



League of Women Voters® of Falmouth Bulletin

November 2020

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Contact Us

Our address:
 League of Women Voters
 of Falmouth
 P. O. Box 450
 Falmouth, MA 02541
 Send us an email
FalmouthLWV@gmail.com

Visit our web site

lwvf.org

Visit our Facebook page
<https://www.facebook.com/LWVofFalmouthMA/>

[instagram.com/lwvfalmouth](https://www.instagram.com/lwvfalmouth)

Member Event Calendar

November	16		TOWN MEETING
	19	7:00 pm	Falmouth's Progress Towards Sustainability Virtual
	24	7:00 pm	Board Meeting Zoom
December	13		LWVMA 100th Birthday Gala
January	21		State Planning Program Zoom

LWVF Board of Directors 2020-2021

Steering Committee

First Vice-President		* Joan Boyer , Steering Committee Chair
Second Vice-President		* Maggie Sweasy
Local Study		* Kathy Mortenson
At Large		* Joanne Treistman
At Large		* Misty Niemeyer
Secretary	Marcia Easterling	Membership
Treasurer	Meghan Hanawalt	Voter Service
Observer Corps	Denise Morreale	Natural Resources
Board Moderator	Joanne Voorhis	Legislative
Annual Meeting	Alice Carey	Publicity
		Spokesperson
		Jackie Webster
		Jenny Putnam
		Richard Johnson
		Judith Ziss
		Olivann Hobbie
		Sylvia Szulkin

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.
 Go to our website www.lwvf.org, "join or renew" to renew and pay online, You do not have to be a resident of Falmouth to join.

MESSAGE FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Joan Boyer, Steering Committee Chair

This Spring, when the Pandemic necessitated everyone to stay home, LWVF cancelled all our in person meetings. We looked at each other in dismay and asked "How can we remain relevant during this Pandemic?" Well, here is the answer:

- The Voter Service Committee (in association with FCTV) presented two Candidates Nights .
- The Centennial Grove of Tupelo trees was planted at Peterson Farm in mid-April to celebrate the Centennial of the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution and the founding of the League of Women Voters.
- Olivann Hobbie maintained a yearlong collaboration with *The Falmouth Enterprise* by writing "SUFFRAGE EXCERPTS" for each issue
- The Voter Service Committee presented a program at the Cape Verdean Club in September. This was the beginning of our outreach effort to focus on the League priority of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Together we produced banners which were placed on their property at the Cape Verdean Club.
- In October, the League held a virtual stress-free social night on Zoom.
- The Voter Service Committee delivered information and forms regarding voter registration and requests for ballots to local senior group residences
- An article in the Enterprise describing Massachusetts election law changes on how to navigate Voting by Mail is by Judy Ziss
- After primary, prepared one-page summary of Massachusetts Covid-19 changes for rules for general election.
- Advocacy piece on Ranked Choice Voting by Margaret Cooper published in *The Enterprise* and also in *The Cape Cod Times*
- An extremely successful Community Mural Painting Day on October 10 with great participation and publicity statewide.
- A Falmouth High School Voter Art Competition and an Exhibition of Voter Art in partnership with the Falmouth Art Center with over 50 submissions. The League awarded prizes.
- The Natural Resources Committee is preparing a presentation to be released in November on "Falmouth's Progress Towards Sustainability". This will be a YouTube Video.

I think we have met the challenge of this Pandemic and then some!

LWVF FRIENDS 2020

Sally Fritz
Christina Jacobi
Maria Moniz

Robert and Barbara Schneider
Freddy Valois

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Kathy Mortenson, Joan F. Power, Gail Simundza
Jacqueline Webster, Chair

Welcome to the two new members Doug Brown and Sallie Riggs who have joined since the last Bulletin!

The LWVF 2020-2021 Membership Directory (with a violet cover) was mailed to members on October 9. If you find errors, please let Jackie Webster know at 508-540-3893 or jwebster391@gmail.com

A MESSAGE FROM VOTER SERVICE CHAIR

Jenny Putnam, Chair

Jenny Putnam, Voter Service Chair has sent a list for our members to assist us in integrating our history as a league and the history and perspective of First Nations. Last month's bulletin had the LWVUS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy which was adopted at the June 24th 2019 virtual Convention.

VOTING IN FALMOUTH BY THE NUMBERS

Presented by Richard Johnson

The November 3rd election this year had several races to be decided besides the Presidency, and several ballot questions. Due to Covid 19, the Commonwealth expanded early voting and voting by mail options significantly from previous presidential elections, and the expectation/ hope was that this would increase voting participation significantly. In fact, the 2020 election saw **81.9% turn-out** or 21,193 votes cast in Falmouth (26,612 registered voters): 56.6% of the votes were cast during early voting. By comparison, the 2016 presidential election had 20,274 votes cast (79.9% of registered voters),



and the 2012 presidential election had 19,643 votes cast, essentially the same as the 19,986 votes cast in 2008.

