



League of Women Voters[®] of Falmouth Bulletin

February 2023

Steering Committee Report

It's a universal truth that all of us want to be understood, accepted, and loved. In any organization, it's important for its members to feel as if they belong. What better way to engage than by joining a committee!

Our Falmouth League has many committee openings, depending on your interests: Voter Service is planning for local town elections and candidates night; the Observer Corps will be observing local town board meetings and report on their activities; Natural Resources continues to monitor the Holtec and Gun range situations as well as the Mayflower Wind's cable landing investigation; the Legislative Committee is preparing for a program in March focusing on two bills in the state legislature, Common Start and affordable housing; the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging committee is partnering with Legislative, Civics and Voter Service for a collaborative workshop in March, "My Future, My Vote: Student Involvement in the Political Process"; and the Annual Meeting Committee is planning for our May member meeting.

There is a "meet and greet" event scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, from 3-5 p.m., at the New Peking Palace. This is your opportunity to meet LWVF members old and new and learn about committee openings. Bring a friend, we want to get to know you !

As Martin Luther King said, "Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."

—Janet Lauer

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Meet and Greet for New (and Old) League Members



Please join us to "meet and greet" new members of the League during the February membership meeting on Wednesday, February 15, from 3 - 5 p.m. Members, new and old, will gather at Peking Palace, 453 Main

Street, Falmouth, for an assortment of delicious appetizers and an opportunity to get to know each other. There will be a cash bar as well. We will meet in a separate room near the back of the restaurant.

In addition to having an enjoyable afternoon, committee members will have an excellent opportunity to acquaint new members with our work and to learn who might be interested in participating in our committees. RSVP to janet@lauer-family.org.

— Maro Titus

Opportunity to Learn Video Production

In February, FCTV will conduct two video production classes: a studio production course and a field camera class. These classes will equip future videographers with the tools needed for covering events. For more information and the schedule, please contact Queen Carberry Banda, Falmouth Community TV, by phone (774-322-0248), or email, queen@fctv.org. General email for FCTV: www.fctv.org.



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Voter Service Committee Invitation

The next Voter Service Committee meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, February 22, at 4 p.m. Any member who is interested in joining the group, please send me your name and email information (szulkin@comcast.net). I will provide the Zoom address about a week before the meeting. Looking forward to hearing from you.

— **Sylvia Szulkin**
Voter Service Chair

Did you know?

This is the 70th anniversary of the founding of the League of Women Voters of Falmouth. The first President, from 1953-1955, was Janet Litzkow Bosworth.

You can learn more about the history of the League of Women Voters at <https://my.lwv.org/massachusetts/falmouth/about/history>.

Emerging from History's Footnotes

The introduction to historian Martha Jones's book *Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All* explains the culture from which Kamala Harris became the first Black woman to hold the position of vice president. Harris herself, in accepting the Democratic nomination for vice president, did not shrink from acknowledging the Black women who made her path possible. Her list didn't include the usual names with which we are familiar; her first mentor was her mother, but the names of the women that followed were barely known to most who listened: Mary Church Terrell, Mary McLeod Bethune, Diane Nash, Fannie Lou Hamer, Constance Baker Motley, and Shirley Chisholm.



Mary Church Terrell,
fought for racial justice
and women's suffrage.

Jones has named these women among "the Vanguard," Black women whose efforts as suffragists, educators, party operatives, organizers, strategists, lawyers, voters, journalists, candidates, and office holders paved the way for Black women politicians like Harris and Stacey Abrams. Jones also calls out Amanda Gorman

for her inaugural poem "The Hill We Climb," which details how the struggle is still being waged on two fronts. Black women have had to contend with two "isms": racism and sexism.

In *Vanguard*, Prof. Jones tells what she terms an "epic story, one that stretches back two hundred years to early Black women thinkers who asked out loud what it would



Mary McLeod Bethune,
educator and civil
rights activist

Continued on next page

Emerging from History's Footnote, Cont.

mean for them to speak in public, take part in politics, and to lead." In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the place to speak out was the pulpit. Jones begins with Jarena Lee, born a free woman at the end of the American Revolution. Lee believed she had a calling to preach, and found some sanctuary in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. But there was pushback, and the question in some churches was: Does a woman have the right to preach? Lee was followed by Maria Miller Stewart, who like Lee, believed she had a calling to preach. Jones notes that "The pulpit and the podium were companion venues in the early nineteenth century, and many Black men moved easily between the two." The same could not be said of Black women; Stewart encouraged Black women to play a part in politics, but for years they struggled to gain a foothold. They realized true freedom would only come about with women in leadership roles.



