

Happy Juneteenth!

# "Nobody's free until everybody's free."

-- Fannie Lou Hamer, African American civil rights activist

Learn more about Juneteenth and its importance in American history at LWVMA's <u>Juneteeth Celebration Guide</u> page. Read "<u>The Sweat and Blood of Fannie Lou Hamer</u>" in this National Endowment for the Humanities article and hear this civil rights legend's powerfully moving singing and stories on the <u>Songs My Mother Taught Me</u> (YouTube). These recordings were created as part of the National Museum of African American History and Culture's African American Legacy Recordings project.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES**

#### JUNE:

- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, June 21, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also June 28!
- The Community House Block Party Saturday, June 21, 4 PM (fireworks start around 9),
  Patton Park (Asbury Street & Bay Road) (rain date Sunday, June 22) (UPDATE: Due to lack of
  volunteers, LWVHW will not have a table at this event.)
- LWVHW Annual Meeting Monday, June 30, 6:30 PM, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham) (Note: IMPORTANT details and links below!)

#### JULY:

- Steering Committee Planning Meeting Wednesday, July 2, 6 PM, location TBD
- Last Day to Register to Vote at Hamilton Special Town Meeting Thursday, July 3, 5 PM (Check your status or register HERE)
- Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence Friday, July 3, 2-2:30 PM, Hale Farm (39 Hale Street, Beverly). More info below.
- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, July 5, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). July 12, 19 and 26!
- Hamilton Special Town Meeting Monday, July 14, 6:30 PM HWRHS Auditorium (775 Bay Road, Hamilton) Check in opens at 5 PM. PLEASE arrive early to allow time for check in!

## WHAT'S NEWS

Hear ye, hear ye! Annual Meeting is Just Around the Corner

Annual Meeting is an opportunity to socialize over food, get to know new members, and reconnect with long-time Leaguers. It is also an important business meeting. We must have a quorum of 10 members to conduct business! RSVP HERE!

In addition to hearing highlights of the past year's activities, we will:

- Approve a budget for League 2025-26 activities
- Adopt our Local Program Plan for the coming year
- Elect the Steering Committee for the 2025-26 year
- Adopt revised Bylaws
- Take direction from Membership
- Enjoy being TOGETHER as a group with our dynamic and thoughtful members!

You can review the Annual Meeting booklet online here: <u>Annual Meeting Booklet</u>. It contains information, approved by the Steering Committee, that the membership will consider and vote on at the meeting.

Additionally, we have made some changes to our bylaws to come into compliance with LWVUS guidance. **Bylaws Redline** version highlights of all the changes from our current (adopted June 2024) bylaws to the version proposed for adoption at this meeting.

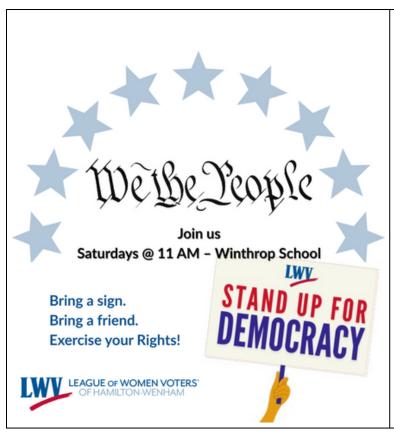
We look forward to seeing lots of you on Monday, June 30 .Let us know if you can make it!!

## Stand Out – Week Ten Re-cap:

Although not an official sponsor of the No Kings protests that happened nationwide (globally, even!) this past Saturday, we certainly benefited from contagious courage and energy!! We were delighted to stand in community with a record 45 folks supporting the Constitution, civil rights, and the rule of law. This is a movement, not a moment and we will be back at it this Saturday. Bring sunscreen and plenty of water for a change as we break our streak of rainy weekends!



JOIN US to Stand Out for Democracy – THIS SATURDAY (and EVERY Saturday)!



WHO: YOU! And your friends!

WHAT: Stand Out for Democracy!WHEN:

Saturdays, 11AM to noon

WHERE: Winthrop School (Bay Road,

Hamilton)

WHY: Because Democracy is *NOT* a Spectator Sport. And it feels really good to do *SOMETHING* in community!

HOW: Just SHOW UP!

