



BULLETIN
lwva.com

May 2022

Calendar

May 3	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.
May 5	Thursday 7 p.m.	Cybersecurity talk, Robbins Library Community Room. See page 7 for details.
June 14	Tuesday 6 pm	LWVA Annual Meeting, live and in person, fingers crossed!! Meredith Zona will once again host our potluck, with School Superintendent Dr. Elizabeth Homan as our guest speaker. See page 3 for details!
	Any time	Please pay your annual dues if you haven't already! You can use the form on page 9.

Note: The Annual Meeting Workbook will be emailed to members at the end of May.

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

I am thrilled to announce that Dr. Elizabeth Homan, Superintendent of the Arlington Public Schools, will be our guest speaker at Annual Meeting to be held in June. Having a prompt, enthusiastic response from Dr. Homan is a welcome relief. Dr. Homan will speak a bit about her background, the status of construction at Arlington High, curriculum updates, future challenges, and whatever else might be of interest.

The Board of the LWVA voted to support Warrant Articles 25 and 76 on the agenda for this year's Town Meeting. (See page 5 for details.)

League member Jo Ann Preston has volunteered to find out what possibilities exist for replacing the Arlington Votes signs. The current state of the signs is rather pitiful. The aluminum feet keep snapping, and many signs are rather moldy looking. The wind was not our friend during the week before the Town election. The signs just would not stay where they were put!

Carolyn Parsons



LWVA LEADERSHIP 2021–2022

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
Kim Haase, Bulletin Editor/Ads	781-643-3429
Margaret Reiners, Bulletin Mailing	781-646-9611
Janice Bakey, Email Coordinator	781-643-4345
Diana Eastman, 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.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND LWV ARLINGTON'S
ANNUAL MEETING & PARTY – IN PERSON!!!**

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2022

**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 **Dr. Elizabeth Homan, Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools**. Originally from the Midwest, Dr. Homan began her career as an 8th grade English and Communications teacher while also teaching college writing and rhetoric. She went on to earn her PhD at The University of Michigan, where her dissertation focused on how secondary teachers' relationships with colleagues impact their adoption of rigorous and innovative teaching practices. During her doctoral work, she supervised and taught teachers in the Detroit Public Schools and surrounding areas. She moved to Massachusetts with her family in 2014, where she worked in the Boston Public Schools and Waltham Public Schools as a K-12 administrator. She began as Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools in July 2021. She and her husband live in Newton, and are the parents of two young children.

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.

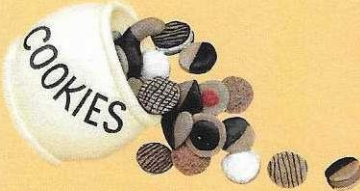
Friends, neighbors, spouses, etc., are most welcome!

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; then follow directions in italics above.



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LWVA Supports Two Town Meeting Warrant Articles

By Carolyn Parsons

The League of Women Voters of Arlington (LWVA) supports **Article 25**, an act authorizing the town of Arlington to offer early in-person voting in Town elections. The article sets minimum requirements for location, dates, and hours. Increased access to the electoral process is integral to ensuring that every American can exercise their right to vote.

The LWVA supports **Article 76**, a resolution declaring that the Alewife Brook in East Arlington is a valuable natural resource area for Arlington residents. The article urges Town officials to engage with the regulatory process to clean up Alewife Brook. The LWV of the United States has encouraged local leagues to take action based on the following statement: The preservation of the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of the earth's ecosystem is essential for the maximum protection of public health and the environment.

LWVMA Urges Support for Water Management Bill

By Irmgard Behlau and Virginia Fettig, LWV Westwood/Walpole/Dedham

Bill S.530 (the “Drought Bill,” <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S530>) is currently in Senate Ways & Means, and we would encourage League members to help move it forward.

We had the privilege of hosting Kerry Snyder, JD, Advocacy Director of the Neponset River Authority, who presented “Spring into Stormwater Resiliency and Preparedness” on April 11, 2022 to LWV Westwood/Walpole/Dedham.