Fannie Lou Hamer, a leader for civil rights, voting rights, and economic opportunity.

Vanguard moves through the Civil War, Reconstruction, the fight for the 19th Amendment, the civil rights movement, up to the emergence of Black women politicians such as Shirley Chisholm, Barbara

Jordan, Loretta Lynch and finally Stacey Abrams. Jones cites the Black women who often stayed in the background and organized, with activities such as supporting and recruiting Black Union soldiers, forming the National Organization of Colored Women (whose motto was "Lifting as we climb"), or organizing and participating in peaceful protests in the 1960s.

Each woman presented in *Vanguard* has a unique place in American history that has too-long been ignored. Martha Jones dedicates her book to her great

-great-great-grandmother, born an enslaved woman in 1808, who inspired her children and grandchildren on down the road to learn from her life what voting rights can and should mean. Jones concludes: "I have written *Vanguard* for all the daughters of Black women... who persisted in the face of some of the most brutal, degrading, and undignified circumstances this nation has ever known. Out of their lives—a mix of grief, despair, joy, and hope—we produce our own beautiful truths." Lessons for all of us.



Shirley Chisholm, first African American woman elected to Congress.

—Mary Fran Buckley

MEET AND GREET OUR NEW MEMBERS



Wednesday, February 15

3:00 p.m.—5:00 p.m.

New Peking Palace

452 Main Street

Falmouth

RSVP to janet@lauer-family.org

Civics Committee Report

According to Social Studies Department Head Michael Feeney, Falmouth High School plans to have their tenth graders do the state-mandated civics projects between the two school vacation weeks in the current semester, with the projects beginning on February 27 and ending about April 14. Some of these advocacy projects will focus on issues within the school, others will probably focus on town or even state or national issues.

Previously, communications problems have arisen because students are not allowed to send out emails requesting information. To try to bridge this gap, we have offered assistance from the Falmouth League when students need to contact local officials or others in the community. Each of the four faculty members teaching the sophomore year social studies course is being matched with a member of the Civics Committee. In that way, we will find out what contacts are needed and try to establish an appropriate line of communication. We are in this together, so don't be surprised if you hear from us either directly or via a general email to the Falmouth League membership when a student needs help making a contact!

It is hoped that most student groups will think of issues they would like to address and then advocate for a desired result. However, picking an issue can be difficult. If you are aware of a narrow issue that might interest high school sophomores, please let us know. We will pass any suggestions along to Mr. Feeney to hold in reserve.

Also, Mr. Feeney has told us that he appreciates having the Student Guidebook (which we revised from a Guidebook prepared by the Needham League). We sent a copy of our revised Guidebook to Needham with our thanks and received back a message confirming that they "really want other local Leagues to make the document their own."

—Judy Ziss

for the Civics Committee

Legislative Committee Report

We are preparing for our Committee's public program on Thursday, March 16. The Hermann Room at the Library has been reserved, and we also expect the program to be broadcast live by FCTV. We are planning an event focusing on the Common Start program, which is designed to help young families afford childcare and early education. We also may include a discussion of other proposed legislation on additional issues important to young families, such as affordable housing.

For this program, we hope to have a panel that includes our three legislators, Senator Susan Moran, Representative David Vieira, and Representative Dylan Fernandes. We have also invited Dr. Sandra Faiman-Silva of the Common Start coalition and may add an additional speaker at a later date.

