



THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 57 ISSUE 10

JUNE 2018

CALENDAR

Tuesday June 5
9:30am

Board Meeting
Cape Cod Five, Dennis

Wednesday June 20
10am - 2pm

Orientation for New Board Members
Centerville Library

THURSDAY JUNE 7 -- URGENT

The Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO) Bill will be taken up by the Mass. Senate today. Please phone Senator Julian Cyr (617) 722-1570 or JulianCyr@masenate.gov and ask him to oppose ANY substantive amendments to the House bill when it comes to the floor. Let's get this critical bill to the Governor's desk. From Nancy Brumback, Chair, Legislative Action Committee, LWVMA.



www.lwvcapecod.org

www.members.lwvcapecod.org

www.facebook.com/LWV

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

JULY 1, 2018 -JUNE 30, 2019

Receipt of your renewal by July 1 will ensure you are included in the 2018-2019 Members Directory

I wish to renew membership in the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area

Single (\$55) _____ Household (\$85) _____ Assisted Single (\$30) _____ Donation \$_____

Name: _____ **Telephone** _____

Mailing address: _____

Email address(es) _____

Please send this form and your renewal check to LWVCCA

c/o Amy Harris, 4 Chapel Hill Lane, Harwich MA 02645

If you have any questions about membership, please contact Membership Chair Phyllis Walsh at walshpf@comcast.net.

Please give some thought to joining a committee. This is where the real groundwork gets done - where you can get *involved*. We are grateful for help from all members in assisting with such efforts as voter registration, candidate debates and other public forums ~ especially in the busy election season coming up.

To Phyllis Walsh --I am interested in the following committee(s):

Voter Service _____ Legislation _____ Environment _____ Health _____

Communications _____ County Government _____ Youth Service _____

Administrative support _____ Membership _____ Program Planning _____

THANK YOU

LWVCCA HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING 2018
May 17, 2018
Sea View Restaurant, Dennis Port



More than thirty members of LWVCCA gathered on the evening of May 17th to mark the fifty ninth annual meeting of our league, to elect a new slate of officers, to approve the budget and to vote on our local program for the coming year. And yes, to enjoy an excellent buffet. Guest speaker for the evening was Alisa Galazzi, the CEO of Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC), shown above.

In her President's report, Scotti Finnegan summarized the events and forums held throughout the past year and expressed appreciation to all members for their efforts, with particular thanks this year to Karen Mazza (Youth Service), Renate Sands (Legislative) and Anita Rogers (Voter Service) and their committees. She noted that the League's nonpartisan position can be complicated, but that in total it enables us to align with other groups and organizations in working for a better country.

The Local Program for the coming year, as approved by the membership, will concentrate first and foremost on **Voter Service**: automatic voter registration, get-out-the-vote, arranging candidate events; We will also continue to monitor **County Government**...work to increase the participation of youth in voting, support implementation of a **civics** component in our schools...focus on **opioid addiction** and **mental health** issues...support regional approaches to wastewater management and encourage community education re **environmental concerns**. The **legislative committee** will continue to advocate with our elected officials for the causes to which the League is committed. *Continues*

Annual Meeting, continued...



The Annual Meeting was chaired by President Scotti Finnegan, who moved smoothly through the agenda before introducing the evening's speaker, Alisa Galazzi.



Florence Seldin was elected Parliamentarian for the evening.



Phyllis Walsh, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the slate of nominees for officers and directors 2018-2019.

Photos courtesy Mark Ameres

NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 2018-2019

Officers -- 1-year terms - 2018-2019

President	Scotti Finnegan
Vice President-Program	Ann Ryan
Secretary	Mary Hunter Utt
Treasurer	Amy Harris

Directors -- 2-year terms 2018-2020

Membership`	Phyllis Walsh
	Matti Ligon
Voter Service	Anita Rogers
	Rosemary Shields
Youth Service	Karen Mazza
Voter Editor	Nancy Erskine
Environment	Suzanne Brock
	Richard Utt
Health	Sally Cahill
	Patricia Ryle
Communications	Laura Samuels
Website	Mark Ameres
Facebook	Richard Utt

Directors -- 1-year term 2018-2019

At Large	Florence Seldin
At Large	Jari Rapaport
At Large	Judy Thomas

***Thanks to all our retiring Board Members and congratulations
to all our incoming officers and directors ~
Thank you for your service to LWVCCA!***

YOUTH SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

BREAKING NEWS FROM LWVMA -- HOUSE PASSES S.2375!

On Friday, May 31st, the Massachusetts House voted 151-0 to pass S.2375, one of the nation's most innovative civic education bills. S.2375 provides funding for professional development of teachers...the opportunity for students to participate in civic projects and naming civic education as a priority for school districts. LWVMA has been an active member of the Mass. Civic Learning Coalition which championed the bill. The State League expressed its thanks to LWVMA specialists Karen Mazza and Terry Yoffie for their input on key aspects of the bill, to coalition partners for their hard work *and to all League members who contacted their legislators in support.*

The bill will now be taken up for consideration by a conference committee -- and if consensus is reached, it will be sent to the Governor's desk.

CAPE STUDENTS SCORE HIGH IN VIDEO COMPETITION

From Youth Service Chair, Karen Mazza

We are pleased to announce that a team from the Nauset Regional High School was awarded Second Place in the LWV "Get In the Game and Vote!" high school video competition for their entry, "Change". Team members who submitted their 30-second video are Zichen Zhou, Skyeler Sandison, Leah Baker, Nick Qvarnstrom, Romell Brown, and Eli Patrick. As Second Place winners, the team will receive \$250.

