



The League of Women Voters Of Weston

December, 2014

No. 168

OPENING MESSAGE

Katty Chace

League of Women Voters of Weston

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This LWV/Weston Newsletter is published monthly except July and August. The LWV is a nonpartisan political organization open to all citizens of voting age.

League of Women Voters of Weston
15 Conant Road, Weston MA 02493

VOTER INFORMATION

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Submit articles
to Katherine Wolfthal by e-mail at
kate@weichi.com

Special Town Meeting took place a week ago, with little controversy. The only standing count was on the issue of the affordable housing project on Viles Street. The other affordable housing proposal, on Warren Avenue, passed easily. Voters approved the article to spend an extra \$400,000 to dismantle Field School, needed since the discovery of asbestos in the building. The article which would allow Town Meeting and Special Town Meetings to start at 7:00 pm instead of 7:30 also passed easily.


We have invited our state legislators, Representative Alice Peisch and Senator Mike Barrett to join us for a coffee hour at the Library. This is something we like to do every year, as it provides voters to hear directly from our legislators about their priorities for the upcoming legislative session, and to ask questions about our concerns. Stay tuned for date and time.

On Tuesday, January 27, we will be holding our League Book Club discussion of a new book *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stephenson of the Equal Justice Initiative based in Atlanta. The Equal Justice Initiative has been working for years to free prisoners who have been wrongly convicted, as well as to limit sentences for prisoners who were convicted of crimes committed when they were children. The book is quite wrenching and also very inspirational. Stephenson is, in my eyes, a hero for the work he does. The discussion of the book will be held at the home of Barbara Fullerton, 3 Winter St., Weston.

If you have not yet renewed your league membership for this year (July 1- June 30), please do so now. We have included a membership form in the back of this Bulletin you can fill out to send with your check. We appreciate your support and need a strong membership to continue our activities in the community. Your check also supports the League's lobbying activities on Beacon Hill and Capitol Hill for issues we champion, such as a clean environment and responsive government and other progressive causes.

**CALENDAR
DECEMBER 2014 – MARCH 2015**

December 25, Thursday.....	CHRISTMAS
January 1, 2015, Thursday.....	NEW YEAR'S DAY
January 27, Tuesday..... 7:30 P.M., 3 Winter Street (Barbara Fullerton, 781-893-7440)	LWVW Book Club <i>Just Mercy</i> by Bryan Stevenson
February 2014..... Community Room, Weston Public Library Date TBD	LWVW Coffee Hour State Senator Mike Barrett and Rep. Alice Peisch
March 9, Monday..... Weston Town Hall Auditorium 7:30 p.m.	Town Caucus
March 15, Sunday..... 2:00-4:00 p.m. Wayland	7th Annual Civics Bee with competing teams of adults, high school and middle-school students from Weston, Wayland and Sudbury.



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WHEN IT'S TIME FOR ACTION

President

President Barack H. Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20510
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/>

U.S. Senators

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-3170

317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543

Contact:

www.warren.senate.gov/?p=email_senator

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
1 Bowdoin Square, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
617-565-8519

218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2742

www.markey.senate.gov/contact.cfm

U.S. Representative 5th District

The Honorable Katherine Clark
2108 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-2105
(202) 225-2836
<http://katherineclark.house.gov/>

Governor

Governor Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor
State House, Room 360
Boston MA 02133
(617)727-3600
E-mail: Goffice@state.ma.us

State Senator 3rd Middlesex District

The Honorable Michael J. Barrett
(617) 722-1572
State House, Room 213A
Boston MA 02133-1054
E-mail: Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov

State Representative 14th Norfolk District

The Honorable Alice Hanlon Peisch
(617) 722-2070
State House, Room 473G
Boston MA 02133-1054
E-mail: alice.peisch@mahouse.gov

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Kathleen Rousseau

The December meeting was held at the home of Kathleen Rousseau.

There was a discussion of the special Town Meeting the night before. The only somewhat controversial issue was the purchase of a two-family house on Viles Street for affordable housing. This would use CPC funds.

We will attempt to schedule a coffee hour in February with our state representatives, Alice Peisch and Mike Barrett.

We would like to know if there is interest in scheduling a meeting to talk about the 40B proposal for 99 Merriam Street.

