



# THE CAPE COD VOTER

VOLUME 57 ISSUE 9

MAY 2018

## CALENDAR

Tuesday May 1

**Board Meeting**

9:30am

Cape Cod Five, Dennis

Wednesday May 16

9:30am-2pm

**Women's Advocacy Day**

State House, Boston

Mass. Commission on Status of Women

Thursday May 17

5 - 8pm

**LWVC CA Annual Meeting & Dinner**

SeaView Restaurant, DennisPort



May 28

**Memorial Day**

## LOOKING AHEAD

Saturday June 2

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Tuesday June 5

9:30am

Board Meeting

Cape Cod Five, Dennis

[www.lwvcapecod.org](http://www.lwvcapecod.org)

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***YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED!***

***2018 ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF THE CAPE COD AREA***

***Thursday, May 17***

***5-8pm***

***Seaview Restaurant***

***76 Chase Avenue, Dennis Port***

***Join fellow League members and guests for our annual gathering  
to vote on new officers and directors and discuss plans for the coming year.  
Enjoy a sunset view, a short Annual Business Meeting, a delicious buffet and  
meet our guest speaker***

***ALISA GALAZZI***

***new CEO of Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC)***

***Cost \$32***

***Reservations by Tuesday, May 8***

DIRECTIONS from Route 6: Exit 9A Route 134 south to Rte 28. Left onto 28 then quick left onto Shad Hole Rd. Left onto Lower County, right onto Inman, left onto Chase Ave. SeaView is on left. From Chatham & Harwich: Route 28 through HarwichPort, left fork onto Lower County. Continue 2.2 miles, then left onto Belmont Road, right onto Chase. SeaView is on your right. Seaviewcapecod.com

~~~~~  
***To: Ira Seldin  
321 Deer Meadow Lane, Chatham MA 02633***

***Name: \_\_\_\_\_***

***I will be bringing \_\_\_\_\_ guests. Check enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ (\$33 per person)***

***MENU--Cheese & fruit plate, mixed greens vinaigrette, herbed Breast of Chicken,  
Grilled Vegetable Ravioli, seasonal vegetable & potato, Dessert, coffee and tea.***

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

I believe that spring is here and from day to day the weather brings us doubt or hope if the summer will ever come. But it always does and before we know it the party that is the Cape in summertime will begin. The LWVCCA kicked off spring with the annual Legislative Breakfast. Thank you to Renate Sands and the Legislative Committee whose tireless effort to bring our legislators to breakfast for a conversation is always a high point for our members and the legislators.

Anita Rogers, who has picked up the reins of the Voter Services Committee has done an extraordinary job leading several voter registration events. I thank her and the members who have worked with Anita on these events.

The Nominating Committee, Phyllis Walsh, Nancy Erskine, Elaine Dickinson, and Matti Ligon, has been very busy vetting members for leadership positions.

As we approach our annual meeting on May 17, my term as President of LWVCCA comes to an end. Although I am flattered to have been asked to continue and considered it for weeks, it is always important to know when to move on. I look forward to being an active member of the LWVCCA and LWVMA and supporting the new Board in any way.

My message is short and direct:

1. Vote in your local elections.
2. Drive someone to the polls who cannot get there without a friend.
3. Attend your Town Meeting.
4. Join us at the Spring Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 17 at the Sea View in Dennis.
5. Engage in democracy and in the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area!

Thank you for your help and support during my term as President. It was an honor to serve.

Scotti Finnegan

**ALISA GALAZZI, CEO, HOUSING ASSISTANCE CORPORATION,  
TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING**



Alisa Galazzi has been Chief Executive of Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC) since January of 2017. Her path to the Cape Cod nonprofit world actually began on the west coast, where she was working in television, but volunteering with a group that provided free art programs for inner-city and homeless children. The experience changed her life ~ and since 9/11, when she and her family decided to move east to be closer to family, she has built an impressive record in the nonprofit world here on the Cape. She has served as Development Director of the Cape Cod Foundation, CEO of Alzheimer's Services of Cape Cod, CEO of Gosnold and since January of last year, as only the second CEO of Housing Assistance Corporation, following long-time CEO Rick Presbrey.

Originally from Lansing, Michigan, Alisa holds a Bachelor's degree in organizational communications from California State University and an M.S. in communications management from Simmons. She lives in Orleans with her husband Chris and their three daughters.

"It is probably more important to me than to anyone else that HAC gets left in good hands" said Rick Presbrey, in expressing his confidence in the organization's new leader.

LWVCCA is pleased to welcome Alisa Galazzi as our Annual Meeting guest speaker.

## IT'S HIGH SEASON FOR VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE--AND FRIENDS

*Submitted by Rosemary Shields*

