

# *BULLETIN*

League of Women Voters  
Arlington, Massachusetts

*www.lwva.com*

## September 2012

### Calendar

9/6	Thursday 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Massachusetts State Primary Election, on an unusual day. If you can give rides to the polls, please contact Phyllis Maddox. See last page for details. For more information on the primary, see page 3.
9/10	Monday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board Meeting at Anne Linn's home, 7 Linden St. All members welcome. See page 2 for directions.
9/15	Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Arlington Town Day, Arlington Center. The LWVA booth needs volunteers! See below for details. Rain date is September 22.
10/2	Tuesday 5 to 7 p.m.	Special event to honor longtime League member Jane Howard, Selectmen's Hearing Room, Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave. Save the date!
10/10	Wednesday 7 p.m.	League Meeting with Alan Manoian, Arlington's new Economic Development Coordinator, at Meredith Zona's home, 1 Andrews Way. More details will appear in the October Bulletin.

### **HEADS UP - WE NEED YOU! FOR THE LEAGUE'S TOWN DAY BOOTH SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2012**

Summer is nearing an end, and Arlington's Town Day is approaching fast. As in past years, LWV Arlington will have a booth at this event that will be loaded with information about voter registration, redistricted precincts and their polling places, precinct maps, League membership, policies, and activities, and other voter service literature. We are looking for volunteers to work in 1- or 2-hour increments from 9 AM to 4 PM.

This is an interesting, fast-moving event, with two to three people at the booth at all times. So whether you're a seasoned Town Day worker, or have recently joined the League and would be able to assist for one or two hours, Town Day is for you! If you can help out, please call Meredith Zona at 781-648-2753, or send an email to Meredith at [mzona@fstinc.com](mailto:mzona@fstinc.com).

Two articles on page 5 have more details on our Town Day plans.

**Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski:** Co-Presidents  
[CarolynMParsons@msn.com](mailto:CarolynMParsons@msn.com), [amolshzewski@gmail.com](mailto:amolshzewski@gmail.com)  
**Ann FitzGerald:** Membership [AnnFitz@rcn.com](mailto:AnnFitz@rcn.com)

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**Margaret Reiners:** Bulletin Mailing [mlreiners@gmail.com](mailto:mlreiners@gmail.com)

## Co-President's Message

Dear League Members,

It seems as if summer just started, but now Labor Day is upon us. We are looking forward to a great year of League programs!

In September, we will be having our booth at Town Day and undertaking the important activity of registering people to vote. We will be offering rides to the polls for the fall elections. In October, we will host a discussion with Arlington's new economic development officer. LWVA members, along with all the town's residents, will also be invited to participate in Arlington's master plan process. The board is already planning our holiday event, which will be held at the beginning of December.

Each program provides an opportunity for League members to participate, learn, and share. Please remember that most LWVA programs are open to the public and members are always invited to bring guests.

Please review this bulletin for the dates of our upcoming events and ways you can get involved.

*Angela Olszewski*

### ***Directions to Anne Linn's home, 23 Brewster Road, Arlmont:***

7 Linden Street is just off Park Avenue in Arlington Heights. If you are coming from Massachusetts Avenue, it is a left turn, just after Florence Avenue and before Oakland Avenue. If you are coming from Route 2, of course, it is a right turn just after Oakland Avenue.

It is the first house on Linden Street, on the right.

### **LWVA LEADERSHIP 2012–2013**

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
Patricia Lieberman, Local Action VP	781-646-1987
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
Betsy Rulon, Publicity	781-648-0169
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

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.

## State Primary September 6 Offers Important Contests

*By Kim Haase*

The Massachusetts State Primary election is unusually early this year and is on an unusual day as well, Thursday, September 6. Many voters are aware that the U.S. Senate has no primary contest. However, there are contests for several important offices.

The following offices will be on the primary ballot:

Senator in Congress

Representative in Congress (Fifth District)

Councillor (Third District)

Senator in General Court (4th Middlesex District)

Arlington Pcts. 2, 4, 8, 10, 12: Representative in General Court (24th Middlesex district)

Arlington Pcts. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13 through 21: Representative in General Court (23rd Middlesex district)

