

BULLETIN

League of Women Voters Arlington, Massachusetts www.lwva.com

May 2018

Calendar

5/1	Tuesday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board meeting at Patti Muldoon's home, 67 Smith St. All members welcome. Directions on page 2.
5/8	Tuesday 7 to 8:30 p.m.	Panel on Immigration Myths, Robbins Library Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave. Free and open to the public. See page 10 for details.
6/14	Thursday 6 p.m.	LWVA Annual Meeting and Potluck Party at Meredith Zona's home, 1 Andrews Way. The Annual Meeting Workbook will be sent to all members by May 31. All are welcome! See page 3 for details.

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

Susan Born, 18 School St., 02476

Margaret Ferris, 52 Bow St., 02474

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

It's been a long winter, but it looks like spring is finally here. Cold weather did not keep League members and guests from attending our annual Legislators Brunch. Many thanks to Kathy and Paul Fennelly for hosting and to Representatives Garballey and Rogers and Senator Friedman for speaking with us. We had a great turnout and fantastic food. This shows how engaged we are with our legislators and how much we care about issues happening locally and in our state.

While Candidates Night was another successful event, it was a bit disappointing that we had few candidates for town-wide office, especially when there were open seats. In years past, we would have to fine-tune the script to be sure we could squeeze into a cablecast time frame because of the number of people running. I also noticed few contested precincts for Town Meeting seats. I applaud people who ran, but also recognize that it is healthy when there is strong interest in holding a local government office. It could be a good challenge for the LWVA to find ways to encourage more people to run both for town-wide office and Town Meeting – something we could put on our agenda for next year.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in June for our annual meeting!

Angela Olszewski

Directions to Patti Muldoon's home:

Take Mass. Ave. to Arlington Heights, then

Left up hill on Dundee (across from Trader Joe's)

Right on Arnold Left up hill on Williams Right on Smith St.

If you're coming down Park Avenue, you can take Wollaston to Wilbur to Williams to Smith.

67 Smith St. is the brick house on the corner.



LWVA LEADERSHIP 2017–2018

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	617-966-4521
Kathleen Colwell, Treasurer	339-368-0313
Anne Linn, Secretary	781-643-0356
Elizabeth Thompson, Voter Service	781-646-5942
Ann FitzGerald, Membership Director	781-646-9711
Katharine Fennelly, Voters' Guide	781-648-1794
Kim Haase, Bulletin Editor	781-643-3429
Amy Pearsall, Publicity	646-483-8709
Margaret Reiners, Bulletin Mailing	781-646-9611
Janice Bakey, Email Coordinator	781-643-4345
Diana Eastman, Webmistress	774-266-3422
Colleen Kirby, Board Member at Large	781-648-2447
Nancy Gray, Board Member at Large	781-646-4590

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 14, 2018

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 will be Linda Shoemaker, Executive Director of the Arlington Center for the Arts (ACA). ACA offers more than 250 programs annually in the visual, literary, and performing arts, with classes and workshops for all ages. We invite you to come and learn more about what's happening with the art scene in Arlington.

Please RSVP by June 11 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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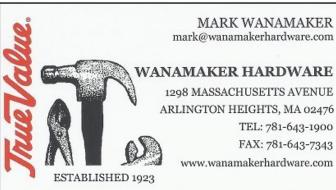
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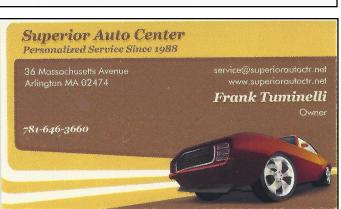
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Arlington High School Building Forum

By Nancy Gray

I went to the forum at Town Hall on Wednesday, April 4, about our old high school. It was one of several that the Town of Arlington has held to help residents decide to either rebuild Arlington High School or renovate it. The forum included a tour, an explanation about the Massachusetts board (the Massachusetts School Building Authority) that recommends classroom sizes and many, many parameters new high schools need — and more important, it helps with paying for it if it is to their recommendations — which seems logical to me. Rebuilding seems to be winning out. The meeting was quite well attended. Good questions were asked afterwards but only one woman seemed to think the old building should be retained and fixed up.

