

THE CAPE COD VOTER

MAY 2024 VOLUME 63 ISSUE 9

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LWVCCA CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30, so the year is winding down and this annual-report issue notes the highlights of the past year – forums, membership meetings, get-out-the-vote events, and much more that engaged our committees over 2023-2024. We hope you'll find it interesting reading and perhaps be inspired to join a committee in this important election year.

During this year, in addition to presiding over Board meetings and opening and closing many of the activities covered in this issue, the copresidents worked to bring two events to the Cape community, reaching out to community cosponsors.

The first was "ICE Out of Massachusetts," a forum about the ICE Detention Bill, to end ICE agreements in Massachusetts. The ACLU of Massachusetts approached us in July to plan this webinar. Working with the ACLU plus local community co-sponsors -- the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition, and the Refugee

Support Team of the Nauset Interfaith Association– the forum was held on October 18. In addition to getting the word out via co-sponsor's contacts, Jeanne was a guest on Natalya Frois' local TV show. Natalya and Jeb Mays provided simultaneous interpretation of the event, as well as translated flyers. For details, see the article in the November 2023 Voter. A recording is available at YouTube: ICE Out of MA.

The second event was the International Women's Day (IWD) Breakfast on March 8. Scotti Finnegan, former LWVCCA president, and Andi Genser, who was involved in previous IWD Breakfasts with the Cape Women's Coalition, contacted us last summer about reprising the breakfast. Along with Scotti and Andi and planners recruited from our league, LWV Falmouth, Amplify POC, The Women and Girls Fund of the Cape Cod Foundation, The Herring Pond Wampanoag Tribe, and the Cape Cod Cape Verdean Resource Center and Museum, we worked to recruit speakers, moderators, panelists, sponsors, and organizations to staff resource tables and to plan the breakfast. The inspiring and diverse speakers, moderators, and panelists ensured success, drawing a standing-room-only audience from Cape Cod's many diverse communities and organizations. For details, see the article in the April 2024 Voter.

We have already started planning the 2025 IWD Breakfast, so stay tuned. By popular demand, we'll record the next one!

We also hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on May 16, 5:00-7:30, at the Family Table Collaborative. Please check the flyer in this issue for details and register, if you have not already.

Jeanne and Mary

Jeanne Morrison Mary Hunter Utt Co-Presidents, LWVCCA

www.lwvCapecod.org

lwvcca@gmail.com.

http://www.facebook.com/LWVCCA/

https://www.youtube.com/@lwvcca/videos

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CALENDAR

MAY

Board Meeting

TUESDAY MAY 7 | 9:30—11:30 a.m. Zoom conference by invitation

Annual Meeting





THURSDAY, May 16, 2024—5:00 p.m. CHECK THE FLYER IN THIS ISSUE

UPCOMING

Board Meeting

TUESDAY JUNE 4 | 9:30—11:30 a.m. Zoom conference by invitation

To see our entire Google calendar, go to

http://lwvcapecod.org/lwvcca-calendar.

NOTE: Click on "Agenda" to see a list of all events. Click on any calendar listing to see more detail.

DID YOU KNOW-?

....that, in a recent New York Times article, columnist Nicholas Kristof referenced a 2023 study that found that 98 percent of deepfake videos online were pornographic and that 99 percent of those videos targeted women or girls. He observed that fake videos and sex photos technologically facilitated by artificial intelligence (AI) are very easy to make and are frequently meant to embarrass, frighten, and intimidate women, former spouses, outspoken celebrities, and even girls as young as 7 years old. Having followed this issue for several years, Mr. Kristof notes that, just like legal consequences for domestic abuse, there should be consequences for

online abuse of victims and that we should "crack down on deepfakes that allow companies to profit from sexual degradation, humiliation and misogyny."

In the current 2023-2024 Massachusetts legislative session, the LWVCCA supported a proposed bill—An Act to prevent abuse and exploitation—that would criminalize revenge pornography and ban online explicit videos without consent. Massachusetts has been one of only two states without such legislative protections. With several amendments, the bill has now passed both chambers of the legislature and heads to a Conference Committee to resolve any differences before going to the Governor.

