



January is a blur in the rearview mirror, but since this is our first update of 2024, we are saying Happy New Year anyway! 🎉 And what a busy year it will be with FOUR elections and a slew of League activities.

Next up is our **Media Literacy Speaker Series event** this coming **Thursday, February 15**, at 6:30 PM at the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library. More details below. These events have been incredibly informative - don't miss the last two! And if you want to catch up on previous speakers, find recordings online at LWVHW.org.

FEBRUARY EVENTS:

- **Steering Committee Meeting** Tuesday, February 13, 6:00 PM, HW Library, Local History Room ([Agenda](#))
- **Speaker Series: Media Literacy** Thursday, February 15, 6:30 PM, HW Library, Large Meeting Room ([Event Page](#))

MARCH EVENTS:

- **Presidential Primary Election** Tuesday, March 5
- **Steering Committee Meeting** Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 PM, HW Library, Large Meeting Room (note change from regular location!)
- **Civics Bee!** Wednesday, March 13, 7 PM, Miles River Middle School Multipurpose Room
- **Speaker Series: Water Resources & Conservation** Thursday, March 28, 6:30 PM, HW Library, Large Meeting Room

APRIL EVENTS:

- **Town Meetings** Saturday, April 6
 - **Hamilton - 9:00 AM**, HWRHS Auditorium
 - **Wenham - 1:00 PM**, Buker School
- **Annual Town Election** Thursday, April 11, 7 AM - 8 PM
 - **Hamilton - HW Rec Center**
 - **Wenham - Wenham Town Hall**

FUTURE EVENTS (hold the date!):

- **LWVHW Annual Meeting Monday, June 10**
-

WHAT'S NEWS:

SPEAKER SERIES – Media Literacy

Our Speaker Series most recently addressed [Sustainability](#) in November and [Affordable Housing](#) last month. You can watch recordings of these events online, courtesy of HWCAM. While you are there, you can also check out the very informative [Civics 101 presentation](#) and the lively panel on [Local Journalism](#).

Next up is **Media Literacy**, this **Thursday, February 15th at 6:30 PM at the HW Library!** FREE and open to the public. Bring your questions and experiences to share!



The poster features a central microphone with the LWV logo. Above it, three speakers are introduced: Erin McNeill, Jean La-Belle-Pierce, and Patil Mihailidis. The main title is 'Media Literacy' in a red banner. Below that, it says 'League of Women Voters speaker series'. The event details are: 'Thursday Feb 15, 6:30 pm @ THE HAMILTON-WENHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY'. The website 'www.LWVHW.org' is at the bottom. A logo for the 'Mass Cultural Council' is in the bottom left corner.

What is media literacy? How do we evaluate information and sources in our everyday lives?

Erin McNeill

Jean La-Belle-Pierce

Patil Mihailidis

Media Literacy

League of Women Voters speaker series

Thursday Feb 15
6:30 pm @ THE HAMILTON-WENHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

www.LWVHW.org

Mass Cultural Council

We all consume and share media; increasingly, we ourselves are content creators. Our access to the vast majority of information, whether social, cultural, political, economic, or scientific, is not acquired directly through first hand experience, rather it is mediated by others. **How do we evaluate information and sources in our everyday lives?**

Self-government requires informed and cooperative participation. Fundamental to that is the ability of citizens to navigate a constant flood of information with varied and contradicting perspectives and agendas driven by commercial, political, and cultural power. **How do we train ourselves and future generations for that?**

Meet Our Panel

[Full bios are available on our website.](#) Click through to read more about the depth of experience and expertise of these committed, dynamic, locally-engaged panelists!



Erin McNeill
Media Literacy Now
CEO & Founder



Paul Mihailidis
Emerson College
Professor of Civic Media &
Journalism



Jean LaBelle-Pierce
Maynard Public Schools
Librarian & Sr. Capstone Project
Coordinator

The final event in this Speaker Series will address **Water Resources & Conservation**. Join us on Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 PM at the library for this important and timely topic!

This speaker series is presented by LWVHW in partnership with the [Hamilton-Wenham Public Library](#) and with funding from the Hamilton-Wenham Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the [Mass Cultural Council](#), a state agency.

 **NOMINATION PAPERS AVAILABLE NOW FOR LOCAL OFFICES!**

Both Hamilton and Wenham have multiple openings for elected positions. Nomination papers are available from Town Clerk offices (Wenham Town Hall and Hamilton Town Offices at Patton Homestead) and are **due back by 5 PM on Thursday, February 22**.