In addition, **Liam Mawn from Monomoy Regional High School** was recognized for his entry, "Youth Voting Rap". And the three-person team of Jack Our, Jordan Our, and Isabel Merl, also from Nauset, were recognized for their entry "I can Vote Clearly Now".

Congratulations to all of these students for their efforts and compelling messages! The winning videos can be viewed from the LWVMA website, lwwma.org.

The Youth Service Committee had encouraged Cape Area student participation by sending contest details with a cover letter to each Cape high school principal. We also linked the purpose of this contest to the **workshop** our committee sponsored in October on the development of student-led plans to encourage students to register to vote.

In the same letter, we reminded the schools that registering students to vote is only half the battle. We need to encourage students to actually vote. The October workshop, the Voter Information Sheets that we gave to each school for distribution to seniors, and this video contest marked three related activities our committee sponsored to expand the youth vote.

Youth Service Report cont.

We have now received feedback from two of the four high schools that participated in the workshop about the success of the strategies they used to register students. *Mashpee HS registered 60 seniors and Dennis-Yarmouth Regional HS registered approximately 125 students!* Both schools indicate they will do this again next year and will involve students in leading the effort.

We closed this year by sending information to Cape civics teachers announcing a grant opportunity for **student-led projects on gun violence prevention**, sponsored by the coalition of 11 non-profit groups including LWVCCA, which participated in the gun violence movie and discussion at the Cape Cinema in April. All of these activities, along with our participation in lobbying legislators to support S.2375, have made this a most productive year. Supporting the civic engagement of youth is a worthwhile endeavor for our organization.

Ed.Note: Congratulations to Karen and the Youth Service Committee on a successful year.

NO VACATION THIS SUMMER FOR VOTER SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

From Co-Chairs Anita Rogers & Rosemary Shields As this critical voting season progresses, the Voter Service committee will be gearing up for the busy time ahead. We will need your help!

SUMMER EVENTS

July 31 -- Last day of legislative term

Wednesday, August 15 -- Deadline for registration to vote in state primary

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 4 - MASSACHUSETTS PRIMARY ELECTION

Wednesday, October 17 -- Last day to register to vote in November state election

October 22 - November 2 -- Early voting (2 weeks) for November state election

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 4 -- ELECTION DAY

Please look for our emails/notices and consider signing up for one or more events. Just leave your name with either Anita or Rosemary Shields. Thanks!

Remember--

Voting is not a Spectator Sport!

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

From Renate Sands

The following bills were discussed at the Legislative Breakfast. Below is an update of those bills.

Extreme Risk Protection

The bill H.3610, Extreme Risk Protection Order (ERPO), would permit temporarily removing firearms from dangerous or suicidal individuals has been ordered to a third reading.

Civics Education

The Civics Education bill (S.2375) has passed the Senate and the House. It is currently in conference committee. (See article above on Youth Service Committee.)

Automatic Voter Registration

Automatic Voter Registration (H.4320) is in the House Committee on Ways and Means and needs to be brought to the floor for a vote.

Pilgrim

Only one of the four Pilgrim related bills has moved forward during this legislative session. Filed by Representative Peake (H.2472) has passed both houses and is currently in the Jt. Committee on Health Care Financing. The bill expands the state's definition of the emergency planning zone from 10 miles around the plant to include unique geographical areas like Cape Cod, the Islands and Cape Ann.

Affordable Housing

The Affordable Bonding Housing Bill (H.675/H4131) has been ordered to a third reading.

Short Term Rental

The Short-Term Rental Tax (S2381/H4327) has passed to be engrossed.

Criminal Justice

The Criminal Justice Omnibus Bill (S.2371/H.4327) has been signed by the governor.

The Safe Community Act was not brought up at the Legislative Breakfast since it appeared not to be progressing. Below is the latest effort to incorporate some of the major issues into the budget process.

Safe Communities

The Senate budget process may be a pathway to adopt three key provisions of the Safe Communities Act, a bill which never made it through the legislative process. Budget amendment #1147 would (1) defund the 287g program thereby ending collaboration between sheriffs and ICE (2) limit when local police can ask about immigration status and (3) ensure that immigrants in police custody know their legal rights.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

From Phyllis Walsh and Matti Ligon

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our league.

Jeanne Sanchez

Jeanne was a past league member in New Jersey. As a retired R.N., she's interested in health advocacy.

Judith Burbine Sweeney

Judith found us on line. She is interested in legislative advocacy.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY UPDATE

An important public meeting of the Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates will be held on Wednesday, June 6 at 4:45pm. The discussion will be on proposed County Ordinance 18-09, to provide funding for a grant to promote regional clean water efforts by a transfer and appropriation of \$185,000 from the Special Projects Reserve Fund.

LWVCCA has a long history of monitoring the activities of both the County Board of Commissioners and the County Assembly of Delegates. The Commissioners meet every Wednesday at 10am, the Assembly meets every other Wednesday 4 in the afternoon. Thus six meetings a month.

We are again seeking volunteers who are willing to attend at least one of these meetings each month. If everyone helps, each member would need to attend two or perhaps three meetings each year.

In the next few months, you will receive a sign-up sheet. Hope you can help!

Note: there is an election this year for Commissioner's seat. Note: New LWVCCA member Mary Chaffee is the Assembly Delegate from Brewster.

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