



We are GROWING! Stand Out for DEMOCRACY! 🌱

Good morning, Leaguers!

Our Stand Out for Democracy movement is GROWING! We doubled our numbers from the 12th to the 19th. Can we do it again? (Not without your help!)

***JOIN US* THIS Saturday, April 26th, from 11 AM to 12 PM** in front of the Winthrop School in Hamilton. Bring friends, family, neighbors...we hope to see lots of you there!

Eric Liu, founder of Citizen University (and guest of the LWVHW a few years back speaking on his book *You're More Powerful than You Think*), shared his inspiring perspective on citizenship recently:

"What does it mean right now to live like a citizen?"

A citizen — a member of the body, a contributor to community.

Not a subject. Not an spectator.

Someone responsible for self-government.

[We must] **localize** when the pressure is to nationalize; to **humanize** when the incentives are to dehumanize; to **practice mutual aid and service** when the temptation is to turn inward." (Emphasis ours)

Read in full here: [Message from Eric Liu](#) . Remember our power to **practice self-government** and let's **SHIFT the center of gravity!**

UPCOMING EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL:

- **Stand Out for Democracy Saturday, April 26, 11 AM -12 PM**, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School)

MAY:

- **Steering Committee Meeting Tuesday, May 13, 6:00 PM**, Wenham COA (10 School St., Wenham)

- **Stand Out for Democracy** Saturday, May 3, 11 AM -12 PM, Hamilton (Bay Road, in front of Winthrop School). **May 10, 17, 24 and 31 !**

JUNE:

- (Save the Date) **LWVMA Convention 2025 –Year 105: Democracy Forward!** Saturday, June 14, 9AM -4PM, EnVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro (31 Hampshire Street, Mansfield) (detailed schedule and registration coming soon)

WHAT'S NEWS

Week Two: **Twice as Big!**

The energy at our Stand Out for Democracy last week was **AMAZING** ! We doubled in number from 10 to 20 and we had spectacular weather. (Time to pack sunscreen!)

Thanks to all who were there. We had new faces join us and some good conversations about League priorities and positions. Honks and cheers of support outnumbered negativity by at least 419 to 2! Participating in this kind of pro-democracy solidarity events is fortifying in these challenging times.

One genuine highlight was the federal worker who pulled over to express her **gratitude for these shows of support** . She and her committed civil servant colleagues are suffering and standouts like ours make them feel seen. Her visit was truly moving and inspiring. **“Action absorbs anxiety”–and it is clearly mutually reinforcing!**



Stand Out for Democracy THIS SATURDAY (and EVERY Saturday)!

Join us from **11 AM to 12 PM** Saturdays in Hamilton on the grassy area in front of the Winthrop School (rain or shine...bring an umbrella if the skies, like our situation, look ominous!)

Bring asign -- or not -- your presence is valuable! We have some extras on hand to share!

Bring a friend or neighbor! Think about local folks and organizations in the fight to preserve and protect our civic institutions and civil rights. *The more the merrier!*

Let's all use **OUR** First Amendment rights and **be Out-Standing for Democracy!**

**HANDS
~~OFF!~~
OUR VOTER
RIGHTS**

LWV LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

✓ **URGENT: The *SAVE Act* is *Still* on the Table!**

With [Congress in recess](#) until May 3rd, **we still have time to take action** ! Spread the word to friends in swing states. Maybe they can petition their senators back in their home offices.



Celina Stewart, LWVUS CEO, issued a statement in response to the passage of the [SAVE \(Safeguard American Voter Eligibility\) Act](#) in the US House. Her remarks were chilling: "Today is a dark day in politics...and a dangerous step backward for our democracy." [Read the full press release](#) on the LWVUS site and consider taking one or more of the actions below and share them with friends!

- [Tell your Senators to oppose the SAVE Act](#) : the Senate must reject this bill to prevent it from becoming law. [Call](#) the US Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 (*pro tip: save this in your contacts* !) or [take email action](#) .
- Take a moment to [respond to your member of the House's vote](#) on the SAVE Act either by [calling](#) the switchboard (*aren't you glad you saved it in your contacts?*) or [take email action](#) .
- **Get familiar** with these great [Talking Points compiled by LWVUS](#) to help push back on misinformation.
- **Share information** with young voters: LWVUS CEO, Celina Stewart, wrote an excellent and informative op-ed for Teen Vogue about the harm the *SAVE Act* will cause nationwide: [What is the SAVE Act? The Trump Admin's Attempt to Strip Voting Rights from Women and Young People](#) .

For those of us on social media, it can be frustrating to see misleading, untrue, or negative comments about actions. Here are some useful tips to follow if commenters are reacting negatively to something *positive* or *neutral* (example: apost about arally).

1. **Don't engage directly** —do not argue, comment, share, or emoji the negative comments.
2. **Find *apostive* comment** and then “like” it and add areply with ***another*** positive comment.
3. **Add your own positive comment** to the post.

