



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

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Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

### LWV-LEXINGTON NEWS AND INFORMATION

#### LWV-LEXINGTON FIRST FRIDAY FORUM

##### Meet Our New Town Manager

Friday, March 1, 2019

Our town, Lexington, MA (population 33,700), has a Selectmen-Town Manager form of government that was created through a special act of the Massachusetts legislature in 1968. On August 23, 2018, the Board of Selectman voted for James T. Malloy as Lexington's fifth town manager, succeeding Carl Valente, who held the position for thirteen years. James Malloy comes to Lexington having held leading positions in several towns, including Westborough (town manager since 2009), Sturbridge (town administrator), as well as communities in New York and Colorado.

Please join us on Friday, March 1, 2019, to meet James Malloy, the new Lexington Town Manager, and hear him speak about (i) the structure of Lexington town government, (ii) the role of the Town Manager in Lexington, (iii) upcoming issues facing Lexington and (iv) Q&A.

This program is the 6th in the 2018-2019 First Friday forum series hosted by the League of Women Voters to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. The forums take place in Cary Memorial Library's large meeting room at 1874 Massachusetts Avenue in Lexington. Coffee will be available at 9:15 AM and the presentation begins at 9:30 AM. All League forums are free and open to the public.

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization dedicated to the principles of self-government established in the Constitution of the United States. The League works to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government.

For more information, contact the League at [lwvlexington@gmail.com](mailto:lwvlexington@gmail.com).

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## **LWV-LEXINGTON BOARD MEETING March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The next LWV Lexington Board meeting will be held at the Lexington Community Center, 39 Marrett Road, Room 242, from 7:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All are welcome to attend.

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## **VOTING REMINDER!!**

### **ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MONDAY, MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

The Town's Annual Election is Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 8:00 p.m. If you need a ride to the polls, please contact Liz Andrews at 781-862-6498 or e-mail her at [ewandrews@gmail.com](mailto:ewandrews@gmail.com).

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## **ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION**

If you are unable to vote on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, you are eligible to vote via Absentee Ballot if:

1. You are absent from the Town on the day of the election; or
2. You are physically unable to get to the polls, including for religious reasons.

To start the absentee voting process, you can complete an Absentee Ballot Application available at the Town Clerk's Office or go to the the Massachusetts Secretary of State's website – Election Division.

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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.

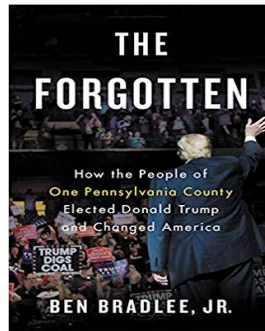
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## LWV-LEXINGTON CANDIDATES' NIGHT

The League held its Annual Candidates' Night on Thursday, February 14, 2019, at Clarke Middle School. The League wishes to thank all who attended.

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### LWV-LEXINGTON Book Club Wednesday March 20, 7-9 PM 12 Barrymeade Drive

You are invited to the fifth meeting of the League of Women Voters of Lexington Book Club on Wednesday, March 20, 2018 7-9 PM, at 12 Barrymeade Drive.

We will be discussing **The Forgotten: How the People of One Pennsylvania County Elected Donald Trump and Changed America** by Ben Bradlee, Jr.

**The people of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania voted Democratic for decades, until Donald Trump flipped it in 2016. What happened?**

Pennsylvania is coal country. Luzerne County is the heart of Pennsylvania coal. The author, Ben Bradlee Jr. pinpointed this section of the nation as a critical swing vote for the current administration. While many of us ponder how in the world Trump was elected, Bradlee went directly to the voters themselves and found out how falling wages, the decline in the demand for coal, and anger at being marginalized in the political process contributed to Luzerne County's vote. His interview reveals that mudslinging, false statements and right-wing media claims were the culprits. Also, these voters have seen immigrants settle in "their county;" they feared losing their way of life. There is no argument that the middle-class has disappeared—the only debate is who or what is to blame or if anyone or one thing can be blamed.

To RSVP call 781-862-2637 or [mecoppe@gmail.com](mailto:mecoppe@gmail.com)

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## LWVMA

### LWVMA Convention

June 7- 8, 2019

“100 Years: Looking Back, Moving Forward”

Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center in Westford, MA.



Noted environmentalist **Bill McKibben** will be the keynote speaker at the Friday night banquet. McKibben is an author, environmentalist, and activist. He is a co-founder and senior advisor at 350.org, an international climate campaign that works in 188 countries around the world. He is the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and a former staff writer for the *New Yorker* who continues to write numerous magazine articles.

Make plans to have your League well represented at LWVMA Convention 2019! More details about the agenda and registration are coming soon. See you there!

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### LWVMA High School Students Video Contest – Timeline Reminder

The League of Women Voters has fought hard for climate action since the 1960s, and we continue the fight now. And to help us keep climate action at the top of the agenda, WE NEED YOU to create 30-second videos that highlight one aspect of climate change and suggest a solution.

Our 2019 high school video contest, “The Climate Change Challenge,” is now in full swing. Students around the state are creating 30-second public service

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announcements to raise awareness about one aspect of climate change and suggest a possible solution.

We will use your videos to help educate the public and elected officials about the dire threat of climate change. And you could win a cash prize!

