



## December 2025

As we celebrate the winter holidays, the League of Women Voters sends warm wishes to our community. This season reminds us that the diversity of our cultures, traditions, and voices strengthens our democracy. Thank you for supporting our work to empower voters and protect democratic values.

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### **This Month:**

**December 3rd:** How to Run for Local Office, Town Hall Juliani Room, 7:00 PM  
**December 8th:** LWVW Board Meeting: 3:30-5:00, home of Deb Codispoti, 130 Oakland Street. All are welcome!  
**December 10th:** Racial Justice Initiative at Temple Beth Elohim presents: The State of Democracy and Civil Rights, 7:00- 8:15 PM, Hybrid  
**December 12th:** Brown Bag Lunch with Wellesley Climate Action, 12:00-1:30PM  
**December 13th:** Virtual Town Hall Meeting with Rep. Jake Auchincloss, 6:30-7:30PM

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## LWV Wellesley Engagement

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### **How to Run For Local Office** **Wednesday, December 3rd, 7:00 pm** **Wellesley Town Hall, Juliani Room**

Did you know that Wellesley has ten volunteer-elected boards, which oversee everything in our town, from our schools to our library to our public health? Wellesley also has 240 elected Town Meeting Members, who approve the Town's budget and bylaws. There are no special qualifications for serving in office! (Some boards require members to be registered voters, but any resident can run for Town Meeting.)

Are you considering getting more involved with Wellesley's Town Government? We need you! Learn everything that you need to know to run for office in Wellesley.

What are the elected offices? What are the rewards of serving our community? When are the deadlines? What are the most effective ways to reach Wellesley voters? All your questions will be answered! Bring a friend!

Questions? Contact [Wellesley League of Women Voters](#)

[2026 Candidate Handbook](#)



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**Brown Bag Lunch**  
**Wellesley Climate Action with Marybeth Martello & Sheila**  
**Page**  
**Friday, December 12th, 12:00- 1:30**  
**At the home of Deb Codispodi, 130 Oakland Street**

Bring your lunch for an update on Wellesley's climate action initiatives. We will welcome Wellesley's Sustainability Director, Marybeth Martello, and Transportation Manager, Sheila Page for an important discussion about what Wellesley is doing to reach the Town's greenhouse gas emissions goals: to reduce town-wide greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050 with interim targets to reduce these emissions 50% below a 2007 baseline by 2030 and 75% below the 2007 baseline by 2040. Please let us know you are coming by emailing [LWVWellesley2@gmail.com](mailto:LWVWellesley2@gmail.com).



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**Volunteer opportunity!**

Have you been seeking a great opportunity to put your passion for democracy to work? Well, here it is! We are seeking volunteers to assist with our annual, critically important, democracy-supporting **Meet the Candidates Night** event, scheduled for February 12, 2026, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Surely there is something here for you:

- Join the Question Committee, where pertinent questions for the candidates are crafted that get to the root of important issues facing our town: Tentative first meeting, January 27, 2026
- Produce certificates to present to retiring town officials that will be honored at Meet the Candidates Night.
- Provide ad hoc support at Meet The Candidates Night, February 12, 2026

Email Diane Hemond at [dianerrh@gmail.com](mailto:dianerrh@gmail.com) to let her know what works for you.

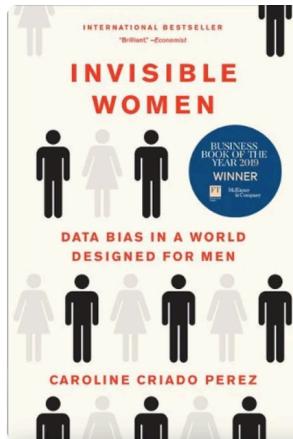
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**LWVW Book Read**

Invisible Women, by Caroline Criado Perez

We invite you to join us as we discuss **Invisible Women: Exploring Data Bias in A World Designed By Men**. Details of the March discussion will be forthcoming, but now is a good time to start reading!

This book is available from the Wellesley Free Library in paper, e-book, or audio book.



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## Engage Beyond Wellesley

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### **The Racial Justice Initiative at Temple Beth Elohim Presents: The State of Democracy and Civil Rights**

**Wednesday, December 10th, 7:00-8:15 PM, HYBRID**

Join the Racial Justice Initiative at Temple Beth Elohim as Rahsaan D. Hall, President and CEO of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts (ULEM), draws parallels between the Civil War's post-Reconstruction time period and today's retrenchment of our civil rights. His concluding remarks will address a commonly-asked question about how we can stay in community to amplify collective advocacy on these fundamental challenges confronting us today.

In its 49th annual report, **State of Black America**, the National Urban League unpacks the threats to our Democracy, the perilous slide towards authoritarianism, and the undoing of civil rights advances of the past 60 years.

The Supreme Court's reinterpretations of The Voting Rights Act of 1965 dismantled voter rights protections, jeopardizing fair elections and accelerating an erosion of civil rights.

Use this link to **REGISTER**

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### **Virtual Town Hall: Congressman Jake Auchincloss, 4th District Tuesday, December 16, 6:30- 7:30PM**

The League of Women Voters of Newton, Brookline, Dover-Sherborn, Needham, Sharon-Stoughton, South Coast and Wellesley invite you to join a virtual Town Hall, via Zoom, with Congressman Jake Auchincloss of Massachusetts' 4th Congressional District .

Congressman Auchincloss will discuss recent events in the House of Representatives, followed by questions and answers from league leaders and audience members. We invite members to submit questions for the Congressman. Please submit your questions to [Wellesley League of Women Voters](#).

Please [Register Here](#)

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## **SAVE THE DATE**

January 12: LWVW Board Meeting, 3:30-5:00, Warren Building  
January 19: MLK Day Breakfast with World of Wellesley, location TBD  
February 9: LWVW Board Meeting, 3:30- 5:00, Warren Building  
February 12: Meet the Candidates Night

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Be sure to check out our updated website, including information on current league events and activities!

[Visit our Website](#)

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League of Women Voters of Wellesley Steering Committee

Phillipa Biggers  
Debra Codispoti, Treasurer  
Jessica Graham  
Diane Hemond  
Luisa Herrmann  
Ann-Mara Lanza  
Sue Mangiacotti  
Ilyse Nielson  
Ellie Perkins, Secretary  
Rekha Sampath

For more information, visit us at <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/wellesley>  
Contact League of Women Voters of Wellesley at [lwwellesley2@gmail.com](mailto:lwwellesley2@gmail.com)

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