



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

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Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

### **LWVL NEWS AND INFORMATION FIRST FRIDAY JANUARY 6, 2017**

#### **Who DO you call for the information you need?**

Do you remember phone books? They used to contain not only residents phone number but also a handy listing of town departments. A quick flip through the pages and you could find a number to call to find information. Now websites have replaced phone books and it can often be tricky to find information about resources we need.

On Friday, January 6, 2017, the League of Women Voter's Lexington, will present a panel of discussion on resources available for Lexington Seniors and Veterans. Participants include Kelly E. Axtell, Assistant Director of Senior Services, Hemali Patel, Senior Services Coordinator, and Gina Rada, Veterans Services Director.

The meeting will take place at Cary Memorial Library Large Meeting Room.

This is the fourth in the series of 2016-2017 First Friday Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Lexington to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. Event location, Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room 1874 Massachusetts Avenue. Coffee will be available and the presentation will begin at 9:30am. All League forums are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the League at [lwvlexington@gmail.com](mailto:lwvlexington@gmail.com) or Lisa Smith at [lisa.lavinia.smith@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.lavinia.smith@gmail.com). All League forums are free and open to the public.

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2017!**

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**LWVLEXINGTON - LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP!  
RENEWAL FORMS HAVE BEEN MAILED!**

Membership renewal forms for 2016-2017 have been mailed. Thank you to our members who have already renewed their membership for the coming year.

If you haven't already renewed your 2016-2017 membership, please do so soon. To renew your membership, you may use the form you received in the mail or use the form on our website [www.lwvlexington.org](http://www.lwvlexington.org)

If you have a friend or neighbor who may be interested in joining the League as a new member, please encourage them to do so at this time.

Thank you!

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**LWVLEXINGTON BOARD MEETING  
January 9, 2017**

The LWVLexington Board meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, 2017 from 7:00 P.M. – 8:45 P.M., 12 Barrymeade Drive, Lexington, MA. All members are invited.

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**LOCAL ELECTION REMINDER!!!**

**VOTER INFORMATION RE: ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2017**

The League of Women Voters encourages citizens to register to vote and to consider running for local office. In order to provide information for those interested in running for office, the following has been taken from the Town Clerk's website.

Note that nomination papers are usually available at the Town Clerk's office in December.

Although the date for Annual Town Meeting 2017, which will include the date for the municipal election, has not been set, the following are the deadlines for candidates for Town Meeting members:

- Date for Town Meeting and election, late December as voted by the Board of Selectmen and warrant closure deadline
  - 56 days prior to election, deadline for incumbent Town Meeting Members to return intention to run for re-election
  - 51 days prior to election, deadline to obtain nomination papers for non-incumbents
  - 49 days prior to election, deadline to submit signed nomination papers
  - 33 days prior to election, deadline for candidates to withdraw
  - 20 days prior to election, voter registration deadline
  - 7 days prior to election, warrant posting deadline
  - Friday prior to Monday election, absentee ballot deadline
  - Annual Town Election, first Monday in March (**March 6 in 2017**), unless otherwise declared by the Board of Selectmen
  - Annual Town Meeting, late March 2017
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### **The League is Looking for Volunteers**

The League is looking for volunteers to fill position openings it has. If interested, contact the League at 781-307-3116 for more information.

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### **Watch the League's Forums on Demand**

If there is a League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday Forum that you've missed or would like to see again, log onto <http://www.lexmedia.org/ondemand.html> and scroll down to "League of Women Voters" under Categories.

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## LWVMA

### We Are Grateful for YOU!

As we enter this season of thanks, we want to express our gratitude for all you do to **Make Democracy Work** in your communities and throughout the Commonwealth! The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts depends on you — our members and supporters — to advance our mission.

You are the linchpin of our non-partisan, hands-on work to safeguard democracy and create lasting change. You are the key to our success!

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the League.

With wishes for a warm and wonderful holidays,

The LWVMA Board of Directors, the Citizen Education Fund Trustees, and the Staff

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### Join LWVMA for Sexual Health Lobby Day on Jan. 31, 2017

Feel the need to Do Something? As the new session of the legislature begins in January, LWVMA is joining 30 other advocacy groups for a Sexual Health Lobby Day on Tuesday, Jan. 31, at the State House, starting at 9:30 a.m. Please join us!

