



# League of Women Voters<sup>®</sup> of Falmouth Bulletin

September 2021

## ***Civics, Anyone? Volunteers needed for school civics projects***

As some of you may remember, Massachusetts enacted a new civics education law late in 2018. Among other things, the law requires all eighth graders and all high school seniors to participate in a student-led non-partisan civics project. The Legislative Committee presented a public program on this new law in March 2019. We do not know whether implementation has been delayed due to Covid, but there are ways that our League can help now to encourage our local students as they develop and present their projects in the upcoming school years.

**First:** The Massachusetts League currently sponsors an annual student video contest. Indeed, a video from Falmouth High School was one of the winners several years ago. Now, state League Education Specialist Karen Mazza is forming a state-wide committee to recommend a plan to replace the video contest with something more in tune with the civic engagement being developed through the civics projects that students must complete to satisfy the requirements of the state civics education law. Karen, who is a member of the Cape League, has asked whether one of our members would like to serve on this committee. We hope that someone reading this Bulletin would like to join Karen's committee and take up this challenge.

## **Table of Contents**

Civics Volunteers Needed.....	1
Observer Help Wanted.....	2
Annual Meeting Program .....	3
A Tale of Two Capes .....	4
Treasurer's Report.....	5
New Board Members .....	6
Board of Directors .....	7
Events Calendar .....	7
Membership Information .....	7

**Second:** There are ways we can help our own students with their local projects, such as volunteering to hear student presentations or offering to publicize selected presentations on our website. The Cape League has developed a Civic Resource Directory, and we can make that available to faculty and students if they do not have it already. These are only a few ideas to whet your appetite. We need someone who would like to check-in with the Social Studies Department Chair, find out how we can be useful, and, possibly with a small committee, enlist our membership to help make the projects more successful and rewarding for that precious next generation of voters.

If you are interested in inspiring our students to get excited about civics, consider joining Karen Mazza's committee, or consider working with our own students, please contact Judy Ziss at 508-548-1339 or [judith\\_ziss@comcast.net](mailto:judith_ziss@comcast.net).

**—Judy Ziss**

## Observer Help Wanted

An Observer for the League of Women Voters of Falmouth is a League member who attends a public Town Government meeting, makes notes on what happens at the meeting, and reports back to the League. Considered the eyes and ears of the League, the Observer Corps is dedicated to ensuring compliance with the Open Meeting Law. The Observer is there only to observe, not to speak to issues or answer questions on adherence to the Open Meeting Law. Our group is the essence of civic engagement and volunteer participation.

On June 17, 2021, the final three Observer reports were delivered via Zoom. We have not had any new Observers for a while and would very much like to have a few more, perhaps part time, in the wings to cover certain special meetings. In particular, we need Observers for the joint meetings of some advisory groups which join the Select Board from time to time such as the Affirmative Action/Diversity Committee, Affordable Housing, and Transportation Committee. Although the Enterprise has done an

excellent job in reporting many meetings and although there are Zoom broadcasts and recordings of meetings the public can view, we as an organization have a different mission than merely reporting.

Our League has taken on the commitment to view our town government through the lens of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. In my opinion, an Observer can deliver a report more clearly from that perspective. The Observer is also in a position to incorporate some of the points made by the Board or Committee members with some of the basic committees within the League. Some examples would be Voter Service, Legislative, Natural Resources and Local Study Committees who would be in a position to help the Town Boards with the implementation and education aspects of the Mission statements.

Please contact me on our website should you be interested in becoming an Observer.

**—Denise Morreale**  
Observer Chair



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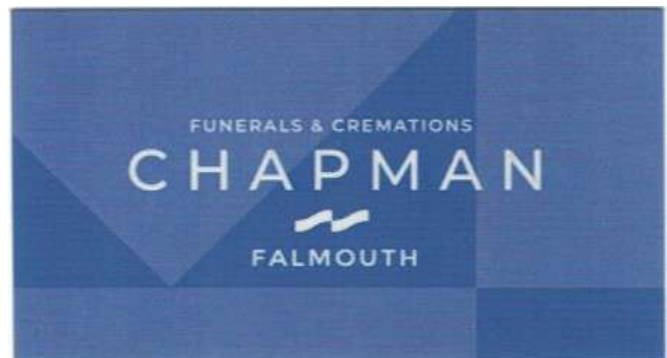


Richard A. Armstrong, D.P.M.  
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## **PROGRAM**