Selectman's Office Hours

Saturday, December 20, 2014
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

With Ed Coburn

No appointment necessary

Location: Town Hall



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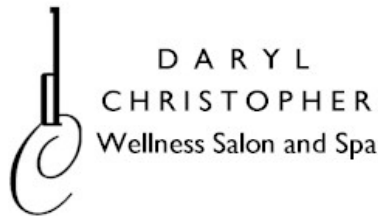
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**RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
DECEMBER 1, 2014**

WARRANT ARTICLE	VOTE
Article 1 - Amend the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 2 - Amend Fiscal Year 2015 Recreation Enterprise Budget	PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
Article 3 - Appropriate Additional Funds for Field School - Demolition of Old School	PASSED BY 2/3rds MAJORITY
Article 4 - Appropriate for Community Housing: Warren Avenue Affordable Housing Construction Funds	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 5 - Appropriate for Land for Recreational Use: Walkway on Warren Avenue	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 6 - Appropriate for Community Housing: Purchase and Rehabilitation of 126-128 Viles Street by Weston Affordable Housing Foundation for Affordable Housing	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 7 - Appropriate for Recreational Use: Conceptual Design Fees for Walkways on Merriam St. and Highland St.	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 8 - Appropriate for Open Space: Charles River Invasive Species Removal	PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
Article 9 - Amend Zoning By-law to Clarify Earth Removal and Movement for Projects Subject to Limited Site Plan Approval	PASSED BY 2/3rds MAJORITY
Article 10 - Amend Zoning By-law to Supplement Language in Parking By-law for Required Parking Spaces for Schools and All Other Uses Not Specifically Mentioned Elsewhere in the By-law	PASSED BY 2/3rds MAJORITY
Article 11 - Amend General By-laws: Article XXIII Scenic Roads By-law	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 12 - Amend General By-laws: Article I Allow Annual Town Meeting to Start as Early as 7:00 p.m.	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE
Article 13 - Amend General By-laws: Article XXIV Crescent Street Historic District	PASSED UNANIMOUSLY
Article 14 - Authorize the Taking of Easements for Construction of a Walkway on Brown and Winter Streets	PASSED BY MAJORITY VOTE

**A HOLIDAY INVITATION FOR LWVW MEMBERS
FROM ANGELA AT DARYL CHRISTOPHER**



League of Women Voters of Weston,
a special invitation from Angela, owner of Daryl Christopher.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the tireless work the LWV of Weston do for our community. Wishing each of you a safe, healthy and happy holiday.

For some who do not know about Daryl Christopher, we are a family-owned, award-winning business of 35 years, offering salon and spa services with products containing natural and organic ingredients. Daryl Christopher is the only salon invited to the Massachusetts Statehouse and given a Special Citation by the American Cancer Society for being the first smoke-free salon in the state.(since 1980) We are an elite member of "Intercoiffure" an association of 5-star, world class salons. And... I was chosen "America's Salon Owner of the Year" by the national American Salon magazine. Awarded in New York City at the Jacob Javitz center before 40,000 peers.

Since opening our first salon on the Weston line of Rt.20 in Wayland, our motto has been "Health is Beauty" because I feel the greatest gift in life is the "Gift of Good Health".

I feel products used in services, **applied** to skin, hair and scalp should be non-toxic to promote good health. To prove this point, apply fresh garlic to the sole of your foot and within 5 seconds you can taste the garlic in your mouth. Choose your products wisely.

Our second salon was located on the first block of Newbury Street for 24 years and won "Best of Boston" from Boston Magazine for 10 consecutive years.

We are now located **all** under one roof at Healthpoint in Waltham with ample free parking.

On November 20th, I celebrated **55** years as a licensed Cosmetologist & Master Hair Colorist.

I would like to invite you to a Complimentary Personal Consultation, a Custom Hair Color with 95% organic plant ingredients at only **\$55.00** and.....

A shampoo, conditioner, scalp massage, hair cut and blow dry for an additional **\$55.00** too.

This special anniversary invitation is for League members and offered thru January 3rd, 2015.

Please visit us on the web at www.dchristopher.com Call 781 890 9211 to schedule with me.

Thank you,
Angela Guido

840 Winter Street, Waltham, MA 02451, At Healthpoint, in the Boston Sports Club building.
Gift certificates are now available on-line! Still our guest's favorite gift to receive.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN WESTON

Volunteers are, and always have been, an integral part of Weston Town Government. It is volunteers, elected or appointed, who make policy, serve on committees, give of their time and talents, and who help make this the special place that Weston is to all of us.

The following Boards/Committees below are in need of members. Please fill out the Volunteer Application Form below for any position being filled by the Board of Selectmen. Save the document to your desktop, type in the requested information, and attach it to an email. You can also print it and mail it, if you prefer.

