LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®

NEWSLETTER

February 21, 2018

LWVW Calendar (February - June)



Thursday, March 1, 6:30 - 9 pm, Meet the Candidates Night in the Wakelin Room, Wellesley Free Library. Meet the candidates for local Town of Wellesley elected positions as well as recognize those retiring from



elected Town Boards. Light refreshments will be served starting at 6:30 and the forum will start promptly at 7.

Tuesday, March 6, Town Election Day. Polls open from 7 am to 8 pm. Note that Precinct H now votes at the Tolles Parsons Center!

Friday, March 9, noon - 2 pm, Brown Bag Lunch with State Representative Alice Peisch at Lise Olney's home, 15 Windsor Road, Wellesley, MA 02481. Come learn about the current activity at the State House in an informal setting.



Saturday, March 10, noon - 1:30 pm, Second Wellesley Meet-Up at the Hills Branch Library. Come talk to your local elected officials, find out what's happening in town, share your concerns and get your questions answered!

Tuesday, March 13, 1 - 3 pm, Board Meeting at Ellen Hallett's home. All members welcome to attend.



Thursday, March 22, 7 - 9 pm and Sunday, March 25, 1:30 - 3:30 pm, Annual Town Meeting Prep Session at the Community Room of the Police Station. Learn about the issues being brought forth at the Wellesley Annual Town Meeting. Various committee chairs and community leaders will be on hand to speak about the articles to be

voted on. All Town Meeting Members and Wellesley residents are welcome to attend.

Monday, March 26, Start of Annual Town Meeting



Tuesday, March 27, 10 am, Coffee with Creem at the State House. Come meet State Senator Creem and learn about what is on the docket this legislative session. Please RSVP to LWVWellesley2@gmail.com by March 23 if you are interested in attending.

Friday, April 27, noon - 2 pm, Brown Bag Lunch. Location and topic TBD.



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 Anne Rippy Turtle at <u>lwvwellesley2@gmail.com</u>.

Monday, April 30, 7 - 9 pm at the Wakelin Room of the WFL. The LWVW and the Wellesley Natural Resources Commission will co-sponsor a tree forum featuring Dr. David Foster of Harvard who will speak on the importance of the urban forest. More details to come!

Sunday, May 20 (raindate June 3), Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend Parade

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



Meet the Candidates on March 1

Meet the Candidates Night (held in the Wakelin Room of the WFL from 6:30 - 9 pm) is one of the Wellesley League's most important yearly events. It's a chance to hear the candidates discuss important issues facing Wellesley in a moderated forum and ask questions of those seeking public office. Twenty-one candidates are running for eleven Town-wide offices, of which three - Town Clerk, Natural Resources Commission and School Committee - are contested. In addition, eighty candidates are running for Town Meeting and several of the precincts are contested.

Wellesley's Election Day is Tuesday, March 6 and the polls are open from 7 am - 8 pm. Note that Precinct H now votes at the Tolles Parsons Center at 500 Washington Street, Wellesley, MA 02482 rather than the High School.

The League is also celebrating its 80th birthday that evening, so come and enjoy the festivities. Birthday cake will be served starting at 6:30 pm and the forum will start promptly at 7. The LWVW is still looking for a few volunteers to help with decorations and room set up starting at 5:45 pm. If you can help, please contact Erry Johnson.

Voter Registration Day at WHS a HUGE Success!



(From left: Helen Stewart, Virginia Ferko, Erry Johnson, Marjorie Freiman, Melissa Martin, Ellen Hallett)

By Erica Johnson, VP for Voter Services

Over 100 Wellesley High students came out to register to vote today during the League of Women Voters of Wellesley's Voter Registration event at the Wellesley High School. Sixty-six completed paper registration forms and are all set to vote in the Town Election on March 6th and all state elections going forward. An additional 42 picked up on-line voter registration instructions or a mail-in version of the form.

The first question on the registration form asks "Are you a Citizen of the United States of America?" Some students, who stated they were not US citizens, accompanied their friends who were registering. Students were enthusiastic in anticipating their first opportunity to vote, acknowledging voting as both a right and responsibility of citizenship. One said: "I've known about this all my life, and finally I get to do it!"

It is inspiring to witness the next generation engaged in the democratic process. I hope their example will lead others to the polls on Tuesday, March 6th, when both contested and uncontested offices will be decided.

Additionally, on Tuesday, February 6th, a Voter Services team (Anne Rippy Turtle, Ellen Hallett and I) was on site at Waterstone of Wellesley to register new residents as a way of welcoming them to our community. The event was open to the Wellesley community. Waterstone's residents have considerable interest in the upcoming town election and will register for the Council on Aging's transportation services. We hope to see them in attendance at attend Meet the Candidates Night on March 1st AND at the polls to vote on March 6th!

Who's on the Ballot in the Town Election?

Are you interested in reading the LWVW Voters Guide on line? Go to our website www.LWVWellesley.org and click on the Vote411.org link (right under the big red donate button).

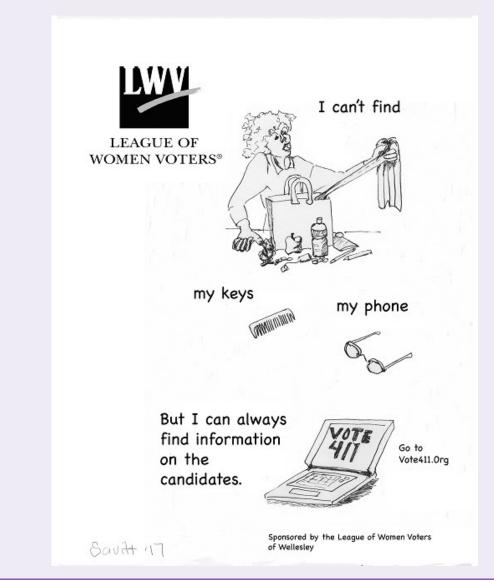


After filling out your address, city, state, and zip, you can click

On Your Ballot

Get personalized information on candidates and issues

to read about town-wide and Town Meeting Member candidates for the local March 6 election. This information will also be published in an insert within the *Townsman* on March 1.



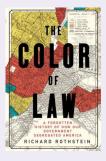
Meet State Legislators Cynthia Creem and Alice Peisch

We are fortunate to have State Representative Alice Peisch, who represents Wellesley, Weston and Wayland, as the speaker at our upcoming Brown Bag lunch on Friday, March 9 from noon - 2 pm at Lise Olney's home, 15 Windsor Road, Wellesley, MA 02481. State Senator Cynthia Creem, who represents First Middlesex and Norfolk County which includes about half of Wellesley, has also graciously agreed to meet with Wellesley League Members at her office on Beacon Hill on Tuesday, March 27 at 10 am. RSVP required by March 23 to LWVWellesley2@gmail.com for "Coffee with Creem."



World of Wellesley Community Read

The World of Wellesley encourages all residents to read and discuss *The Color of Law* by Richard Rothstein, which describes the history of residential segregation in America. Meet the author and participate in a discussion of the book on Monday, March 26 from 7 - 9 pm at the Wellesley Community Center. This event is free and open to the public. More details are available on WOW's website.



News from State and Other Local Leagues

• Save the Date: LWVMA Spring Conference April 28 at Clark University, Worcester, MA from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Concerned about the state of our democracy? Want to learn from experts about steps we can all take to strengthen our democratic institutions and processes? Come to the LWVMA conference to learn about the issues challenging our democracy. This event is a new approach to the state League's spring programming that will substitute a conference on contemporary issues, open to both League members and the public, for the Council program usually held in the year between state conventions.

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