The architects showed slides and described seven different ways the school could be rebuilt. Then they put the plans on foam core on easels around the room, with details. They gave everybody in the audience three sticky colored circles. We were to put our circles on the plans we liked best.

The total rebuild, six stories high, on the grass meadow in front of the current high school didn't get many circles — too urban was the general opinion. Notable about building that one was that the existing high school could carry on and be torn down later.

Interesting to me was that all models have six floors. So why the fuss about that plan? The new school will be built on the same hill. It does keep "pods" together: humanities, science, maker space, theater, better gyms, and so on. There are two old parts of the high school that may be kept in the rebuild.

There is an issue of site contamination once the asphalt is broken up for rebuild. The thought was that the bogland behind the high school could get a different drainage and be useful for biology studies.

Matthew Janger, Principal of AHS, talked for quite a while about his excitement about the project — and some dread, of course.

You can view the plans at www.facebook.com/ahsbuilding/ and at www.ahsbuilding.org.



League of Women Voters for its contribution to our community

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Legislators Brunch Informs Voters

By Kim Haase

Kathy and Paul Fennelly welcomed all of Arlington's state legislators, many League members and friends, and members of the public to their home for the LWVA's annual Legislators Brunch on Sunday, April 8. As usual, everyone enjoyed a delicious potluck brunch, followed by a session with our legislators.



After brunch, Co-President Carolyn Parsons thanked the Fennellys for hosting. Colleen Kirby thanked the legislators for passing the criminal justice reform bill, which was then on Governor Charlie Baker's desk (he later signed it).

State Senator Cindy Friedman reported on the busy year she has had since the end of July, when she was elected to the seat formerly held by the late Ken Donnelly. Sen. Friedman was especially glad to have passed bail reform, one of Sen. Donnelly's signature issues. She is also focusing on programs that divert people with substance abuse and mental health issues from the criminal justice system into treatment; 70% of substance abusers have underlying mental health issues. She is the Senate chair of the Substance Abuse, Mental Health and Recovery Committee, working on rewriting an opioid bill. Other issues she is working on are the \$15 minimum wage and wage theft.

State Representative Dave Rogers, who represents Precincts 2, 4, 8, 10, and 12 in Arlington, is in his third term, which he considers his most productive yet. He wrote the marijuana legalization bill that was then passed by the voters as a ballot question. The legislature has been revising the bill; of 14 changes he proposed, 7 passed. Rep. Rogers was also involved with the criminal justice reform bill, focusing on raising the larceny threshold, bail reform, reform of solitary confinement, and ending some mandatory minimum sentences.

State Representative Sean Garballey, who represents the other 16 Arlington precincts, is celebrating his 10th year in the House (he was elected in a special election in March 2008). His main issue for many years has been restorative justice, which is included in the current reform bill. He commended the advocacy of the LWVMA's criminal justice specialists -- currently Colleen Kirby, formerly Patti Muldoon. He hopes to pursue compassionate release (medical parole for terminally ill prisoners to better treatment facilities). Other issues he is working on include allowing students with intellectual disabilities to attend college; an energy bill to move to 100% renewable energy, which won't pass this session because of opposition by the utilities; the Extreme Risk Protection Order bill (ERPO, also called "red flag"), which may well pass; and paid family and medical leave.

The legislators then answered questions.

What are the chances of reviving the Equal Rights Amendment? Is anything going on at the state level? Sen. Friedman said that women's rights issues are playing out on the individual policy level, for example, with sexual harassment laws and the Protect Access to Confidential Healthcare (PATCH) Act, recently passed and signed. Rep. Rogers cited the recently passed Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA), which requires employers to make reasonable accommodations for pregnancy, which is not a disability. He got 110 cosponsors on the PWFA, making its passage possible -- he has learned never to be in his office, but always to collaborate with other legislators.

