

# NEWSLETTER

October 15, 2018

#### **Tentative 2018-2019 LWVW Calendar (through December)**



Tuesday, October 16, 6:30-9 pm: Opening LWVW Meeting - "Election Security: Threats and Solutions" at the Wakelin Room of the Wellesley Free Library. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 and the lecture will begin promptly at 7. All are welcome to attend (see below for more details).

**Wednesday, October 17:** Deadline to register to vote in the November 6 General Election.

Monday, October 22 - Friday, November 2: Early voting for the General Election



**Tuesday, November 6: General Election Day.** Not sure about your voting registration status? Click here. Need to register? Click here.

Thursday, November 8, 7 - 9 pm (Note date change): Wellesley Meet-Up at the Hills Branch of the Wellesley Free Library. Come meet your elected town officials and find out what is going on in Wellesley.

**Tuesday, November 13, 1 - 3 pm: Board Meeting** at Ann-Mara Lanza's home. All members welcome to attend.

**Thursday, November 15, 7 pm: Dessert with Jeff Azano-Brown**, the new RDF Superintendent, at the home of Betsy Snyder, 402 Linden Street in Wellesley. Come learn about the changes in recycling opportunities at Wellesley's world famous "dump" lately and the soon-to-be-expanded Food Waste Drop-Off program.



Wednesday, November 28, 7:30 - 9 pm: How to Run for Public Office at the Warren Building, Room 008, sponsored by LWV Wellesley. Don McCauley, Town Moderator, and KC Kato, Town Clerk, will lead the discussion. Light refreshments will be served. **Tuesday, December 11, 9:30 am -12:30 pm: Board Meeting** at Anne Rippy Turtle's home. All members welcome to attend.

Tuesday, December 11 at 12:30-2 pm: Annual Holiday Luncheon and Get-Together (following Board Meeting). Members of the LWVW are invited to celebrate the season with a festive luncheon and update on League activities.



### Opening LWVW Meeting - "Election Security: Threats and Solutions"



Tuesday, October 16, 6:30-9 pm at the Wakelin Room of the WFL



Our speaker will be Barbara Bluestein Simons, a voting cyber security expert, who has been on the Board of Advisors of the US Election Assistance Commission since she was appointed by Senator Reid in 2008. She co-authored the report that led to the cancellation of the Department of Defense's Internet Voting project (SERVE) in 2004 because of security concerns and is currently chair of the Verified Voting Foundation, a non-partisan, non-profit organization that advocates for legislation and regulation to promote accuracy, transparency and verifiability of

elections.

"Some machines that will be used in the upcoming midterms are incredibly vulnerable. For example, all of Georgia will be voting on Diebold paperless voting machines that we've known how to hack since 2006," said Simons in an email to the LWVW. "But I also want to emphasize that we know how to make our voting systems secure." The outcome of that case may also be discussed, but solutions, as well as the true nature of the problems, will be the focus of Simons' talk. Simons was a guest speaker at the cybersecurity conference DEF CON 25 held in Las Vegas last year, and at that event, hacker and tech industry participants succeeded in cracking into four voting machines. Since then, election security efforts have intensified across the nation. The DEF CON event sounded like a game, but implications for midterm elections woke up lawmakers to the need for closer examination of the voting machines.

After the 2017 event, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security notified 21 states, including Wisconsin, that "Russian government cyber actors unsuccessfully targeted the state's voter registration system in 2016," according to a Wisconsin Elections Commission announcement. After this year's DEF CON 26 event where voting machines were again hacked, four U.S. senators jointly wrote to the president of Election Systems & Software, LLC, a provider of voting machine software, asking questions about efforts to shore up the security of its systems.

Simons is retired from IBM Research and a former President of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the oldest and largest international educational and scientific society for computing professional. She is the only woman to have received the Distinguished Engineering Alumni Award from the College of Engineering at U C Berkeley, where she earned her PhD in computer science. She is also a proud member of the San Francisco LWV. Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 and the lecture will begin promptly at 7. All are welcome to attend.

#### Wellesley Voter Services Works Overtime to Register Voters!

On National Voter Registration Day, September 25 (and beyond), the Voter Services Team of the LWV Wellesley organized and staffed the following events:



Wellesley High School: 6 LWVW volunteers registered, or pre-registered, 58 students, representing a 30% increase over the September 2016 National VR Day enrollment. The LWVW appreciates the support of WHS administration in publicizing this event.



Massachusetts General
Hospital: Regina LaRocg

Hospital: Regina LaRocque, MD, rallied her MGH colleagues and the MGH Administration, with support from the LWVW and LWV of Boston, for a first-ever, day-long, multisite VR event from 7 AM – 9 PM, offering registration forms in 4 languages. Over 200 MGH staff, visitors and patients registered to vote. The team responded to frequent inquiries on

Ballot Question 1 by referring to the LWVMA Election Book and affirming the League's nonpartisan position. The MGH team plans to continue working on Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote efforts through November 6th.



The Hills Branch Library: an evening VR event, co-hosted by LWVW, WOW and the Rho Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Despite poor turnout (possibly becauise of the weather), volunteers from both groups enjoyed meeting each other and anticipate working together on future events.

• Mass Bay Community College: Student Involvement Fair, September 26.
The team fielded questions about the ballot, assisted 9 students with paper



or online registrations, and guided students to their registration history on https://www.sec.state.ma. us/OVR/. A informal survey of students present in the cafeteria found 85% had already registered online and 5% were ineligible (non-US citizens).

**Waterstone of Wellesley**: 9 voters registered and one voter made an

absentee ballot application. KC Kato, the Wellesley Town Clerk, will be bringing Early Voting to Waterstone on October 29 from 5:30 - 8 pm.

Many thanks to our hardworking Voter Services Team, led by LWVW Vice-President Erry Johnson!

## A Public Forum of Potential Interest to League Members

#### **Hunnewell Feasibility Study - Eco-Charrette**

Monday, October 15, 5:30 - 9:30 pm at Hunnewell School Gym



The School Building Committee invites you to meet with the design team from SMMA, the architect for the Hunnewell feasibility study, to hear the latest about building energy-efficient schools, and provide your thoughts on sustainable design goals and objectives for the project. Following an overview of sustainable design including Green Building Certifications and Net Zero Energy, breakout sessions will focus on: (1) Sustainable Sites and Transportation; (2) Water Efficiency; (3) Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; (4) Sustainable Materials; (5) Indoor Environmental Quality; and (6) Integrated Design and Innovation. A light dinner is included. Flyer is here

#### 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Anne Rippy Turtle - President
Ann-Mara Lanza - Vice-president, Program & Calendar
Erica (Erry) Johnson - Vice-president, Voter Services
Ellen Hallett - Secretary

Jenny Zannetos - Treasurer, Membership Irene Flint - Director, Program & Calendar Ann Rappaport - Director, Newsletter & Website Susan Clapham - Director, Ballot Process Study Tanya Roy - Director, Legislative Envoy

League of Women Voters of Wellesley www.lwvwellesley.org
Questions? Contact Anne Rippy Turtle, President, lwvwellesley2@gmail.com