

# *BULLETIN*

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

## September 2017

### Calendar

9/14	Thursday 7 p.m.	Climate Change forum at New England Aquarium, co-sponsored by the State League. Registration is required. See page 3 for details.
9/16	Saturday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Arlington's annual Town Day in Arlington Center. We welcome volunteers! See article below for details.
9/18	Monday 7 p.m.	How to Be an Effective Citizen Lobbyist: Forum at First Parish UU Church in vestry. See page 5 for details.
9/25	Monday 7 p.m.	LWVA Board meeting at Nancy Gray's home, 30 Mill St., Common Room. Directions on page 2.
10/4	Wednesday 7 p.m.	Carbon Pricing event at Winchester Town Hall. See last page for details.

**COME AND HELP OUT!  
LEAGUE TOWN DAY BOOTH  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2017**

The end of summer means it's time to get ready for Arlington's Town Day. LWV Arlington will have a booth at this event that will be packed with information about voter registration, precinct maps, proposed legislation, 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 a great, fast-paced event, with two to three people at the booth at all times, so both seasoned and new League members are welcome to participate. If you can help out, please call Meredith Zona at 781-648-2753, or send an email to Meredith at [Meredith.Zona@stantec.com](mailto:Meredith.Zona@stantec.com). We look forward to seeing you on Town Day!

**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

I dislike the heat and humidity! Today is supposed to be less hot and less humid. I am waiting for relief in my somewhat air-conditioned dining room. As the hot weather begins to recede, I am putting my Co-President's hat back on my head and am thinking about upcoming events.

The League has reserved a booth at Town Day where citizens will have the opportunity to register to vote and to find out the location of their polling place. Many residents new to Arlington and New England have no idea how the local government works and think that everyone votes at Town Hall. The League has a new tent. Hurrah! The old tent finally snapped in a number of places and could no longer be held together with tape. Please visit the booth to chat and consider volunteering for a time slot between 9 am – 4 pm. (Refer to the article on page 1.)

Did you read the Letter To The Editor in the August 24 edition of the *Advocate*? It was written by Elizabeth Thompson and signed by me and Angela Olszewski. In the letter, the LWV of Arlington added its voice to the positions of the LWVUS and LWVMA in rejecting the hatred and violence in Charlottesville, Virginia. In case you missed it, you can find it on page 8.

Thanks to all of you who have renewed your membership. If you have not sent in a dues check, please use the membership renewal form on page 9 and return it with your dues to our Membership Chair, Ann FitzGerald. These dues payments are used to support the activities of the League at the national and state levels with a small fraction left over to support the activities of the League at the local level.

*Carolyn Parsons*

### *Directions to Nancy Gray's home:*

30 Mill St. is in the Brigham Square Apartments, off Mill Brook Drive. Take Mass. Ave. or Summer St. to Mill Street. Mill Brook Drive is to the left if you are coming from Mass. Ave., to the right if you are coming from Summer Street. The Brigham Square building is on the right, just before the AHS parking lot.

Park in the lot on the left just before the driveway for Brigham Square; often there is no attendant in the evenings. There will be a LWVA member at the door under a plexiglass canopy to let you in the building. If there is not, call a member to come down and let you in.



### **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	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
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.

**The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
and the League of Women Voters of Boston,  
the New England Aquarium,  
and UMass Boston School for the Environment present**

## **Extreme Events and Climate Change: What We Know and What We Can Do**

**Thursday, September 14, 2017  
7:00 pm  
New England Aquarium  
Simons IMAX® Theatre**

**Speaker: Ellen Marie Douglas, PE, PhD  
Associate Professor of Hydrology  
School for the Environment, University of Massachusetts  
Boston**

- **What have we observed from our changing climate?**
- **What changes are in our future?**
- **What plans are in the works to adapt to these changes?**

The event is free and open to the public.  
**Registration is required** through the Aquarium's website:  
<http://www.neaq.org/learn/lectures/upcoming-lectures/>

Other forums in the LWVMA's climate change series are described on the last page of this Bulletin.

We extend a warm welcome to our newest member:

Judy Harris, 438 Massachusetts Ave., #322, 02474

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To advertise in the Bulletin, email or call Kim Haase, [c.haase@comcast.net](mailto:c.haase@comcast.net), 781-643-3429.

# **How to Be an Effective Citizen Lobbyist:**

How to make your voice heard and  
influence government decisions

**State Senator Cindy Friedman  
Colleen Kirby**

*Criminal Justice Legislative Specialist for the  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
and Mass Incarceration Working Group member*

**Monday, September 18**

7-9 p.m.

Vestry, First Parish  
Unitarian Universalist Church  
700 Massachusetts Ave.

*Sponsored by the Mass Incarceration Working Group.  
Questions? Email [End-mass-incarceration@firstparish.info](mailto:End-mass-incarceration@firstparish.info).*

## News from the State League

Getting **Automatic Voter Registration (AVR)** passed during this legislative session is a priority for LWVMA! League members can play a key role: **write a letter** to the editor of your local paper to support AVR. For more information on AVR, visit <https://lwvma.org/automatic-voter-registration-a-legislative-priority/>.