**September 11, 2021**

**Cape Verdean Club, Falmouth, MA**

**Welcome**

**Maggie Sweasy**

**Cape Verdean Club Presentation**

### **LWVF BUSINESS MEETING**

**Call to Order**

**Introduction of Parliamentarian**

**Presentation of LWVF Awards**

**2020 Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Treasurer's Report**

**Proposed 2021-2022 Budget**

**Proposed Local Program 2021-2022**

**Steering Committee Report**

**Proposed LWVF Position Changes**

**Nominating Committee Report**

**Introduction of New Board Members**

**Farewell to Board Members Leaving**

**Adjournment**

**ANNUAL MEETING 2021**



# A Tale of Two Capes: Cape Verde and Cape Cod

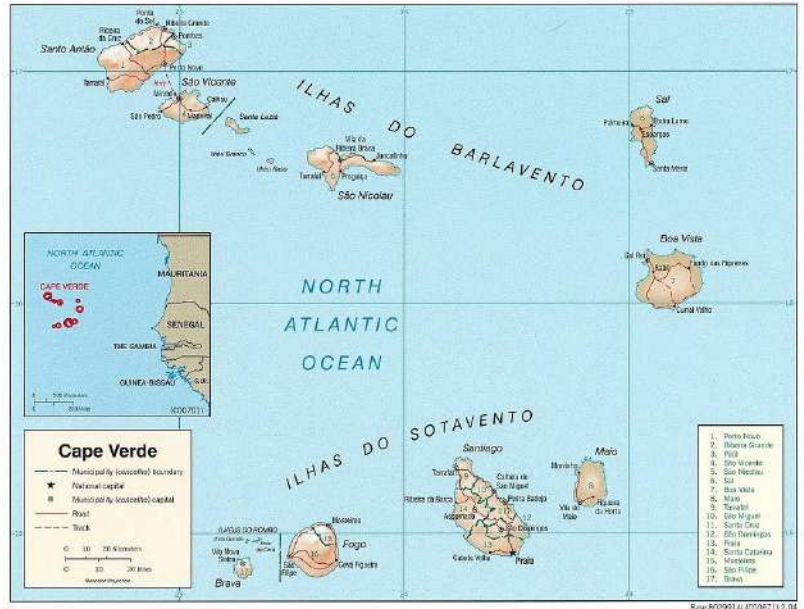
The League of Women Voters of Falmouth will be holding their annual meeting at the Cape Verde Club, with the opportunity to meet some of its members. How much do you know about Cape Verde?

## Where is Cape Verde?

Cape Verde is a cluster of ten volcanic islands off the west coast of Africa. Settled by the Portuguese in the 15th century as a convenient depot for slave trading, the country became independent in 1975 and has prospered recently as a stopover for Atlantic shipping.

## How many Cape Verdeans live in the United States?

There are about 500,000 Cape Verdeans living in the United States, mostly along the coast in Massachusetts and Rhode Island; that is about the same as the number who live in Cape Verde.



## What is their history in the United States?

Beginning in the early 19th century, many Cape Verdeans sought economic betterment by signing on as crew on whaling ships, working hard and sending money home to their families. They also became workers in the fishing industry and many eventually were able to buy their own boats. The New Bedford Whaling Museum has a Cape Verde Maritime Exhibition, which you can visit in person or online at <https://www.whalingmuseum.org/exhibition/cape-verdean-maritime-exhibition/> to learn more.

## What is Cape Verdean food like?

Cape Verdean food reflects both Portuguese and West African influences. The national dish is *ca-chupa*, a stew prepared with corn, beans, other vegetables, and fish or meat. Another popular dish is *canja*, a chicken soup made with rice, carrots and onions. You can find many Cape Verdean recipes at <https://www.crumbsnatched.com/category/food/recipes/cape-verdean-recipes/>.



## Want to learn more?

Check out the Cape Cod Cape Verdean Museum and Cultural Center website at <https://www.cccvmcc.org/>.

## Treasurer's Report

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FALMOUTH			
Treasurer's Report# 9 2020-21 4/26/2021-6/28/2021			
	Budget	Total this	This Reporting
INCOME	FY2020-21	Budget year	Period
Ads	\$100	\$350	\$200
Annual Meeting	\$0		
Contributions - Friends	\$100	\$225	\$50
Contributions - Members	\$800	\$3,002	\$50
Dues	\$6,000	\$7,025	\$150
Funds Raisers	\$250	\$188	\$188
Grants	\$0	\$300	
Transfer from savings	\$3,615		
<b>INCOME TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,865</b>	<b>\$11,090</b>	<b>\$638</b>
		Total this	
EXPENSES	Budget	Budget year	This Reporting
	FY2020-21		Period
Action/Program	\$1,300	\$175	
Administration	\$200	\$272	\$200
Web Site Fee	\$440	\$440	
Annual Meeting & Report	\$500		
Bank Fees	\$50	\$134	
Bulletin Postage	\$100	\$44	
Bulletin Printing	\$350	\$159	
Convention - National	\$0		
Convention -State	\$600		
Membership & Directory	\$500	\$634	
Participation	\$75	\$75	
Per Member Pay Mass. (PMP)	\$2,760	\$2,789	
Per Member Pay US (PMP)	\$3,840	\$4,080	
Voter Service	\$150	\$1,676	
Special Projects	\$0		
<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,865</b>	<b>\$10,478</b>	<b>\$200</b>
	07/01/20		01/25/21
checking acct	\$6,007	\$612	\$6,619
LWV Educ Fund	\$553	\$510	\$1,063
	\$6,560		\$7,682

—Submitted by Meghan Hanawalt, Treasurer

## New Board Members

Say hello to our new members of the Board of Directors. A complete list of the Board is found on the web at <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/falmouth/about-lwv-falmouth/board-directors>.