In his April 2024 newsletter, **Sen. Julian Cyr**, Cape and Islands District, summarized the bipartisan legislation that the MA Senate passed unanimously, making Massachusetts the 49th state to ban revenge porn. The bill will increase fines for unlawful distribution of indecent images, create a task force that will create policy recommendations regarding deepfakes or sexting, and add the Commission on LGBTQ+ Youth to a list of organizations helping to design a program to teach students about the consequences of posting explicit images.

Rep. Steve Xiarhos, Barnstable 5th District, is a proponent of the House bill, where the bill also passed unanimously. He says, "As a former police officer, I believe very strongly in the need to protect women from violence and exploitation by others. Sadly, this is becoming an even more important concern as advances in technology, such as Artificial Intelligence, are being used to create and disseminate material that is offensive and/or exploitative. It is particularly concerning that young girls are increasingly being targeted by these crimes. It is important for our state to take a lead in recognizing the dangers posed by this harmful activity and to make sure we take adequate steps to prevent criminals from targeting and abusing women."

Submitted by Carole Young-Kleinfeld

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Tamora Israel, a new member since February 2024, lives at 30 Wixon Rd, in Dennis Port. Born in Freeport, NY, on Long Island she moved to the Cape in 2006, got married, got divorced and decided to stay. After receiving her GED through the ACCCESS Program in Hyannis. Tamora went on to attend CCCC but dropped out in 2013. She has recently returned to school and will graduate next month with an Associate's Degree in Communication. Tamora is a poet, a writer, a performer and an entrepreneur as well as a small business owner. However, those interests are fit in and around her full time day job. For the past 12 years, Tamora has worked as a goldsmith for the jewelry shop, Eden, which is located in Dennis.

Her production business, Communi-T **Productions** is a media production company that tells BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) and LGBTOIA+ stories through film and performance. CTP is currently working on a docuseries entitled "Kitchen Table Talks: Black on Cape Cod." This series delves into the conversations that happen around Black kitchen tables. Season One will explore what "community" means for Black Cape Codders. CTP will interview four Black families, one from each of the four regions of Cape Cod; Upper Cape, Mid Cape Lower Cape and the Outer Cape. Along with families, the company will also interview town officials, politicians and community leaders to help us tell these wideranging stories.

Tamora began writing poetry when she was about 12. Her older brother had produced a poem for his English class for which he received an A and a coveted spot on the family's refrigerator. A comment by her brother prompted her to show him up and she has been writing poetry ever since. As for writing for publication, Tamora began working as a field reporter for the Cape Media News in 2019 and went on to write for the Cape Cod Times and the Provincetown Banner in 2021. She has continued writing since then and

contributes periodically to a number of different publications.

Last year, Tamora attended a League function as a guest of Jeanne Morrison and has been interested in the League ever since. Tamora became familiar with the League's mission of education and advocacy and felt her strong interest in social justice issues was a good match for joining and participating in the League. She sits on the Events Committee for Amplify POC Cape Cod, serves on the Board for the Cordial Eye and Be Free Wellness, all organizations that focus on social justice for marginalized communities.

As far as the League goes, Tamora said that she would like to get more involved with the League but will do it slowly as she learns and as time permits. Right now she has agreed to help lead the League's DEI Committee and would be willing to periodically participate as part of the Hospitality Committee for one function per year.

Everyone who is already a member of the LWVCCA knows that our membership is varied and talented. Tamora's addition to our ranks is definitely to our benefit. Young women (and men since the League is open to all) bring a fresh outlook to the League and will be so necessary to carry us forward into the next decade. Welcome aboard, Tamora. Thank you for joining and we'll look forward to your rising star!

Tamora Israel

tisreal83@gmail.com (508) 292-5035 30 Wixon Rd Dennis Port, MA 02639

Submitted by Suzanne Brock

Anita (Nan) Parker Yarmouth Port

Anita says, "Living on the Cape for the past 21 years is the longest I've lived in one place—including such varied locations as Boston, Chicago, Wellesley, London, Nantucket." On the Cape, she has found a strong sense of community and has

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been involved with many civic organizations. At the Family Table Collaborative, she packs and labels meals. At Habitat for Humanity, she reviews applications for housing. She has enjoyed taking classes at CCCC's Academy for Lifelong Learning program. She has marched with Grandmothers against Gun Violence, and written postcards to voters for Lower Cape Indivisible. She is a member of the local Sierra Club chapter, and a juried artist member of Cape Cod Museum of Art. Now she is becoming active with our League, as she has already joined the Health Committee.

