Individual rights have been a cornerstone of her illustrious legal career. Born middle-class and white in Newcastle, South Africa, Marshall grew up opposing the apartheid system then in place. She spent a year in Wilmington, Delaware as a high school exchange student, and was struck by the freedoms that were lacking at home. She returned to South Africa, a different girl. As a college student at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, and in the midst of mounting protests against apartheid, she served as president of the anti-apartheid National Union of South African Students, a group dedicated to ending oppressive minority rule and achieving equality for all South Africans.

Marshall emigrated to the United States, earning her EdM in 1969 from Harvard Graduate School of Education and JD in 1976 from Yale Law School. She became a U.S. citizen in 1978. She began her legal career in private practice, serving as an associate and partner at the Boston law firms of Caspalar and Bok and of Choate, Hall, & Stewart. In 1992, Marshall became vice president and general counsel of Harvard University, a position she held until Governor William Weld appointed her associate justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts in 1996. In 1999, she was named chief justice of that Court by Governor Paul Cellucci, the first woman to hold the position in the Court’s more than 300-year history.

Justice Marshall’s tenure on the Court lasted fourteen years, during which time she gained a national reputation for groundbreaking opinions, including the 2003 landmark decision that declared that the Massachusetts Constitution prohibits the state from denying same-sex couples access to civil marriage. This ruling resulted in Massachusetts becoming the first state to legalize gay marriage. Justice Marshall has also been recognized for her administrative reforms of the Massachusetts court system, bringing greater transparency and accountability to the courts and modernizing the Massachusetts judiciary.

“All of her decisions were rooted in the words written by the founders.”

Harvey Silverglate

In 2010, Chief Justice Marshall announced her decision to retire from the Court. Her husband, Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Anthony Lewis, whom she married in 1984, was suffering from Parkinson’s disease. They wanted “to enjoy their final seasons together.” Marshall said, “Tony and I are both at an age when we have learned to value deeply the precious gift of time.” Mr. Lewis died in 2013.

A human rights advocate, legal giant, and trailblazer, Chief Justice Margaret Marshall has been the recipient of...
Coming Events

TBA  Spring Rambles in interesting places
Announcements will be sent to E-List subscribers. No email? Contact Paul Upson 781-862-2827 or pwupson@gmail.com to be notified of upcoming rambles.

Thursday, May 21  Annual Meeting and Luncheon  Harvard Faculty Club
The featured speaker will be Margaret H. Marshall, 24th Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. Registration information on next page.

Thursday, June 11  Boston Pops
Sondheim on Sondheim. A separate flyer will be mailed to all HURA members.

Changes to Bylaws Approved at Holiday Luncheon

By unanimous vote, HURA members present at the Holiday Luncheon on December 5, 2014 accepted the proposed changes to the Association’s Bylaws as outlined in the Nov/ Dec HURA News. In part, these changes are necessitated by the establishment of HURA as a 501(c)7 corporation, its tax-exempt status, and federal and state reporting requirements.

In addition to allowing matters of business to be conducted at the Holiday Luncheon and HURA Day, as well as at the Annual Meeting, the number of days required to notify members of such a business meeting is reduced from 30 to 15 days. Hereafter, all Board appointments will be subject to a vote of the membership. Previously, vacancies in unexpired terms were filled solely by a vote of the Board.

Previously, membership on the Board was restricted to two 3-year terms. Such restrictions limited the continuing formal relationship of very productive Board members, so two changes have been introduced to remedy this situation.

• Create Emeritus/a Director positions of 2-year terms to allow Officers and Directors whose terms have expired to continue a formal and active relationship with HURA.
• Allow an especially productive Board member, after a 1-year hiatus from the Board, to be elected to a new 3-year term as a Director.

Director Candidate
Mary Ann Mendes

Mary Ann Mendes is a candidate for election to Director on the Board of HURA. She brings a wealth of Harvard experience to the position. Starting in 1984, she was staff assistant in the Office of the General Counsel, and from 1988 to her retirement in 2010 served as office administrator, managing the day-to-day operations of the department and its delivery of legal services to the University and oversaw the maintenance of the OGC website. She is a recipient of the Harvard Heroes award. At OGC, she became known widely as an efficient and capable manager.