The meeting recording is available at this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/FCIcOEPWMMD-RScHMIF2fyPQlcnIKpNqpubo795QOu0C2HVTQJ7Vm_DBy-WnQo9p.5rUeHtojYCzasktF

As we all are learning by witnessing wide fluctuations in weather — flash storms alternating with droughts — climate change is here and advancing.

Bill S.530 is the number one priority of the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance (visit <https://www.massriversalliance.org/advocacy> for more information. Contacting Ways & Means or asking your legislator to contact Ways & Means would be a big help!

Thank you for contacting your legislators to support the Drought Bill, S.530.

[*Editor’s Note:* You can view Natural Resources Specialist Carolyn Lee’s testimony in support of the bill at <https://lwvma.org/advocacy/league-supported-legislation-2/>. Sen. Cindy Friedman is not currently listed as a co-sponsor, though both of our Representatives are co-sponsors of the House version, H.898.]





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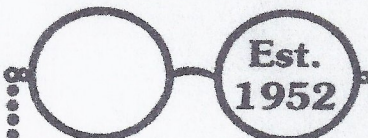
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Contacting Our Elected Officials: Some Tips

From the League of Women Voters of the US

The strength of our democracy depends on citizens getting involved and engaging our government. Keep these tips handy when contacting your elected officials.

- Politicians are most interested in the words of the people who vote for them. Identify yourself as a constituent of the legislator you're contacting.
- Whether writing or calling your legislators, focus on a single topic. You'll be more effective and receive a faster response.
- Ask the legislator to take specific action, like supporting a piece of legislation. Ask for a written response that gives your legislator's position on the issue.
- Make your points quickly and concisely to have a greater impact.
- When talking about an issue, it's best to use your own words.

US Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121

Cybersecurity is National Security: Bridging the Gap

Lauren Zabierek, Executive Director of the Cyber Project at Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, answers important questions about cybersecurity.

How do cyberthreats impact our safety, security, and wellbeing?

Supported by a civic engagement series grant from the Arlington Libraries Foundation.

Thursday, May 5

7:00 p.m.

Robbins Library Community Room

<https://robbinslibrary.org/events>



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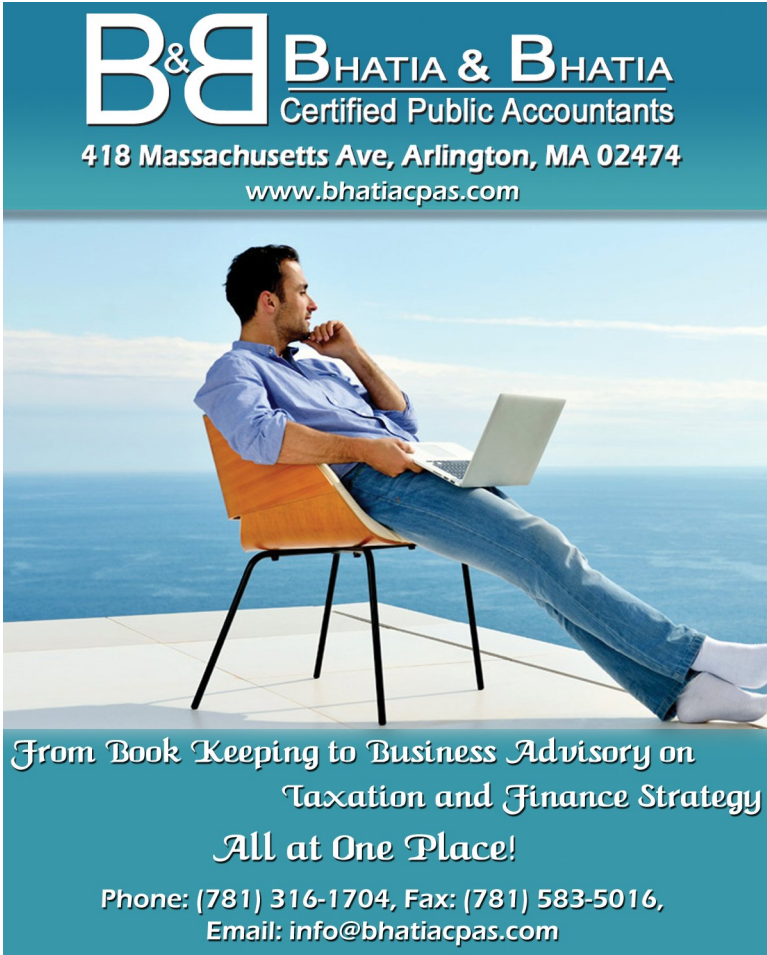
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Member dues are due (our fiscal year began April 1). Thank you!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ARLINGTON Membership Application/Renewal Form