Professionally she is a clinical social worker, providing counseling and therapy services to individuals. She currently has a private practice and plans to work through the end of this year. Then she will enjoy an active retirement, devoting more time to the League and other community organizations.

Anita is not brand new to LWV as she was a member in Wellesley many years ago. She said that the Wellesley chapter at that time focused solely on elections and hosting candidates' nights. She is excited that our chapter is more robust with broader community involvement.

Anita says that she and her husband have been fortunate to have travelled abroad for many years to Europe, Asia, and Africa (S. Africa and Botswana). They traveled on their own, with Anita doing and thoroughly enjoying the planning for these trips. Now vacations are limited to New England and the Catskills/Hudson Valley where her daughter lives. In the past her passions have been skiing, horse riding, and dance (modern and flamenco); she recently started ballet class at the Yarmouth Senior Center. Music has always been an important part of Anita's life, having played piano (still) and cello for several years.

Anita (Nan) Parker

parkeranita4@gmail.com 617-610-6871 18 Boxwood Circle Yarmouth Port, MA 02675

Submitted by Sue Cameron

Members, please meet **Kate Kane**. Kate, who lives at 129 Pond Street in West Dennis grew up in Leicester, in Central MA. After graduating from high school she headed to Vassar College majoring in English and Creative Writing. After graduation, Kate thought she would continue on to graduate school but decided to take a year off and was hired in 1986 at Northwestern Mutual in the Worcester office. In 1990, Kate was transferred to the Springfield office and spent the next thirty years there ultimately becoming the Managing Director.

While living and working in Springfield, Kate became very involved in fostering non-profit organizations. She has served on numerous Boards including Girls Inc. of the Valley, Square One, Friends of the Homeless, and was Board Chair for The Springfield Museums Association, The Women's Fund of Western MA, and the Sisters of Providence Health System (now Trinity Health of New England). She is currently Vice Chair of the Board of Our Lady of the Elms College in Chicopee, MA. Kate also helped to co-found two local chapters of Dress for Success, one in Springfield and one in Worcester and served as Board Chair for both.

Kate and her husband of 20 years, Craig, bought their house in West Dennis with the intention of retiring here someday. When Covid happened, the decision was made to move to the Cape. Craig and Kate moved to the Cape permanently in 2021 and Kate continues to work remotely as a Wealth Management Advisor. Along with working, Kate continues her commitment to non-profits and is Co-Chair of the Advisory Board of the Women and Girl's Fund of The Cape Cod Foundation and serves on Cape Cod Healthcare's Health Equity Committee.

In her spare time, Kate enjoys reading, writing poetry, gardening, antiquing and is considering establishing a vintage things small business. In addition, she has always had an interest in how politics shapes communities and has tried to be politically active. Through her involvement on the

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Cape with the Women and Girls Fund, Kate met Jeanne Morrison and her introduction to the League began. In September, 2023, Kate joined the League.

I had the pleasure of working with Kate on the organizing of this year's International Women's Day Breakfast. She will be a terrific addition to our League. Kate is outgoing, easy to work with, efficient and full of good ideas and contacts. After some time for learning the background and procedures, Kate may be a potential Board member and mentor. Right now, she said she would like to explore participation with the Youth Service Committee because she enjoys working with young people.

Kate Kane

raisinkane@hotmail.com 413-531-3022 129 Pond St West Dennis, MA 02670

Submitted by Suzanne Brock

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# LWVCCA COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

## **VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE**

Even if ALL you do is sign-up to be a member of the League of Women Voters, you already have advanced the League's mission: to impartially help citizens to vote, improve our democracy and engage all Americans in the decisions that impact their and our lives. More members make us a vibrant organization. Thank you for joining up and supporting us!

