

It might not look like it out there right now, BUT March begins tomorrow and Spring is on its way—the days are getting lighter and we are BUSY BEES! We are sending our update a little early because we have so much to share. Hope to see many of you at the events below!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH

- Civic Engagement Subcommittee: Civics Bee Planning Thursday, March 2, 9:30 AM, Panera Bread, North Beverly
- Civics Bee Thursday, March 16, 7-9:00 PM, Miles River Middle School Multipurpose Room, Hamilton.
- Women's History Month Celebration Tuesday, March 28, 5-7:30 PM, Gloucester Stage Company. Details being finalized but mark your calendars!
- Walk & Talk Saturday, March 18, 10:30 AM, Location TBD, but hold the date!
- Candidates Night Wednesday, March 29 Location/format TBD

APRIL

- Town Meetings Saturday, April 1 Hamilton meets at 9:00 AM at HWRHS Auditorium; Wenham meets at 1:00 PM at Buker Elementary.
- Town Elections Thursday, April 6, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM
- Walk & Talk Saturday, April 15, 10:30 AM, Location and contact TBD, but mark your calendars!

WHAT'S NEWS:

CIVICS BEE 2023! - The Bee is BACK and team registration is OPEN! We are so excited to bring this event back to the community after a too-long COVID-induced hiatus and we have a great team of Leaguers helping put it all together!

We are meeting on Thursday of this week and next – **March 2nd and 9th – at 9:30 AM at Panera**, but if you can't make that, <u>let us know</u> if you want in!



What you need to know:

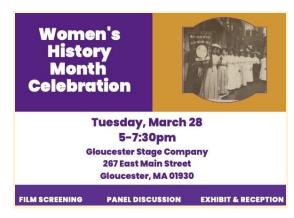
- Event takes place Thursday, March 16th starting at 7
 PM in the Multipurpose Room at Miles River Middle School
- All the details, including team registration link, are here:
 <u>LWVHW.org Civics Bee!</u>
- Even if you can't commit to planning or playing on a team, you can help spread the word! Tell your friends, neighbors and colleagues. Use your social media presence. Every bit of awareness spread will help our event be a success!

LWVMA LOCAL LEAGUE SPOTLIGHT - We were honored to be recognized by the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts for our recent Volunteer Fair! Give them a follow on Facebook. They are a wealth of information on action at all levels!

The Volunteer Fair continues to pay dividends, with participants reporting new volunteers, new leadership candidates, and expanded membership! We've expanded our membership 10% since the event and have new folks stepping up to help with our next big event, the Civics Bee.

If you missed the Fair or know someone who wishes they were there to get the scoop on volunteer opportunities, the <u>Directory of Participants is available online</u> and will be updated with new information as we get it!

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH - SPECIAL EVENT

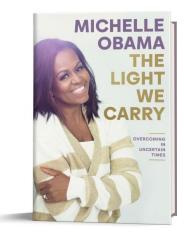


<u>Tickets are \$25</u> <u>Available through LWVMA.org</u> LWVMA is teaming up with local North Shore Leagues and other organizations to present a **Women's History Month Celebration** at Gloucester Stage Company on **Tuesday**, **March 28**, **5-7:30 PM**.

The evening will feature a screening of Suffrage100MA's film "The Fight for Women's Suffrage: Looking Back, Marching Forward" followed by a panel discussion and reception.

Proceeds support the inaugural Massachusetts Civics Project Showcase in June.

BOOK GROUP - Our next selection is Michelle Obama's *The Light We Carry:*Overcoming in Uncertain Times. Grab a copy and watch for a date to be set in April or May for our next meet up!



#1 BESTSELLER - NEW YORK
TIMES, USA TODAY

ONE OF TIME'S 100 MUST-READ
BOOKS OF 2022

In an inspiring follow-up to her memoir Becoming, former First Lady Michelle Obama shares practical wisdom and powerful strategies for staying hopeful and balanced in today's highly uncertain world.

There may be no tidy solutions or pithy answers to life's big challenges, but Michelle Obama believes that we can all locate and lean on a set of tools to help us better navigate change and remain steady within flux. How do we build enduring and honest relationships? How can we discover strength and community inside our differences? What tools do we use to address feelings of self-doubt or helplessness? What do we do when it all starts to feel like too much?

Learn more at **Goodreads.com**

NEW AND ONGOING INITIATIVES:

There are ways to get involved with the League that fit every schedule. If you want to be a part of any upcoming efforts, please let us know. You can reply to this email, or contact us at LeagueHW@gmail.com.

- → Speaker/Forum Series This is such an exciting initiative and a chance to get in on the ground floor of something we really hope has a long life in the community! We have been awarded a generous grant by the Local Cultural Council and are working in partnership with the HW Library to create a speaker series on topics of local interest including:
 - Water Resources & Conservation
 - Media Literacy
 - Affordable Housing
 - Civics 101
 - Local Print Journalism (as a cornerstone of democracy)
 - Sustainability

Have ideas? Potential speaker contacts? Want to help organize or take the lead on an event? Let us know your thoughts.

- → Voter Registration Interested in helping at future drives? Have a location or event idea where we can register voters? <u>Drop us a line!</u>
- → Book Group Have a good read you'd like to share and discuss with a group of smart, friendly, and engaged Leaguers? <u>Let us know</u>. We'd love to crowd-source our next reads!
- → Walk & Talk We usually meet at 10:30 on the third Saturday of the month and walk for about an hour, enjoying some of the natural beauty around the area as well as each

others' company! Our next walk is Saturday, March 18, location TBD. Have a favorite walk location? Share it with us and maybe we can enjoy it together.

We could not do any of this important work without our members and **we'd love to have you join us!** This is truly a member-run organization and our work is always more fun with friends. Why not grab one or two and **join online together!**

Find these updates useful? Tell folks in your circles to <u>sign up for our periodic email updates</u>. Thanks for helping build a stronger community!