Clerk of Courts

Register of Deeds

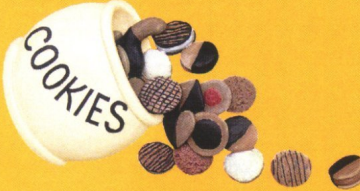
Sheriff

On the Democratic ballot, there is a three-way contest for the nomination to the Governor's Council. Arlington is now in the Third District (previously, it was in the Sixth), and the incumbent, Marilyn Petitto Devaney of Watertown, has two challengers: Harry S. Margolis of Brookline and Charles N. Shapiro of Newton. There is also a six-way nomination contest for Register of Deeds (the incumbent is retiring). The candidates are Robert B. Antonelli of Somerville, Frank J. Ciano of Arlington, Thomas B. Concannon, Jr., of Newton, Maria C. Curtatone of Somerville, Tiziano Doto of Wakefield, and Maryann M. Heuston of Somerville. If you are in the 24th Middlesex district for State Representative, there is a three-way nomination contest for the currently vacant seat, and the candidates are Margaret A. Hegarty of Belmont, Robert Paul Reardon, Jr., of Belmont, and David M. Rogers of Cambridge.

On the Republican ballot, there is a three-way contest for the nomination for the Congressional seat currently held by Democrat Ed Markey. The candidates are Frank John Addivinola, Jr., of Boston, Jeffrey M. Semon of Lexington, and Tom Tierney of Framingham.

For details on the ballots, visit <http://www.wheredoivotema.com/bal/myelectioninfo.aspx>.

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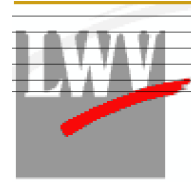
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*Initial Free Consultation for League Members*

## Environmental Action News

*By Elizabeth Thompson*



At the LWVA booth at Town Day, the LWVA will distribute a number of illustrated materials to increase public awareness of how citizens can look for and identify two huge invasive beetle pests that are moving into eastern Massachusetts: the Asian Long-horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer, both of which are a gigantic threat to all New England forests and billions of dollars of commercial activity and tourism, as well as millions of acres in other parts of the USA and Canada. The LWVA is in discussions with ACMI and with the town's Tree Committee about a using a video production, produced by the Nature Conservancy, as a means to educate the public about these insect invaders.

## Voter Service News

*By Elizabeth Thompson*

On Aug. 16, I visited the office of Stephanie Lucarelli, the Arlington Town Clerk, to gather various materials the LWVA needs for Voter Service activities this fall. The League will again have all the available forms needed at Town Day on Sept. 15, 2012 to assist voters with various aspects of voter registration for the Presidential Election: voter registration forms, change of name forms, and change of address forms for moves within the town.

The Clerk's office also gave us a list of the redistricted precincts and their polling places, along with a copy of the most recent True List of all residents of the town, and samples of all types of Absentee Ballots for the State Primary so we know who is officially running for the 3 parties (Republican, Democratic, and Green). The planning office provided us with a poster-size version of the updated Precinct Map, and a complete set of PDF files so that we can print out a map of individual pages for each precinct. Unfortunately, the shortest streets do not all show their actual street names, but there is enough information so that a curious resident can stop by our booth and find the nearest longer streets in their precinct. The polling places are also marked. The League will have a couple of printed sets of the individual precinct maps available if people stop by our Town Day Booth to ask us to show them their precinct.

The League expresses its thanks to Stephanie Lucarelli and to Adam Kurowski, the Town's GIS Coordinator in the Planning Office, for their kind and ready assistance in these tasks.

## Welcome New Member

We extend a warm welcome to our newest LWVA member:

Lori Kenschaft  
68 Crosby St.  
Arlington, MA 02474  
781-648-2787




Margaret Potter  
*Director*

Arlington Heights Nursery School  
10 Acton Street, Arlington, MA 02476  
(t) 781-646-8499 (f) 339-707-6013 [www.ahnschool.org](http://www.ahnschool.org)



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

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## **Robbins Library: An Opportunity to Help**

*By Kathy Fennelly*

The strength of Arlington lies in the generosity of its citizens. We are proud of the way the Robbins Library contributes to our community with books, ebooks, research materials, movies, children's programs, music CDs, audio books and Internet access. The two free rooms of the Robbins Library are in constant use for programs and community groups. Please consider helping us make the Library even more accessible by restoring some of the lost hours.

Sunday openings of the Robbins Library from October through May have proven to be VERY popular, attracting on average around 400 visitors each Sunday afternoon in just three open hours. Last year, thanks to the support of our community, we were able to open in September and keep the Library open through June.

The cost of keeping the Robbins Library open from 2-5 pm for one Sunday is \$1,200.00. This amount covers the ten staff people needed to operate the Library and utilities. The staff includes librarians in both Reference and the Children's Room, circulation assistants, pages and a custodian.

We know that by joining our contributions together, we, as an organization, can make a difference, and open the doors of the Library on Sunday afternoons.

If you choose to donate to this project, you will be listed at the Robbins Library as a member of the LWV and sponsor of our Sundays. And any amount you can donate is welcome.