That said, the Voter Service committee of 25 members has been working diligently with various activities: conducting get-out-the-vote (GOTV) events; arranging candidates forums; answering the League phone number to help voters who have questions; informing citizens

about important information, such as ballot issues and voter turnout data. Here's a summary:

#### Get Out The Vote (GOTV) Table Events,

where we help voters check their registration status; register citizens to vote; inform people of upcoming town meetings and election dates; show where one can find their polling place, and get a sample ballot; apply for a mail-in ballot, track their ballot Below are the events we participated in and shared our expertise:

April 12 – Barnstable County Human Rights Academy, Hyannis

April 10, 16, 17, 22 and 25 – Cape Cod Community College, Barnstable

March 28, Liberty Commons, Assisted Living, Chatham

March 8 – International Women's Day Breakfast, Hyannis

March 6 – "Youth Job Fair" at the Hyannis Community Center

February 21 – Dennis-Yarmouth Newcomers monthly meeting

January 14 – NAACP Martin Luther King Commemoration, First Baptist Church, Hyannis

January 8 – Barnstable Cty Human Rights Advisory Commission Awards Breakfast, Hyannis

December 13, Nauset High School, with Cape Cod 5's Credit for Life Program (CC5 CFL)

December 8, Bourne High School, with CC5 CFL.

November 17, Barnstable High School, with CC5 CFL

November 3, Monomoy Regional High, with CC5 CFL October 20, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School,

October 20, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School with CC5 CFL

September 18, National Voter Registration Day, Cape Cod Community College, Barnstable

August 13, International Day, Aselton Park, Hyannis Harbor

August 4, Unity Day, Hyannis Green

July 14, LWVCCA Book discussion, In Other Words: Leadership, Olde Barnstable Courthouse

July 9, Amplify POC, Hyannis Green

June 11, Amity Day, Mashpee Community Park

**Candidates Forums** moderated by the League are for only contested races. Candidates Forums give citizens the opportunity to meet the candidates, ask questions and hear where the

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candidates stand on the issues, allowing voters to make a more informed choice.

**October 24**, Barnstable City Council, Precinct 11
At this Barnstable TV link

**April 25**, Brewster Select Board, Board of Health, Recreation Commissioner

At this YouTube link

April 20, Harwich Select Board

At this YouTube link

April 18, Dennis Select Board

At this Dennis TV link

Information gathering – with the help of the League liaisons we printed all the dates of Town Meetings and Spring Town Elections for every town on the Cape. We believe we are the only organization that puts all this information together in one place for easy access. We also put together the numbers and percentages of how many registered voters in each town voted on Super Tuesday, Primary Election Day, March 5. The percentages ranged from 31 to 42%. Low turnout – we obviously have our work cut out for us.

Also on March 5, Super Tuesday, Primary Election Day, six volunteers conducted a Disability Access Survey at their polling places. This survey plus one we will do on election day, November 5, will report on how everyone has the opportunity to vote unimpeded.

Volunteers – Our sincere thanks to everyone who volunteered in all our activities, including Karen Boujoukos, Kathy Borofsky, Patricia Burke, Susan Cameron, Jen Dames-Copp, Nancy Dick, Maureen Grandmont, Susan Guill, Laurie Hutton-Corr, Suzanne Kenney, Mati Ligon, Karen Mazza, Janet McCroskery, Karen McPherson, Jeanne Morrison, Mary O'Connor, Anita Rogers, Carol Sheingold, Tova Soyt, Marie Stevenson, Marie Sullivan, Mary Utt, Debbie Winnock, and Carole Young-Kleinfeld

Submitted by Lynne Pleffner and Rosemary Shields Co-Chairs Voter Service Committe

#### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Fellow members:

There is little new to report. As of today, April 15th, many of the bills that we have been following are either dead or still winding their way through various committees in the State House. Compounding this process is the ongoing budget discussions in both the House and the Senate. The state is down severely on its expected tax revenues necessitating cuts in the overall budget. The Governor has proposed her version of a budget. The House is expected to debate its budget bill during the week of April 22, with the Senate deliberating its own bill in May. Differences between the two bills will then need to be worked out in order to get a final budget bill to the governor for the new fiscal year beginning in July. Following the discussions regarding the budget changes is extremely difficult given the lack of transparency that surrounds many policy decisions in Massachusetts. More to follow as we become aware of the changes.