Your presence is valuable (and we often have some extra signs on hand to share)

#### **Exhibit - Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence**

Historic Beverly in partnership with LWV North Shore is hosting a women's suffrage poster exhibition on loan from The Smithsonian American Women's History Museum. Join Abby Battis, Historic Beverly Director, for a program at the Hale Farm discussing the exhibit on Thursday, July 3, at 2 PM. The exhibit will be on display at Hale Farm (click for location and hours) from June 21 to August 30. Special Town Meeting Information - Hamilton ONLY

Hamilton will vote on 3A at a Special Town Meeting on Monday, July 14th at 6:30 PM at HWHRS. (Note the change in date from June 26th.) Check in opens at 5 PM. **PLEASE arrive early** to allow time for check in!)

You can find all the information you need on the <u>Special Town Meeting 7/14</u> page of the Town website, including information on free transportation for seniors. When it is finalized, please download the warrant to save paper, or print at home. To help residents learn more and prepare for the upcoming Special Town Meeting, the following resources have been provided by the <u>Planning and Land Use Department</u>.

<u>Town of Hamilton Town Center Zoning</u> This includes the latest draft zoning language and related materials.

<u>Project Website</u> This page provides detailed background on the planning process, including maps, data, and community input.

## Town Meeting Roles and How to Participate

Learn more about how Town Meeting works and everything you need to know in order to participate effectively.

### **Updated: Protest Safety Guidance**

The League believes the freedom to protest and assemble is a critical function of our democracy. We will not be silenced, and now is the time to put our words into action! We also know that even a

peaceful event can become disruptive or violent or be targeted by law enforcement or outsiders, and all attendees should understand the risks involved.

We know that many members want to exercise their First Amendment rights and participate in rallies or in other demonstrations. We want all League members to stay safe while doing so. **Accordingly**, **LWV staff have updated our <u>latest protest guidelines here</u>**.

#### LWVHW Merchandise ON SALE! \$10 for a limited time!

Show off your civic engagement! Encourage your neighbors to vote with our lawn signs or provoke conversation about the League and our work with a snazzy t-shirt (perfect to wear to our Stand Outs!).



Durable sign with heavy-duty stake

Order Lawn Signs HERE



100% Cotton, women's cut Sizes small to 2XL

**Order T-Shirts HERE** 

#### **UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS:**

<u>Democracy in Your Hands Series</u> (various, through October 22)Our democracy is at a
crossroads as the levers of power are out of balance and we are at the onset of a constitutional
crisis. It's important now more than ever that League members understand the role that they play

as anchors of democracy and be aware of the role that we all play, collectively in fighting for and sustaining our democracy. This webinar series will highlight five topics that are key to building an essential knowledge base on how to navigate in a changing political environment:

- July 23, 11 AM to 12:15 PM: "Championing Issues that Matter Most to You"
- August 20, 12:30-1:30 PM: "Understanding the Three Branches of Government"
- September 17, 11 AM to 12:15 PM: "Working with Local Election Officials to Anchor Change"
- October 22, 3:30 to 5 PM: "Building Coalitions to Amplify Action"

#### ICYMI - PAST VIRTUAL EVENTS:

<u>LWVMA - Meet the Specialists</u> (catalog) Series of four programs offering members the chance
to take a deep dive into the state level bills the League supports in a specific topic area. Learn
more about these important issues and what we can do to advance them on Beacon Hill.
Featuring presentations on Medicare for All, Gun Violence Prevention, Fairness for
Farmworkers/Immigration, and Reproductive Rights/Women's Issues.

#### OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

**Stay Informed** LWVUS sends an informative bi-weekly newsletter (check out the <u>June 12 issue</u>). You can join the mailing list here.

Steering Committee Meetings (generally second Tuesdays of the month) Members are always welcome at Steering Committee meetings. We are done with regular meetings for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Our next meeting will be the Annual Meeting, held on Monday, June 30, at 6:30 PM at the Wenham Council on Aging building (10 School St., Wenham).

- Draft Minutes from May 13
- Approved Minutes from April 8

# Not a member yet?

Join us today!

If you or someone you know would like to join the League, let us know or simply have them join online! We are always happy to answer questions too!

You can also encourage folks to <u>sign up for our</u> <u>periodic email updates</u>. Thanks for helping build our community!





# **Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

**LWVHW Steering Committee** 

Dacia Rubel, Spokesperson & Civics Engagement

MJ Brown, Membership & Publicity/PR

Christina Holz, Elections & Voter Services

Max King, Graphics Specialist

Jane Kusel, Legislative Envoy

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