Special Town Meeting which would appropriate a sum of money for an Arlington High School feasibility Study. The quality of the school buildings is a key aspect of creating a proper physical environment for the education of Arlington students.

*(Continued on next page)*



### Warrant Article Positions (Continued)

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, 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.

Carolyn Parsons (TMM, Pct. 18) and Angela Olszewski (TMM, Pct. 17)  
Co-Presidents, League of Women Voters of Arlington



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

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## Thank You, Candidates' Night Volunteers

*By Elizabeth Thompson  
Voter Service Chair, LWV of Arlington*

Despite the change of date to Tuesday, March 22, instead of the usual Thursday, everyone and all the plans worked together admirably. The size of the audience did not appear to suffer; in fact, I thought it was a bit larger than on previous Candidates' Nights. It also seemed that there were more constituents of Town Meeting Members attending to chat with their Town reps before the event. I especially thank our **Town Clerk, Stephanie Lucarelli** (and her staff) for preparing the address labels for the LWVA to send to all candidates for Town Meeting. The ease of parking this year versus last year's "Snowmageddon" conditions certainly helped.

We had able help from Vision 2020, including a new question reviewer, **Paul Bayer**, whom Vision 2020 Standing Committee Chair **Juli Brazile** found just in time to work with **LWVA members Joan Martin and Molly Flueckiger** to review and organize the questions roughly in order of the candidates' appearances on the Town Hall stage. **Juli** also coordinated with **Patsy Kraemer and the custodial staff (Greg) at Town Hall** for the setup work before and after the event.

**Arlington Swifty Printers** were fast and reliable with our printing orders for the postcard invitations sent to all the candidates for Town Meeting and for the tent cards for the tables where the candidates for major town offices would speak.

While the question reviewers were working behind the scenes, LWVA members **Carolyn Parsons, Meredith Zona, Ann Fitzgerald, Anne Linn, and Kim Haase** all helped out with the setup and with hanging precinct number signs so constituents could find their Town Meeting Members or candidates.

**Patti Muldoon of the LWVA** graciously introduced the live event, which was filmed by **Arlington Community Media, Inc. (ACMi)**, with the assistance of **Sean Keane, ACMi's Government Affairs Coordinator**, for later viewing by those who were not in Town Hall that evening.

Our great script writer of the **LWVA, Sue Fish**, and moderator **Margaret Coppe from the LWV of Lexington** repeated their past shining contributions. Margaret smoothly eased us over any small bumps and needs for clarification. The candidates were all friendly to each other and found a welcoming group of citizens to hear them. I kept thinking all evening, "We should ask those who have created such tumult in the presidential election to come to Arlington to see a model of civility in our town."

Holding stop watches and yellow and red signs to keep all on schedule within the speaking rules were the **LWVA timers: Liz Orange, Gwen Hooper, and new member Nancy Gray (originally from LWV NJ)**.

**Thanks again to everyone for all your help!**

## State Legislators Provide Updates at Brunch

*By Kim Haase*

A good-sized crowd of around 30 enjoyed an abundant pot-luck brunch at the home of our kind hosts Kathy and Paul Fennelly on April 3 and heard the latest State House news from State Senator Ken Donnelly and State Representative Sean Garballey. (Rep. Dave Rogers sent his regrets; he was unavoidably out of the state for personal reasons.)

Sen. Donnelly, who is now Majority Whip, began by describing the change of governance in the State Senate with the new President, Stanley Rosenberg, who has given committee chairs more power and initiated a more bottom-up approach to legislation. The Senate is more liberal than the House now and sometimes passes bills that get bogged down in the lower chamber.

Sen. Donnelly's highest legislative priorities are in mental health and substance abuse. The state needs to devote more resources to getting more of the mentally ill (who are often substance abusers too) into the care of the Department of Mental Health, where they get help with treatment and housing. The Arlington Youth Counseling Center plays a significant role in this. Many problems stem from the emptying of the state mental hospitals in the 1980s and the failure to provide enough community mental health services afterwards.