Fiscal Year runs from April 1 to March 31

Name, Address, Telephone, Precinct, Date, Zip, Occupation, 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

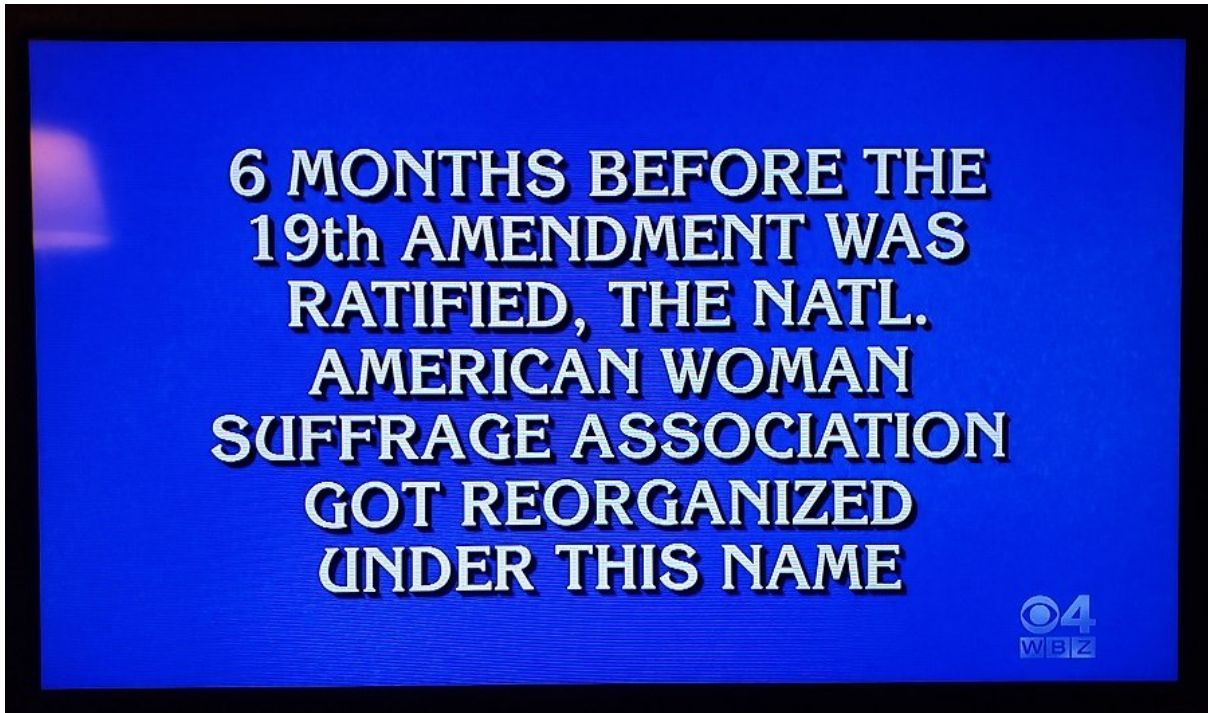
- Writing articles, Computer spreadsheet, Desktop publishing, Website management, Moderating meetings, Membership development

*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)

Under the category "The League Leader," this answer appeared on *Jeopardy!* April 20, 2022.



May 2022

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