Voter Service Committee Members, led by **Anita Rogers** (Chair) and **Rosemary Shields**, continue their busy schedule of events begun in April and onward from there -- including a wide variety of formats and several levels of government across the Cape.

As the voting season moves into high gear and you would like to help as more events occur, please leave your name with either Anita or Rosemary.

### Past successes

**Harwich Monday, May 1, 6:30pm, Town Hall -- BOS Candidates Forum** sponsored by Harwich Voter Information Committee, Moderator Florence Seldin .

**Brewster Friday, May 11, 6:00pm Brewster Ladies Library -- Candidates Night**, sponsored by the Brewster Community Network. Florence Seldin Moderator. Voter Registration: Rosemary.

**Cape Cod Community College Thursday, May 3 Year-End Cookout Celebration 11am-1pm Grossman Commons.** On hand to staff the Voter Registration table will be **Matti Ligon, Karen Mazza, Marie Stevenson, Rosemary and Anita.**

**April 7 -- Cape Cod Children's Place Family Fair** at Orleans Elementary School --Anita Rogers and Rosemary Shields staffed a booth festooned with banners, coloring books and star-spangled pencils, gathering lots of attention for LWV. New registrations were not large, since most of the adults had already registered,~ but the visibility was great.

*Comment: "Once my kids hit 18, they won't be allowed to live with me unless they vote!"*

**April 12 -- D-Y High School** --Anita and Marie Stevenson, assisted by teacher Tristan Williams and student Victoria, registered 58 students (5 of them on line)! High schools are a fertile source of new registrations as students can pre-register as early as age 16.

**As the voting season progresses,** Anita and Rosemary will be gearing up for the busy summer and Fall voting seasons. They will need your help. **Please consider signing on** by leaving your name with either Anita or Rosemary. Remember--

***Voting is not a Spectator Sport!***

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**



Elected officials panel at Legislative Breakfast, l to r: Rep Dylan Fernandes; Sen. Vinny de Macedo; Rep. Randy Hunt; Rep. Sarah Peake; Sen. Julian Cyr answered questions from LWV members and guests. In foreground, timers Rosemary Shields and Terri Bilodeau.  
*Photo by Richard Utt*

## ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

*From Renate Sands*

The Legislative Breakfast was held April 20th at Cape Cod Community College. Our great thanks go to President Cox of CCCC for the use of the Solarium for our annual event--he does not charge us a fee for the use of the facility. Thanks also to the catering service for doing an outstanding job with the food this year and for charging us a nominal fee.

It is always difficult to “corral” the Legislators--our breakfast was their second event that morning--but we were fortunate to have Senators Vinny de Macedo Julian Cyr, Representatives Sarah Peake, Randy Hunt and Dylan Fernandes attending. A special thank you goes to Rebecca Hamlin, Rep. Timothy Whelan’s Chief of Staff, for sending an e-mail late at night and answering their assigned question as no one from their office could attend.

To insure all legislators received equal speaking time we initiated using timers. Each legislator had two minutes for their opening statement, four minutes to answer questions developed by our committee and two minutes to answer questions from the audience.

Besides members and guests (39 signed up), we also had seven students from the Student Senate, Rotaract Club and Economics Clubs, five Legislators and two Legislative Aides. Joan Craig did an outstanding job as moderator. Rosemary Shields and Terri Bilodeau of the Legislative Committee were timers and kept everyone moving along. Thank you to committee members who helped with setting and cleaning up. Thanks to everyone else who helped to make this a fine occasion.

## REPORT ON BILLS

**S.2375 Civics Bill** was passed by the Senate and is now in the Committee on Rules. Please contact your representative and ask that the bill be brought to the floor for a vote. *Continued....*

**S.2371/H.4327 Criminal Justice Omnibus Bill**, with no amendments, has been signed by Gov. Baker. **H.3610 Extreme Risk Protection Order** or the “Red Flag law” was reported out of committee and is now in the House Ways and Means committee.

**H.2091/H.4320 Automatic Voter Registration** bill is also in the House Ways and Means committee. *Both these bills need to be brought to a vote in the House by Speaker DeLeo. Then to the Senate.*

## LOBBY DAYS

**Committee Member Pat Ryle attended two LWVMA State House Lobby Days. Her observations:**

**A. April 3 -- Civic Education Lobby Day in support of S.2375** was a great step forward but still has work to be done. Senate President Harriette. Chandler reminded us she has been working on this legislation since 2008-- and finally has great hope for passage. Our League’s action, led by Karen Mazza, has been instrumental in bringing the goal of high-quality civic education for all students to this point of realization.

Participants included outstanding high school students from both public and private schools. Teams were assigned to Representatives and given points to cover. Our team leader was Daniel Olsen of the non-profit “Facing History and Ourselves”. He had the facts and statistics on society’s lack of civic engagement. Also included were a junior from Latin who reported a complete lack of civic education throughout his school experience. . . a student at Bay State Community College and State House intern who focused on the importance of community service and local actions for student participation. *I spoke about the LWV mission and civic activities in my more than 30 years in elementary education.* Our team lobbied Reps Jeff Roy, D Norfolk, David Muradian, R Worcester and Shawn Dooley, R Norfolk.

