



LWVW Calendar (April - June)



Friday, April 27, noon - 2 pm, Brown Bag Lunch: Wellesley's Best Kept Secret ... Our Local Public Health Services at Erry Johnson's home. Shep Cohen and Marcia Testa Simonson, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Public Health, respectively, will

be our featured speakers. The Board of Health plays many important roles in Wellesley and is a critical part of town services. Come learn about what they do, and bring your questions!

Monday, April 30, 7 - 9 pm, Speaking For Our Trees: A Conversation about Wellesley's Leafy Infrastructure at the Wakelin Room of the WFL. The LWVW and the Wellesley Natural Resources Commission will co-sponsor a **forum** featuring **Dr. David Foster**, Director of the Harvard Forest, a 4000-acre ecological laboratory and classroom in central Massachusetts, since 1990. Come learn why urban forests are vital to our well-being and how to protect them from human and natural disturbances, which will provide timely background information as the town continues to discuss the North 40 land use and reviews the Tree Bylaw.



Tuesday, May 8, 10 am - noon, LWVW Board Meeting at Ellen Hallett's home. All members welcome to attend.

ANNUAL MEETING



Wednesday, May 16, 6 - 9 pm, Annual Meeting at Helen Stewart's home. This meeting is open to the Wellesley League membership and their guests. Reception/potluck starts at 6 and the meeting begins promptly at 7:30. Note that this year is the 80th anniversary of the Wellesley League! Please RSVP to **Irene Flint**. You should already

have received a hard copy of your Annual Meeting workbook in mid April - many thanks to Ellen Hallett for organizing and editing the workbook.

are interested in marching with the LWVW, please RSVP to [Anne Rippy Turtle](#). The [Wellesley Celebrations Committee](#) organizes the parade, and this year its theme is the 100th year anniversary of the end of World War I. The Wellesley League's theme will be "Making Democracy Work for 80 Years."

Sunday, June 3, Special Town Meeting Preparation Session, located TBD (tentative)

Tuesday, June 5, 7-10 pm, Special Town Meeting starts, location TBD (also June 6 if needed)

Monday, June 11, (evening), LWVW Board Meeting, time and location TBD. All members welcome to attend.

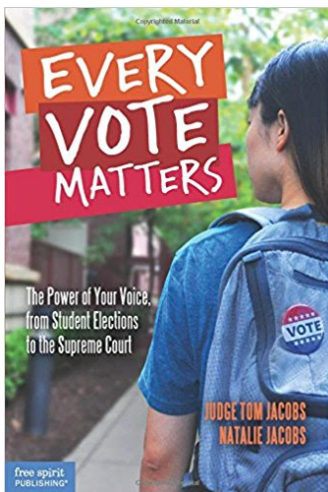
March for Our Lives and Coffee with Creem

Many League members marched in the recent "March for Our Lives/Boston" on March 24, 2018 to support sensible gun safety laws. State Rep. Alice Peisch generously underwrote the cost of a bus to and from Boston Commons. About half of the 55 persons on the bus were LWVW members, friends, and family.



Several Wellesley League members and Boston area League Leaders met with State Senator Cynthia Creem to discuss current legislation. Senator Creem expressed optimism about the passage of the Automatic Voter Registration and Criminal Justice bills by the end of this session. Gun safety was also a major topic of discussion.

Volunteers Needed!



Each spring, the League of Women Voters of Wellesley recognizes Wellesley High School students for outstanding civic engagement in the school and broader community. This year's book is *Every Vote Matters: The Power of Your Voice, from Student Elections to the Supreme Court* by Judge Tom Jacobs and his daughter Natalie. The LWVW is looking for volunteers to award the books at Wellesley High School on Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 6:30-8:30 pm (Senior Class Awards) and/or Thursday June 7, 2018 from 6:45-8:15 pm (Underclass Awards). If you would like to present the LWV book awards on one or both dates, please contact [Anne Rippy Turtle](#)

Voter Services Update

The March 22 and 27 Town Meeting Preparation Sessions were well attended to the point of being overcrowded. Many thanks to Barbara McMahon and Heather Sawitsky for organizing these two informative sessions. The League is considering holding a prep session (tentatively held on Sunday, June 3, 2018) for

appropriate feasibility study funds for the Hardy, Hunnewell and Upham schools.



The Voter Services team is making plans for fall voter registration events, including outreach to local colleges. The team will consider organizing an educational event to provide information about the ballot questions once these questions are finalized.

Please join our Voter Services team to help register new voters!

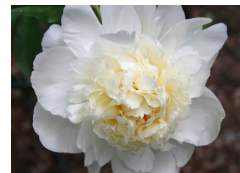
2018 is an important election year. One of the League's fundamental mandates is voter registration. Participating in a voter registration event for few hours is an immediately rewarding experience: you are empowering individuals to exercise their right to vote.

In addition to registering voters locally in Wellesley, the LWVW Voter Services team plans to support LWV branches in other communities by providing volunteers for specific VR events. New volunteers will be paired up with experienced ones.

Volunteers are needed for Naturalization ceremonies in Lowell (in conjunction with LWV of Haverhill): June 6, August 22, September 19. Contact [M-Eva Rajczyk](#) for more details and thanks for considering a very worthy volunteer experience. [Erry Johnson](#) is participating in Lowell on June 6 if anyone want to carpool.

In Memoriam

The Wellesley League wishes to offer its condolences on the loss of [Howard Ellis](#), spouse of Lifetime Wellesley League member Dorothy Ellis, who died on April 11, 2018. Dorothy served as a Director on the Board of the LWV Wellesley for many years.



News from State and Other Local Leagues



LWVMA Spring Conference "Beyond the March: Women Leading the Way in Massachusetts", April 28 at Clark University, Worcester, MA from 9 am - 3 pm. Congresswoman Niki Tsongas will be the keynote

speaker. This conference replaces the usual LWVMA Council held in non-convention years. In addition to Rep. Tsongas, conference speakers will include:

- Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor, Newton
- Sarai Rivera, City Councilor, Worcester
- Yvonne Spicer, Mayor, Framingham
- Lisa Wong, Deputy Director, Asian American Civic Association, Former Mayor, Fitchburg
- Barbara Berenson, author of *Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement: Revolutionary Reformers*
- Erin O'Brien, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Massachusetts Boston

The conference is open to the public. [Click here](#) for more information or to register. Several LWVW Board members already have plans to attend; let us know if you will be coming and feel free to bring a friend! **The Wellesley League will be making a \$250 donation in honor of Ann-Mara Lanza, Joan Savitt, and Ann Swanson who annually produce our very useful online [Election Guide](#)**

2017-2018 Board of Directors

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