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**NOVEMBETR 8<sup>th</sup> ELECTION  
EARLY VOTING DETAILS IN LEXINGTON**

**Location:** Ellen Stone Room, Cary Memorial Building

**Dates and Times:**

Monday, October 24, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Tuesday, October 25, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Wednesday, October 26, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Thursday, October 27, 2016 8:30am - 8:00pm

Friday, October 28, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Saturday, October 29, 2016 9:00am - 3:00pm

Monday, October 31, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Tuesday, November 1, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Wednesday, November 2, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

Thursday, November 3, 2016 8:30am - 8:00pm

Friday, November 4, 2016 8:30am - 4:30pm

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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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## **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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## **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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## **LWVMA**

### **LWVMA Scores Victories in Recently-Ended Legislative Session**

Several bills LWVMA strongly supported passed in the 189<sup>th</sup> session of the Massachusetts legislature, which ended at midnight Sunday, July 31.

A bill improving access to public records, a strong pay equity bill and an energy diversity bill that increases the state's reliance on renewable energy sources all passed with active League support.

The legislature in this session made major strides in considering bills to reform the criminal justice system. While only the bill to repeal automatic drivers' license suspensions for certain drug-related offences passed, the work done on criminal justice reform is expected to carry over into the new session which begins in January.

In the next session, the League will again work for election reform bills, including ones to implement automatic voter registration and election day registration and to redraw Boston precinct lines.

We were disappointed that bills providing for better working conditions for pregnant workers, for a ban on toxic flame retardants, for accurate and appropriate sex education in schools, for a carbon pricing policy, for in-state tuition rates for certain non-citizen

students, and many others that the League supported did not make it to floor for a final vote this session. We will be advocating for those and other issues again in the 190<sup>th</sup> session of the General Court.

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## **State League's Charter School Study Posted on LWVMA Website**

The materials for the state League charter school study are now posted on the [LWVMA website](#).

LWVMA hopes every local League in the state will hold a consensus meeting for this study, so that we have the widest possible participation and a true picture of our members' viewpoints on these issues. Please check with your local League's leadership on plans for a consensus meeting. The final consensus reports are due back to LWVMA by February 1, 2017.

Please note that this study and these materials are not related to the November 8 ballot question on charter schools in any way. The League has taken no stand on that ballot question precisely because we do not have a position on charter schools. The timing is coincidental. At the May 2015 Convention, well before the ballot question petition was filed, the League voted to conduct a study of charter schools to develop a position, so that, in the future, we can be a part of this important conversation.

There are several documents related to this study and we encourage you to take the time to read through them.

- Introduction - why we are doing this study and what it covers.
- Fundamentals of Charter Schools – explains the history and workings of Charter Schools in Massachusetts.
- Funding of Charter Schools - explains the funding process for charter schools in the state.
- Glossary - terms as they are used in discussing education and charter Schools.
- Additional Reading list and Bibliography.
- Consensus Questions - the questions your League will discuss and reach consensus on

- Consensus Questions Response Form - to report your League's decisions to LWVMA
- Handbook for Successful Consensus Meetings - a link to the LWVUS guide explaining how consensus works

We hope you will find these charter school study materials informative, and we hope that your League will choose to participate in the study and hold a consensus meeting. If you have any questions, please email [Jean Cherdack](mailto:Jean.Cherdack@lwvma.org).

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### League Choice Books for Children and Teens

In anticipation of the 2016 presidential election, LWVMA has begun identifying and selecting books that may help inform kids and teens about our nation's history and system of voting and elections. Several such books appear on the LWVMA website. Local Leagues may wish to: (a) donate copies of the books to libraries; (b) award them as student essay or video contest prizes; (c) present them as League prizes at school awards ceremonies; (d) include them in gift baskets for silent auctions or other fundraisers; or (e) organize programming featuring them. These books also may make fine gifts for children and young adults.

For more information, see the LWVMA website. To suggest books, please email Marlene O'Brien, Chair, League Choice Books, LWVMA, at [mobrien@lwvma.org](mailto:mobrien@lwvma.org). League Choice Books selection group, LWVMA: Roz Broch, Director, LWVMA; Marlene O'Brien, 1st VP, LWVMA; Carole Pelchat, Director, LWVMA.

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## LWVUS

*September 15, 2016 Update from LWVUS*

This week, the [LWVUS Member Engagement & Structure Task Force](#) is meeting in Washington to continue their important and exciting work to develop a vision

for the League's future. Among the questions they are tackling are: How are we delivering on our critical mission work, and what would it really take to significantly improve our impact? What about the League's organizational structure is working well? Where do changes need to be made to maximize our organization-wide visibility and impact? These conversations, underway for a while now, are exciting, candid and very much needed. We look forward to sharing news of the task force's work in the coming months.

Even as we look toward the future, our main focus is of course on the critical days just on the horizon. Friday, LWWUS and the state Leagues of Alabama, Georgia and Kansas celebrated a [major step forward in our federal voting rights case](#) against proof-of-citizenship voter registration requirements (see below). Looking ahead, the first presidential debate is set for the evening of September 26.

[Please join in our virtual debate watching party](#) by making use of the League's great debate-watching resources, shareable images, and sample social media posts. The very next day, [National Voter Registration Day](#) will bring together more than 350 Leagues and thousands of other partners hosting voter registration drives, drawing attention to upcoming deadlines, and celebrating our incredible democracy. Please plan to use the #voterregistrationday hashtag to share photos and news coverage of your events.

Thank you for everything you are doing. We have a lot to be proud of!

Chris



President, LWWUS

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**We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the November 2016 Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti at [Nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:Nancor1106@gmail.com) by October 25, 2016.**

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**Dates to Save:**

October 7            Presentation to League by Lexington Fire Chief John Wilson, Cary Memorial Library, Large Meeting Room, 9:30 a.m.

October 24          Early Voting begins and continues through November 4, 2016 in the Ellen Stone Room, Cary Memorial Building



League of Women Voters of Lexington  
P. O. Box 233  
Lexington, MA 02420