Submit your video entry through 3/8 at 11:59 p.m. EST. The Judging period is 3/9 at 12:01 a.m. through 3/27 at 5:00 p.m. EST. The winners will be announced 3/29 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

**And if you would be interested in serving as a video contest judge this year**, we would love to have you be part of the judging committee. If you can participate, please let Taylor Grenga know at [tgrenga@lwvma.org](mailto:tgrenga@lwvma.org).

Judging is NOT a big time commitment (2-3 hours total) and can be done from the comfort of your own home on your computer. **Submissions to the contest will close on March 8, and judging will occur during the rest of the month of March; you can fit judging in around your own schedule.**

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### Opportunity to Support the LWVMA

If you are a *Boston Globe* or [bostonglobe.com](http://bostonglobe.com) subscriber, you can help support LWVMA through the *Globe's* GRANT program, a community initiative that allows subscribers to help deserving non-profits earn free advertising space in the *Globe*.

Globe subscribers have received or will soon receive a Globe GRANT voucher, either by mail or email. This voucher can be used to designate a non-profit of your choice to receive free advertising space in the *Boston Globe*.

We hope you'll select the **League of Women Voters Lotte E. Scharfman Memorial Fund** as your non-profit of choice.

**If you received a mailed voucher:** Fill out your voucher and mail it to *The Boston Globe* using the envelope provided by April 30, 2019.

**If you received an emailed voucher:** Go to [BostonGlobe.com/GRANT](http://BostonGlobe.com/GRANT) by April 30, 2019 to submit your voucher. (You will need your Subscriber Number.)

**Either way, please "vote" for the  
League of Women Voters Lotte E. Scharfman Memorial Fund!**

Thank you for your support!

The Board and Staff of the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts

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## LWVMA

### February 2019 Scharfman Grants Awarded to Three Local Leagues

Three local Leagues received Daniel Scharfman Citizen Education grants in February 2019:

**LWV Harvard:** LWV Harvard will host a screening of the documentary “NOW IS THE TIME: Healthcare for Everybody.” The film will be followed by a discussion about healthcare coverage, led by Dr. William Taylor, a former director with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. State and federal elected officials have been invited to attend.

**LWVMA’s Salem Unit:** LWV Salem will run a video contest for students in grades 6-12. Students will be tasked with creating short videos explaining the voting process and encouraging participation in the 2019 Salem city council and school committee election. Winning students will be awarded a cash prize.

**LWV Sudbury:** LWV Sudbury will host its 11<sup>th</sup> annual Civics Bee. Middle school students, high school students, and adults work together on their towns’ teams, answering questions about the US, state, and local governments. The Civics Bee is open to the public and will air on television.

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## LWVUS

### 99 Years Later – the League of Women Voters is Still Fighting for Voting Rights

Ninety-nine years ago today, the League of Women Voters was founded at the National American Woman Suffrage Association convention in Chicago, Illinois. The mission of the League in 1920 was to help 20 million American women carry out their new responsibilities as eligible voters. After all, the League was founded just months before the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was ratified.

[Throughout the last century, the League has grown along with the American electorate.](#) Today over 65,000 members are active in all 50 states with nearly 750 state and local chapters in communities across the country. Our members and volunteers continue to engage voters through registration and outreach, hosting hundreds of candidate debates and forums every year. [In 2018 our organization reached more voters than ever before – even compared to presidential election years.](#)

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In court rooms from Arizona to Wisconsin to the United States Supreme Court, we are fighting to protect the rights of voters and defend our democracy. Next month the Supreme Court will hear our redistricting case out of North Carolina. [Our case, the \*League of Women Voters of North Carolina v. Rucho\*](#), is a partisan gerrymandering challenge to the state's congressional map. The court has the opportunity this year to set a standard for what constitutes partisan gerrymandering – which could have a nationwide impact to make our electoral maps fairer and more reflective of our communities.

In Congress right now the League strongly supports major sweeping legislation that will expand voting rights and improve our elections. H.R. 1 or the *For the People Act* is a comprehensive democracy reform package that includes restoration of the Voting Rights Act, voter registration modernization, public financing of elections through small donor matching funds, ending partisan gerrymandering and more. [The League worked behind the scenes to influence the language of this legislation, including a push to include Same Day Registration.](#)

The *For the People Act* is just what America needs as we prepare for the 2020 election, a year that will commemorate the League's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and the centennial celebration of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment. As we celebrate 100 years of women's suffrage in 2020, we will continue to carry on the legacy of that achievement by making sure ALL eligible voters can exercise their rights and championing the expansion of those rights in the *For the People Act*.

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**We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you would like to submit an article for the April 2019 LWV Lexington Bulletin, please send it to Nancy Corcoran Ronchetti at [Nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:Nancor1106@gmail.com) by March 24, 2019.**

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**Dates to Save:**

- March 1<sup>st</sup> LWVLexington First Friday, ***Meet Our New Town Manager, James T. Malloy***, Cary Memorial Library's large meeting room, 1874 Massachusetts Avenue in Lexington. Coffee will be available at 9:15 A.M. and the presentation begins at 9:30 A.M.
- March 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Election, Polls open 7:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.
- March 4<sup>th</sup> LWVLexington Board Meeting, Lexington Community Center, 39 Marrett Road, Room 242, 7:30 P.M. – 8:45 P.M.
- March 20<sup>th</sup> LWVLexington Book Club, 12 Barrymeade Drive, **"The Forgotten: How the People of One Pennsylvania County Elected Donald Trump and Changed America"** by Ben Bradlee, Jr.



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