I would also like to give a big thank you to Kathy Mortenson, Alice Carey, Joanne Triestman and Jackie Webster who have left the Board. And a special thank you to Brenda Nolan, who has produced our Bulletin for a number of years aided by Denise Morreale. The Falmouth League is so fortunate to have such a deep pool of talent to draw from.

—Joan Boyer

### MARO V. TITUS, DIRECTOR AT-LARGE



Building upon a successful career in healthcare administration, Maro Titus puts her skills to work as an agent with Kinlin Grover Real Estate Associates. Prior to joining Kinlin Grover, Maro held executive leadership roles in strategic planning, government affairs, and business development.

The Falmouth Community has been part of Maro's life since childhood. She serves on the Falmouth Commission On Substance Use. A former intern reporter at and current freelance contributor to *The Falmouth Enterprise*, she remains active in several organizations throughout the Cape. Maro serves on the Executive Council for Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs, and is an active volunteer for the Cape Cod and the Islands Association of Realtors (CCIAOR), National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and the Smith College Club of Cape Cod. Maro values the opportunity to give back to the world around us. She holds a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Smith College and a master's degree in Health Policy and Law from Columbia University.

### LYNNE ROZSA, DIRECTOR AT-LARGE



Lynne has been a resident of Falmouth for fifteen years, but is a new member of the League and the Board. She is an active volunteer: Falmouth Service Center, Falmouth Eats Together, WE CAN, Belonging to Each Other, Falmouth Jewish Congregation, and Litter Free Falmouth are currently the organizations that keep her busy.

### MARY FRAN BUCKLEY, BULLETIN EDITOR



Before moving from Washington, D.C. to Falmouth in 2007, Mary Fran's career was in publishing, in particular as the editor for association monthly magazines. She also served as the director of communications at a private girls school in Washington, D.C. Mary Fran joined

the staff of Eight Cousins Bookstore in May 2007 and worked there until her retirement on December 31, 2020; her last six years at Eight Cousins were as a co-owner. In joining the Falmouth League of Women Voters, Mary Fran follows in the footsteps of her mother, Fran Weiffenbach, an active League member and voting rights activist.

### EILEEN MATTINGLY, BULLETIN EDITOR



Eileen was a classroom teacher (middle school through college) in Falmouth, the Philippines, New York City, and Maryland for over 30 years. She has a B.A. in International Studies from Georgetown University and M.A. degrees from St. John's University and the Johns Hopkins University.

Eileen has been a curriculum consultant for PBS, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Center for Learning. She served as Director of World Wise Schools, the National Peace Corps' K-12 program on cross-cultural education, and was founding principal of an independent high school near Annapolis, Maryland. She is now Director of Education at Journeys in Film, a non-profit organization that designs interdisciplinary cross-cultural curriculum.

## LWVF Board of Directors 2021-2022

### Steering Committee

First Vice-President, Steering Committee Chair	Joan Boyer
Second Vice-President	Maggie Sweasy
Secretary	Marcia Easterling
Natural Resources	Richard Johnson
Membership	Misty Niemeyer
Treasurer	Meghan Hanawalt
Bulletin Editors	Mary Fran Buckley, Eileen Mattingly
Legislative	Judith Ziss
Observer Corps	Denise Morreale
Publicity	Olivann Hobbie
Voter Service	Sylvia Szulkin, Acting
At Large	Lynne Rozsa
At Large	Maro Titus
Board Moderator	Joanne Voorhis

### Off-Board Specialists

Social Media	Penelope Duby
Webmaster	Joan Boyer
Historian	Jacqueline Webster

## LWVF Friends 2021

Christina Jacobi  
Maria Moniz  
Robert and Barbara Schneider  
Freddy Valois

### Contact us:

League of Women Voters of Falmouth  
P.O. Box 450  
Falmouth, MA 02541

Email: [FalmouthLWV@gmail.com](mailto:FalmouthLWV@gmail.com)

Website: [www.lwvf.org](http://www.lwvf.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LWVofFalmouthMA/>

## Member Event Calendar

**September 11** LWVF Annual Meeting, Part 2 at  
Cape Verdean Club, 2-4 p.m.

**September 28** Board meeting, 7 p.m.  
.....

**October 21** General meeting: Voter Services

**October 26** Board meeting, 7 p.m.  
.....

**November 18** General meeting: Natural  
Resources

**November 23** Board meeting



## Join the League of Women Voters: Democracy in Action!

You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join.  
Membership dues are \$50 for an individual membership  
and \$25 for an additional household member.

If you wish to join the League, send your check made out  
to the address at left. Include your name, mailing ad-  
dress, and phone number.

If you prefer, go to our website at <https://my.lwv.org/>