**Support Safe Communities Act:** The Supreme Judicial Court just ruled that state and local law enforcement cannot hold people solely on the basis of a federal civil immigration detainer, one of the more controversial areas of the Safe Communities Act (S1305/H3269). You can read the LWVMA testimony on the bill at <https://lwvma.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/S.1305-H.3269-Safe-Communities-written-testimony-final-draft-.pdf>.

What happened on our bills in July:

- The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act was signed into law by Governor Baker July 27.
- The sex education bill, An Act relative to healthy youth, passed the Senate and is now in the House Ways & Means Committee.
- Two basic human needs bills were reported favorably out of joint committees: H101 creates a common application to apply for safety-net services, and H695 establishes a bill of rights for homeless people.
- A bill to increase the amount of moderate- and low-income housing, H673/S723, was reported favorably out of joint committee.



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

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# LWVA Annual Meeting Focuses on Arts in National Parks

*By Meredith Zona and Anne Linn*

Our annual meeting was held on Thursday, June 8th. Meredith Zona hosted, and attendees shared the excellent dishes they brought.

After dinner, the guest speaker was Charles Tracy, an Arlington resident and landscape architect who works for the National Park Service and is superintendent of the New England National Scenic Trail ([newenglandtrail.org/](http://newenglandtrail.org/)). Since 1988, he has been involved in organizing regional and community-based land conservation, recreation and heritage resource protection efforts throughout New England and New York. On the national level, Mr. Tracy specializes in advancing National Park Service art partnerships and artist-in-residence programs ([www.nps.gov/subjects/arts/](http://www.nps.gov/subjects/arts/)).

Mr. Tracy showed beautiful pictures of some of the art projects that have been done under the auspices of the National Parks across the country to connect visitors to the National Park experience. Many of the images were the work of artists-in-residence within particular parks; this has been a large and growing program in the Park Service. His pictures and videos showed art in the parks that included dance, music, photography, and other visual arts. These works depicted the natural beauty as well as the history and inhabitants of the parks' lands. The lively discussion that followed his presentation demonstrated how much the audience enjoyed the program.

## **LWVA Provides Voting Stickers for Elections**

At the Annual Meeting, League members agreed to support the purchase and donation of "I Voted" stickers for the Town. Patti Muldoon researched vendors and prices and obtained a large number of stickers, which were distributed to precincts in time for the July 27 State Senate general election. We planned to provide signage along with the stickers indicating that they were donated by the LWVA, but apparently the signage wasn't consistently displayed this first time.

There should be enough stickers for the 2018 Town Election and more.



## League Speaks Out Against Hate

*Editor's Note: The following letter appeared in the Arlington Advocate on August 24, 2017.*

As our nation grapples with the terrifying and tragic events in Charlottesville, VA, the members of the League of Women Voters of Arlington want to speak out to join in solidarity to support the values that our League and the Leagues of Massachusetts and the United States uphold. For almost 100 years, the League has been a nonpartisan defender of democracy. While we cherish the individual rights of free speech and assembly, we feel a special responsibility to make our voices heard when those rights are used to incite hate and violence, and when they serve as tools to divide our nation rather than unite us as a free people.

There is no place for hatred and violence in our democracy and all leaders must condemn these acts of domestic terrorism. While the freedom of speech and the freedom of assembly are some of our most cherished rights and must be protected, those rights do not extend to what we witnessed in Charlottesville, Virginia. The League of Women Voters stands in solidarity with the victims of violence in Charlottesville, and against white supremacy.

The League of Women Voters of Arlington, Massachusetts strongly and unequivocally condemns racism, bigotry and violence. With one voice, we reaffirm our commitment to these core, democratic values: promoting social and economic justice, securing equal rights for all, and combating discrimination and poverty.

Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski,  
Co-Presidents, LWV of Arlington  
August 21, 2017



**Our fiscal year began April 1. Please pay your dues if you haven't yet!**  
**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\*\**

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 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
- 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

## LWVMA Climate and Energy Solutions Series

In addition to the September 14 event (see page 3), the LWVMA is sponsoring additional forums in collaboration with local Leagues:

**Oct. 4**, 7 p.m. (6:30 refreshments), Winchester Town Hall: “The Health Benefits of Renewable Energy Choices: A Role for Carbon Pricing”; Speaker: Dr. Jonathan Buonocore (Harvard School of Public Health).

**Oct. 19**, 7 p.m., Lexington Public Library: “Greening the Grid: Preparing for Our Clean Energy Future”; Speakers: Dr. Ariel Horowitz (Synapse) and Megan Herzog (Conservation Law Foundation).

**Nov. 4**, 1 p.m., Falmouth Public Library: “Extreme Events and Climate Change: What We Know and What We Can Do”; Speakers: Dr. Ellen Douglas (UMass Boston School for the Environment), Stephanie Madsen (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution), and Dr. Robert Max Holmes (Woods Hole Research Center).

We’ll provide more details in future Bulletins.

**September 2017**

League of Women Voters of Arlington  
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Arlington, MA 02476