[Hamilton Open Positions](#)

[Wenham Open Positions](#)



TOWN OF HAMILTON at THE PATTON HOMESTEAD
 650 Asbury Street/PO Box 429
 HAMILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01936
 978-468-5570 x 3
 Carin A. Kale, Town Clerk

2024 ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION - OPEN POSITIONS

ELECTED BODY	TERM	# POSITIONS AVAILABLE	CURRENTLY HELD BY
SELECT BOARD	3 YEAR	2	Shawn M. Farrell William A. Olson
TOWN MODERATOR	1 YEAR	1	William F. Bowler
BOARD OF ASSESSORS	3 YEAR	1	Steven G. Ozahowski
PLANNING BOARD	3 YEAR	2	Frederick G. Mitchell Jonathan F. Poore
HOUSING AUTHORITY	5 YEAR	1	Daniel E. Carlin
H-W LIBRARY At-Large TRUSTEES*	3 YEAR	2	Cara A. Fauci (Wenham) Dianne L. Johnson (Hamilton)
H-W REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE*	2 YEAR (UNEXPIRED TERM)	1	On the ballot due to a resignation
H-W REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE*	3 YEAR	2	Julia Campbell (Wenham) Jennifer A. Carr (Wenham)

NOMINATION PAPER DEADLINES

Nomination papers available Tuesday, January 16, 2024
 Last day to submit and file papers Thursday, February 22, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)
 Last day to object or withdraw Monday, March 11, 2024 (5:00 p.m.)

* Nomination papers for town positions, Library Trustees, and for School Committee are available at the Town Clerk's Office where the resident lives. Hamilton nomination papers require 37 signatures; School Committee nomination papers require 40 voter signatures from either town.

2024 ELECTION DATES

Annual Town Meeting Saturday, April 6, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.
 Last day to register to VOTE Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.
Annual Town Election Thursday, April 11, 2024 - 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Last day to register to VOTE Wednesday, March 27, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.
 Last day to apply for Vote by Mail Thursday, April 4, 2024 - 5:00 p.m.

12.18.23



TOWN OF WENHAM
 TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
 138 Main Street
 Wenham, MA 01984
 Pte: 978-468-5520 x1
 Email: townclerk@wenhamma.gov
 Kirsten Alexander, Town Clerk

2024 Annual Town Election Open Positions
 Election Day is Thursday, April 11, 2024 7AM-8PM

Office	Term	Spots open
Town Moderator	3 years	1
Select Board	3 years	1
Assessors	3 years	1
Board of Health	3 years	1
Planning Board	5 years	1
Water Commissioner	3 years	1
Housing Authority	5 years	1
HW Library At-Large Trustee	3 years	2
HW Regional School Committee	3 years	2
HW Regional School Committee	2 years	1

Nomination papers must be returned to the Wenham Town Clerk's office no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, February 22, 2024. To get your name on the ballot, nomination papers must be certified with at least 21 signatures of Wenham voters (40 for School Committee). It is suggested you obtain at least 10-20 additional signatures in case a few are not able to be certified by the Town Clerk's office. If you are interested running for a Wenham office for 2024 and have questions regarding the nomination/election process, please call the Town Clerk's office at 978-468-5520 x1 or email townclerk@wenhamma.gov.

 **PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION - Tuesday, March 5, 7 AM - 8 PM**

Vote by Mail:

In January, Massachusetts sent out Vote by Mail postcards to every registered voter. If you are using this card, please make sure yours is signed, dated, and you've checked off which elections and party ballot (if unenrolled). In order to vote by mail in the March 5th primary, these are due back to the respective Town Clerk's offices by February 27 at 5PM.


You can also [request a Mail-In Ballot](#) from the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Early Voting:

Early Voting hours for the Presidential Primary are posted by the Clerks. There are lots of options if you are away on Election Day!

[Hamilton Early Voting](#)

[Wenham Early Voting](#)



March 5, 2024 Presidential Primary

In-Person Early Voting

Hamilton Interim Town Hall at the Patton Homestead, 650 Asbury St


Saturday, Feb 24	10 am – 4 pm
Sunday, Feb 25	NO EARLY VOTING
Monday, Feb 26	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Tuesday, Feb 27	8:30 am-6:30 pm
Wednesday, Feb 28	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Thursday, Feb 29	8:30 am-4:30 pm
Friday, Mar 1	8:30 am-12:30 pm

Questions? Please call 978-468-5570 x 3
 Email: townclerk@hamiltonma.gov 1/17/2024

2024

EARLY VOTING HOURS

Saturday, February 24th	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday, February 26th	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Tuesday, February 27th	11:00 AM-7:00 PM
Wednesday, February 28th	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Thursday, February 29th	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
Election Day Tuesday, March 5th	7:00 AM-8:00 PM



TOWN OF WENHAM


 **CIVICS BEE!**

A small working group met on Monday, February 5th, to kick off planning for the upcoming Bee - our 6th! There are a lot of ways you can help ahead of the event or on the day. [Contact MJ Brown](#) for more information and watch for volunteer sign ups and team sign ups coming soon!

 **LWVHW.org Calendar**

Our ongoing website refresh (thanks, **Steph MacLeod!**) includes a handy [LWVHW Calendar](#). Now it's even easier to add our events to your own Google calendar and keep up with the League!

OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

 **Steering Committee Meetings** (generally second Tuesdays of the month) - Members are always welcome at Steering Committee meetings. **Our next meeting will be February 13 at 6 PM at the Library.**

- [Agenda for February 13](#)

- [Approved Minutes from December 12](#)

Know someone who would like to join the League, let us know or simply have them [join online!](#)

You can also encourage folks to [sign up for our periodic email updates](#). Thanks for helping build our community!