The Legislative Committee met today (4/15) to discuss the issues that were reported on in the April Voter regarding the Legislative event of 3/22. The general consensus of the committee was that the dialogue between the League/audience/legislators was lively, engaged and successful. Feedback from those who attended was very positive about the informative responses of the legislators. The Committee will be sending a short assessment to the legislators for their feedback and we will share that with the Board and membership when or if we receive responses. With my letter of thanks to each legislator, I did attach a copy of the unanswered questions with the request that they respond if possible. Follow up questions to the college and to legislators regarding the overlap of meeting schedules was not really explained and we decided to just move forward and to plan on much better communication for future events.

There was a brief discussion regarding the decision to open the event to the greater public and all committee members were in agreement that this option should continue going forward. If

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part of the mission of the LWVCCA is to educate voters, we should welcome outside participants to events where legislative representatives are available for dialogue with their constituents. As long as League members allow for questions from the audience while controlling the microphone, we should not operate in fear of "what if." Our committee is open to encouraging public participation for legislative events.

With thanks to all of my committee members, Suzanne Brock – Legislative Chair

#### **DEI COMMITTEE**

The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee remains committed to weaving DEI throughout the LWVCCA and applying a DEI lens to all league activities. We also encourage our league to reach outside the LWVCCA and partner with community organizations who are pursuing DEI goals.

The committee met in November 2023 and January 2024. Members were actively involved with other committees on which they serve. We saw the fruits of their influence in LWVCCA programs as partnerships with community organizations expanded and tailored topics covered, and language interpretation was available at most programs.

Such programs reflect the belief that DEI is every LWVCCA member's job. The foundation of our DEI programming is based on the teaching modules provided by the LWVUS and our own Jeanne Morrison that include definitions and tools to facilitate this work in our league.

In fact, Jeanne reviewed with members an approach she has shared with members and statewide DEI efforts. She focused on justice as the end goal. In a nutshell, she showed us how "equal treatment" and "special assistance" can miss the mark of removing obstacles to inclusion. The removing of the obstacle, in this case a fence, gave everyone justice by allowing all to participate in the activity.

The LWVCCA is committed to a safe environment for everyone, free from discrimination, harassment, and hateful acts. We extended this commitment to all residents of and visitors to Cape Cod when the Cape Cod Times printed a LWVCCA letter to the editor in response to a racially charged incident in Hyannis in the early summer of 2023. Our co-president, Jeanne Morrison, maintained contact with community leaders and the affected restaurant to ensure responses to the incident were appropriate from our perspective.

LWVCCA members also participated in the statewide DEI Peer Group, which is open to all our members. It meets quarterly via Zoom and addresses issues of interest. One such issue included the concept of reparations for descendants of enslaved people. Members also share notices of events, some of which we sent to all our members.

Submitted by Mary O'Connor Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

#### YOUTH SERVICE COMMITTEE

Activities for the Youth Service Committee are focused on supporting the civic engagement of youth with particular emphasis on supporting schools in their work to assist students in developing their student-led civics projects as required by state law. Committee members are: Chris Morin, Carol Woodbury, Cindy Battis, Karen Boujoukos, Marie Stevenson, Maureen Grandmont, and Susan Cameron. Here is a summary of our work.

- 1. In the fall, we assisted the Voter Service Committee in registering students to vote at Credit for Life Fairs at High Schools.
- 2. In the winter we developed the Cape Cod Civic Advocacy Guide: Understanding Government and How to Influence It. In March we distributed this to all high schools and two middle schools containing Grade 8 students. It is our hope that this will be a good reference tool for teachers in their work to support the student led civics projects.