—Judy Ziss

Chair, Legislative Committee



Natural Brush Clearing and Poison Ivy Control

Meghan Hanawalt, Goatherd info@getmygoatscapecod.com
774-521-8745 www.GetMyGoatsCapeCod.com

Stephanie Miele

Certified Piano Technician

Tuning

C: 508-685-9866

H: 508-548-1759

steplen@comcast.net

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

Black Lives Matter on the Village Green: There's unity in Community. Racial Justice Falmouth, LWVF members, and community members gather every Sunday at noon for a vigil as a sign of solidarity and commitment to a shared vision of equity, equality, and justice for all. Participants who are able-bodied kneel in a semi-circle for 9 minutes and 29 seconds in honor of those lost unjustly to police violence. All are invited to participate.

Celebrating February

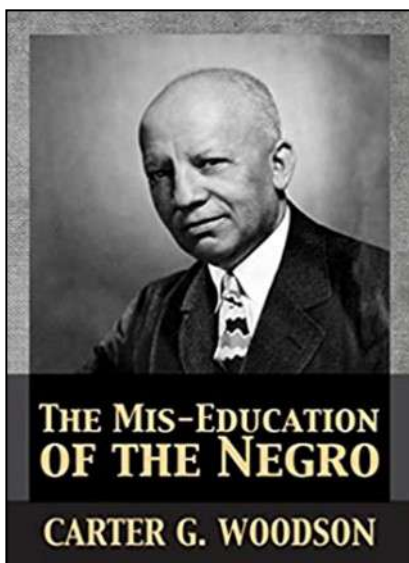
February is Black History Month in the United States and Canada. Since 1976, the month has been designated to remember the contributions of people of the African Diaspora.

February 1: National Freedom Day. This day marks and celebrates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.

February 6: International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM. This is a movement for the rights of women and their bodies, as well as the protection of their physical health. It is a U.N.-sponsored annual awareness day that is part of the effort to eradicate female genital mutilation (FGM) and violence against women and girls in various countries. The United Nations Population Fund, jointly with UNICEF, leads the largest global program to educate and accelerate the abandonment of FGM practices.



February Book Club



February 20: World Day of Social Justice. Social Justice Day is meant to remind people that advocacy and activism are what love and justice look like. It is a day to remind us to uphold the principles of social justice by promoting gender equality and the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. It is meant to advance social justice by dismantling and removing barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability.

February 21: International Mother Language Day. This day, celebrated worldwide annually, promotes awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism. Linguistic diversity is increasingly threatened as more and more languages disappear. "One language disappears on average every two weeks, taking with it an entire cultural and intellectual heritage." (UNESCO) Thus, this day is about preserving and celebrating one's native tongue and learned tongues.

Honored to serve,

Chinna, Denise, Eileen, Meghan, and Misty

Treasurer's Report

LWV Falmouth Treasurer Report	FY2022-23 Budget	Fiscal YTD through 1/23/2023	Q1 7/1/22 - 9/30/22	Second Quarter 10/1/22 - 12/31/22	Third Quarter 1/1/23 - 3/31/23
INCOME					
Ads	\$1,250.00	\$-			
Annual Meeting	\$250.00	\$-			
Contributions - Friends	\$175.00	\$100.00		\$100.00	
Contributions - Members	\$1,500.00	\$837.00	\$837.00		
Dues	\$6,675.00	\$2,150.00	\$2,150.00		
Not sure		\$315.00	\$315.00		
Development / Fund Raisers	\$250.00	\$-			
Grants	\$-	\$-			
INCOME TOTAL	\$10,100.00	\$3,402.00	\$3,302.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
	7/1/22	1/23/23	(Oct - Jan not included)		
Checking account balance	\$5,024.83	\$7,041.44			
PayPal	??	\$1,110.32			
LWV Educ Fund	\$1,698.00	\$1,773.00			
Total Cash	\$6,722.83	\$9,924.76			