Who pays for the care for medically paroled prisoners? Rep. Garballey said that Mass Health covers it.

How does the criminal justice reform bill deal with the fact that opioid use disorder is a chronic condition? Sen. Friedman replied that treatment includes redesigned mental health and substance abuse facilities in communities, along with treatment teams (physicians, social workers, etc.) that support all aspects of the patient's care, including treatment and counseling. The big issue will be funding. They are trying both to add funding and to use accountable care organizations that get per capita funding.

(Continued on page 9)



Arlingtonians at the Legislators Brunch.

Photo by Phyllis Maddox

The Swiss Watchmaker

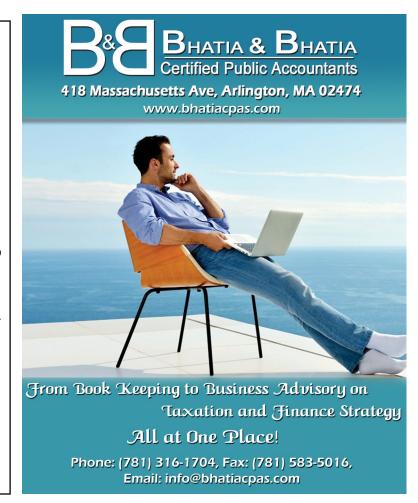
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Legislators Brunch (Continued)

How can the legislature deal with the Governor's proposal to pass pipeline costs to consumers and to classify methane as renewable energy? Rep. Garballey said that he asked the chair of the committee to stop this definition of a natural resource. An amendment to the budget could write this into law, but it would be better if the House took up the Senate's climate change bill (which is not likely to happen this session, because an energy bill was passed last session). Rep. Rogers said that courts have ruled that utilities can't pass on pipeline costs to ratepayers, and that the last energy bill had some good things in it: wind development, fixing more gas leaks. Sen. Friedman said that the Governor had conceded that gas was not renewable and was amenable to codification of that definition. She and Rep. Rogers noted that criminal justice reform had taken 10 years of concerted voter pressure, and that a comprehensive energy bill would require disparate advocacy groups to unite behind it, along with voters.

What should we voters focus our advocacy efforts on? Sen. Friedman suggested getting the energy bill being worked on in the Senate to increase the target percentage of renewables from 1% to 3% per year. Rep. Garballey suggested the foundation budget review, especially with regard to special education. Rep. Rogers suggested the bills on the minimum wage, paid family leave, and the Fair Share amendment; if the legislature passes them, they won't need to go to the voters. He hoped people would advocate against the bill that would cut the sales tax. The Supreme Judicial Court will be ruling on the constitutionality of the Fair Share amendment; it may rule that it can't earmark the tax for education and transportation, or it may rule against the entire amendment.

Will the Healthy Incentives Program (fruits and vegetables as part of SNAP) continue? Rep. Garballey said it's included in the supplemental budget; it was so popular that it ran out of money.



Rep. Sean Garballey, Sen. Cindy Friedman, and Rep. Dave Rogers at the Legislators Brunch on April 8.

Photo by Phyllis Maddox

Our Legislators Brunch: Some History

By Colleen Kirby

For several years, the League of Women Voters of Arlington has held an annual February or April brunch on a Sunday at Kathy Fennelly's house. Kathy and Janice Bakey are responsible for the baked ham and punch, and Kathy and her husband Paul are always gracious hosts. The brunch is a potluck so members who enjoy showing off their favorite dish have this opportunity to shine. We start off with brunch and a general networking so individuals can speak to their legislators one on one, or with other members whom they may not have seen in a while. Then we retire to the living room, where the legislators get the comfy chairs and the audience hears about what they've been doing over the year and what they hope to do in the future. There is always an in-depth question and answer period.

Over the years there have been many hostesses, including Bernice Jones, Peg Spengler, Carma Forgie, Meredith Zona, and Kathy Fennelly.