Check should be made out to Friends of Robbins Library, and sent to: 700 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476

You can also donate online: <http://www.robbinslibrary.org/giving/donor-program>; there is a space to write in League of Women Voters.

*Kathy Fennelly is a longtime member of the LWV of Arlington and Chair of the Robbins Library Board of Trustees.*

## LWVA to Co-Sponsor Arlington Community Education Conversations with David Whitford on Public Affairs

Join *Fortune* magazine editor-at-large and Arlington resident David Whitford as he engages influential thinkers, writers and leaders in discussions about topics that shape our world. Pre-registration is encouraged; walk-ins are welcome as space allows. Each event is \$5.00.

### Thursday, October 18, 7:30 to 9 pm

#### **13 Days in October:**

#### **The Cuban Missile Crisis 50 Years Later**

*Thomas Putnam, Director, JFK Library*

*As the nation and the world mark the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis, JFK Library Director (and Arlington resident) Tom Putnam will recount how the crisis unfolded. Unique archival video and excerpts from secretly recorded tapes will bring these events back to life. Relive the drama of those famous thirteen days, learn how close the world came to a nuclear exchange, and discuss how lessons gleaned from this history might apply to our times.*

**Tom Putnam** joined the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum in 1999 as Director of Education and was appointed Director in 2007. He is a graduate of the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and was a Fulbright Scholar in Senegal, West Africa.

### Thursday, November 15, 7:30 to 9 pm

#### **What Now? A Post-Election Roundtable**

*MIT's Andrea Campbell and Guests*

*How do we explain voter choice in the 2012 election? And what does the election mean for the future of the economy and jobs, health care, entitlement reform, tax policy, and immigration? In this post-election roundtable, we will analyze the outcome of the election and discuss the implications for public policy. With the nation's fiscal future hanging in the balance, the 2012 presidential and congressional races offered voters two starkly different visions for the role of government. We will discuss the choices made by different groups of voters, and how those groups are likely to fare going forward.*

**Andrea Campbell** is professor in the political science department at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She will be joined by colleagues in the field.

### Thursday, November 29, 7:30 to 9 pm

#### **Making Evidence Matter: The Role of Science in US Policy**

*Kevin Knobloch, Union of Concerned Scientists*

*In recent years, a partisan political climate and noisy media landscape together have created an environment where science is easily drowned out by misinformation or manipulated by private interests. Meanwhile, our leaders grapple with some of the most complex and daunting problems in history, such as climate change, the spread of nuclear weapons, and transition to a clean energy economy. Kevin Knobloch, Arlington resident and president of the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS), will discuss how the UCS's Center for Science and Democracy works to restore the essential role of science, evidence-based knowledge, and constructive debate in US policymaking.*

**Kevin Knobloch** became president of the Union of Concerned Scientists in 2003. He has also served as UCS's Legislative Director for Arms Control and National Security and has led UCS delegations to the United Nations International Climate negotiations. He is a graduate of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



*From the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, August 1, 2012:*

## **Massachusetts State Legislature Calls on Congress to Enact Constitutional Amendment Reversing *Citizens United* Decision**

***Massachusetts joins Rhode Island, Vermont, California, Maryland, New Mexico and Hawaii in calling for an amendment to restore democracy***

BOSTON – The Massachusetts State House passed a resolution yesterday [July 31] calling on the United States Congress to enact a federal Constitutional Amendment to reverse the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*, and restore fair elections and constitutional rights to the people. The State House vote follows recent action in the State Senate, which passed a similar resolution on Thursday.

In an overwhelming bipartisan victory, both chambers passed resolutions just before the end of the annual legislative session, with the State House voting by voice vote last night, following the State Senate, which voted 35 to 1 on Thursday. In the Senate vote, all Republicans joined the majority in approving the resolution.

The 2010 *Citizens United* decision overturned decades-old laws restricting corporate expenditures, ruling that they violated the First Amendment’s protection of free speech. The decision dramatically expanded the fabricated “corporate rights” doctrine and has unleashed a flood of corporate money into federal, state, and local elections.

“The *Citizens United* decision is a tremendous threat to our democracy,” said Rep. Cory Atkins, the House sponsor of the resolution. “The very integrity of our political system is at stake, and I am proud of the House for passing this resolution yesterday and, along with the Senate, sending a strong message that our democracy isn’t for sale.”

In the wake of the *Citizens United* decision, campaign spending by outside groups has skyrocketed. In the 2010 election cycle, the first since the Supreme Court decision, outside groups spent nearly \$300 million.

