



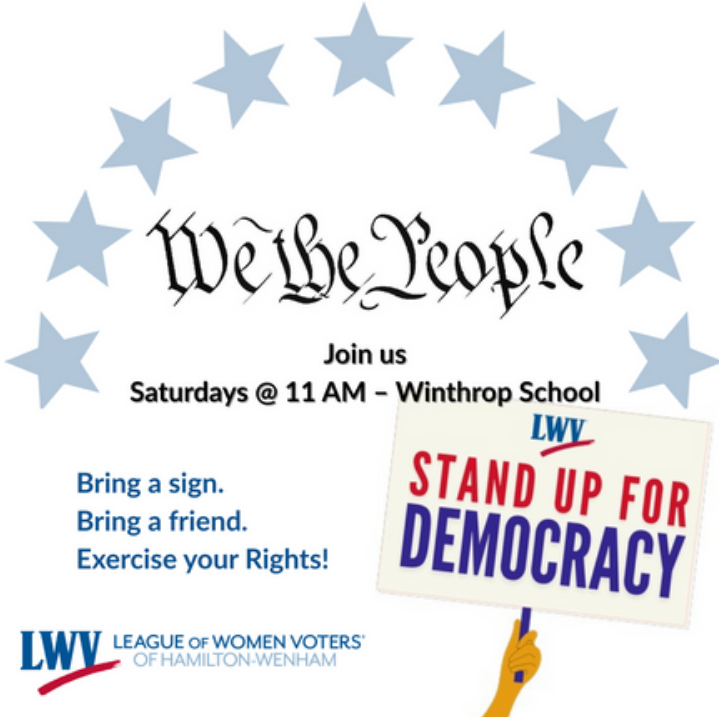
A Great Turnout for Week 13 and Reminder for Hamilton STM (Mon 7/14)

Greetings, Leaguers and Friends!

We hope you all enjoyed a meaningful Independence Day. We had a good sized group at the Stand Out on Saturday and can't wait to see more of you this week!

Summer is in full swing and things are NOT slowing down. Monday is Hamilton's Special Town Meeting and Thursday is a national day of action honoring John Lewis's legacy. Read more below and we hope to see you Saturday!

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

	<p>WHO: YOU! (And your friends!)</p> <p>WHAT: Stand Out for Democracy!WHEN: Saturdays, 11AM to noon</p> <p>WHERE: Winthrop School (Bay Road, Hamilton)</p> <p>WHY: Because Democracy is NOT a Spectator Sport. And it feels really good to do <i>SOMETHING</i> in community!</p> <p>HOW: Just SHOW UP! We often have extra signs to share!</p>
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We appreciate you and your presence is valuable!

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

JULY:

- **Stand Out for Democracy** Saturday, July 12, 11 AM - 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also July 19 and 26!
- **Good Trouble Lives On** Thursday, July 17, National Day of Action. Details below with LWVUS updates.

- **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!

AUGUST

- **Steering Committee Planning Meeting** Tuesday, August 12, 6:30 PM, Potluck at Dacia's home
- **Stand Out for Democracy** Saturday, August 2, 11 AM - 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also August 9, 16, 23 and 30

WHAT'S NEWS

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 HWHRHS. Check in opens at 5 PM. Our dedicated poll workers will do everything they can to move the line along, but **PLEASE arrive early** to allow time for check in! Note that anyone with mobility issues, including those using canes or who have difficulty standing for extended periods, may proceed to the front of the registration line at check-in. Thanks to all for understanding and making in-person democracy work for as many folks as possible.

The [Warrant is available HERE](#). Please review and bring your own copy if possible. This is a complex issue and worthy of our close attention before voting!

You can find all the information you need on the [Special Town Meeting 7/14](#) page of the Town website, including FinComm recommendations, project resources, and a very helpful [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document created by the Planning Board to clarify common questions. It's well worth a read.

Stand Out – Week Thirteen Recap:

What a beautiful day we had! About 20 enthusiastic folks exercised their First Amendment rights with us on July 5th. Lots of drive by support as well. These acts of community and resistance in support of democracy and League positions are hopeful and energizing.