Kathy took over hosting the brunch from Carma Forgie over 10 years ago. Carma's house had a fantastic view of Boston. She used real china and silver and glass wine glasses. Kathy said, "The food has always been wonderful and the conversations with legislators interesting." Our legislators always make sure to attend this brunch as it has been such a long tradition in Arlington. We give the legislators several weekends to choose from to make sure they can all attend.

5 Great Myths About Immigration

Panel Discussion - All Are Welcome - free of charge

Tuesday, May 8th, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Robbins Library Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave, Arlington

Panelists:

- Aviva Chomsky, Professor of History and Coordinator of Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Studies, Salem State University. Author of, "They Take Our Jobs! And 20 other myths about immigration"
- Irma Flores, Community Engagement Specialist, City of Somerville
- Jeffrey Thielman, President and CEO, International Institute of New England; Arlington School Committee member

Moderated by Erin Goodman, Associate Director of Academic Programs, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, Harvard University

Sponsored by International Institute of New England and the Arlington-Teosinte Sister City Project

Other Supporters: Centro Presente, Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA), Oxfam, Refugee Immigration Ministry (RIM)

Beyond the March: Women Leading the Way in Massachusetts LWVMA Conference April 28, 2018 Some Highlights

By Colleen Kirby

Kim Haase, Pat Lieberson, and I attended the conference at Clark University. The first speaker, Barbara Berenson, wrote *Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement: Revolutionary Reformers*. (See http://cohasset.wickedlocal.com/entertainmentlife/20180329/getting-votenew-book-highlights-massachusetts-suffragettes for an article with more details.)

Ms. Berenson is also a senior attorney at the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court.

Ms. Berenson started off the history of the Woman Suffrage movement with the Grimke sisters of South Carolina, who came to Massachusetts to speak out about abolition in 1837, challenging the boundaries of what women could do, and writing many tracts on the Condition of Women and on Abolition. She told us about the first Convention on Women's Rights held in Seneca Falls under the aegis of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony, then argued that the real start was in 1850 at the Movement for Women's Rights in Worcester where 1000 women from 11 states created a structure and committees to support a grassroots initiative to push for women's rights. This movement held a convention annually. Lucy Stone (first Massachusetts woman to obtain a college degree) was one of the major leaders, and Sojourner Truth spoke at the inaugural meeting. The movement was put on hold during the Civil War.

After the war, the fight over extending the vote to black men with the 15th amendment split the women's movement, with Lucy Stone supporting it and both Stanton and Anthony opposing it. This schism led to Lucy Stone being ignored when the 6-volume History of Women's Suffrage was composed by Stanton and Anthony, and thus to our current lack of knowledge of her key role in women's suffrage. After the 15th amendment was ratified in 1870, the abolitionists did not all support enfranchising women, which delayed women getting the right to vote.

Lucy Stone persevered and helped form American Women Suffrage Association groups in every state. She also wrote a weekly "Women's Journal" from 1870-1920. One co-founder of AWSA, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, edited her own journal "The Women's Era" from 1886-1897. She was the first African-American woman to publish a newspaper for black women. Despite the strong campaigning in the East, it was Wyoming that first allowed women to vote in 1869. In Massachusetts, women fought for and gained the right to vote only for School Committee members in 1879, then in 1895 they lost a ballot measure to vote in local and municipal elections.

Lucy Stone and AWSA expanded their coalition to unions and men's groups, marched in parades, gave speeches on soapboxes to attract new converts, heckled politicians against women's voting rights, and went door-to-door canvassing. Nevertheless they lost in 4 Northeastern states. So they changed their strategy to lobbying at the federal level for an amendment, under the inspiration of Alice Paul and her radicals in the National Women's Party. In 1918, the 19th amendment passed in the House but failed in the Senate by two votes. At this point, the movement targeted Senators who had voted against, primarily Sen. John Weeks of Massachusetts and a Senator in New Jersey, both of whom were defeated. In 1920, the 19th amendment passed after 80 years of campaigning.