It is not easy to discover how many registered voters there were in 2008 or 2012 but the US Census estimates that the town's population will decline 1.7% from 2010 to 2020. The increase in voter participation is at least partially due to the new early and mail voting options. Hopefully, these choices will persist long after the Covid 19 pandemic.

HIGH SCHOOL INSTAGRAM VOTER ART COMPETITION

Sarah Pring

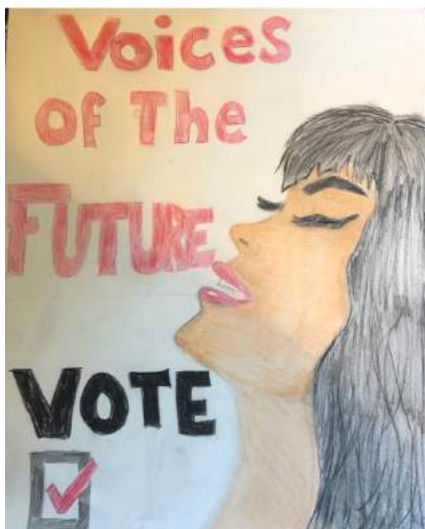
The Voter Service Committee has wrapped up our work for this election cycle with the H.S. instagram art contest and the adult art contest done in conjunction with the Falmouth Art Center. Works from both those endeavors were shown at a pop-up art exhibit at FAC. Awards were announced on Instagram and our Facebook page

MOST CREATIVE

- 1st Nate Drury, Grade 11, FHS
- 2nd Gabriela Polakovic, Grade 11, FHS
- 3rd Erin Furey, Grade 12, FHS



Nate



Emily

MOST LIKED AND SHARED IMAGE

- 1st Emily Reyenger, Grade 12, FHS
- 2nd Sophia Kasparian, Grade 12, FHS
- 3rd Ava Norris, Grade 11, FHS

WINNER OF THE INSTAGRAM KNOCK OUT POLL
Maria Krag, Grade 12, FHS



Maria

VOTER ART COMPETITION AT THE FALMOUTH
ART CENTER-ADULT ENTRIES:
1st Joyce Bock (quilt)
2nd Sandy Faxon (baseball collage)
3rd Walter Basnight (boat one)



Joyce

THANK YOU FROM VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who participated in any and all tasks! Passing out flyers, making phone calls, working the polls, mailing post cards and letters, taking pictures, helping with education and financial or material support were all greatly appreciated. What a way to celebrate our 100th Anniversary!

We focused primarily on young voters this year, but also hoped to reach other populations. For example, voting information and materials were distributed to senior housing and other locations that service senior citizens. The community mural, which was an incredible success, reached a wide range of people in our community, and of course, we made some progress in our efforts to build a bridge to the Cape Verdean Community including co-sponsoring two banners encouraging voting. These banners were on display outside the Cape Verdean club.

Wanted: Website Assistant

Need Help maintaining our website, www.lwvf.org. Please volunteer to learn how to work with and update our League website. Anyone with knowledge of Google Docs and/or Google Analytics would also be welcome. Also, anyone used to working with pictures digitally--or just willing to learn. Plenty of tutorial help is available; work from home; set your own hours. Give as much time as comfortable. Email me at Falmouthlwv@gmail.com. Thank you, Joan Boyer

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Richard Johnson, Chair

The Natural Resources Committee is preparing a presentation on Falmouth's Progress Toward Sustainability and will launch this via **YouTube on November 19**. Please check the LWVF website or Facebook page for the link to this video on the 19th; we will also send the link out via email.

LOCAL STUDY

Kathy Mortenson

The new local study is an assessment and updating of LWVF local positions which are listed in the purple LWVF 2020-2021 Membership Directory starting on pages 23 thru 26. If you read through the positions, you will find a need for this review. Land Use is the position updated recently. Also the Town of Falmouth Charter Review Committee presented charter updates voted on in the Falmouth Town May election.

However, transportation, water quality, education, Falmouth Town Budget, affordable housing, and environment are in need of review.

If you are interested in assessing and offering updates for any of these positions, please call or email Kathy Mortenson, 508-457-4410. Any changes will be reviewed and voted on at the LWVF May annual meeting.



Natural Brush Clearing and Poison Ivy Control

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

LWVMA TO CELEBRATE: "CHEERS TO 100 YEARS"

December 13th at 1:00pm, please join us for LWVMA's 100th Virtual Birthday Gala and a fireside chat featuring [Dr. Danielle Allen](#), James Bryant Conant University Professor at Harvard who is widely known for her work on justice and citizenship. Danielle will lead us in a discussion entitled: **Massachusetts Post-Pandemic: A New Social Compact?** Event registration/ticket purchase and sponsorship opportunities details are on the LWVMA website. Let's look forward to the next 100 years!



