



League of Women Voters® of Falmouth Bulletin

February 2020

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Contact Us

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www.lwvf.org
Visit our Facebook page
**[https://www.facebook.com/
LWVofFalmouthMA/](https://www.facebook.com/LWVofFalmouthMA/)**

Member Event Calendar

| | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|----------------|--|------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| February | 2020 | | | | |
| | 20 | 7:00 pm | | Local Planning/Observer Corps Presentation | |
| | | | | Town Hall Civil Defense Room | |
| | 25 | 7:00 pm | | Board Meeting | |
| | | | | Gus Canty Center, Falmouth | |
| March | 2020 | | | | |
| | 3 | | | Presidential Primary/Local Special Election Primary | |
| | | | | Legislative Program | |
| | | | | Hermann Room, Falmouth Library | |
| Tues | 24 | 7:00 pm | | Candidates Night | |
| | | | | Hermann Room, Falmouth Library | |
| Thurs | 26 | 7:00 pm | | Board Meeting | |
| | | | | Gus Canty Center, Falmouth | |
| Tues | 31 | | | Special Election for Vacated State Senate Seat | |

LWVF Board of Directors 2019-2020

Steering Committee

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| First Vice-President | | Sylvia Szulkin , Steering Committee Chair | |
| Second Vice-President | | Alice Carey | |
| At Large | | Doris Epstein | |
| At Large | | Joanne Treistman | |
| Webmaster | | Joan Boyer | |
| Secretary | Marcia Easterling | Membership | Jackie Webster |
| Treasurer | Meghan Hanawalt | Voter Service | Carol McKeon |
| Observer Corps | Denise Morreale | Natural Resources | Richard Johnson |
| At Large | Kathy Mortenson | Legislative | Judith Ziss |
| | Misty Niemeyer | Publicity | Olivann Hobbie |
| | Joanne Voorhis | Social Media | Penny Duby |

Bulletin Editors: **Denise Morreale, Brenda Nolan**

*If you wish to join the League, membership dues are \$50 for an individual membership and \$25 for an additional household member.
Send your check made out to LWV of Falmouth, P. O. Box 450, Falmouth, MA 02541. Include your name, mailing address, email address and phone number.
You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join.*

MESSAGE FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

January 2020 Field Service Meeting

Sylvia Szulkin and Alice Carey, Steering Committee

One of the pleasures of belonging to a local League is the periodic chance to attend a Field Service Meeting. At these meetings local Leaguers get to meet and enjoy the company of representatives of other leagues in the region. We share mutual concerns, many laughs and ingenious ideas for promoting the League's mission.

The 2020 LWVMA Field Service Meeting took place on Wednesday, January 22 at 10 A.M. at the Sandwich Public Library. Four leagues were represented: Falmouth, Lower Cape Cod, Plymouth, and South Coast (formerly Rochester-Marion-Mattapoisett League). The Martha's Vineyard League could not attend due to high winds and choppy waters. Alice Carey, Carol McKeon, Sylvia Szulkin and Jackie Webster represented Falmouth.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

1. February 14, 2020 – Actual 100th birthday of our founding – will include a Day of Action at the national, state and local league levels.

2. LWVMA DAY OF ACTION – THURSDAY FEB. 6 at the State House.

3. NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL CONFERENCE – SAVE THE DATE

The New England Regional League Conference will be held on Saturday and Sunday, April 4-5 at York Community College in Wells, ME. Focus of conference will be understanding and overcoming barriers to voting among those who are disenfranchised and those who are disinterested.

LOOK FOR MORE DETAILS AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF REGISTRATION AROUND FEB. 1

4. CENSUS: RESOURCES FOR LOCAL LEAGUES.

Now is the time to educate our community on the importance of the census, how to participate, and to answer questions. Local trusted organizations, such as the League are critical for reaching out to hard-to-count populations, contributing to a successful census.

The MA League will provide both a LWV CENSUS ACTION KIT and a LWVMA CENSUS TOOLKIT TO HELP Leagues plan and execute programs.

5. STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST COMING IN FEBRUARY – asking high school students throughout the Commonwealth to make a 30 second video answering the question “Should 16-Year-Olds Have the Right To Vote?”

Each of the Leagues present outlined the special events and programs that they are involved in to celebrate the League’s Centennial. More information about what is happening across the state can be found on the LWVMA website.

100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 10:00 am in State House Room 428. Following the program, the League will support Election Day Registration in MA.

In Memoriam

Harriet Longley

Harriet Longley was smart, vivacious and warm. She graciously hosted at League Candidates’ Night at Morse Pond School and often for League meetings in her home.

LWVF FRIENDS 2019

Sally Fritz
Christina Jacobi
Winnie Mackey

Robert and Barbara Schneider
Freddy Valois

National Program Planning Meeting—January 24th

The January 24th Program Planning was on the NATIONAL level. The LWVUS Board recommends that the Program 2020-2022 continue the campaign for Making Democracy Work with Leagues working on:

**Redistricting
Voting Rights
Improving Elections
Campaign Finance/Money in Politics**

Members also Concurred on the Electoral Systems Position. These items will be adopted at the LWVUS Convention 2020 this June.



Local Program Planning Meeting February 20, 2020

A Local program is adopted annually, State and National programs are two-year programs adopted in alternation years at conventions.

LWVF will be meeting on February 20th for the LOCAL Program Planning. The recommendations presented at this meeting will be presented for adoption at our Falmouth League Annual Meeting in May.

On the local level good ideas for programs often come from board members, especially chairmen of current studies who may wish to continue or pursue another facet of the existing study. Observer Corps members may also have suggestions based on situations they have observed. During State and National planning, Leagues elsewhere may send communications soliciting support at convention for their program ideas.

Joanne Voorhis Writes:

The league members at all three levels (local, state and national) choose an issue to study. A Committee studies that issue and presents it to the membership to reach a consensus on action. This Feb 20 our local league will have the opportunity to select an issue to study for the next year. Please look in the back of your Membership Directory to see the stands we currently have. Then come to lend your opinion to where we go from here in the town of Falmouth.


OBSERVER CORPS PRESENTATIONS

Denise Morreale, Chair

One of the most valuable services our local League has to offer its members and the community is to observe town boards and committees. This League has had a very active Observer Corps for many years and it is well respected in the Town.

Participation in the Observer Corps is an excellent way for members to learn about issues and to share this information with League members through Bulletin articles and League meetings, such as this February meeting.

Representing the Falmouth League as a member of the Observer Corps involves a commitment to regular attendance at committee meetings and careful notetaking. Our current Observer Corps members have been excellent examples. There will be at least three Observers delivering their reports and answering questions at the February 20 meeting in Town Hall Civil Defense Room at 7:00pm.



Richard A. Armstrong, D.P.M.
Ethel R. Baylor, D.P.M.
"Your Foot Health Care Team"
Falmouth Podiatry

Homeport
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NATURAL RESOURCES

Richard Johnson, Chair

Mass Power Forward, a consortium of progressive activist groups, organized a Lobby Day on January 14, 2020 at the State House which was attended by 200+ people interested in progressive politics, sustainable energy and a greener economy. We lobbied our legislators to support H.2810 (An Act to Promote Green Infrastructure and Reduce Carbon Emissions), H.3008 (An Act to Advance Modern and Sustainable Solutions for Transportation), H. 4264 (An Act Relative to Environmental Justice), and H.2836 (100% Renewable

Energy for All) among others. On behalf of LWVF Natural Resources Committee, Richard Johnson met with Rep. Dylan Fernandes who is a cosponsor on each of those bills: no eloquence was needed to encourage him to support these bills. As a resident of Woods Hole, he understands the urgent need to address the causes of the climate crisis.



At noon, dozens of activists rallied outside Governor Baker's office to protest his continued support of fossil fuel-based infrastructure, such as Liquified Natural Gas and other pipeline projects. These are not in line with a future of sustainable energy, as well as being dangerous and blighting to their host communities.