(Continued on next page)

LWVMA Conference (Continued)

The League of Women Voters was born out of the suffrage movement to educate women about how to use their newly won rights. Although women gained the right to vote in 1920, it wasn't until 1950 that they gained the right to serve on juries in Massachusetts.

Barbara Berenson says that what she learned from writing her book and researching this history was how important it is to Speak Out, Organize, Build Coalitions, Persuade, Protest, and Persist.

We heard from many inspiring women politicians: Lisa Wong, former Mayor of Fitchburg; Ruthanne Fuller, first woman mayor of Newton; Councilor Sarai Rivera, first Latina Councilor in Worcester; Mayor Yvonne Spicer, first mayor, first woman mayor, first black mayor of Framingham; and Congresswoman Niki Tsongas. Basically they all espoused that "The agenda changes when women are in power," as so well said by Mayor Ruthanne Fuller.

I also live-tweeted the final speaker, Professor Daniel Ziblatt of Harvard University, who spoke about his new book, *How Democracies Die* (with Steven Levitsky). But you'll have to go to @kirby_cho on Twitter to see that.



Congresswoman Niki Tsongas speaks at the LWVMA Conference.

Photo by Colleen Kirby

Worcester City Councilor Sarai Rivera, Newton Mayor Ruthanne Fuller, and Framingham Mayor Yvonne Spicer in a panel moderated by former Fitchburg mayor Lisa Wong.

Photo by Colleen Kirby



Our fiscal year began April 1, so it's time to pay next year's dues! Thank you so much for your support.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON Membership Application/Renewal Form				
Fiscal Year runs from April 1 to March 31	Dunainat Data			
Name	Precinct Date Zip Occupation			
Address	Zip Occupation			
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Please indicate if you do NOT want your c	ontact information sent to Arlington League members			
Basic Membership Dues	\$60			
2nd member in household	\$23			
Student (full-time)	\$20			
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If \$60 is a hardship, please pay what you can and let us know that this is your dues payment.				
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************	***************			
Please check areas of interest and activity even if you	can't be actively involved THIS year.			
SPECIAL LEAGUE ACTIVITIES	FOLLOW ISSUES, KEEP LEAGUE			
Join the Board. Position:	AND COMMUNITY INFORMED			
Action: phone calls letters	Congress/Presidency/Election Process			
Bulletin: mailing soliciting ads	Discrimination/Equal Employment/Civil Rights			
Membership	Education/Child Care			
Nominating Committee	Environment/Recycling			
Publicity Writer	Health Care			
Voter Service: Rides to the polls	Justice/Courts/Prisons			
Candidates Night	Land Use			
Voters' Guide	Taxation/Budgets/Deficits			
Attend State League's Phonothon	Transportation/Urban Policy			
Be a discussion leader at local meetings	Voting Rights			
Fundraising activities	Warrant Articles Review			
Offer meeting refreshments	Welfare Policies/Basic Human Needs			
Post fliers and deliver brochures	Women's Issues			
Host a meeting in my home	Zoning/Community Development/Land Use			
Monitor elections for nonprofit organizations				
	SKILLS LEAGUE COULD DRAW ON			
OBSERVE AT	Computer databaseFundraising			
TOWN BOARD MEETINGS*	Graphic designWriting articles			
Selectmen (Mondays)	Desktop publishing Other			
Redevelopment Board (Mondays)	Web site maintenance			
School Committee (2nd & 4th Thursdays)	Membership development			
Conservation Commission (1st & 3rd Thurs.)	Moderating meetings			
Housing Authority				
<u> </u>	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 Rides to the Polls volunteers!

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On Town Election Day, April 7, we offered rides to the polls. Several of you offered to serve as drivers.

Nobody took us up on our offer, but since my number was in the Advocate, I got several calls from people wondering what their precinct was and where to vote. So we did community service.

Phyllis Maddox



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