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This guide is also useful for adults who want to learn more about how our government works at the local and state level and how to develop advocacy skills. It can be found on our website at this link: <a href="Cape Cod Civic">Cape Cod Civic</a> Advocacy Guide

3. In May and June, we attend the local school civic showcase events and the state level civic showcase events. We serve as community advisors and in that role we listen to students present their projects, ask them questions about what they learned, offer information that is relevant to their topic, and congratulate them on their work. This year we will attend the showcases at Barnstable High School, Dennis Yarmouth High School, and Sandwich High School. We will also attend the state showcase event at Bridgewater State University, which is organized for schools in the Southeast region of the state and the state showcase organized by Generation Citizen in Boston. We ask other League members to join us.

In addition to the above activities, as Committee Chair I continue to participate in civic education efforts at the state League level.

- 1. In coordination with LWVMA leadership, I maintain communication with state League leaders across our 43 Local Leagues regarding the LWVMA goal to support student-led civics projects. I share information from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education about resources for civic education through a Gmail collaboration network.
- 2. Our state civics collaboration network organized a Zoom Town Hall to assist local Leagues with examples of how to work with schools to support their civics projects on November 23, 2023.

I have been representing LWVMA at the Massachusetts Civic Learning Coalition meetings. This year for the Civic Learning Week organized by MCLC, I organized a virtual program for schools called the Power of the Youth Vote. This program offered presentations by representatives

of several organizations and students from Needham High School and Salem State University. I have also represented LWVMA at a planning committee with MCLC members to assist DESE in planning the state civics showcases.

Submitted by Karen Mazza, Committee Chair

#### **SELDIN SPEAKER SERIES**

On October 14, 2023, The Dr. Florence Seldin "Democracy Is Not a Spectator Sport", Speaker Series Committee presented a forum entitled, "Media, Misinformation, and The Protection of Democracy" at the Knight Auditorium at Barnstable High School. The presenters were Dr. Joan Donovan, Assistant Professor of Journalism and Emerging Studies at Boston University's College of Communication and Dan Kennedy, Professor of Journalism at Northeastern University. Joan Donovan focused her presentation on media manipulation and disinformation through the internet and social media. Dan Kennedy discussed the disappearance of local news sources and highlighted examples of community efforts to revive local news. Both speakers were excellent and were very well received by the audience of approximately 75 people.

In January, the committee resumed planning efforts for its next event in October 2024. We are experimenting with a new approach to identify a way that we can reach younger community members. As we intend to focus our efforts on a program that will encourage young adults to vote, we want to bring the program to young adults where they are. To that end, we are in the process of co-planning a program with the Student Government Association of Cape Cod Community College. Look for news about this event in early fall.

Speaker Series Committee Members: Richard Utt, Carole Young Kleinfeld, Eileen Elias, Suzanne Brock, Marie Grandmont, Karen Mazza

Submitted by Karen Mazza, Committee Chair

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#### AD HOC HOUSING COMMITTEE

In winter 2023, realizing that the League had not been addressing the pressing problem of housing on Cape Cod, we pulled together an ad hoc committee to organize a forum on Housing. The forum titled, "The Affordable Housing Dilemma: Resources for Making Progress", was presented on April 23, 2023 at the Tilden Arts Center at Cape Cod Community College. The panelists included:

- Paul Niedzwiecki, CEO of the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce,
- Tara Vargas-Wallace, CEO and President of Amplify POC
- Kristy Senatori, Executive Director, Cape Cod Commission
- Alisa Magnotta, CEO, Housing Assistance Corporation
- Chris Flanagan, First Barnstable State
  Representative and Executive Officer of
  Homebuilders and Remodeling Association
  of Cape Cod
- Elizabeth Jenkins, Town of Barnstable Director of Planning and Development
- Michael Mecenas, President of Health Ministries, Barnstable

The panelists did an excellent job of presenting a wide range of information to give a detailed overview of the issues, potential solutions, and actions that are in the works.

The committee members are all involved in multiple committees for the League and other organizations and did not feel that they could continue this committee in an ongoing manner. We also recognized that there are other organizations that are continuing to educate the public about the status of housing issues and initiatives. The LWVCCA Board has discussed having our League become a member of the Housing to Protect Cape Cod Coalition and to keep our League members informed through our association with that organization.

We would welcome a volunteer who felt they had the time and interest to stay apprised of the Housing to Protect Cape Cod Coalition activities to write a periodic article for our Voter Newsletter that would update our membership about housing news. Please contact League Co-President, Jeanne Morrison if you are interested.

