



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF LEXINGTON

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Box 233 Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

### ***LWVL NEWS AND INFORMATION***

### **LWVL JANUARY FIRST FRIDAY FORUM**

**January 4, 2013**

The League of Women Voters of Lexington's First Friday Forum on January 4 will focus on Lexington's Public Safety Network and how our community handles different types of safety issues including crisis intervention.

Police Chief Mark Corr, Fire Chief John Wilson and Human Services Director Charlotte Rogers will present some case studies that show the departments working together to serve citizens of all ages who may experience difficult and/or unsafe situations.

This is the fourth in a series of 2012-2013 First Friday Forums hosted by the League of Women Voters of Lexington to promote awareness and understanding of public policy issues. Coffee will be available at 9:15 a.m. and presentations will begin at 9:30 in the Community Meeting Room on the lower level of Cary Memorial Library, 1874 Massachusetts Avenue. The library is easily accessible by Lexpress and from the Minuteman Bikeway. For more information or to carpool, contact the League at 781-862-6435. All League forums are open to the public at no charge.

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### **SAVE THE DATE!**

### **An Evening Conversation with Your Elected Representatives January 30, 2013**

Plan to attend an evening conversation with your elected representatives on January 30<sup>th</sup> at Cary Hall from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Representative Jay Kaufman, Senator-Elect Michael Barrett and Senator Kenneth Donnelly will be present to answer questions and share their thoughts. Town Moderator Deborah Brown will facilitate. It will be an informative evening so we hope you can make it! Co-sponsored by the LWVL and Lexington's Town Meeting Member Association.

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**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Sunday, January 13, 2013**

**LexGWAC Presents**

**It's High Time...**  
**Climate Change Solutions**  
**7:00 p.m. – Cary Hall**  
**1605 Mass. Ave., Lexington, MA**

An interactive forum about food, water, energy, and federal, state, and local action, moderated by Lexington's Anne L. Kelly, *Ceres Director of Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy and Co-Director of the Policy Program.*

**Among the panel experts are:**

**Tim Smith**, *A founder of the socially responsible investment movement*

**Sonia DeMarta**, *Founder of Lexington Farmer's Market, speaking on the link between global warming and our food supply*

**Shanna Cleveland**, *Conservation Law Foundation*

**Larry Chretien**, *Executive Director, Mass Energy*

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### **December's First Friday Coffee**

The December First Friday was so crowded that we ran out of coffee and the League would like to give a special thanks to Reem Yared from Help Around Town for donating the 3<sup>rd</sup> box of coffee.

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### **Taping First Fridays**

Do you or someone you know have an interest in videotaping events? The League is looking for volunteers to videotape our First Friday Forums. These forums are held on the first Friday of the month during the months of October through May. If interested, contact the League at 781-863-0474 for more information.

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**February 26, 2013**

**League of Women Voters of Lexington  
Community Conversation**

**Climate Change: How Can We Make a Difference in Lexington?  
Thriving in the Face of Challenging Weather**

**Tuesday, February 26**

**6:45 to 9 PM**

**Keilty Hall, St. Brigid's Church**

**2001 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington**

Where are you in the climate change conversation? Come join the League of Women Voters of Lexington at our second annual Community Conversation where we will explore Lexington's readiness to adapt to the challenges of a changing climate. Join neighbors, town staff and local business owners to learn how other towns are preparing for potential problems and share your thoughts about this issue. Deborah Brown, the Lexington Town Moderator, will be the facilitator for the evening. The goal of the evening discussions is to produce a realistic set of next steps to help the town better prepare for climate change. This could include, among other things, town-wide education programs and activities, a capital project, proposed zoning and/or by-law changes.

The planning committee for this second annual Community Conversation includes members of the following Lexington groups: the League of Women Voters; the Global Warming Action Committee; Citizens for Lexington Conservation; Sustainable Lexington; LexFarm; the Planning Board, and the Town Manager's office.

Additional details will be provided as we get closer to the event. In the meantime, call 781-863-0474 if you have questions.