Sen. Donnelly also focuses on criminal justice reform. Bills have already been passed and signed to eliminate automatic driver's license suspension for drug offenses and to update the definition of felony larceny. A bail reform bill is making progress. Sen. Donnelly noted that we are stealing some of these ideas from states like Texas and Georgia, which make reforms partly to reduce prison costs; reforms make a great difference for people's lives, too.

*(Continued on next page)*

State Sen. Ken Donnelly and State Rep. Sean Garballey at the Legislators' Brunch April 3.

*Photo by Phyllis Maddox*





### Legislators' Brunch (Continued)

Rep. Garballey thanked the League for pressing for online voter registration, which is finally in effect and is increasing voter registrations. His major issues are transportation and families. The MBTA suffers from many years of underfunding as well as a structural deficit that partly results from its burden of the Big Dig debt, to which 30% of its budget goes. According to Rep. Garballey, the Commonwealth needs to assume this debt so that the T can fund necessary maintenance and repairs. For families, Rep. Garballey supports a proposal to set up a college savings account for every child born in the state, as Maine does; currently these accounts are used mainly by upper income families. Having such an account, even a small one, makes a difference in a student's decision to go to college.

Rep. Garballey also supports criminal justice reform, sponsoring a Restorative Justice bill that would help other communities do what Arlington and others have done. A restorative justice circle allows first-time minor offenders to meet with their victims along with police and social services to try to understand each other's situations and decide on restitution as well as social services to prevent further offenses. Such a program reduces recidivism and increases victim satisfaction.

Rep. Garballey passed a bill some years ago that adds mandated insurance coverage for children's hearing aids, and he is now trying to get coverage for a rare protein disorder.

Sen. Donnelly and Rep. Garballey answered questions from attendees on a number of topics: the Department of Mental Health, Lyme Disease insurance coverage, title issues for mortgages as a result of foreclosures, solar energy, gas pipelines, health insurance coverage, preventing the school-to-prison pipeline, the Do Not Call registry, the opiate prescription bill, affordable and low-income housing, Chapter 40B and the Mugar property, and the impact of the Presidential election.



Some of the audience at the Legislators' Brunch at the home of Kathy and Paul Fennelly.

*Photo by Phyllis Maddox*

## Vison 2020 Diversity Task Group Sponsors May Events

*By Janice Bakey*

On **May 10**, "**Stories of Stigma**" at Robbins Library Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave., 7 to 8:45 p.m., co-presented with True Story Theatre, explores aspects of feeling stigmatized — or stigmatizing others.

On **May 18**, "**Meet Fannie Barrier Williams**" at Robbins Library Community Room, 7 to 8:30 pm, is an engaging evening with a black woman activist who is visiting from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Dressed in late 1800s fashion, she will tell us about her life, using a modern Magic Lantern to show images from her times. While she experienced discrimination, she became a force for improving women's and blacks' rights. She'll answer our questions about her life.

On **May 25**, "**Being an active bystander workshop**" at Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., 7 to 9 pm, also co-presented with True Story Theatre, continues the focus on the existence and consequences of bias and stereotypes. The Bystander workshop offers attendees an opportunity to practice ways to be an active bystander. Note that we ask those who want to attend Bystander to register via Eventbrite at <https://beinganactivebystander.eventbrite.com>. This does not commit a person to attend; it is a way True Story Theater can gauge how many troupe members to bring to the event as role players.

**Our fiscal year began April 1, so please send in your dues if you haven't yet done so. 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
- 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

## **Thanks to our Election Day Drivers!**

We are grateful to those who volunteered to drive voters to the polls for the Town Election on April 2: Carolyn Parsons, Kathy Fennelly, and Ann FitzGerald.

*Phyllis Maddox*

**MAY 2016**

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