[Volunteer Application Form](#) please submit when applying for board/committee position being filled by the Selectmen

[Housing Partnership](#)
respond by January 16th

[Josiah Smith Tavern and Old Library Working Group](#)
respond by January 16th

[Minuteman School Building Committee](#)
respond by January 16th

[Cable Advisory Committee](#)
respond by January 31st

[Council on Aging - Volunteers needed at the COA](#)

[MetroWest Regional Transportation Authority - Disabled Commuter Community Representative](#)
respond to the Town Manager

[Weston Emergency Reserve Corp](#)
respond to Public Health Director Wendy Diotalevi

HONORING CHOICES: A TALK SPONSORED BY THE WESTON COUNCIL ON AGING Katherine Wolfthal

On December 4, the Weston Council on Aging held an interesting and very important talk on the legal, personal and medical documents that comprise a healthcare plan, and how to communicate with your family and doctors to make sure your choices and decisions are honored.



Left, Ellen DiPaola

Below, John Levinson



The talk was led by Ellen DiPaola, Esq., a Weston resident and co-founder of the non-profit Honoring Choices initiative, with the participation of Dr. John Levinson, a cardiologist at Mass. General and – incidentally - the husband of COA nurse Teresa Levinson.

The discussion examined the five essential documents comprising an effective health care plan:

Photographs by Katherine Wolfthal



- Health Care Proxy
- Personal Directive (also known as a Living Will)
- Durable Power of Attorney
- Medical Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (MOLST)
- Comfort Care/Do Not Resuscitate Order (CC/DNR).

A lively question-and-answer session followed the talk, and many attendees shared their own experiences.

The subject is relevant for everyone, not only for the elderly, as illness or serious injury can befall anyone at any time of their lives.

No matter when that happens, it is essential to have a health care plan in place so that everyone concerned with your care will know exactly what you want – and don't want – when you can't speak for yourself. You can make your own plan, or help another person make one, as young as age 18.

To learn more about what a personal health care plan entails, how to make one, and how to work with your doctors and family to make sure your plan is implemented, visit [Honoring Choices](#).



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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® MASSACHUSETTS

Taking Action in Massachusetts 2015 Legislative and Advocacy Agenda



Leading the Way to a Better Commonwealth

- ✓ **Elections and Voting:** Support early voting in statewide elections, option for early voting in local elections, Election Day registration, and measures to increase voter turnout.
- ✓ **Money and Politics:** Favor full and timely disclosure of campaign contributions, rules on corporate campaign spending, and reducing the impact of money on our political system at every level.
- ✓ **Public Financing for Campaigns:** Endorse restoring the “clean election” system the voters chose in 1998 and the legislature repealed in 2003.
- ✓ **Climate Change:** Back a carbon tax to encourage use of less-polluting fuels.
- ✓ **Environment:** Endorse rules for disposal of electronic products and for the use of certain toxic chemicals; measures to increase recycling.
- ✓ **Economic Inequality:** Support efforts to bring economic prosperity to all groups.
- ✓ **Gun Safety:** Advocate for effective implementation of Massachusetts gun laws.
- ✓ **Fiscal Policy:** Back a more progressive, graduated state income tax.
- ✓ **Civic Education:** Favor greater emphasis on civics in middle and high schools and involvement of teens in government.
- ✓ **Civic Engagement:** Support restoring civility in public discourse and encouraging citizen participation in government at all levels.
- ✓ **Basic Human Needs:** Support training and education programs to help people get off of welfare.
- ✓ **Transportation:** Favor adequate funding for infrastructure and alternatives to auto travel.
- ✓ **Health Care:** Endorse measures to improve access and care and to reduce costs, including continued support of a single-payer health care option.
- ✓ **Women’s Issues:** Support a woman’s right to choose and to safely exercise that right. Advocate for gender equality in wages, insurance and other areas.
- ✓ **Transparency:** Back compliance with the Open Meeting law and recommend that the legislature be subject to that law.