“The vote in Boston yesterday is going to carry national significance for this movement. Not only have seven states now called on Congress to act, but the latest has done so with impressive bipartisan support,” said John Bonifaz, the co-founder and director of Free Speech For People, a national campaign launched on the day of the *Citizens United* ruling to press for an Amendment to the Constitution to overturn the ruling and make clear that corporations are not people with constitutional rights. “With this vote, Massachusetts lawmakers of both parties are helping to lead the way in restoring American democracy to the people,” Bonifaz said.

Super PACs have emerged as a result of the Supreme Court’s decision, amassing huge amounts of money used for attack ads, such as those aired this past spring during the Republican presidential candidate primaries. Super PACs are expected to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in the 2012 elections, breaking all previous records.

*(Continued on next page)*

### **Citizens United Vote (Continued)**

“Big corporations aren’t run by the 99 percent – or even by the 1 percent. Rather, they are run by a super-wealthy 0.01 percent,” said Avi Green, Executive Director of MassVOTE.

“Politics should be for all of us – not just the super-wealthy and the big corporations they control. Kudos to the State Legislature for recognizing this and supporting this resolution.”

“Massachusetts now joins the several states and hundreds of communities nationwide who’ve issued similar resolutions,” said Mark Hays, campaign coordinator for Public Citizen’s Democracy Is For People Campaign. “With leadership from the states, we’re demonstrating that amending the Constitution to challenge the corrosive impacts of money in politics is no pipedream, but is a mainstream vision for a democracy that serves the people, not giant corporations.”

Cities and towns across the nation have voted on similar measures. In Massachusetts, 68 communities have voted in favor of a Constitutional Amendment including Boston, Springfield and Worcester. Massachusetts joins the state legislatures in California, Hawaii, Maryland, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Vermont in voicing their state’s opposition to the decision and support for a Constitutional Amendment to address its ramifications.

“We are delighted that the State Legislature has taken bipartisan action to address this disastrous decision,” said Pam Wilmot, Executive Director of Common Cause Massachusetts. “A campaign for a Constitutional Amendment is no easy task, but the US Supreme Court left us no choice. Only with a constitutional amendment can we address the problem of money in politics that it, with other decisions, has created. Passing this resolution has put Massachusetts on the forefront of that critical effort, which, as the cradle of liberty, is where we should be.”

“We congratulate the State Legislature on the passage of this resolution. It is past time to limit the impact of large amounts of money, often from donors whose identity is not public, on our elections,” said Eva Valentine, president of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts.

To learn more, visit: [www.commoncause.org](http://www.commoncause.org), [www.FreeSpeechForPeople.org](http://www.FreeSpeechForPeople.org), [www.DemocracyIsForPeople.org](http://www.DemocracyIsForPeople.org) and [www.United4thePeople.org](http://www.United4thePeople.org).

*Editor’s Note:* Questions that ask for the passage of a resolution opposing Citizens United will be on the ballots of both State Representative districts in Arlington this November. Although the Legislature has now taken the action requested by the ballot questions, voters in Arlington will have an opportunity to affirm their support for this action as individuals, in addition to the positions already voted by Town Meeting and by our legislators.

We welcome new members and renewals. 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..... \$50
\_\_\_\_\_ 2nd member in household ..... \$23
\_\_\_\_\_ Student (full-time) ..... \$20
\_\_\_\_\_ Contribution to help the LWV in Arlington, add \$ \_\_\_\_\_
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If \$50 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 Phonathon \_\_\_\_\_
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 \_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising
\_\_\_\_\_ Graphic design \_\_\_\_\_ Writing articles
\_\_\_\_\_ Desktop publishing \_\_\_\_\_ Other
\_\_\_\_\_ Web site maintenance
\_\_\_\_\_ Membership development
\_\_\_\_\_ Moderating meetings

BEST TIME TO CALL YOU: (for phone tree reminders) Call before \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock

\*Some of these can be seen on cable TV

## **Drivers Needed for State Primary Election!**

The League will be providing Rides to the Polls from 9 am to 3 pm for the State Primary on Thursday, September 6.

If you can work a shift as a driver, please email Phyllis Maddox at [phyllismaddox@comcast.net](mailto:phyllismaddox@comcast.net) or call 781-646-4362.

## **The League Thanks Special Election Drivers**

The League provided Rides to the Polls for 6 voters in the July election to override the ban on leaf blowers. Turnout was 28% of the registered voters, slightly higher than for the Town Election in April, but votes to override the ban fell short of the 20% needed. The ban cannot go into effect until the State OKs it.

— *Phyllis Maddox*

**September 2012**

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