There was an overflowing attendance at a joint Senate/House hearing on Carbon Pricing in the afternoon; every seat was filled and people stood all along the walls and sat over the entire floor, with easily an equal number of people in the corridors outside. Testimony was taken from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on progress on the Transportation and Climate Initiative to drive down vehicle emissions; from the mayor of Somerville which has its own Climate Change initiative responding to the Paris Accord; and from four university economists who demonstrated that carbon pricing in other economies have been successful in driving down emissions



without negative impacts wages, jobs or the economy of the 18 nations/provinces studied. They noted that the provisions of H.2810 provide rebates from the tax on transportation and heating fuels to low and middle-income households and rural communities who have fewer alternative heating or transportation options. Other groups continued to testify into the afternoon. There was a clear sense of urgency in the room.

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Richard Johnson, Chair

The Centennial Grove Project has received \$3108 in donations from (or in honor of) 42 individuals or families, whose names will be included in the Annual Meeting Program. We will be selecting trees at the nursery in the next

two months and expect to plant these at Peterson Farm with a bronze plaque set in a large stone at the end of April or early May. There is not enough parking there for us to witness the planting with a large group, but we will have photos at the Annual Meeting.

Elaine Weiss will be speaking at the Falmouth Forum on February 21 at 7:30pm, co-sponsored by our League. Elaine is a journalist and author of "The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight for the Vote" about the ratification of the 19th Amendment in Tennessee. This presentation will be at Lillie Auditorium in Woods Hole.

We are planning to have a public screening of "Iron Jawed Angels", a film about Alice Paul and the Suffrage movement, but have not yet firmed up a date; late February or early March are likely. Please check the website from time to time for details.

Olivann Hobie has been preparing short snippets on the Suffrage Movement in Falmouth and elsewhere which are being published in the Falmouth Enterprise.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 13th Annual Holiday Breakfast Appreciation of a Job Well Done

Misty Niemeyer

Thank you to No Place for Hate—Falmouth for hosting the very thoughtful and inspiring event to remember the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



The incredible guest speaker for the event, Dr. Donique McIntosh, reminded us how relevant Dr. King's words are still today and that we all must continue to fight social injustices that continue to plague this world, including within our communities. One topic she spoke about in particular that has stuck with me was in regards to micro-aggressions that happen all the time all around us, and while it may not get the attention or coverage in the news, it can be a step leading to more violent crimes and it can take a severe toll on its victims. This happens all too frequently. It is also something we can potentially have an impact on by calling it out when we see it and standing up for others, thereby setting an example to everyone around us and to children watching us. The message is to show kindness and tolerance.

One person who leads by example and does just this is **Samantha Bauer** who was recognized by No Place for Hate - Falmouth with the Civic Leadership Award for her efforts as the founder of Inspiration is Everywhere, Inc. This was said a few times at the event, but it says everything, Samantha you are an inspiration to all of us! **Congratulations** on this well-deserved award and thank you for everything you and your team do **every day!**

Let our remembrance and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. continue through all of the work you all do to fight for social and environmental injustices through the LWVF and beyond in this community we all care about.

OTHER EVENTS

Feb 21st - MBL Falmouth Forum 7:30 pm - "The Women's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote"

Elaine Weiss, Award-Winning Journalist and Author
Co-sponsored by The League of Women Voters

Lectures begin at 7:30 PM and take place at the Lillie Auditorium located at 7 MBL Street in Woods Hole.

Lectures are free and open to the public with free parking available at all MBL lots.

For more information, contact the MBL Communications Office at (508) 289-7423 or comm@mbledu.

Women's Rights Film Shown Feb. 13, 6 pm, Parish Hall, Waquoit Congregational Church

Come celebrate the centennial anniversary of the 19th Amendment of the US Constitution with the viewing of the film "Iron Jawed Angels" in the parish hall on Thursday, Feb. 13 at 6 pm. This dynamic film follows the Women's Suffrage movement focusing on the role of Alice Paul and Lucy Burns.

The film stars Hillary Swank and Angelica Houston, and depicts the length some women went through to ensure women's right to vote as a US Constitutional Amendment.

The film runs two hours. A discussion will follow. Popcorn provided.