In this uncertain national political climate, it is essential that we here in Massachusetts proactively pass legislation that protects and expands access to sexual and reproductive health care. Together, we must ensure that all Massachusetts residents, especially young people, have the ability to access the health care and education they need to stay safe and healthy. We must set and pursue an agenda that shows the rest of the country that Massachusetts is a place where these rights will be protected.

We need activists like you to join us in this endeavor, meet with your state legislators, and advocate for birth control access, comprehensive sex education, and confidential health care.

Among the target legislation is a bill for comprehensive, age-appropriate sex education, a bill we have been working to have passed for years. It made it through the Senate last session; it's time to get this done.

### Schedule

**Sexual Health Fair:** From 9:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m., grab some coffee and meet representatives from the state's leading sexual health providers and advocacy organizations to learn about opportunities to get involved, take action, and take care of your health.

**Raising Our Voices:** From 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., hear from activists who will share their stories and mobilize with us to protect sexual and reproductive health care. Stay tuned for more information about the speaking program!

**Lobbying 101:** From 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., come learn what lobbying is and get all the information and practice you need prior to meeting with your elected officials.

**Meetings with Legislators:** From approximately 12:00 p.m.– 2:00 p.m., join a group of your peers from your legislative district(s) in meetings with your state legislators and let them know sexual health matters to you! You will have the opportunity to speak directly with your elected officials and their staff to advocate for important legislation to protect and increase access to birth control, comprehensive sex education, and confidential health care.

The State House is in walking distance of the Park Street and Downtown Crossing MBTA stations and parking is available in the nearby Boston Common Garage.

Contact the League for more information or to Register.

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## SAVE APRIL 28-29 FOR LWVMA'S CONVENTION 2017

Mark your calendar now! You won't want to miss LWVMA Convention 2017 at the Framingham Sheraton on April 28 and 29, 2017. It's when local League delegates gather to hear distinguished speakers, approve program for the next biennium, elect a new board of directors, approve the budget, and network with leaders from across the state.

Watch for more details as we firm up featured speakers and opportunities for local Leagues to participate. For now, mark off April 28 and 29 on your calendar for LWVMA Convention 2017!

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## **STATE PROGRAM PLANNING TIME**

The program planning process to develop the recommended program for LWVMA's 2017-2019 biennium is getting underway. Program planning materials were sent to all local Leagues in early December, so please schedule a program planning meeting for your League before the deadline in early February to submit recommendations.

During the program planning process, Leagues can suggest action priorities, the focus of the state League's work for the next two years; action items, specific projects to tackle; and proposed studies, restudies or concurrences.

The state board will use the results of local League program planning reports to develop a recommended program for 2017-2019, to be voted on at the spring Convention.

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## **LWVMA – DATES TO SAVE - 2017**

January 9	Daniel Scharfman Grant Application Deadline
Through January 15 <sup>th</sup>	LWVMA Phonathon
January 31	Deadline to update your League Roster in LWVUS
February 1	2017 Student Video Contest Kick-Off
April 28 - 29	LWVMA Convention, Sheraton Hotel, Framingham

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## LWVUS

Friends,

As we prepare to close the book on 2016, we find ourselves reflecting on all of the hard work we've done and are astonished at how much we have accomplished:

- Over 4 million voters used VOTE411
- More than 35,000 media mentions
- Winning critical court cases to protect voting rights
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We are so proud of this team.

[We hope you'll take a moment to look at this recap of 2016 and see what the League is doing to defend the rights of voters.](#)

This team has earned a holiday vacation!

As we prepare for the challenges in 2017, we are confident this organization is ready for the road ahead.

We are truly reclaiming our place in election reform for the next generation of women, new citizens and men who are working with us to Make Democracy Work for all.

Happy Holidays!

*Chris Carson, President*

*Wylecia Wiggs Harris, CEA*

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**We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the February 2017 Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran Ronchetti at [Nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:Nancor1106@gmail.com) by January 25, 2017.**

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**Dates to Save:**

- January 6, 2017      LWVLexington First Friday, Who DO you call for the information you need?, Cary Memorial Library Large Meeting Room, Lexington, 9:15 a.m.
- January 9, 2017      LWVLexington Board Meeting, Barrymeade Drive, Lexington, 7:00 P.M.



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