For further information visit lwvma.org...
LWVMA supported/opposed legislation
LWVMA positions on issues (*Where We Stand*)
Legislation testimony, action alerts, press releases

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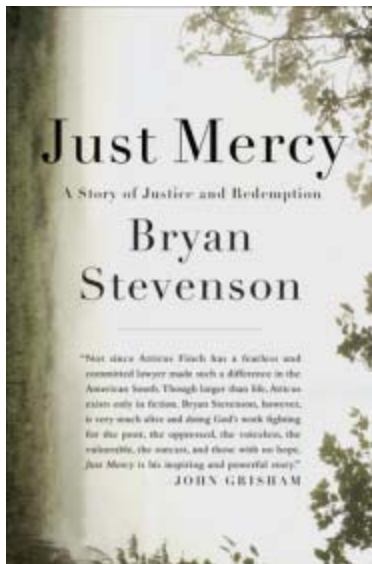
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**WESTON LEAGUE BOOK CLUB:
JUST MERCY by Brian Stevenson**



Every so often our Weston League of Women Voters meets to discuss a book we feel would be of interest to our members in the light of the LWV's principles and policies.

The book selected for this League Book Club reading is: *Just Mercy, A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson. According to the blurb on the book jacket, this is: "A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice - from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time. Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the furthest reaches of our criminal justice system".

Stevenson has won numerous awards for his work, including the Reebok Human Rights Award, the ACLU National Medal of Liberty, a MacArthur Fellowship "Genius" Award and the Gleitsman Citizen Activist Award

We will meet to discuss the book on Tuesday, January 27 at 7:30 pm at Barbara Fullerton's, 3 Winter Street. All members are welcome.

In advance of our discussion, readers may be interested in the article "Double Jeopardy," published in the November 17 issue of The New Yorker Magazine. You can find it at: [Double Jeopardy, by Paige Williams](#)

For more information on Stevenson's organization, visit: [Equal Justice Initiative](#)

You may also be interested in viewing Mr. Stevenson's TED talk, [The Opposite of Poverty Is Justice](#), in which he shares reflections on poverty as viewed through his work in the court system and jails.



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LWVMA JANUARY FORUM: ECONOMIC INEQUALITY AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION -- WHOSE VOICE IS HEARD?

How is the marked rise in economic inequality affecting civic participation and political expression in the United States? Is the growing gap between the very wealthy and everyone else influencing whose voice is determining political and policy issues? What are the implications of extreme economic inequality for the democratic ideal of "one person, one vote"?

Please plan to attend the panel discussion, "Economic Inequality and Political Participation -- Whose Voice Is Heard?" co-sponsored by LWVMA and Bentley University's Valente Center for the Arts and Sciences on **Wednesday, January 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Bentley University in Waltham**. The panel will take place in Bentley's Wilder Pavilion (Adamian Academic Center 165).

Noah Berger, Executive Director, Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center; Hahrie Han, Associate Professor of Political Science, Wellesley College; and Kay Schlozman, J. Joseph Moakley Professor of Political Science, Boston College will be the speakers. Juliet Gainsborough, Associate Professor of Political Science at Bentley, will moderate, and Bentley President Gloria Larson will help us introduce the event.

This forum is **free and open to the public**, but we are asking LWVMA members and their guests to pre-register to ensure sufficient seating. Consider inviting students from your high school to attend the forum with you.

Please [click here](#) to let us know you're coming and bringing others. Questions? Please contact LWVMA Executive Director [Meryl Kessler](#) at 617-523-2998.

League of Women Voters of Weston

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2014-2015

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization, which encourages informed and active participation in all levels of government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We serve the local community in many ways:

- Sponsor Candidates and Issues nights before elections
- Provide voter information and conduct voter-registration drives
- Encourage voter participation with banners and rides to the polls
- Study local, state and national issues and hold open meetings
- Act upon carefully considered positions by lobbying and circulating petitions
- Publish a "Know Your Town" booklet
- Train members to be active and involved citizens.

Our membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. As a Weston member, you also belong to and receive publications from the State and National Leagues.

Name _____ Date _____

_____ Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Check one: Renewal New Member

I enclose a check made payable to **The League of Women Voters of Weston*** for:

- \$60 Individual Membership (covers required local dues to the State and National Leagues)
- \$75 Family Membership (two individuals in the same household) Name of second household member: _____
- \$50 Basic Membership \$ _____ Additional Contribution (Any contributions above and beyond regular dues are

greatly appreciated and assist our local league in providing more services and offsetting our operating expenses.)

\$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

.....
 \$ _____ LWV Education Fund (Tax-deductible contribution made payable by separate check to the LWV Education Fund)

Return form to: Lenore Lobel, 31 Love Lane, Weston, MA 02493

*Do you know a friend who might be interested in joining the League of Women Voters?
Name, address & phone*

* It is the policy of the LWV of Weston that no resident shall be refused participation in the League because of inability to pay. If a hardship preventing payment of dues exists, please contact Katty Chace at 781-790-1087.