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Legislative Program March 19 7:00 pm by Judy Ziss

"Voting: Let's Get It Right!" That is the focus of the Legislative Committee's program, scheduled for Thursday, March 19, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the Hermann Room of the Falmouth Public Library. This program will feature a panel discussion during which our two state Representatives, David Vieira and Dylan Fernandes, can converse with Town Clerk Michael Palmer about election-oriented legislation currently before the Massachusetts legislature.

The pending bills cover a wide spectrum. Several bills, all supported by the Massachusetts League, are designed to **make voting more convenient**. There also is one bill, opposed by the Massachusetts League, which threatens to restrict voting by requiring photo IDs at the polls. A second group of bills **relate to the vote-counting process**. The final group of bills **impact the candidate-pool**.

Our March 19 format is designed to promote consideration of the proposed bills from both the legislative and administrative points of view. Hopefully, League members, the public, and maybe even the panelists will gain new insight as the discussion proceeds. Of course, League members and other members of the audience also will have the opportunity to ask questions and make comments.

Our program is devoted to voting issues in honor of our Centennial Year. Please come to **"Voting: Let's Get It Right!"** We hope it will be interesting and informative, and we may even have a brief humorous Centennial surprise for you.



Falmouth Historical Society Saturday, March 21st at 2:00pm

"Belva Lockwood for President" (historical reenactment) Anne Barrett

Falmouth Public Library

Saturday, March 21st from 3:00pm - 4:30pm:

"Road to the Vote" The Boston Women's Heritage Trail has prepared a slide show called "The Road to the Vote" which tells the history of people and activities in Massachusetts during the struggle for the right of women to vote. It includes information about the arrest of suffragists during President Wilson's visit to Boston in 1919, the 1915 suffrage parade, and women including Lucy Stone, Alice Stone Blackwell, Julia Ward Howe and others.

The Winter Farmer's Market at Mahoney's Garden Center, Rt. 28,
continues every **Saturday from 10:00am - 2:00pm through March 7th**

CANDIDATES NIGHT ON MARCH 24th STATE SENATOR FOR PLYMOUTH & BARNSTABLE COUNTIES

In anticipation of the March 31st special election of State Senator for Plymouth and Barnstable Counties, the League is planning to host a Candidates Night on Tuesday March 24th.

The program will begin at 7:00pm in the Hermann Room of the Falmouth Public Library and will be co-sponsored by Falmouth Community TV who will broadcast it live and offer it for replay on channel 13 in the week prior to the election.

Primaries for the state senatorial position will be held on March 3rd (at the same time and on the same voting schedule as the Presidential primary). Once final candidates have been chosen by voters, they will be invited to present their views at the LWVF Candidates Night. Please "Save the Date", March 24th, and watch for further information and details of the program as they are developed.



Natural Brush Clearing and Poison Ivy Control

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



Centennial Grove Project

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution and the founding of the League of Women Voters, LWVF proposes to plant a grove of ten Tupelo trees, one for each decade, at a restored vernal pool at Peterson Farms. The site was selected with the Falmouth Tree Warden, Conservation Commission and 300 Committee. Trees will be watered the first year with the assistance of the local Girl Scouts and others, and an engraved boulder will be placed marking the grove.

Planting will take place in May 2020 on a date chosen by the Department of Public Works.

The engraved text will read:

In recognition of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Founding of the League of Women Voters, a grove of Tupelo Trees was planted on this site in 2020 by the League of Women Voters of Falmouth with the assistance of the Falmouth Conservation Commission.

To participate, LWVF is seeking donations in the amount of \$50 or more per individual. If you would also like to receive a 1 gallon Tupelo tree to plant in your own yard as an extension of the grove, please give \$35 per tree additional. Please send your donation so the trees can be ordered.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

Donation to the Centennial Grove (\$50 or more): _____

Individual Trees for your home (\$35 each): _____

Total: _____

Please send a personal check in this amount with a copy of this form to:

LWVF, POB 450, Falmouth, MA 02541

You may also use PayPal: payments to flvv434@gmail.com



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P. O. Box 450
Falmouth, MA 02541

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JOIN
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Democracy in Action