2023 Housing Committee: Eileen Elias, Lynne Pleffner, Mary Hunter Utt, Pat Burke, Richard Utt, Sara Porter, Sarah Hinckley, Susan Starkey, Co-Chairs, Karen Mazza and Amy Harris.

Submitted by Karen Mazza

#### **HEALTH COMMITTEE**

The LWVCCA Health Committee is pleased to inform members that the League of Women Voters of the Cape Cod Area, with the Massachusetts Compassion and Choices Organization, sponsored the April 11 Forum "Talking About Death Won't Kill You", on Massachusetts Senate1331/House 2246: Medical Aid in Dying Legislation. For those who could not attend, you can view the recording of the Forum by following this link Compassion and Choice: YouTube link.

We look forward to further expanding the Committee and its health-based reports and events. If you are interested in joining the Committee or seek information, contact Eileen Elias, Chairperson at eileen.elias@comcast.net

Submitted by Eileen Elias, Health Committee Chair

# **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

In 2023-24 the LWVCCA Communications Committee produced LWVCCA's Newsletter, the <u>Cape Cod Voter</u> (thanks to the input of our hardworking committees), our <u>Website</u>, our <u>Facebook page</u> (thanks completely to the hard work of Rosemary Shields), and recordings of our forums for our <u>YouTube site</u>.

And in 2024 we will start migrating our website from *MyLeagueOnline* or MyLO – where it is currently hosted – to *ClubExpress*, adding a great deal of functionality, as well as a more up-to-date website. **Let us know if you'd like to help!** 

Submitted by Richard Utt, Committee Chair

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# **LWVCCA Board & Contact information**

#### LWVCCA DIRECTORS 2023-2024

**Officers for 2023-2024** 

**Co-Presidents** Mary Hunter Utt and

Jeanne Morrison

**Vice Presidents** 

ProgramsPatricia BurkeOperationsSue CameronTreasurerAmy HarrisSecretaryDebbie Winnick

**Committee Chairs:** 

**Membership** Mati Ligon

**Voter Service** Rosemary Shields

Lynne Pleffner

Youth Service Karen Mazza

Diversity, Equity, Mary O'Connor

and Inclusion

**Communications.** Richard Utt

**Newsletter** 

**Members At Large:** 

Madeline Zevon

Karen Mazza \*

Carole Young-Kleinfeld

**Off-Board Committee Chairs** 

**Legislation** Suzanne Brock \*

**Housing** Open \*

Florence Seldin

**Lecture Series** 

**Health** Eileen Elias \*

\* = Off-Board

**Contact LWVCCA:** 

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Facebook: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/LWVCCA/">http://www.facebook.com/LWVCCA/</a>

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# Members: Please join us for our LWVCCA Annual Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2024 5:00-7:30 pm



Family Table Collaborative 1338 MA-28, South Yarmouth

Speaker: Andrew Gottlieb, Executive Director, Association to Preserve Cape Cod,

## Environmental challenges facing Cape Cod-the APCC Perspective

Andrew Gottlieb has been at the intersection of Cape Cod environmental, energy, and housing issues for years, throughout five terms on the Mashpee Select Board and ten years directing the Cape Cod Water Protection Collaborative. At the meeting, he will share with us prospects for the Cape's future among the challenges of climate change, water and air pollution, and their intersection with housing.

5:00 - 5:45 Social 5:45 - 6:15 Dinner

6:15 - 6:45: Speaker intro, Speaker w Q&A.

(Dessert and coffee to be enjoyed while listening to speaker)

6:45 - 7:30: Business Meeting

#### Dinner:

Dinner buffet: Including Seasonal Soups and Salads, (Choice of vegetarian)
Coffee/tea and dessert

Please send checks for \$30.00/person, payable to LWVCCA

Please respond by April 30, to LWVCCA P.O Box 2347 Orleans, MA 02653

*Or, pay by PayPal*, \$32.00 per individual, \$63.00 for two, at: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/LWVCCA-2024-ANNUAL-MEETING">https://tinyurl.com/LWVCCA-2024-ANNUAL-MEETING</a>

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