LWV Falmouth Treasurer Report	FY2022-23 Budget	Fiscal YTD through 1/23/2023	Q1 7/1/22 - 9/30/22	Second Quarter 10/1/22 - 12/31/22	Third Quarter 1/1/23 - 3/31/23
EXPENSES					
Action/Program	\$1,300	\$-			
Administration	\$-	\$-			
Web Site Fee	\$445	\$400.00	\$400.00		
adjustment - reconcile error		\$35.00	\$35.00		
Annual Meeting & Report	\$500	\$-			
Bank + PayPal Fees	\$175	\$51.66	\$51.66	tbd	tbd
Bulletin Postage	\$125	\$12.00		\$12.00	
Bulletin Printing	\$250	\$117.95	\$48.88	\$46.97	\$22.10
Convention - National	\$-	\$-			
Convention -State	\$500	\$-			
Membership & Directory	\$600	\$463.22		\$463.22	
Participation & Gifts	\$175	\$-			
Per Member Pay Mass. (PMP)	\$2,915	\$-			
Per Member Pay US (PMP)	\$4,272	\$-			
Voter Service	\$1,500	\$265.56		\$265.56	
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$12,757.00	\$1,345.39	\$535.54	\$787.75	\$22.10

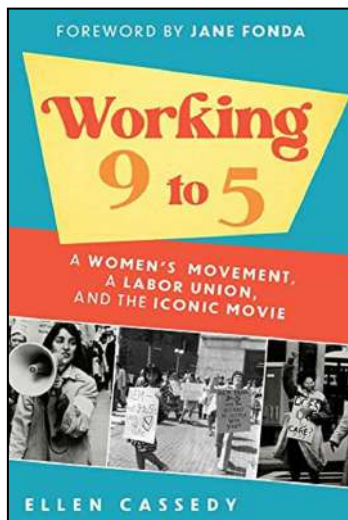
—Karen Epstein

Save the Date: Women's History Month Book Talk

Join author Ellen Cassedy for a virtual illustrated author talk about *Working 9 to 5* on Thursday, March 16 at 7p.m. This free, public event is hosted by the Falmouth Jewish Congregation to mark Women's History Month.

You may participate on Zoom or watch the live broadcast or rebroadcasts on FCTV Channel 13 or streaming on the website of FCTV. You can find Zoom registration information at www.falmouthjewish.org. Now you can also watch FCTV content on-demand and live on your Roku or Apple TV device. To view FCTV's programming on Apple TV or Roku, you need to add the "Falmouth Community Television" channel app to your Apple TV or Roku account.

Starting out in Boston in 1973, the women of *Working 9 to 5* built a nationwide feminist movement that united people of diverse races, classes, and ages. They took on corporate titans. They leafleted, filed lawsuits, and started a woman-led union. They won millions of dollars in back pay and helped make sex-



ual harassment and pregnancy discrimination illegal.

When women rose up to win rights and respect at the office, they transformed workplaces throughout America. Along the way came Dolly Parton's toe-tapping song and the movie inspired by their work. Jane Fonda remarked, "The entire time that we were working on the movie I could carry in my heart that this was married to a movement." *Working 9 to 5* is a lively, informative, firsthand account packed with practical organizing lore that will embolden anyone striving for fair treatment. Ellen also appears in the documentaries *9 to 5: The Story of a Movement* and *Still Working 9 to 5*.

Beyond her work with and on *Working 9 to 5*, Ellen is an award-winning author and translator. Her book *We Are Here: Memories of the Lithuanian Holocaust* describes her journey to connect with her Jewish family roots and expands into a wider exploration of how people in Lithuania are engaging with their Nazi and Soviet past in order to move toward a more tolerant future. The book was the winner of the Grub Street National Book Prize for Nonfiction and was shortlisted for the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing. Ellen was a columnist for the *Philadelphia Daily News*, a speechwriter in the Clinton Administration, and author of two previous books for working women. Her articles have appeared in numerous publications.

More Women's History: Definitely Non-Trivial Trivia



Harriet Tubman

[https://
commons.wikimedia.org/](https://commons.wikimedia.org/)

Feb 12, 1869: The Utah Territorial Legislature passes a bill allowing women to vote.

Feb 24, 1912: Henrietta Szold founds Hadassah, the largest Jewish organization in America history, focusing on healthcare and education in Israel and the United States.

Feb 27, 1922: United States Supreme Court upholds the 19th Amendment which guarantees women's right to vote.

Feb 1, 1978: First postage stamp to honor a Black woman, Harriet Tubman, issued in Washington, D.C.



