



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF ANDOVER/NORTH ANDOVER**

Bulletin

www.lwv-andovers.org

December 2011

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From Your Steering Committee

By Ann Cobleigh, Maureen Sundberg, Stefani Traina

Dear League Members,

Happy Holidays! Our December Bulletin gives a preview of some of our upcoming activities and we invite each of you to get involved with the League 'next year.' We have exciting projects on the horizon: a youth in town government day in Andover, election-related events, including candidates' nights in both towns, town meeting-related education, and some interesting speakers we hope to bring to you. Mark your calendars and plan to join us at the January 12 planning meeting.

See you next year!

Winter 2012 Calendar

For the most up-to-date calendar information visit [our website](#)

January

- 5 Thu Steering Committee, 12 noon*
- 12 Thu Special Projects Planning, 12 noon*
- 18 Wed Running for Office Workshop, 7 pm
* at 6 Roulston Circle, Andover

February

- 1 Wed Steering Committee, 12 noon,
location TBA
- TBD Winter Dinner

"Running for Office" Workshop

Do you know someone who is thinking about running for office?

Spread the word!

The North Andover and Andover town clerks are once again partnering with the League to present the annual "Running for Office" Workshop on

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Wednesday, January 18, 7:00 p.m. at North Andover Town Offices, 120 Main Street.

We are privileged to have expert speakers and current elected officials to share important information and experiences including how to file paperwork and other requirements as well as the nuts and bolts of what is allowable when conducting a political campaign.

Featured Speakers:

Joyce Bradshaw, Town Clerk for North Andover

Larry Murphy, Town Clerk for Andover

Jason Tait, Director of Communication & Public Education

from the Office of Campaign & Political Finance

Paul Salafia, Selectman for Andover

Brian Gross, School Committee member for North Andover

The workshop will be taped for rebroadcast on local cable stations. Email Stefani if you have any questions.

Membership Appreciation Event

"Chocolate at the Addison" was a smashing and grand success with almost 70 people attending, a real thrill to be back at one of Andover's treasured amenities. Members and guests enjoyed the art, chocolate buffet, mingling, and the informative gallery talk by Julie Bernson, Curator of Education at the Addison Gallery.

The Addison's coordinator, Susannah Abbott (who was terrific to work with), was very appreciative that our event helped them achieve one of their goals, i.e., promoting public awareness and encouraging similar groups to use the gallery. We have since learned that the gallery has added a couple of new members as a result of the evening.

Many thanks to the committee who worked very hard to make this a memorable evening for everyone: Joan Duff, Maureen Sundberg, Molly Bicking, Amy Janovsky, Stefani Traina and Ann Cobleigh. And thank you to everyone who brought delicious desserts.

Andover Community Read-Along

The 17th annual Community Read-Along was once again a wonderful success.

This time-honored event is a highlight for students, teachers and readers in our elementary schools. Many thanks to Denise Boucher, Liz Elowe and Maureen Sundberg for coordinating the event for the League. The school coordinators are the ones who deserve much credit and thanks for the many hours spent lining up readers and taking care of every detail.

Andover Town Yard Info Session

Close to 30 people gathered at Memorial Hall library on December 7th to hear about the latest proposal for a new town yard. Town Yard Task Force chairman, Rick Feldman, presented the most recent information about the site at 5 Campanelli Drive. Ann Cobleigh served as the League moderator. The audience included town officials, League members, residents and others, and the many excellent questions made for a worthwhile and informative evening. You can watch it online [here](#). Future similar events are expected prior to the spring Town Meeting. Any questions or feedback would be welcomed.

LWVUS Legislative Priorities

Opportunity for Input to National LWV

In January, the LWVUS Board of Directors will be setting the League Legislative Priorities for the upcoming year. Setting these priorities for LWVUS action at the national level is an annual responsibility for the Board. Once again, the Board is soliciting suggestions for LWVUS advocacy priorities from members. If you are interested in making suggestions to the Board, please consider the goals and criteria as listed below. While the LWVUS has numerous positions under which we

might take action, the Board must prioritize and consider those issues where we might be able to make a difference.

According to the LWVUS Impact on Issues, the goals for setting priorities to guide the LWV advocacy work are to: (1) Enhance the League's effectiveness by concentrating resources on priority issues; (2) Build the League's credibility and visibility by projecting a focused and consistent image; (3) Ensure that the League has sufficient issue and political expertise to act knowledgeably; and (4) Enable the League to manage resources effectively.

In setting legislative priorities, the Board considers the following:

(1) Opportunities for the League to make an impact; (2) Program decisions made at Convention and/or Council; (3) Member interest; and (4) Resources available to manage effectively.

If you would like to make suggestions for LWVUS advocacy priorities, please email Advocacy Committee Chair Judy Duffy: jduffy1wv@aol.com. Please indicate whether the suggestions are from an individual member, a committee, board or membership meeting. Suggestions must be received by January 15.

Available Board Positions

If you'd like to have a greater impact on democracy in our communities, consider joining the League Board of Directors. Contact Ann, Maureen or Stefani to talk about what's involved.

About the League of Women Voters

The League of Women Voters is a 91-year old national nonpartisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of individuals in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. The League neither supports nor opposes candidates for office, elected officials or political parties at any level of government.

The Andover/North Andover League focuses on

topics directly impacting the citizens of our communities.

League membership is open to all citizens, both women and men.

Membership Form

Sign up [online](#) or complete and mail the form below. When you sign up online you will have the option of paying by credit card or PayPal. The League's membership year is July-June.

_____ New _____ Renewal

_____ \$55 Basic Member

_____ \$60 Contributing Member

_____ \$75 Sustaining Member

_____ \$100+ Patron

_____ \$35 Senior Citizen (65 yrs. old and over)

_____ \$35 Student (under 24 yrs. old)

_____ \$75 Household Dues (2+ persons in same household)

_____ In addition to my membership fee, I'd like to make a contribution of \$_____ .

_____ Enclosed is a separate check containing my tax-deductible contribution of \$_____ payable to the **Education Fund**, which supports the LWV's educational activities.

Please make checks payable to:
"LWV of Andover/North Andover"

Mail form and check to:
LWV of Andover/North Andover
P.O. Box 514, Andover MA 01810

Member Information:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____