

LWVHW Weekly Update

Greetings, Leaguers and Friends!

And suddenly it's December. This evening brings the last full moon of 2025 – aptly dubbed the "Cold Moon"! As we head for the darkest part of the year, don't stop shining your light for democracy. We are not just fair weather friends and we won't stand by as "democracy dies in darkness" to quote a certain newspaper's slogan. Join us on Saturdays at our ongoing Stand Outs for good company and fresh air.

Planning a few fun things and getting them on the calendar is a tried and true way to beat winter blues! We hope to see you at some of the events listed below.

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER

- 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)
- Water Resiliency: A Community Conversation Wednesday, December 10, 6 PM, First Church in Wenham (1 Arbor St., Wenham)

JANUARY

- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, January 3, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also, January 10, 17, 24, and 31!
- Steering Committee Meeting Tuesday, January 13, 6:30 PM, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham) All members welcome!

FEBRUARY

- Steering Committee Meeting Tuesday, December 2, 6:30 PM, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham) All members welcome!
- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, February 7, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also, February 14 ♥, 21, and 28!

MARCH

- Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, March 7, 11 AM 12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). Also, February 14 ♥, 21, and 28!
- 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! Will you join us?

WHAT'S NEWS

Hamilton Special Town Meeting

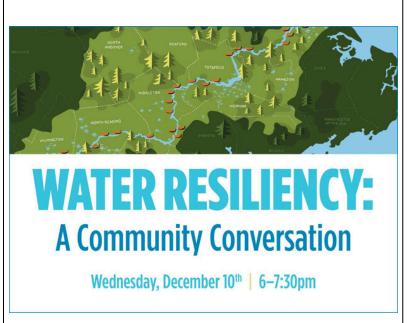
Hamilton is holding a Special Town Meeting on **Tuesday, December 9, at 7 PM** at the High School (check in opens at 6 PM). The warrant, including FinCom recommendations, is <u>available here</u>.

The Hamilton Select Board and Planning Director have created an informative <u>video explainer for Article</u> 2025/12 4-1 "The Brown's Hill Overlay District" available on HWCAM's YouTube Channel.

Town Meeting is the legislative branch of our local government and your chance to shape the community you want to live in. Registered voters in Hamilton, let's turn out and vote!

Water Resiliency: A Community Conversation

Last year LWVHW partnered with Ipswich River Watershed Association (IRWA) to present <u>Shaping Our Water Future</u> and this topic certainly has a LOT of interest in our community and there is always more to learn!



The towns of Hamilton and Wenham rely on water from the Ipswich River basin for all of their drinking water supplies. At the same time, the Ipswich River is a key ecological resource for the entire North Shore.

Join IRWA as they answer the question: What does a resilient future look like for the towns of Hamilton and Wenham and the Ipswich River?

Hear from Hamilton Town Staff, as well as Town of Wenham's Water Commissioner, Ernest Ashley, and Ipswich River Watershed Association Executive Director Erin Bonney Casey, about how we are collectively meeting challenges to our water supplies and river health.

This event will focus on facilitating community conversations around these issues. So bring your questions and your ideas about what a water resilient future could look like! **RSVP here**.

Stand Out - Week 34

We started our peaceful protest last Saturday with just 4 folks, then 6, then 8... We finally made it all the way up to 14! Chilly and brisk, we warmed to the task at hand, and then the cold did not seem all that bad. On these cold days, even if you can just stand out for 10 or 15 minutes, we will welcome you with a

hearty hello and a warm smile. You bring the hats and gloves, and we have the signs! This Saturday is also the <u>Friends of Winthrop School Holiday Boutique</u> from 9 AM to 3 PM. Pop in and get some shopping done before or after exercising your First Amendment rights!



LWVMA Night at Suffs



Email LeagueHW@gmail.com if you plan to attend and want to travel together!

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

- ICYMI: "Every ballot tells a story of land, survival, and sovereignty." Native American Heritage Month
 may be behind us (November), but barriers to voting are a year-round issue with special impact on
 Native communities. Read the blog post How Barriers to Voting Impact Native American
 Communities
 to learn more about the challenges these communities face when it comes to
 participating in our democracy.
- 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.
- Letters, Memos & Press Releases:
 - <u>LWV and Free Speech for People Applaud Judgment for Plaintiffs in NH Voter Intimidation</u>
 <u>Lawsuit</u>, a case considered to be the first of its kind in the country.
 - "The President's suggestion that lawmakers should face death for upholding the rule of law is not political rhetoric—it's an authoritarian threat that shatters every democratic norm." Read more in LWV's <u>Statement on President Trump's Claim that Lawmakers' Dissent Equals 'Seditious</u> Behavior'
- **Subscribe:** Want weekly updates on LWVUS activities beyond the ones highlighted here? Subscribe to League Update!

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, January 13, at 6:30 PM at the Wenham Council on Aging (10 School St., Wenham).

Approved Meeting Minutes from November 11

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!