Reps. Dooley, Roy and **Timothy Whelan** are presenting H.237--requiring graduating seniors to take the naturalization test used by Immigration Services. Our team agreed this test has no value for an activity-oriented k-12 civic engagement skills curriculum encouraging citizens to participate in lifelong political and civic concerns. .

Note: **Second graders lobbying for the *Ladybug to be made the Massachusetts State Bug***, were an important reminder that even elementary students can present and follow a bill to its completion.

**B. April 4 -- Immigration Lobby Day** was a full program, including remarks from Senate President Harriette Chandler, who was at the forefront both days. The takeaway -- the original Safe Communities Act is unlikely to advance this session, and the compromise House bill HD. 4643, which would end protections gained from the Commonwealth v. Lunn decision, raised too many concerns to win the Safe Communities Coalition support. But doing nothing is unacceptable.

Legislators must find a way this year to advance key protections for immigrants, through the budget or legislatively. Three provisions of the Safe Communities Act have broad public support: (1) police cannot make inquiries about immigration status, (2) local police would not be deputized to do the work of ICE and (3) due process protections would be provided.

Appointments could not be coordinated with my Cape legislators, so letters or calls must be made to make it clear to legislators that doing nothing to support immigrants and refugees is NOT an option.

## YOUTH SERVICE COMMITTEE REPORT

*Submitted by Karen Mazza*

This spring, the Youth Service Committee's project has been to develop **Voter Information Sheets** for each town in the service area of the LWVCCA and provide them for high school seniors at all area public schools. Volunteers from each of the towns assisted our committee by contacting their Town Clerks to produce the needed information. Each town's information sheet contains, on the reverse side, information about the Fall state election and information about obtaining an absentee ballot. Members of our committee have also participated in some high school voter registration drives as well as one that will occur at Cape Cod Community College.

The Voter Information Sheets are now posted on our League website: [www.lwvcapecod.org](http://www.lwvcapecod.org). Members may find them helpful for their own reference and to share with friends.

Our committee would like to thank the League volunteers who helped to identify local election information: **Phyllis Helfrich; Jane Beaudin; Barbara Wood; Claire Gradone; Jan Hively, Linda Cebula; Suzane Brock; Sheila Lyons; Nancy Erskine; Debbie Beal.**

### RIP Officer Gannon

Youth Services Chair Karen Mazza wrote to let us know that LWVCCA has a personal connection to the Gannon family in that Dara Gannon has been our primary support at the Cape Cod Foundation for our work on the LWV Civic Education Fund. Through that work and work on the steering committee for the Youth Action Plan, Karen has come to know Dara as a wonderful young woman with a gentle manner and a sunny disposition taking on increasing leadership responsibility at the Foundation and dedicated to her work in the philanthropic community. She was just promoted in January to be Director of Programs and Donor Services.

We will keep Dara Gannon in our thoughts.

### April Board Meeting Highlights

Attendees: Amy Harris, Richard Utt, Renate Sands, Elaine Dickinson, Suzanne Brock, Mary Hunter Utt, Mark Ameres, Florence Seldin, Matti Ligon, Rosemary Shields, Nancy Erskine, Anita Rogers

1. Minutes approved unanimously.
2. Treasurer's Report (Ira Seldin, per Florence)
  - a. Income: \$0.43 bank interest; expenses:\$504 for PMP LWVUS #3; National Convention \$1,286.00; Printing posters \$11.73. Balance 3/31/2018 \$9,831.82.
  - b. **Amy Harris** presented the **proposed 2018-2019 budget**, which is \$1,000 higher than the 2017-2018 budget.

**Website budget** was amended to cover the MyLO annual charge. Mark Ameres stated that the one-time labor cost of migrating to MyLO platform will be \$1000 at most. Board voted unanimously to take \$500 from reserve to cover this. These website items represent 50% of the charges for software and migration, which assumes costs are shared equally with Ed Trust. Trust meets next week and will decide on its share.  
Board voted unanimously to present the budget to Annual Meeting for approval.

3. **President's Report** (Mary Utt for Scotti Finnegan)
  - a. Annual Meeting update: Thursday May 17th, 5:00-8:00 PM; Seaview
  - b. Invitations: The board voted to send the current draft via email only (so no expenses are incurred).
4. **Nominating Committee** update (Nancy Erskine)
  - a. Florence distributed updated job descriptions per last month's discussion and feedback from board members. The Board voted unanimously to post the final version of the job descriptions in *The Voter*, the members-only section of the website, and the notebook Karen is assembling for new Board members (see March minutes).