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**The League's Membership Drive is On!**

Thank you to members who've renewed their memberships. If you haven't renewed your membership for this year, please remember to use the form that you received earlier or the one on our website at [www.lwvlexington.org](http://www.lwvlexington.org).

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## INVITATION TO HEALTHY COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUPS

League members are invited to participate in a Lexington Healthy Communities Project Focus Group. These focus groups are being conducted as a part of a grant funded community planning process. We would like to learn what resources contribute to community health and quality of life, as well as learn how to improve the health of the Lexington community. Participants are encouraged to consider "health" in it's broadest definition, including physical, mental, cultural and spiritual aspects. Through this program we hope to learn about a wide range of factors influencing health, such as environment, lifestyle, culture, economics and housing. Refreshments will be provided. Feedback received will inform the development of a strategic plan to improve health in Lexington. We will then apply for a second phase of funding to implement our strategic plan to improve community health. This Healthy Communities Planning Grant project is funded through the Northwest Suburban Health Alliance/CHNA 15 Determination of Need funds from Lahey Clinic.

Our two upcoming Focus Groups are:

- January 14, 2013, Cary Hall, 1605 Massachusetts Ave. 3-4 PM (Monday)
- February 25, 2013, Senior Center, 1475 Massachusetts Ave. 10-11 AM (Monday)

Please submit your RSVP to Megan Baldwin, Lexington Healthy Communities Project Coordinator at [mbaldwin@lexingtonma.gov](mailto:mbaldwin@lexingtonma.gov) or 781-862-0500 x 200.

For more information, and to fill out our online survey, please visit our website:

<http://www.lexingtonma.gov/health/healthycommunities.cfm>

Thank-you for helping us with our ABC'S -Assessing and Building Community Together!

Sincerely,  
Lexington Office of Community Development

Gerard F. Cody R.E.H.S. / R.S.  
Health Division Director  
Coordinator

Megan Baldwin, M.S., R.S.  
Lexington Healthy Communities Project

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**The League of Women Voters of Lexington is on Facebook!**

"Like" us at <https://www.facebook.com/LWVLexington>

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## MOCK TOWN MEETING FOR 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE STUDENTS

The Community Mock Town Meeting will be on Saturday, March 16, 2013 at Cary Hall and we need volunteers to assist with planning event work and/or be present on the day of the event to help. If interested, please contact Jessie Steigerwald at [jess@shininghours.com](mailto:jess@shininghours.com) or Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti at [nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:nancor1106@gmail.com) 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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## LWVUS

2012 was a busy year.

Not only did League volunteers, members, and staff work tirelessly to ensure all eligible citizens were registered and prepared to vote in the November elections, we also worked at the local, state, and national levels on a host of other important issues.

Together we fought attempts to limit voting rights, we petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to make our air cleaner, we pressured Congress to address the influence of secret money in politics, and we worked to make our organization stronger from the grassroots up. These represent just *some* of the incredible work done by our members across the country and here in Washington.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the League of Women Voters. Without your help and support, we would not have so many accomplishments to share.

Wishing you and yours a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Sincerely,  
Elisabeth MacNamara  
President, League of Women Voters

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**We welcome Bulletin articles from members. If you'd like to submit an article for the February 2013 Bulletin, please send it to *Nancy Corcoran-Ronchetti* at [Nancor1106@gmail.com](mailto:Nancor1106@gmail.com) by January 21, 2013.**

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## Dates to Save:

- January 4            LWVL First Friday Forum “Lexington’s Public Safety Team – Fire and Police”
- January 13           LexGWAC – It’s High Time. . .Climate Change Solutions 7:00 p.m., Cary Hall
- January 30           An Evening Conversation with Your Elected Representatives
- February 14           LWVL Candidates’ Night
- February 26           LWVL Community Conversation, Climate Change: How Can We Make a Difference in Lexington? Thriving in the Face of Challenging Weather
- May 17, 18           LWVMA Convention 2013



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