A TRIBUTE TO DORIS EPSTEIN

Sent to LWVMA

- Doris is presently 96 years old, a dedicated League member for 60 years and a League Board Member for approximately 50 years. She retired from her position on the Board on June 30, 2020
- For many years, she served on the Falmouth Human Services Committee. Her innate compassion and formidable intellect benefited those in need and inspired those who served them.
- She was a very effective leader in many League Studies, educating both leaguers and public while enhancing the League's standing in Falmouth.
- She chaired LWVF Local Study Committee for many years, focusing on evaluating both Town and County governmental effects and influences on the town of Falmouth.
- Doris always encouraged connecting personally with members, e.g. mentoring new members, reaching out to members during covid, reminding people to renew their dues, etc.
- Upon retirement, Doris became an award-winning artist and her dedication and self-effacing leadership as a member of Falmouth Artists Guild helped to create the Falmouth Art Center.
- Doris epitomizes the best traditions of the League through service and action. She inspired so many LWVF members to participate actively in the League and the community.

LEARNING ABOUT FIRST NATIONS HISTORY AND PERSPECTIVE

Books and Articles Suitable for a Book Group or Individual learning

All the Real Indians Died Off, And 20 other Myths About Native Americans
by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz and Dina Gilio-Whitaker, Beacon Press, October 2016.

1491: New Revelation of the Americas Before Columbus
by Charles Mann, Alfred A. Knopf, 2005.

The Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States
by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Beacon Press, September 14, 2016.

Firsting & Lasting: Writing Indians Out of Existence in New England
by Jean O'Brien, University of Minnesota Press, 2010.

Hidden Genocide, Hidden People
by Dennis Cerrotti, Sea Venture Press, 2014.

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants
by Robin Wall Kimmerer, Milkweed Editions, 2013.

An Interactive Map of Native Land, Languages and Treaties

Guide to Indigenous Land and Territorial Acknowledgements for Cultural Institutions

Whose History Matters by Claudia Fox Tree

21-Day Racial Equity Indigenous Challenge - Fighting White Supremacy Since 1492

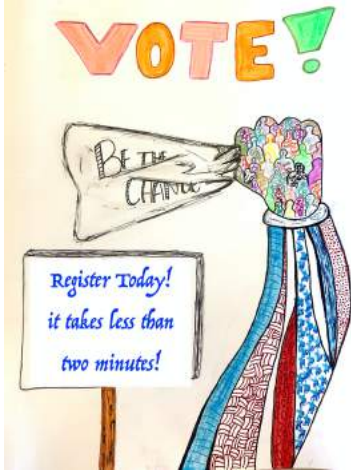
LWVMA DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION (DEI) RESOURCE LISTS
ONLINE AT: [LWVMA.org](https://www.lwvma.org)

- [Racial Justice](#)
- [First Nations History and Perspective](#)

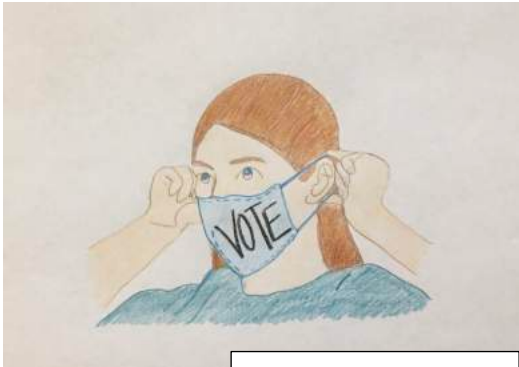
These are direct links to two new resources, for your convenience:
[Ally, Accomplice, Co-conspirator with Brittany Packnett](#) (6 minute video clip)

[Guide to Indigenous Land and Territorial Acknowledgements for Cultural Institutions](#)

Kyleigh



Sandy



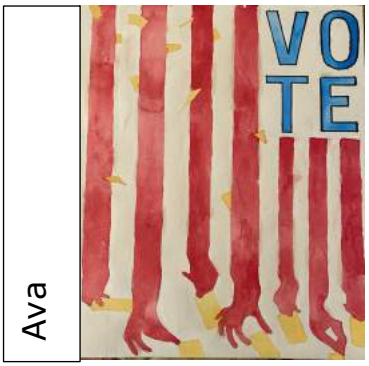
Hope



Erin



Sophia



Ava



Walter



Gabriela



Isabelle



Natalie

We thank the IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) for donating the use of their Zoom account for our Board Meetings and communication

<https://www.ifaw.org>

International Fund for Animal Welfare
290 Summer Street, Yarmouth Port, MA 02675 | USA
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P. O. Box 450
Falmouth, MA 02541

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JOIN

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
Democracy in Action