Henrietta Szold

National Library of Israel,
[https://
commons.wikimedia.org/](https://commons.wikimedia.org/)

Expressions of Empowerment



For those of us who still like paper (correspondence cards and the like), Power Thought Cards are a great "stationery collection staple." Over the years, I've shared them with friends who need a quick boost, and sometimes flip through my own collection for a few needed reminders. With February being Heart Health Month, focused on love and strength, I wanted to share this concept with you; Louise Hays' cards are available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Etsy, and Hay House, to name just a few sources.

There are lots of varieties from which to choose, and they can be focused on self-improvement, faith, health, etc. Have fun shopping for different kinds, and in reading the various ones out there, you'll start to feel motivated yourself! In the spirit of "paying it forward," why not share one with someone at work, in the LWVF, or in your family and share the power?

— Maro Titus

Make your voice heard today!

Contact Information for Your Legislators

Senator Susan Moran

617-722-1330

Susan.Moran@masenate.gov

Representative David Vieira

617-722-2230 and press 5

David.Vieira@mahouse.gov

Representative Dylan Fernandes

617-722-2013 and press 3

Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov

Congressman Bill Keating

508-771-6868

Info.keating@mail.house.gov

Letters to the Editor

The Falmouth Enterprise

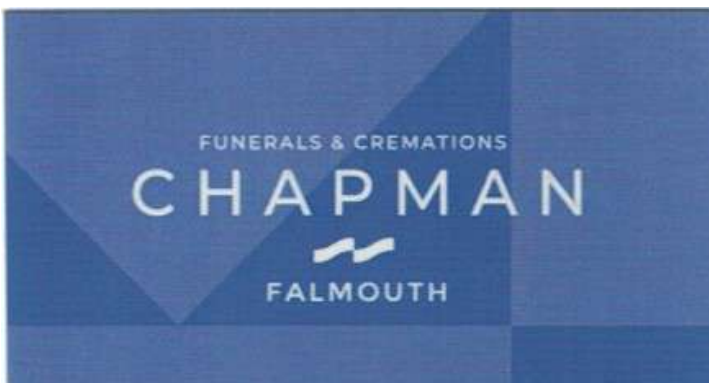
Letters can be mailed to 50 Depot Avenue, Falmouth, MA 02540 or e-mailed directly to the editor at saito@capenews.net.

The Cape Cod Times

Email to letters@capecodonline.com or mail to Letters, Cape Cod Times, 319 Main St., Hyannis, MA 02601.

The Boston Globe

Send an e-mail to letter@globe.com or mail to Letters to the Editor, The Boston Globe, PO Box 55819, Boston, MA 02205.



LWVF Board of Directors 2022-2023

Board Members

First Vice-President and Steering Committee Chair	Janet Lauer
Second Vice-President	Meghan Hanawalt
Secretary	Karen Dacey
Treasurer	Karen Epstein
Legislative	Judith Ziss
Natural Resources	Richard Johnson
Voter Service	Sylvia Szulkin
Spokesperson	Sylvia Szulkin
Publicity/Bulletin Co-Editors	Mary Fran Buckley, Eileen Mattingly
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging	Chinna Mapp
Membership	Misty Niemeyer
Observer Corps	Denise Morreale
FCTV Liaison	Lynne Rozsa
Annual Meeting Chair	Maro Titus

Off-Board Specialists

Historian	Kathy Mortenson
Facebook	Penny Duby
Webmaster	Joan Boyer

Member Event Calendar

February 15, 3-5 p.m.	Meet and Greet for new members at Peking Palace, 453 Main Street.
February 21, 7 p.m.	Board meeting on Zoom
March 16, 7 p.m.	Legislative Committee program on Common Start, Hermann Room at the Falmouth Library
March 28, 7 p.m.	Board meeting on Zoom

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 below. Include your name, mailing address, and phone number.

If you prefer, go to our website at www.lwvf.org. Click on "Join" to join or renew and pay online.



LWVF Friends 2022-2023

Barbara Douglass
Maria Moniz
Freddy Valois

Contact us:

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

Email: FalmouthLWV@gmail.com

Website: www.lwvf.org

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

Submissions for the March issue of the LWVF Bulletin are due on March 1, 2023. Please send copy, photos, and other material to both of these addresses:

maryfran55@earthlink.net
eileenmattingly@yahoo.com