Engaging directly with the negative comment or post, gives it more oxygen and makes it more likely to be seen. Ignoring the negative and instead following these steps, pushes **positive comments** up the chain and gives them more credence. Stay smart out there!

🌟 **THANK YOU!**

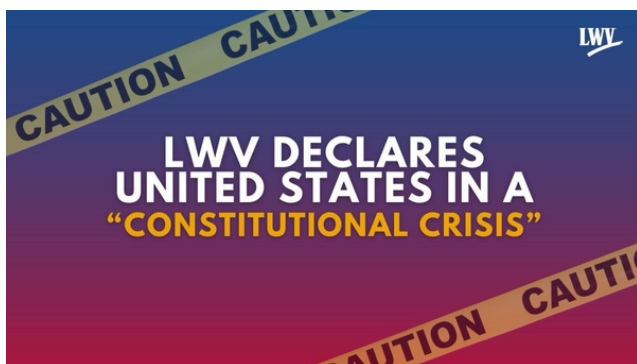
We appreciate **all of us** !! [Happy National Volunteer Appreciation Week!](#)

As agrassroots-powered organization, the League is extraordinarily grateful to our members and volunteers!

Across the US, thousands of dedicated volunteers devote their time and energy to the mission of the League. In fact, League volunteers contributed the equivalent of nearly **\$30 million in volunteer time** in 2024! Thank you for all that you do to empower voters and defend democracy.



🌟 **ICYMI: [LWVUS Declares Constitutional Emergency](#)**



“After careful monitoring and analysis, LWVUS has decided that now is the time to sound the alarm: **our country is in a full-on constitutional crisis.** The foundational principles that have sustained our democracy —checks and balances, the rule of law, free and fair elections —are under direct and sustained attack.”

On Thursday, April 17 (the eve of the 250th anniversary of [Paul Revere's Ride to Revolution](#)), the League of Women Voters of the United States declared a constitutional crisis along with its intention to launch an 8.5 million-strong initiative, called Unite & Rise 8.5. Read the [full press release here](#).

UPCOMING VIRTUAL EVENTS:

- [Rise for Freedom Nationwide Mass Trainings](#) (ongoing Thursdays, 8-10 PM through Thursday, May 15) –training for “people who love our country and understand the threat of autocracy before us and want to do something about it.” This would make a great option for a watch party with friends!
 - April 24: “Harnessing Our Power to End Political Violence and Repression”
 - May 1: “Mutual Aid & Structures for Stronger Local Organizing”
 - May 8: “De-escalation & Advanced Strategic Organizing Skills”
 - May 15: “Advanced Organizing Skills”
- [The Future of Journalism in the Digital Age](#) (Tuesday, April 29, 5-6 PM) –April installment of LWV of Maine's series **Let's Talk About Digital Threats to Democracy** exploring the staggering and often hidden reach of Big Tech into our lives and the dangers it poses to civil society, our civil rights, and our privacy.
- [LWVMA -Meet the Specialists](#) (ongoing)



LWVMA's *Meet the Specialists* programs offer 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.

- April 30, 7PM: [Medicare for All](#)
 - May 8, 7PM: [Gun Violence Prevention](#)
 - May 13, 12 noon: [Fairness for Farmworkers/Immigration](#)
 - May 15, 12 noon: [Reproductive Rights/Women's Issues](#)
 - [Felony Disenfranchisement: How Leagues are Engaging and Advocating for Re-Enfranchisement in Their Communities](#) (Wednesday, May 21, 3PM) – a panel discussion about the importance of enfranchisement for justice-involved individuals and how state and local Leagues can engage and advocate.
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PAST VIRTUAL EVENTS:

- [LWVMA Town Hall: Supported/Opposed Legislation 2025-2026 \(recording\)](#) (April 17) Learn from chair Jen Muroff about the Legislative Action Committee and the bills LWVMA is prioritizing this session. ([accompanying slides](#)) Visit the [legislative tracking page](#) for more information. This is a **FANTASTIC** primer on how the League advocates for and against legislation at the state level. **Highly recommended viewing!**
 - [LWVMA Town Hall: How the Legislature Works \(recording\)](#) (April 15) featuring Senator Joan Lovely ([accompanying slides](#))
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OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

✦ **Stay Informed** LWVUS sends an informative bi-weekly newsletter (check out the [April 17 issue](#)). You can [join the mailing list](#) here.

✦ **Steering Committee Meetings** (generally second Tuesdays of the month) Members are always welcome at Steering Committee meetings. **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 13, at 6PM at the Wenham Council on Aging** (10 School St., Wenham).

- [Draft Minutes from April 8](#)
- [Approved Minutes from March 11](#)

♥ **LWVMA Convention 2025** “Year 105: Democracy Forward!” Saturday,
June 14, 9AM -4PM , EnVision Hotel Mansfield/Foxboro (31 Hampshire Street,
Mansfield) [Detailed schedule and registration coming soon](#) !

Not amember 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!



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
Stephanie MacLeod, Treasurer & Website
Lindsay Schnabel, Elections & Voter Services
Bethany Swanson, At-Large

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