July 5, 2025

HW-News Summer Appeal

Congratulations to H-W News as they pass the six-month mark! LWVHW welcomes this great addition to the local information landscape and we hope the community will continue to support its efforts and consider a donation to its summer fundraising campaign. From the letter we sent to the editor at launch:

“Local news gives us the opportunity to better understand town initiatives and issues and also tells us what’s happening in our towns. As a community we can learn how our local government works, cheer for our local sports teams, find out about school or community arts and entertainment events, support our local businesses, celebrate the achievements of our students, town employees and citizens and collectively mourn the passing of a neighbor. These shared experiences and understandings, among many others, help bring us together as a community.

Local news has been struggling to survive for a while. Competition for attention and funds is brutal. But we believe that strong local news is one of the most important tenets of our democracy and is certainly worth the investment. So please, do what you can to support our neighbors who have been working on getting this paper off the ground for several years now. If you are not used to paying for your news, and read only what you can get for free online, it is worth asking yourself if you are getting the kind of high-quality community news that you need and want. While Facebook and other social media sites are favored sources and may provide a sense of community for some, those who participate in many of the

most “popular” community groups represent only a small sliver of our town populations. Local news, available on a broader basis, promises to be far more impactful and will no doubt help forge deeper and longer lasting community connections.”

H-W News is a nonprofit organization headed by an all-volunteer board, but they pay staff and freelancers to bring us weekly coverage of our towns. Additionally, they need to cover the cost of equipment, software, printing, and postage to ensure the paper reaches our towns’ 5000 homes and businesses. **An appeal was published in last week’s paper with a QR code to donate; checks can also be mailed to H-W News, PO Box 121, Hamilton, MA 01936.**

Know Your Rights

Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell has published guidance for immigrants, families, and communities regarding ICE enforcement. [Read and share “Know Your Rights: ICE Enforcement” here.](#)

ICYMI: News & Events from LWVMA and Local Leagues

- **LWVMA’s virtual event “Open Town Meeting: Remote and Secure”** was held Tuesday, July 8. [Event recording](#) and [presentation slides](#) are now available. Every Town Meeting season, folks across the Commonwealth governed by the Open Town Meeting format raise criticism about access to the vote when voters can’t be in person due to schedule conflicts, disabilities, caregiving responsibilities, and more. State law currently requires that Open Town Meetings be conducted on an in-person only basis and this disenfranchises many voters. LWVMA is supporting a bill, H.2274 An Act authorizing remote participation at Town Meeting.
- **LWVMA 2025 Convention Keynote Address** Attorney General Campbell’s powerful keynote emphasized the importance of civic engagement, equity, and justice in our democracy. It’s now available for you to watch and share.

[Watch the Keynote Address here.](#)

- **LWV of Concord-Carlisle** Harvard political theorist [Danielle Allen](#) was the keynote speaker at LWV Concord-Carlisle’s Annual Meeting. Allen directs the Allen Lab for Democracy Renovation and has long been a leading voice on the future of democracy, justice, and civic engagement. Her work bridges the gap between academic scholarship and public life. She brings a powerful vision for democratic resilience and reform. [Watch her address The Future of Democracy here.](#)
- **LWV of Marblehead** had created a document called “[Summer of Democracy, Just DO Something!](#)” Check it out for ideas and suggestions of things you can do to create community and solidarity around democratic ideals.

LWVUS News

- **New Position Adopted** In June 2025, LWV national Board announced the adoption of the [new League position on the Federal Judiciary](#). The position was adopted using the long-standing League practice of grassroots study to arrive at member understanding and agreement. 321 Leagues representing 45 states and the District of Columbia participated in the study.
- **Press Release:** [Unnecessary and Disastrous: LWV Responds to Signing of Budget Reconciliation Package](#)
- **Blog post by Celina Stewart**, CEO of LWVUS: [This Independence Day, Democracy Needs Defenders, Not Cheerleaders](#)
- **National Day of Action**

Good Trouble Lives On is sponsoring a nationwide day of action scheduled on July 17th, the 5th anniversary of the passing of John Lewis, to honor his legacy. The national office has signed on as a partner. Learn more and find an event near you at:

GoodTroubleLivesOn.org

**“Get in good trouble,
necessary trouble,
and help redeem the
soul of America.”**

— Congressman John Lewis

Massachusetts 250

As you make your summer and fall plans, take a look at Massachusetts250.org for a calendar of commemorations, celebrations, and other events marking 250 years of history and revolution. Learn about the many ways to explore our history of independence and innovation!

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS

- **Democracy in Your Hands Series** (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”

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 [sign up for our periodic email updates](#). Thanks for helping build our community!