  - b. Progress on nominations: the committee is meeting the afternoon of April 3.
5. **Membership** update (Phyllis Walsh): membership is unchanged at 107.
6. **Communications** The Board voted to amend the budget to pay half the costs of updating to MyLO software and Mark Ameres's labor cost to migrate the existing LEW site to MyLO. The Ed Trust's budget meeting is the week of April 9.
7. **Youth Services** update (Karen Mazza via email):  
The committee will distribute election information sheets covering local spring elections and state and federal Fall elections to schools next week. Members have researched the information with town clerks, which Karen used to create templates for each town which will be delivered to each principal. *Continued....*

**Moderator Training:** Patricia Ryle, Rosemary Shields, and Renate Sands participated in the moderator training. Florence Seldin did an outstanding job doing the training.

**Civic Education Bill: S.2375 An act to promote and enhance civic engagement** has passed the Senate. The House has not passed it, so members are urged to contact their Reps and urge them to vote favorably on this bill. Rep. Crocker wrote that he had reservations regarding this bill: "As a former Civics Teacher, I have concerns that it is too specific, particularly in the area of the actual content. I do not believe the legislature should be the agency creating specifics. . . I would rather it be left up to the Dept of Elementary and Secondary Education. Furthermore, I think that. . . local school committees should be involved as well. I firmly believe the more local the decision can be, the better. Second. . . is a question of where the money comes from to fund these programs, worthy as they may be. The last thing a school system needs is another unfunded state mandate. I believe more thinking needs to be done. . . these are needed and worthy programs and more attention needs to be focused on a better educated citizenry . . . Some of our most recent acerbic discourse may have been prevented if participants had a basic knowledge of government structure and operation. I like the idea, but think it goes too far into course content."

**8. Unfinished business**

- a. 60th Anniversary: progress on forming committee to brainstorm ideas for an anniversary event and proposal for Board review and approval. (Florence Seldin): nothing new to report

**9. New business**

- a. **Annual Meeting** The Board reviewed requirements for the "workbook" for Annual Meeting. Input, comments, questions should go to Scotti, who is compiling the workbook.
  - i. Speaker: Alisa Galazzi (CEO, Housing Assistance Corp.), Parliamentarian: Florence Seldin
  - ii. Minutes-taker: Mary Hunter Utt
  - iii. Local programs--focus for 2018-2019: Youth Service, Voter Service, County Government, Health, Legislative-Advocacy,. Committee chairs should be confirmed and whether Action/Monitor should be recorded in the workbook. Same information should appear in the handbook.  
**Environment Committee** is being reactivated. Suzanne Brock and Richard provided an updated description areas of focus.
- b. **Facebook:** Should we delete our page due to the recent scandal? Board agreed there is no need to do so at this time.

Respectfully submitted:  
Mary Hunter Utt

## **Adoption of Local Program 2018-2019**

1. **Voter Service:** this *must* be the greatest focus for LWVCCA. Everyone -- members, board, committees -- must become involved.
    - Raise the visibility of local elections
    - Conduct get-out-the-vote events
    - Educate citizens on AVR, early voting, same-day voting
    - Arrange candidate debates
  2. **County Government**
    - a. **Monitor activities.**
      - a. Hold candidate forums for the Commissioners and the Assembly of Delegates
      - b. Educate voters on the responsibilities of the Commissioners and Assembly.
  3. **Youth Service**
    - Strategies to increase participation of youth in voting.
    - Identify ways to support implementation of civics component of the revised Mass. History and Social Science Curriculum Framework in Cape Cod area schools when it is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
  4. **Health**--Continue focus on opioid addiction issue and mental health (youth, senior).
  5. **Environment**
    - c. Support regional approaches to the development of solutions for management of wastewater, encourage public participation in forums held on the topic, support action to protect Cape's ground and surface waters and other finite resources.
    - d. Pay attention to and provide community education on key environmental issues impacting Cape Cod (e.g., offshore drilling, wind energy, climate change and the closing of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant).
    - e. Support action and encourage community education regarding solid waste management, source reduction, recycling, and safe disposal of hazardous wastes.
- 
2. **Legislative-Advocacy**
    - a. Advocate for selected LWVUS and LWVMA legislation with emphasis on bills that impact Cape Cod.
    - b. Organize the annual LWVCCA Legislative Breakfast.
    - c. Coordinate members attendance at the LWVCCA "Day on the Hill" and Lobby Days at the State House.





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