In 1996, she earned the ALB degree from the Harvard Extension School. Since 2012 she has served as coordinator of the volunteer services program in the development office at Father Bill’s & Main Spring in Quincy. Father Bill’s & Main Spring helps people who are struggling with homelessness or at risk of homelessness to achieve self-sufficiency by providing emergency and permanent housing and helping people obtain skills, jobs, housing, and services. Mary Ann is also a volunteer at the Thayer Public Library in Braintree, MA.

Nominating Committee
Presents Slate for Election

The Board of Directors has voted to accept the report of the 2015/2016 Nominating Committee. Chaired by Beverly Sullivan, the Committee will present the following slate for election by the membership at the Annual Meeting on May 21.

For election to first terms:
Jackie Benson Jones, Director (following a year of appointed service as Director)
Mary Ann Mendes, Director

For re-election to second terms:
Carleen Farrell, Membership Secretary
Dolores Mullin, Recording Secretary/Clerk
Lee Smith, Director
Paul Upson, Treasurer

For election to a third term, following break in elected service:
Diantha Brown, Director
HARVARD UNIVERSITY RETIREE ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Harvard Faculty Club
20 Quincy Street, Cambridge

Free parking is available in the Broadway Garage, 7 Felton Street

Guest of Honor and Speaker
Hon. Margaret H. Marshall
Retired Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court
Former Vice President and General Counsel, Harvard University
Senior Counsel, Choate, Hall, & Stewart

11:30 Registration: Faculty Club Reading Room, 1st floor

12:00 Business Meeting: Theatre Room, lower level
Welcome: Donna Chiozzi, President
Financial Report: Paul Upson, Treasurer
Election of New Officers and Directors: Beverly Sullivan, Vice President

12:15 Featured Speaker: Hon. Margaret H. Marshall
Introduction: James Hoyt, HURA Director
Closing: Donna Chiozzi

1:00 Luncheon: Main Dining Room, 1st floor (Choice of Chicken or Vegetarian)
Luncheon cost is $30 for HURA members; $35 for guests.

Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 13.
No acknowledgement of this registration will be sent. No refund will be offered after the registration deadline.
Checks will be deposited after the registration deadline.

Make check payable to HURA and mail with registration to
Diantha Brown, 257 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950; 978-465-2262.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------
Make check payable to HURA and mail with registration to
Diantha Brown, 257 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950; 978-465-2262.

-------------------------------------------------------------------------------

HURA member name ________________________________________________________________________________
Name for name tag ________________________________________________________________________________
Address __________________________________________________________________________________________
Email address ___________________________________________ Telephone ________________________________
Guest name: (not more than one, please) ______________________________________________________________

HURA member @ $30 each ______ Guest @ $35 each ______ Total enclosed $ ______
Lunch choice HURA Member: Chicken ______ Vegetarian ______ Guest: Chicken ______ Vegetarian ______
Free Parking Broadway Garage? Yes _____ No _____
IN BRIEF . . .

Average Retirement Age Levels Off

The media are full of reports that retirement age will be extended because Americans can no longer afford to retire. A recent brief, “The Average Retirement Age—An Update,” by Alicia H. Munnell, Peter F. Drucker Professor of Management Sciences and director of the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, finds the situation to have leveled off.

Her key findings are that labor force activity among older Americans began rising in the mid-1980s due to changing Social Security incentives; the shift to 401(k) plans; and improving health, longevity, and education. Updated data, however, suggest that these factors may have played themselves out. As a result, the average retirement age has increased only slightly in the last 10 years: to 64 for men and 62 for women.


The Hon. Margaret H. Marshall to Speak at HURA Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1

numerous awards, honorary degrees, and recognitions. She is a prolific writer, and has served at the helm of many professional organizations. Currently, she serves as the senior fellow of Yale University’s governing body, the Yale Corporation, the first woman to hold the position. She is also senior counsel at Choate, Hall, & Stewart, and a member of the Council of the American Law Institute.