



BULLETIN
lwva.com

March 2026

Calendar

Sunday March 8		Last day for submitting questions for Candidates' Night by sending an email to envision@town.arlington.ma.us . See page 9 for details.
Monday March 9	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.
Wednesday March 18	5 p.m.	Last day to register to vote in the Town Election.
Wednesday March 18	8 p.m.	Save the date: Candidates' Night for the Town Election, Town Hall Auditorium, 730 Mass. Ave. Town Meeting candidates can meet voters from 7:30 to 8. We need volunteers; see page 9.
Saturday March 28	8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Town Election.
Sunday April 26	11:30 a.m to 2 p.m.	Save the date for the annual Legislators' Brunch, to be held this year at the home of Meredith Zona, 1 Andrews Way.
Monday April 27	8 p.m.	Annual Town Meeting begins.

Carolyn Parsons and Angela Olszewski: Co-Presidents
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Ann FitzGerald: Membership AnnFitz@rcn.com

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Co-President's Message

Our winter weather may be cold, but our local election season is heating up! There are contested races for School Committee and Housing Authority. There seems to be great interest in Town Meeting, as more than half of the precincts have contested races. A request for an override of Proposition 2 ½ will be on the ballot. March 28th will be an important day in Arlington.

The League is busy preparing for one of our most important annual events, Candidates' Night. The forum provides an opportunity for Town Meeting candidates to meet constituents and candidates for townwide office to introduce themselves to voters and answer questions. The evening also puts a focus on the election and the importance of voting. Please join us at Town Hall on March 18th or watch the replay on ACMi. You can submit questions to be considered for the program by sending an email to envision@town.arlington.ma.us by Sunday, March 8th.

Vote, stay warm, and think spring!

Angela Olszewski



LWVA LEADERSHIP 2025–2026

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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.

Come Help with Candidates' Night!



Mark your calendars: Arlington Candidates' Night is **Wednesday, March 18** at 8 p.m., in person in Town Hall. The event will also be broadcast live on ACMi and shown on cable several times before the election. As always, the LWVA and Envision Arlington co-sponsor the event.

There will be question-and-answer sessions with the candidates for town-wide offices: Select Board, School Committee, Board of Assessors, and Housing Authority. There will also be informal sessions with candidates for Town Meeting before the event, from 7:30 to 8. But it can't happen without you!

Please come to Candidates' Night, and tell your friends and family!

As we did last year, we are asking people to submit questions for the candidates in advance, to be selected by volunteers from the LWVA and Envision Arlington. Please submit questions by sending an email to envision@town.arlington.ma.us by **Sunday, March 8**. Questions should apply to all candidates in a race; please specify in your email which questions are intended for which race.

We need volunteers for the following positions:

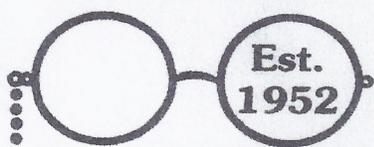
- **Timers:** We need at least four volunteers to keep time during the question-and-answer session, and to hold up time cards to keep all candidates within time limits so everyone gets a fair chance to speak.
- **Greeters:** We need at least two volunteers to greet people arriving at Candidates' Night and provide information about the League.
- **Set-up/Take-down:** Help us to put up precinct signs and get other items organized for the event or take down and pack up when the event is over.

Thank you for your help! To sign up, send an email to Co-President Carolyn Parsons: carolynmparsons@msn.com.



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National League Responds to ICE, CBP, and DHS

Editor's Note: On February 5, the League of Women Voters of the United States published a blog posting on the actions of ICE and other federal agencies on immigration enforcement. You can find it at

<https://www.lwv.org/blog/whats-happening-ice-and-how-fight-back>

along with a list of suggested actions. The conclusion of the posting follows,

In December 2025, LWVUS and LWVMN condemned ICE deployments in Minnesota. In January 2026, LWVUS urged Congress to oppose additional funding for ICE and CBP, and to impose DHS immigration enforcement guardrails and accountability measures, including writing to the Senate the day before their funding vote. LWVUS also urged Congress to investigate DHS's use of force. LWVUS and LWVMN condemned the unwarranted federal presence and military escalation in Minnesota, and LWVUS spoke about the threats recent events pose to our constitutional rights.

The League condemns the actions taken by ICE, CBP, and other federal immigration officials. As an organization, we work to empower voters and defend democracy; the actions happening around our country directly threaten our democracy by undermining the rule of law and the Constitution. The League also supports due process for all, including the right to notice and a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal, and right to humane treatment. It does not support deporting immigrants who have no history of major and/or violent criminal activity. Finally, the League also opposes illegal or unconstitutional invocations of the Insurrection Act.



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Tell Our Senators Not to Make Voting Harder!

Editor's Note: LWVUS also asks us to urge our Senators to oppose the SAVE Act. Both Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth Warren oppose this Act, but would no doubt appreciate our support for their position.

We cannot stand idly by while our elected officials seek to suppress eligible Americans from voting.

The US House has again voted to advance legislation to the US Senate that would fundamentally change how eligible Americans register to vote. But this time, they're adding measures for voters to "show their papers" at the polling location before they vote.

The House-passed SAVE America Act (SAVE Act 2.0) would make it harder for eligible voters to register AND cast a ballot. This would make it harder to vote and have no calculable benefit to the election process. Millions of Americans lack the identification that would be required to prove their citizenship or obtain a photo ID. Without those things, their voices would be silenced, their votes left uncast.

At the League, we're asking you to stand with us to oppose these measures. We want our elections to be free, fair, and accessible for all eligible Americans, and we won't let efforts to create barriers that block citizens from fully participating in our democracy, like the SAVE Act, move forward.

Go to <https://www.lwv.org/save-act> to urge our Senators to oppose the SAVE Act.

Membership Dues Information

By Ann FitzGerald

LWVA members no longer receive written reminders of dues renewals on April 1. The League of Women Voters of the US (<https://www.lwv.org/>) should now send out a reminder to you. Dues are divided between the national, state, and local leagues.

You should have received a notice to register at the LWVUS portal. if you didn't receive it, you can go to the portal and register yourself. Go to <https://www.lwv.org/> and click Member Log In. Your name was sent to LWVUS for renewal purposes and is listed on the membership roster. The site is secure and has a verification process.

The LWVUS portal requests dues of \$75, but you can contribute any amount over \$20.

If you prefer to renew by check, you will be a member of the LWVA only, not the state or national League. Make out a check for \$60 to "League of Women Voters of Arlington" and send it to me:

Ann FitzGerald
162 Summer St Apt 1
Arlington, MA 02474

Call me at 781-646-9711 or email annfitz@rcn.com if you have questions.

March 2026

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

