

LWVHW Weekly Update - Looking Toward Thanksgiving

Greetings, Leaguers and Friends!

Thanksgiving is nearly upon us and it feels like it kind of snuck up. The air is decidedly chillier, and the blue sky crisper when it shows up! Food insecurity is amplified over the holidays, so we continue to make an appeal for ACORD below.

Join us during this reflective holiday period to appreciate our democracy. We are thankful for the freedoms protected by the Constitution—the freedoms that empower us to *speak out against* the misuse of power, voter suppression, and civil rights violations and to *voice our support for* the rule of law, constitutional checks and balances, and voter rights. We have a lot of common ground on non-partisan issues of governance and policy and many of us will have a chance to explore that common ground as we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends next week.

We hope to see you at the Stand Out this Saturday -- giving thanks for our First Amendment rights by exercising them!!

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

NOVEMBER

• Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, November 22, 11 AM - 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also, November 29!

DECEMBER

- Steering Committee Meeting Tuesday, December 2, 6:30 PM, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham) All members welcome!
- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, December 6, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also, December 13, 20, and 27!
- Hamilton Special Town Meeting Tuesday, December 9, 7 PM, HWRHS (775 Bay Rd., Hamilton)

2026...it's right around the corner!

• LWV Night at Suffs Thursday, March 19, 7:30 PM, Emerson Colonial Theatre (106 Boylston St., Boston). Details below. A few members are already signed up!

WHAT'S NEWS

DID YOU KNOW?

- Membership is open to ANYONE 16 years of age or older, regardless of gender.
- We also welcome members from outside of HW! If you have friends in surrounding communities that do not have a local League of their own, they can join LWVHW or join LWVMA as a member at large. If you know someone who'd like to become a member, point them to our website.

Food Insecurity



As SNAP payments start to flow again, and with the holidays upon us, there is still an urgent local need to meet. There are many ways to help local families, including donating food or funds to Acord Food Pantry in Hamilton

Donations are collected at Acord (69 Willow Street, Hamilton) every Wednesday from 4-6 PM. There are also collection bins at the HW Library and in the lobby of the Hamilton Public Safety building.

Additionally, monetary donations can be made online, via Venmo (@AcordFoodPantry), or mailed to PO Box 2203, S. Hamilton, MA 01982.

Visit www.AcordFoodPantry.org

Stand Out – Week 32

Saturday the 15th was our first really chilly day since our first Stand Out way back in April! Moving forward, gloves and a hat will be the move. We had a small but lively group and welcomed the usual positive responses. We will be out there again this Saturday to stand up for the Constitution and the rule of law. Come spend an hour in community with us—share in good conversation and smiles (and choose from our growing collection of signs if you don't have your own handy)!



Hamilton Special Town Meeting

Hamilton is holding a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, December 9, at 7 PM at the High School. The warrant has not been released, but one key article is a zoning bylaw for Gordon Conwell Seminary property to enable sale of campus apartments to a private developer. Watch the <u>Clerk's page</u> for details.

The last day to register to vote at this STM is Friday, November 28. The Town Clerk's office will be open until 5 PM that day. Register online or check your current registration at www.VotelnMA.com.

Substitution Light Light Suffs LWVMA Night at Suffs



LWVMA is thrilled to invite you to an unforgettable evening celebrating the past, present, and future of women's rights and civic engagement. On Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 7:30 PM the League will gather for a special performance of the Tony Award-winning musical, *Suffs*, at the Emerson Colonial Theatre in Boston. Join LWVMA for an evening at the theater that honors the trailblazers that came before us and the movement that we continue together.

More information and ticket purchase link HERE.

LWVUS News

Op-ed:

- Ending Voter Registration at Citizenship Ceremonies Tarnishes Democracy "Registering voters is one of the most meaningful and symbolic expressions of civic participation. Rolling back that tradition at naturalization ceremonies diminishes a practice rooted in our nation's democratic fabric: citizens helping citizens take the first step into civic life." Read on to learn more about how DHS's move to restrict voter registration is problematic.
- The Power of <u>Uniting in Peaceful Protest</u> As we face a critical moment in US history, there are countless ways people can defend democracy. <u>Read this LWV blog post</u> for a boost of energy and inspiration about the role of peaceful protest in promoting change.

• Other Blog Posts:

- Unite and Rise 8.5: An Initiative to Defend Democracy
- o Protecting the Rights of Women in the Military
- o <u>Election Heroes Power Our Democracy</u>

• Letters, Memos & Press Releases:

- <u>League of Women Voters, LDF, and Civil Rights Organizations Applaud Federal Court's</u>
 <u>Decision to Block Texas's Racially Discriminatory Congressional Map in the 2026 Elections</u>
- <u>League of Women Voters, Campaign Legal Center Sue UCIS, DHS, and Other Federal</u>
 Officials over Voter Registration Ban at Administrative Naturalization Ceremonies
- o League of Women Voters Condemns Indiscriminate Border Patrol Operations in Charlotte
- League Statement on the Reopening of the Federal Government
- <u>League of Women Voters Education Fund Receives \$1 Million From Carnegie Corporation of</u>
 New York for Youth Civic Education and Engagement
- Subscribe: Want weekly updates on LWVUS activities beyond the ones highlighted here?
 Subscribe to <u>League Update!</u>

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 Tuesday, December 2, at 6:30 PM at the Wenham Council on Aging (10 School St., Wenham).

Approved Meeting Minutes from October 14

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!

